

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HARRISON TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY, OHIO
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MAY 4, 2026

The Harrison Township Trustees met in regular session on May 4, 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
Guest	Jim Bell, 418 Donerail Drive
Guests	Jean & Peter Cea, 4356 Gale Road
Guest	Bryce Ramsay L. C. Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Guest	Jason Studer, 7945 Blacks Road
Guest	Scott Dunbar, 6550 Outville Road

From the floor – Jim Bell, 418 Donerail Drive

Mr. Bell stated that the trees at the entrance to Beechwood Trails are still not cut down. He thinks that the trees are stone dead. Pete stated that one tree is dead and the others are okay. The Trustees have had other residents state that they do not want the trees removed. Pete will look at them again.

From the floor – Bryce Ramsay, Licking County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

Mr. Ramsay attended the meeting for his annual township visit.

From the floor – Scott Dunbar

Mr. Dunbar stated that he is continuing to clean up the property.

From the floor – Jason Studer, 7945 Blacks Road

Mr. Studer inquired about his nuisance violations. He stated that his property in under contract but he will keep his home. The Zoning Inspector stated that the piles of stuff everywhere are a nuisance and the neighbors are tired of the ongoing mess. Mr. Studer stated that no one is living in the motor home. The Zoning Inspector stated that the solar panels are in violation with no permit. Trustee Van Buren inquired as to his plan. Mr. Studer stated that he might be able to clean up in the month of May. The Zoning Inspector stated that she has obtained a quote for the township to clean up the nuisance for a cost of \$4,500.00. The trustees agreed to allow one month (until the June 1st meeting) for the residents to clean up the property before approving the resolution to hire cleanup of the nuisance property.

Road Report – Pete Sigman, Road Superintendent

The trustees reviewed the Licking County Engineer’s estimate for the Resurfacing of Hollow Road, Refugee Road, Watkins Road, and Community Hall Parking Lot in Harrison Township, Licking County, Ohio Project.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2026 05 04 01 which states: IN THE MATTER OF CONSTRUCTING, RECONSTRUCTING, RESURFACING, OR IMPROVING The Resurfacing of Hollow Road, Refugee Road, Watkins Road, and Community Hall Parking Lot in Harrison Township Project. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

-Ray Foor moved to hold a special meeting on Friday, May 22, 2026 at the Harrison Township Hall, located at 6750 Outville Road, Pataskala, Ohio 43062. The special meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to open The Resurfacing of Hollow Road, Refugee Road, Watkins Road, and Community Hall Parking Lot in Harrison Township bid packets and award the contract as well as approve meeting minutes and bills. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

-Eric Smith moved to approve a purchase order to Buckeye Valley Equipment for a new Stihl TS710i partner saw and supplies for the road department in the amount of \$2,500.00. This purchase is on a Sourcewell Government Contract. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

-Eric Smith moved to approve a purchase order to Buckeye Power Sales for a new Rhino Driver GPD45XA for the road department in the amount of \$4,065.99. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

Pete reported that a pipe failed near a catch basin on the northeast corner of Citation and Forward Pass. Pete would like a PO for \$3,000.00 to purchase a 3x3 catch basin and grate.

-Ray Foor moved to approve a purchase order to E.C. Babbert for a catch basin and grate for \$3,000.00. Eric Smith 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 April zoning permit and fee total was \$2,941.60.
- 138 Ford Ave. - Robert & Paula Thomas - Swimming pool erected on the property without a zoning permit or a fence as the property is less than one acre.

-Eric Smith moved to send the zoning violation at 138 Ford Ave., Pataskala, Robert & Paula Thomas to the Licking County Prosecutor for further action. The violation is a swimming pool erected without a zoning permit or a fence as the property is less than one acre. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

- 5103-3 York Road -Haskell R. Patrick - 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. It is a conditional use; however, the property owner does not have a conditional use permit. Lastly, four junk motor vehicles were observed on the property. Complaints were verified; certified letter was sent and posted to the property.

-Eric Smith moved to send the zoning violation at 5103-3 York Road, Pataskala, Haskell R. Patrick to the Licking County Prosecutor for further action. The violation is parking vehicles for sale on the grass. Property owner is conducting vehicle repairs and dismantling vehicles on the property without a conditional use permit. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

- 24 Jefferson Ridge Drive – Thomas K. Polzin & Raenesha I. Butler – Shed placed on the property in violation of setbacks and without a zoning permit. Working with the property owner, no action taken at this time.
- 138 Ford Ave. – Thomas – Nuisance debris on the property. Some improvement, will wait until May 19, 2026 meeting to check on progress.
- 116 Cadillac Ave. – Terry S. Cunningham – Nuisance debris on the property. Zoning Inspector received a quote from Triple Nickle Lawn Care for \$4,000.00 to clean up the property.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2026 05 04 02 which states: 116 Cadillac Ave., Pataskala, Terry S. Cunningham.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Harrison Township, Licking County, Ohio,

- 1. That the Board of Trustees of Harrison Township, Licking County, Ohio, shall, and said body hereby does enter into an agreement with Triple Nickle Lawn Care LLC, 2190 N. St. Rt. 555, Malta, Ohio 43758, for the removal and disposal of the vegetation, garbage, refuse, and debris located on the premises at issue herein and described hereinabove for and in consideration of the payment by Harrison Township, Licking County, Ohio, of a total price which shall not exceed four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) which final sum shall be paid out of the Township general fund from moneys not otherwise appropriated ; and**
- 2. That upon payment of the consideration amount allowed, a written report shall be made to the Licking County Auditor which report shall include a proper description of premises here at issue, and a statement of all of the costs incurred in providing**

for the abatement, control, or removal of the vegetation, garbage, refuse, and debris here at issue including the costs incurred in providing notices and any amounts incurred labor, materials, and equipment, which amounts shall be placed upon the tax duplicate of Licking County, Ohio, and become a lien upon the land here at issue from and after the date of its entry.

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

- 137 Chevrolet Ave. – Flem Hannah – Nuisance complaint received.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2026 05 04 03 which states: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AND ABATE NUISANCE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 505.87, 137 Chevrolet Ave., Pataskala, Ohio 43062, Flem Hannah. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

- 201 Riva Ridge Road – Sarah M. & Mary J. Humphreys - Nuisance complaint received.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2026 05 04 04 which states: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AND ABATE NUISANCE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 505.87, 201 Riva Ridge Road, Pataskala, Ohio 43062, Sarah M. & Mary J. Humphreys. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

- 4390 Columbus Road – Frederick Howard & Tammy Johnson II - Nuisance complaint received.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2026 05 04 05 which states: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AND ABATE NUISANCE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 505.87, 4390 Columbus Road, Granville, Ohio 43023, Frederick Howard & Tammy Johnson II. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

-Eric Smith moved to approve the following:

1. The minutes of the April 6, 2026 regular meeting.
2. Payment advice #163-2026 through #208-2026.
3. Warrants 19642 through 19662.
4. The April Bank Reconciliation Report.

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

-Eric Smith moved to terminate employment for road worker Benjamin Patterson. He has been a part time, on call employee since April 1, 2024 with no hours worked. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

Harrison Township received a letter from Archer Energy that the trustees have entered into an agreement to provide a fixed rate of \$0.6979 per Ccf, for natural gas aggregation, effective with the next eligible meter read through April 2028.

The fiscal officer reviewed an Auditor of State Advisory Memo concerning Credit Card Convenience Fees issued on April 23, 2026. Discussion was held and the trustees and fiscal officer agreed to the following. These fees should be recognized as a normal cost of doing business in today's environment. In many cases, there is no practical way to eliminate these charges entirely. Harrison Township will exercise sound judgement and fiscal responsibility when incurring and paying such fees. Whenever feasible, alternative payment methods that do not include convenience fees – such as ACH transfers, checks, or other direct payment options – will be utilized to minimize costs. Harrison Township is diligent in protecting taxpayer dollars. When a township official or employee incurs a service fee, they will document on the invoice or receipt a reasonable basis for payment. Harrison Township will ensure that the established policy reflects a balanced approach that acknowledges both the practicality of credit card usage and the responsibility to manage public funds prudently. This policy will be reviewed when needed.

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 7:05 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 May 4, 2026 regular meeting minutes.

Resolution 2026 05 04 01

Resolution 2026 05 04 02

Resolution 2026 05 04 03

Resolution 2026 05 04 04

Resolution 2026 05 04 05