

Liberty Township, Licking County, Ohio
Regular Trustee Meeting & Continued Public Hearing Minutes
August 10, 2026 at 6:30 pm

Opening

- Bill Bogantz called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.
- Bill stated that the meeting was being recorded and will be a public record.
- Bill led the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Melodie Bogantz took roll call with the following answering present: Bill Bogantz, Ed Wasem, & Doug Strait.
- Bill stated that the July 13, 2026 regular meeting minutes were available.
- **Doug Strait made a motion to approve the July 13, 2026 regular meeting minutes. Bill Bogantz seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**
- Bill stated that the August 3, 2026 special meeting minutes were available.
- **Doug Strait made a motion to approve the August 3, 2026 special meeting minutes. Bill Bogantz seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**

Resident Input

- none

Correspondence & Financials

- Melodie presented the township's monthly financial reports to the trustees.
- **Bill Bogantz made a motion to approve the July Credit Card Charges totaling \$1,371.87. Doug Strait seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**
- **Bill Bogantz made a motion to approve the past month's payments totaling \$22,879.92. Doug Strait seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**
- Melodie stated that receipts received in the past month were \$28,753.08.
- Melodie read the notable correspondence from the agenda.
- The Trustees discussed the correspondence from the Solid Waste District. Bill Bogantz asked them follow-up questions and is awaiting their reply before passing the proposed resolution.

Zoning Update:

- Woody Fox, Zoning Inspector, read the zoning report for the past month totaling \$2,719.55:
 - 2026-LS-007 Frances Messer \$100.00
6337 Castle Rd.
lot split
 - 2026-LS-008 Kenneth Belczak \$100.00
Sportsman Club Rd.
lot split
 - 2026-P-022 Filipe Cortes \$150.00

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- 8545 Harmony Church Rd.
Accessory Building
- 2026-P-023 Jim & Nicole Jones \$150.00
128 Dutch Ridge Way
Accessory Building
 - 2026-P-024 Eric Zigo \$150.00
6175 Stone Quarry Rd.
Garage
 - 2026-P-025 James Smith \$201.60
8570 Loudon St.
Accessory Building
 - 2026-P-026 Martin Olsen \$232.95
7931 Concord Rd.
Accessory Building
 - 2026-P-027 Chad Thompson \$75.00
7201 North Ridge Rd.
Pool
 - 2026-P-028 Sunil Sunkara \$360.00
8092 Concord Rd.
Garage
 - 2026-VAR-003 Hasan Ali, HRC Property Development \$1,200.00
7826 Johnstown-Utica Rd.
Variance for acreage and frontage
- Woody presented the list off incoming applications and violations with the trustees.
 - Two additional items were discussed: one on Windy Hollow and one on Smaller Road.
 - Melodie mentioned the upcoming zoning meetings as listed on the agenda

Public Hearing

- Doug Strait made a motion to open the public hearing for Zoning Resolution Update 2026-03 which addresses Home Occupations.
- No one wished to be sworn in.
- The recommendation from Licking County Planning Commission was available.
- The trustees discussed modifications to the recommendation received by the Zoning Commission.
- **Bill Bogantz made a motion to approve Zoning Resolution Update 2026-03 with the following modifications:**
 1. Remove the existing definition of "Home Occupation"
 2. In Home Occupation, Expanded, item j) change "5000 sq ft" to "1500 sq ft"
 3. In Home Occupation Expanded, item m) and Home Occupation, Limited, item k) add "and all waste shall be in approved waste receptacles" to the end of the sentence

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4. In Home Occupation, Expanded, item I) and Home Occupation, Limited, item j) add “unless stored inside the building and not visible from outside” to the end of the sentence

Doug Strait seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.

- It was stated that the change will take effect in 30 days if there is no referendum.
- **Bill Bogantz made a motion to close the public hearing. Doug Strait seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**
- The public hearing closed at 7:11 pm

Old Business

- Installation of Sign Grant Signs – Doug stated that the signs need to be installed by October 15th. Jeff Irvin, Road Supervisor, said that he is about 75% done installing signs.
- Cemeteries
 - Ed stated that he has a meeting with Johnstown to discuss cemetery maintenance.
 - Melodie mentioned that the branch is still down in the Concord Cemetery. Ed said he would get it taken care of.
 - Bill asked Ed to pursue the transfer of the Moorehead Hill Cemetery to the township. Ed agreed to work on it.
- Building Maintenance
 - Doug is waiting on an estimate for the garage door repairs
 - The tree is still down on the south side of the property.
 - It was mentioned that the tank with a hole in it is not used anymore. There is another plastic tank that isn't used either. Both can be removed.
 - Bill stated that he plans on removing the honey bees from the school house within the next month. With that information, Doug will work on getting estimates for re-installing the siding and insulating the building and putting on metal siding as soon as the bees are removed.
- No update on the sale of old equipment
- Roads
 - The township has a change order from Smalls Asphalt based on their recommendations and gaps in the bid package. The additional cost would be \$9,033.90 and bring the total to \$261,636.25 (Incorrectly stated at the meeting. The real total is **\$261,175.25**)
 - **Bill Bogantz made a motion to approve Change Order 1 for an additional \$9,033.90. Doug Strait seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**
 - We will have another change order for patching short Cooper
 - Smalls may start work on the project next week.
- Status of the field tile on Harmony Church Road – no update

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- Licking County Strategic Plan which is being called LC Forward – no update
- Bill stated that there is no new update on the Miles Estate.
- The trustees reviewed the Cyber Security policy
- **Bill Bogantz made a motion to extend the highlighted dates an additional 40 days. Doug Strait seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**
- Bill stated that ABC Communications has ordered the materials, and has 2 items on backorder.

New Business

- none

Closing

- Bill stated that the next regular trustee meeting is September 14, 2026 at 6:30 pm.
- **Bill Bogantz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Doug Strait seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm.
- The trustees signed the credit card summary, bank reconciliation, minutes, permits, reports, warrants, resolutions, etc.

Approval

Approval of the meeting minutes:

Trustee: <u>William Bogantz</u>	Date: <u>9/14/2026</u>
Trustee: <u>Ed Warner</u>	Date: <u>9-14-26</u>
Trustee: <u>Doug Strait</u>	Date: <u>9-14-26</u>
Fiscal Officer: <u>Melinda Bogantz</u>	Date: <u>9/14/26</u>