

Middleton Township Trustees

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

6:00 p.m.

Fire Chief Andy Carter held a swearing-in ceremony at 5:50 p.m. for full time paramedic Zachary Solarek with township officials, Fire and EMS officers, township staff and visitors in attendance.

Mr. Moulton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was spoken. In attendance were Trustees Moulton, Petrea, and Vetter, as well as Fiscal Officer Limes.

The sign-in sheet for employees and visitors is attached with the approved minutes.

Noted on the sign in sheet is a statement indicating the meeting may be recorded or streamed live to the internet by a visitor - not at the authority of the township trustees.

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT

- **Mrs. Petrea moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve the January 21, 2026 meeting minutes as provided. Motion approved.**
- **Mr. Moulton moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded approval of accounts and payroll as submitted. Motion approved.** A payment register is attached to the approved minutes.
- Mrs. Limes indicated she had reached out to KLA Consulting with regard to running a harassment training session for new employees. Dates were reviewed and it was determined that Thursday, March 12 would be the target date. Times of the sessions would be provided to all staff.
- The Webster Township Fire Contract was received by Mrs. Limes and provided to Fire Chief Carter and the Trustees for review.

EMS DEPARTMENT

- EMS Department Deputy Chief Ron Bogedain reviewed the run reports with the Trustees.
- Air ride suspension issues have been identified on Ambulance 680. It was sent to Burgess for repair.
- Dave Johnston, OhioFIT repaired a power source to the television in the garage bay.
- The new ambulance is still on target for delivery April – May 2026. A color change to the ambulance has been requested at a cost of \$11,927.00. The new color scheme would fall in line with the current color schemes on the fire fleet vehicles which is a combination of red and black versus the existing white and red.
Mr. Vetter moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to approve a paint change on the ambulance on order with Burgess at a cost of \$11,927.00. Motion approved.
- Congratulations were sent out to Zachary Solarek who was sworn-in earlier in the evening and left to attend an emergency call.
- Mr. Bogedain confirmed Audrey Hendry's resignation from the township effective January 31.
- Mr. Moulton questioned if scheduling is working out and Chief Bogedain confirmed all shifts are covered.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Fire Chief Andy Carter provided the YTD run report for Plain Township.
- Chief Carter provided run report data, in a new format, for January 2026. Comprehensive data included but were not limited to run data, personnel response, fleet vehicles, shifts, and types of call.
- Chief Carter and Mr. Moulton discussed the change from CODERED to a new emergency notification system. This was tabled until more information is gathered.
- Paramedic School at Four County Career Center is \$11,655. Zachary Solarek would like to begin the course in April. The township has historically paid for half of paramedic training.
Mr. Vetter moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to pay \$5,827.50 directly to Four County Career Center for Zachary Solarek to pursue paramedic licensure in its 14-month program. Motion approved.
- Chief Carter reviewed a project being developed at the Meta site for a dry hydrant. The purpose of the dry hydrant would allow the fire department trucks to enter the facility near the guard post and fill a tanker from a pond. The cost of the project would be shared with the township paying for the materials and Meta would handle the installation. Mrs. Petrea questioned Meta paying for the entire project and the board members discussed the benefit to the township having access to this type of hydrant. Mr. Vetter will be contacting Meta to discuss the payment options. The cost for materials is estimated at \$2,747.82.
- The Fire Department Recognition Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, March 21. Chief Carter provided an updated quote for 65 attendees totaling \$3,805.00. It was noted that the EMS department staff will be invited this year.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to approve paying for the March 21 Fire Department Recognition Banquet at a cost not to exceed \$3,805.00. Motion approved.

- Chief Carter reviewed the status of the Fire Code Resolution noting review and approval by Peter Griggs, Esq. and Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Linda Holmes. The resolution provides a guideline for fire hydrant placement and fire code for structures.

Mr. Vetter moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to approve Resolution 26-0203 - Resolution adopting the current edition of the Ohio Fire Code (OFC) for Middleton Township, Wood County, Ohio.

Role was called: Mr. Moulton – YES; Mrs. Petrea – YES; Mr. Vetter – YES

- A structure fire occurred at a residence at Reitz Road and St. Rt. 64 with no fatalities. Chief Carter noted that the smoke detectors in the home saved all the family and pets in the home. It was a difficult fire and Chief Carter stated it was “a job well done” by all staff on scene. Also, the teenager who rescued her siblings and pets is to be commended for her swift actions to remove her family from the home.

- Chief Carter presented a candidate for fire fighter in the township.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to approve hiring Zach Morris, Dowling Road, on a one-year probationary period as a fire fighter pending pre-employment drug screening and BCI review. Motion approved.

- A replacement truck for 682 was reviewed, with Chief Carter indicating his support of a Fouts4 vehicle which would serve as an engine, pumper and tanker. The quote is good for 30 days. The vehicle could be housed at Medic 680. The quoted price is \$504,098.73. Mr. Moulton questioned the type of vehicle and its purpose as the new ‘go to’ fire equipment. Chief Carter confirmed this type of engine is being utilized for many reasons, one specific reason being its lower cost point.
- The Tahoe is being repaired due to a broken exhaust manifold bolt and coolant leak. The cost for repair at Perrysburg AutoMall is estimated at \$2,847.00.
- A temporary option is being developed for cameras in the fire stations, which would include outdoor trail cameras. Locks will be changed at both stations.
- Chief Carter stated that a new date needs to be considered for swearing-in new Deputy Fire Chief Andrew Slife and he is requesting a ceremony on Wednesday, March 18 at 5:30 p.m. The board felt that would be acceptable.

VISITOR COMMENTS

- Jennifer Featzka thanked the Trustees for their support of the Fire Department Recognition Banquet.

OLD BUSINESS

- The camera and lock project at the township is still in progress.
- The Emergency Vehicle Storage Building is moving forward and on track. Electric has not been provided to date.
- Mrs. Petrea noted that the America250 Resolution was resubmitted and that flags and information commemorating the event will be forthcoming.
- Mrs. Petrea mentioned that the drives at Union Hill Cemetery are not plowed during the winter except for a funeral. It was noted by Mr. Vetter that it is standard practice to handle the drives in that manner.
- Mrs. Petrea updated the Board and visitors on TMACOG meetings and the rebranding of same to Lake Erie West Regional Council (LEWRC) to be more representative of the entities involved.
- A student watershed project has been developed and the area schools will be notified of the project and opportunity for student involvement.
- Mrs. Petrea provided a memo outlining her intent to pursue zoning updates with regard to risk mitigation for data centers, requesting impact studies and more data made available in writing. Conversation revolved around inspections and accountability to residents for information.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to move to executive session at 8:05 p.m. for the purpose of personnel discussion. Role was called: Mr. Moulton – YES; Mrs. Petrea – YES; Mr. Vetter – YES

The board returned to regular session at 8:35 p.m.

The Board noted they planned to discuss an issue with regard to a former employee with Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Linda Holmes.

Mr. Vetter moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded adjournment of the meeting at 8:37 pm. Motion approved.

Michael Moulton, Chairman

Melissa S. Petrea, Trustee

Fred E. Vetter, Vice Chairman

Laurie L. Limes, Fiscal Officer