

Austinburg Township Minutes

August 3, 2026

The regular meeting of the Austinburg Township Board of Trustees opened at 7:30 pm. In attendance were Brian O'Dell, Rob Lapuh, Mark Byram, Laurie Robishaw, Ginny Seifert, Ted Seifert, Cindy Petti, Joe Petti, Jim Kujanpaa, Donna Kujanpaa, and Ron Duff.

The roll call: Haase, aye. Dutton, aye, Kusar aye.

Res. 116-26 John moved to accept the minutes as written, Pete seconded. The roll call: Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 117-26 John moved to pay the bills, Pete seconded. The roll call: Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye. Bills paid were \$97,569.73 and receipts were \$29,443.18.

In terms of correspondence, we received a letter from the Ohio Department of Commerce in regards to retail liquor permit renewals. We received an email and a voicemail from Reactive Solar requesting the Zoning rules for our Township in regards to solar power. Genny Costanzo, our representative from NOPEC, will be attending our August 17, 2026 meeting to provide information and answer questions.

The Fiscal Officer reported that she met with Becky Ames to conduct the Township's risk management and safety review. The results of the review have not yet been received. Byron will contact NAD to obtain pricing for three new AEDs. The Fiscal Officer also reported that the Township's 2027 Certificate of Estimated Resources has been approved by the Budget Commission. There was considerable discussion regarding the amount of the 2027 Certificate of Estimated Resources. Resident Mark Byram asked how much of the 2026 Certificate of Estimated Resources had been spent. The Fiscal Officer explained that the funds have been fully appropriated in the 2026 budget.

Res. 118-26 John moved to approve the Certification of Estimated Resources for 2027, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Zoning Administrator Rob Lapuh reported that he issued one fence permit. He also reported receiving a phone call regarding trailers and vehicles on properties that do not have license plates. John thanked Rob for his work with RTS, noting that it appears RTS is making an effort to clean up the property.

Fire Chief no report.

Road Dept. no report.

Pete reported that he walked the property line at Center Cemetery with resident Ted Seifert to identify trees that need to be removed.

Res. 119-26 Pete moved to allow Ted Seifert to take down any trees that the Forester felt should be taken down on the North and East side of the property line in Center Cemetery, John seconded. The roll call: Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Pete reported that a solar panel meeting will be held at Henderson Library on August 17 at 5:30 p.m. Resident Joe Petti announced that a meeting regarding wind power will be held at Henderson Library on August 4 at 5:30 p.m. Byron reported that there will be a NAD meeting on Tuesday, August 4, and a Zoning Commission meeting on Wednesday, August 5. Byron also reported that he is looking into creating a plaque recognizing past Zoning Commission members to be displayed in the Town Hall. He will obtain pricing and research where records of past zoning members may be available. Resident Laurie Robishaw suggested creating a digital record on the Township's website instead of a physical plaque. John reported that he accompanied the road department to inspect the Allen Road ditching project. The project is expected to begin the following week. John also reported that the International truck needs brakes and other repairs. The estimated cost of the repairs is approximately \$7,000, with the work scheduled to be completed in November. John reported that the concrete pad has been poured for the portable

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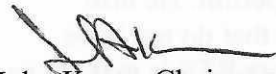
restroom at Tote Road Park. He will contact PennOhio to arrange for delivery of the portable restroom. John also reported that he received a recommendation from the County Prosecutor regarding a moratorium on data centers. The Prosecutor advised that the Township may enact a six-month moratorium. Zoning Commission Chair Laurie Robishaw will begin working on proposed zoning regulations for data centers and will also review the process for implementing a six-month moratorium. Resident Ron Duff asked that, if a data center were to locate in Austinburg Township, where it would obtain its water supply. The Trustees responded that they did not believe a data center was likely to locate in Austinburg Township, particularly since Perry is already receiving one, and they were uncertain where a sufficient water supply would come from. Resident Ted Seifert asked each of the Trustees for their opinions regarding data centers. Pete and Byron stated that they were not in favor of them. John stated that he wanted more information and factual data before forming an opinion, noting that much of the current discussion surrounding data centers remains speculative.

Resident Donna Kujanpaa asked about wind turbines. Zoning Chairman Laurie Robishaw passed out the resolution that was sent to the County Commissioners in regards to wind farms and solar farms. Joe Petti asked where the cell tower was going up on Allen Road. The cell tower will be going up on the east side of the Greenway Trail.

Res. 120-26 John moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 pm, Pete seconded. The roll call: Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.



Kanda O'Dell, Fiscal Officer



John Kusar, Chairman