

Middleton Township Trustees

Wednesday, February 18, 2026 6:00 p.m.

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.

**A MOMENT OF SILENCE WAS REQUESTED BY MR. MOULTON IN HONOR OF PETER KAY.
Mr. Kay served as a valued member of the zoning commission board for over 13 years
and passed away on February 7, 2026. Rest in Peace Peter.**

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT

- **Mrs. Petrea moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve the February 3, 2026 meeting minutes as provided. Motion approved.**
- **Mr. Vetter moved, Mr. Moulton seconded approval of accounts and payroll as submitted. Motion approved.** A payment register is attached to the approved minutes.
- Mrs. Limes provided specification from Toledo Edison for lighting Village of Riverbend Plat 10. **Mrs. Petrea moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve street lighting of Village of Riverbend Plat 10 for five (5) LED acorn style lights at a price of \$7,175.89. Motion approved.** It is noted that the township will pay up front for the installation and will be reimbursed by McCarthy Builders, developer for Village at Riverbend.
- Mrs. Limes reviewed the status of the corporate credit card account. **Mr. Moulton moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to approve increasing the corporate credit card limit with Fifth Third Bank to \$20,000. Motion approved.**
- Mrs. Limes discussed the need for an advance on property tax funds. Mrs. Limes indicated that she spoke with County Auditor Matt Oestrich and the funds would be made available efficiently upon request and motion by the governing board. **Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to request on February 19, 2026 an advance on the township's available property taxes. Motion approved.** The funds should be posted to the township checking account by ACH on February 20, 2026.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Mr. Moulton stated he had recently had conversation with Fire Chief Andy Carter with regard to the change from CodeRED to the Everbridge emergency platform. **Mr. Moulton moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to approve the township's involvement with the new county-wide emergency platform Everbridge, per recommendation from the Wood County Emergency Management Agency. Motion approved.**

ROAD DEPARTMENT

- Road Superintendent Chase Greulich noted that the new road mower was delivered and the old mower was turned in.
- The St. Rt. 582/Asmus Road ditch project will be handled by the Wood County Engineers Office, Chris Heinze will be in charge. In addition, Mr. Heinze and Mr. Greulich will review the Hull Prairie Road ditch status together.
- The yards needing repair from snow removal were handled by Tommy Dauer.
- The township has used 250 ton of salt. Mr. Greulich noted they ordered 350 ton. Two trucks will have salt unloaded from them by the end of the week.
- The balance of wreath from the Wreaths Across America event in New Belleville Ridge Cemetery have been removed.
- Mr. Vetter indicated that funding for the Pargillis Road Improvement Project through Issue I is pending and a confirmation letter should be arriving in March.
- The township is eligible to apply for a sign grant through LTAP. Mrs. Petrea, Mr. Greulich and Mrs. Limes will handle.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

- Zoning Inspector Kip McDowell provided permit reports to Mr. Moulton for review at the meeting. In addition, a report on the status of project at the Meta site were reviewed.
- Mrs. Petrea questioned double parking in the subdivisions and concerns for same. It was determined that the Planning Commission Director, Dave Steiner, could answer some of those questions.

- A concern was raised with regard to the size of a new building at the Meta site measuring 350' x 1100'.
- Mr. Moulton stated that additional lighting has been installed at the substation. He received a letter from resident Tonya Strell. Mr. Moulton reached out to Victor Coleman, FirstEnergy and JEDunn to remedy the situation.

VISITOR COMMENTS

- Jim Demon, Mercer Road, questioned the status of marijuana stores being established in the area. The board indicated they could not say 'no' to the potential businesses, but could restrict where they operate. Mr. Demon also voiced concerns about the pond increasing in size and run off to the Carpenter property. Also, drive cuts were discussed and locations of same for the power plant entrance off St. Rt. 582 and Mercer Road.
- Ross Fought, St. Rt. 582 resident questioned the power sources and control of same on site plan approval.
- Resident Bob Grove, Mercer Road, stated he feels the 'group across the road' is not being truthful and is frustrated with the situation.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Vetter indicated the Emergency Vehicle Storage Building project is on track. Suburban Natural Gas is expected to start digging for install and hook up early the week of February 23.
- The round-a-bout at St. Rt. 582 and Mercer Road is on hold.
- Mrs. Petrea confirmed a sheriff deputy is expected to be on St. Rt. 582 at the I-75 exchange from 6 – 8 am for traffic control.
- Wood County Commissioner Ted Bowlus discussed with Mrs. Petrea his concerns about data center resistance in the county. The suggestion of also bringing in the Wood County Economic Development Commission was noted.
- It was noted that the township officials and various department heads attended the Ohio Township Association Conference earlier in the month.
- The camera/lock project at the township administration building is nearing completion.
- The cameras at the fire station are in place and operational.

NEW BUSINESS

- A representative is being requested to speak to a group at RGP about data center on March 5. Mrs. Petrea will reach out to Rex Huffman with regard to same.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to move to executive session for the purpose of legal issue at 7:41 p.m. Role was called: Mr. Moulton - YES; Mrs. Petrea – YES; Mr. Vetter – YES

The Board returned to regular session at 7:55 p.m.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to approve Brosius, Johnson & Griggs accept the complaint drafted against the nuisance property on St. Rt. 25 and pursue action on the township's behalf based on Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Linda Holmes feedback and approval. Motion approved.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to move to executive session for the purpose of personnel discipline at 7:55 p.m. Role was called: Mr. Moulton - YES; Mrs. Petrea – YES; Mr. Vetter – YES

The Board returned to regular session at 8:31 p.m.

Mrs. Limes reviewed a request made by retired Assistant Fire Chief Brian Kotula. Mrs. Limes had reached out to Mr. Kotula regarding a retirement celebration. Mr. Kotula requested a donation be made to Let's Build, an organization that builds beds for families in need. Mrs. Limes is working with Mrs. Holmes on appropriately donating to a 501(c)(3) organization.

Mr. Moulton requested a recess until Thursday, February 19 at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Moulton reconvened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 19, 2026.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to move to executive session for the purpose of personnel discipline at 9:11 a.m. Role was called: Mr. Moulton - YES; Mrs. Petrea – YES; Mr. Vetter – YES

The Board returned to regular session at 9:25 a.m.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to terminate, effective immediately, full-time employee Tommy Dauer. Mr. Dauer will be paid through the March 7, 2026 pay period, with health and dental benefits through March 31, 2026. Motion approved. Mr. Dauer was requested to turn in all township assets, specifically township credit card, phone, keys, and to make arrangement with township personnel to obtain all personal items from the township road garage.

Mr. Moulton discussed a need presented by EMS Chief Jerry Saunders for AEDs, batteries, and controls for unit. Five sets of pads and battery packs were ordered for five (5) units in the township.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded a motion to purchase five sets of AED pads and battery packs at a cost of \$297 per set from Stryker. Motion approved.

Mr. Vetter moved, Mrs. Petrea seconded adjournment of the meeting at 9:42 a.m. Motion approved.

Michael Moulton, Chairman

Melissa S. Petrea, Trustee

Fred E. Vetter, Vice Chairman

Laurie L. Limes, Fiscal Officer