

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HARRISON TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY, OHIO
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING APRIL 6, 2026

The Harrison Township Trustees met in regular session on April 6, 2026 at the Township Hall. The Chairman, Mark Van Buren, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Fiscal Officer called the roll, and the following members and guests were present.

Trustee	Mark Van Buren
Trustee	Eric Smith
Trustee	Ray Foor
Fiscal Officer	Carolyn Elder
Zoning Inspector	Valerie Hans
Road Superintendent	Pete Sigman
Guests	Mark Harsanye, 51 Ephriam Drive
Guests	Jean & Peter Cea, 4356 Gale Road
Guest	Joe Garrett, Trebel

From the floor – Mark Harsanye, 51 Ephriam Drive

Mr. Harsanye has been working with the Licking County Sherriff's office concerning speeding on Ephriam Drive in Ellington Village. He shared the results of a speed study conducted by the county. He feels that there should be safety signs at the crosswalks. He requested that the trustees request a safety study.

-Eric Smith moved to request a safety study from Matt Hill at LCATS for Ellington Village in Harrison Township. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

From the floor – Joe Garrett, Trebel

Mr. Garrett reviewed the markets for aggregation. He would like for the trustees to sign an Energy Consulting and Management Agreement. This would give him the ability to lock in a price if the market would drop. He shared a savings analysis for Harrison Township.

-Ray Foor moved to sign Addendum No. 2, To Energy Consulting and Management Agreement with Trebel for gas and electric aggregation for 2029 and 2030. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2026 04 06 01 which states: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE ODOT ROAD SALT CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 2026. The township will order 400 tons of road salt on the ODOT contract for the 2026-2027 winter. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

Zoning Report – Valerie Hans, Zoning Inspector

- The Zoning Inspector reviewed the following items.
- The March zoning permit and fee total was \$2,529.72.
- Edward J. Stiles properties – Court ordered cleanup has been completed. The cost to clean up this property was \$17,170.91. The property has been recently purchased by a local business owner and he has reimbursed the township for the full amount of the clean up cost. The court cost will be paid by Mr. Stiles.
- 6550 Outville Road – Scott Dunbar – The trustees are willing to grant more time for cleanup.
- 7341 Columbus Road – Thurcorp LLC – Complaint received that someone is living in a camper on this property. In addition, there are several marked visitor parking spaces in a recently created gravel parking lot on the property. This property is zoned R-15 and cannot be used for business purposes. Conditions verified, certified letters were sent and posted to the property.
- 138 Ford Ave. – Robert Thomas – Complaints that the property owner has people living in two different campers and a garage on the property. It was verified that one camper has no one living in it. In addition, a swimming pool was erected without a zoning permit or a fence.
- 5103-3 York Road – Haskell Patrick - Received several complaints that the property owner is parking vehicles for sale on the grass. This is a violation of Article 18.2 of the Harrison Township Zoning Resolution. In addition, the property owner is conducting vehicle repairs and dismantling vehicles on the property. Motor Vehicle repair is not a permitted use in the B-1. Four junk motor vehicles were observed on the property and they are being moved to another property.
- 138 Ford Ave. – Robert Thomas – Several complains received regarding nuisance debris on the property and in the street in front of the property.

-Ray Foor moved to adopt Resolution 2026 04 06 02 which states: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AND ABATE NUISANCE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 505.87, 138 Ford Ave., Pataskala, Ohio 43062, Robert A. & Paula M. Thomas. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

- 827 Citation Drive – Elizabeth Baljak – Received complaint regarding excess dog and chicken feces on the property. The Zoning Inspector visited the property on multiple occasions and has not witnessed or smelled excess feces on the property.
- 116 Cadillac Ave. – Terry Cunningham – Received nuisance complaint.

-Ray Foor moved to adopt Resolution 2026 04 06 03 which states: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AND ABATE NUISANCE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 505.87, 116 Cadillac Ave. S.W., Pataskala, Ohio 43062, Terry S. Cunningham. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

- 31 Ohio Ave. – James Starr – Received nuisance complaint. They are making progress on cleanup, will grant more time.
- 7945 Blacks Road – Jonathan Studer – Received nuisance complaint.

-Ray Foor moved to adopt Resolution 2026 04 06 04 which states: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AND ABATE NUISANCE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 505.87, 7945 Blacks Road S.W., Pataskala, Ohio 43062, Jonathan M., Joan L., Jason, & Taylor Studer. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

- The annual ZC and BZA training session was held on 3/31/2026.
- The Zoning Commission is working on zoning updates.
- Valerie reported that the township website is now accessibility compliant.
- The trustees signed Cemetery Lot 75C deed.
- The Zoning Inspector approved Front Porch Investments lot splits on Cherokee Trail. They received a variance during the 1/20/2026 BZA Public Hearing to split 9 lots with 5+ acres each in size with road frontage that is less than the required 100' and 150' in the R-15 and B-1 districts. The BZA placed conditions on the approval of the application. The lot split application met all of the conditions required; and therefore, was approved. The applicant will continue with the process of splitting lots with LCPC.
- The Zoning Inspector approved a lot split of property located at 5375 Refugee Road. The property owner is splitting off land to allow their son to build a home to be close to the parents. This lot split met all of the requirements of the Harrison Township Zoning Resolution; and therefore, was approved. The applicant will continue with the process of splitting the lot with LCPC.

The Chairman, Mark Van Buren read the Resolution Prohibiting the Keeping or Harboring of Barking or Howling Dogs within the Unincorporated Territory of Harrison Township in Accordance with O.R.C. 955.10.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2026 04 06 05 which states: RESOLUTION PROHIBITING THE KEEPING OR HARBORING OF BARKING OR HOWLING DOGS WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED TERRITORY OF HARRISON TOWNSHIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.R.C. 955.10. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

Road Report – Pete Sigman, Road Superintendent

Pete reported that there is curb cracking in Ellington Village in front of the condominiums. Mark Rodgers was the only contractor to respond to his request for bids. The estimate was for \$4,800.00.

-Eric Smith moved to approve a purchase order to Mark Rodgers Construction, Inc. for \$4,800.00 to repair the curb in Ellington Village in front of the condominiums. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

About a month ago, a wind storm damaged the salt barn. Pete received an estimate from Wesley Kern of \$3,700.00 for repairs. OTARMA's estimate for repairs was \$4,781.81.

-Eric Smith moved to approve a purchase order to Wesley Kern, Kern Construction for \$3,700.00 to repair the salt barn. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

Pete reported that the Train Depot has excessive rot underneath the porch. The trustees want Pete to obtain repair estimates.

ACE has completed the upfit of the F600 truck and Pete is pleased with the final product. Pete has had no response from the Engineers office concerning the request for engineering for the bridge on Smoke Road, the culvert on Refugee Road and the 2026 resurfacing project. The trustees are willing to hold a special meeting yet this month if the estimates are received, so that bids can be opened in May.

Pete reported that SWL Schools used \$2,704.32 in road salt from the township this winter. He will send an invoice.

Pete would like to purchase a partner saw for the road department as well as a gas powered post driver. He will obtain estimates.

Pete passed and received his pesticide license.

Pete reported that Mr. Culbertson at 922 Carryback is having water ponding issues on his north property line. Pete will open the ditch and go from there.

Pete would like to purchase ground protection mats for use in the cemetery as well as the road department. Estimates were:

1. Sunbelt – 20 Dura Deck mats \$4,700.00
2. Ohio Ground Protection - 20 Alturna Mats \$4,600.00 (come with a limited lifetime warranty)

-Ray Foor moved to approve a purchase order to Ohio Ground Protection for 20 Alturna Ground Mats with handholds for \$4,600.00. The motion further states that \$2,000.00 will be encumbered from the cemetery account within the general fund and \$2,600.00 will be encumbered from the road and bridge fund. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

The fiscal officer stated that road employee Lee Morgan has been with the township for six months and his probation should be discussed. The trustees are pleased with his work.

-Ray Foor moved for Road Department employee Lee Morgan's probation to end. He will be credited with 3 personal days of leave as per the employee handbook. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

Valerie Hans reported that the 2025 MS4 fees will be \$5,500.00.

-Mark Van Buren moved to approve a purchase order to the Licking County Soil and Water District for the 2025 MS4 fees in the amount of the \$5,500.00. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith NO and Foor YES. The motion passed.

-Eric Smith moved to approve a purchase order to the Licking County Health Department for 2026 Mosquito Control in the amount of \$10,000.00. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

The Chairman, Mark Van Buren completed the first quarter of 2026 Credit Card Compliance Report.

-Eric Smith moved to approve the following:

- 1. The minutes of the March 2, 2026 regular meeting.**
- 2. Payment advice #109-2026 through #162-2026.**
- 3. Warrants 19623 through 19641.**
- 4. The March Bank Reconciliation report.**

Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

The fiscal Officer presented a letter from ODOT referencing the I-70 Widening and Resurfacing, from Palmer Road to State Road 158 Interchange, PID 77238. The letter would like input to help guide their efforts.

Chairman Mark Van Buren instructed Valerie Hans to work with Bill Ischy regarding training for township employees. This training is required by the Cybersecurity Policy and must be completed by June 30, 2026.

The fiscal officer passed out Financial Reports for the trustees to review.

Being no further business, the Chairman Mark Van Buren adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m. Minutes are unofficial until approved by the trustees.

Respectively Submitted,

Carolyn I. Elder
Harrison Township Fiscal Officer

The following resolutions are a part of the April 6, 2026 meeting minutes.
RESOLUTION 2026 04 06 01, RESOLUTION 2026 04 06 02, RESOLUTION 2026 04 06 03,
RESOLUTION 2026 04 06 04 and RESOLUTION 2026 04 06 05