

Austinburg Township Minutes
September 21, 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, David Gottwig, Lorna Masek, Bill Wilms and Ted Seifert.

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

Res. 130-26 John moved to accept the minutes as written, Pete seconded. The roll call: Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 131-26 John moved to pay the bills, Pete seconded. The roll call: Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye. Bills paid were \$21,497.96 and receipts were \$312,497.13.

In terms of correspondence, an email was received from the Department of Natural Resources advising that Coastal Management Assistance grant applications are being accepted through December 20th. An email was received from OTARMA regarding a grant opportunity for backup cameras, with applications due by December 1st. OTARMA also notified us that nominations are being accepted for the OTARMA Board of Directors. A thank-you note was received from Sophia Bailey expressing appreciation for the support of her Eagle Scout Project in the park. A letter was received from D.A.M. Cycle & Powersport Repair Shop advising that they are now partners with SCAG Power, which provides service and parts for Grasshopper mowers. A pamphlet was received from Elemental Shelter Solutions regarding fabric storage buildings. An email was also received from the Ashtabula County Township Association advising that its next meeting will be held at the County Engineer's Office on Thursday, October 15th, with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The Fiscal Officer reported that the Township received John Luban's medical leave paperwork, with a tentative return-to-work date of September 29, 2026. The Fiscal Officer also reported on the rate changes made to the special lighting assessments collected for street lighting. Additionally, an email was received advising that the insurance administrative fee will increase by \$0.50 per person, from \$3.00 per person to \$3.50 per person.

Zoning Administrator Rob Lapuh reported that the new hotel has received approval to proceed with groundbreaking. There was considerable discussion regarding the addition of decommissioning bond requirements to the Township's zoning text, applicable to both solar farms and data centers. Chairman Laurie Robishaw and Trustee John Kusar have been working with the Ashtabula County Prosecutor's Office to determine the appropriate method for incorporating decommissioning bond requirements into the zoning regulations.

Fire Chief Bill Wilms reported he just purchased new foam to be used on fire scenes with the buyback program.

Road Dept. no report.

Pete reported that he has contacted ODOT again regarding the cleaning of ditches along Route 45. The new door for the Town Hall has been received and is ready for installation. Pete also reported that the cement repairs to the Center Cemetery Mausoleum are expected to be completed within the next few weeks. He stated that he would still like to see foam insulation installed around the basement of the Town Hall. Bryon reported that the AEDs are expected to arrive by the end of the month.

Res. 132-26 Byron moved to have Trick-or-Treat in Austinburg on Saturday, October 31, 2026 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., John seconded. The roll; Haase aye. Dutton, aye, Kusar, aye.

John reported that he had 2 quotes on getting the hubs and other items repaired on the Ford 550.

Res. 133-26 John moved to go with Petro services for \$1,342 for work to be done on the Ford 550, Pete seconded. The roll; Haase aye. Dutton, aye, Kusar, aye.

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John reported that Michael is still working on obtaining prices for tires for the MAC truck. John also reviewed the quotes received for road salt. Two quotes were received, one from ARMS Trucking and one from SameDay Salt.

Res. 134-26 John moved to go with ARMS trucking for \$107.75 per ton delivered to the yard, Byron seconded. The roll; Haase aye. Dutton, aye, Kusar, aye.

John reported that he visited Perry Township to compare their Township operations and facilities with those of our Township.

The residents had no comments.

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code section 121.229 (G) (1) John moved that we enter into an executive session at 8:21 pm: To consider the appointment, employment, and compensation of a public employee, Pete seconded. The roll; Haase aye. Dutton, aye, Kusar, aye.

John moved to come out of executive session at 8:42 pm, Byron seconded. The roll; Haase aye. Dutton, aye, Kusar, aye.

No Business was discussed.

Res. 135-26 John moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 pm, Byron seconded. The roll; Haase aye. Dutton, aye, Kusar, aye.



Kanda O'Dell, Fiscal Officer



John Kusar, Chairman