BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING January 6, 2026, 5:30PM

Officials in Attendance: Trustee Rich Farmer Chairperson, Trustee Mary Ann Reser Vice Chairperson, Trustee Bob Kusmer and Fiscal Officer Thomas Ackerman.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Farmer.

Oath of Office- Township Solicitor Jim Barney

Mr. Barney swore in re-elected Trustees Mary Ann Reser and Bob Kusmer

Minutes - Thomas Ackerman

Trustee Reser *made a motion* to approve the minutes for December 2 and December 16, 2025. Second by Trustee Kusmer. Roll call vote, Trustee Farmer - Yes; Trustee Reser -Yes; Trustee Kusmer – Yes; The Motion Passed.

Financial Report - Fiscal Officer Thomas Ackerman

Mr. Ackerman mentioned he is working on *year end* for 2025, and setting up a system for 2026.

He will watch billing, as prices have gone up on some things, and may look for other options if needed.

Trustee Reser asked about the *Audit Letter* and if these items are being addressed. Mr. Ackerman mentioned that the *check deposit* issue is being done now with Bill Lagrou and Chad Lindsey being able to take checks directly to the bank.

Mr. Ackerman said *Annual Reports* will be done with help from the Audit Team.

Mr. Ackerman will also address the *issuing of 1099's* to independent contractors that the township uses.

NEW Business for 2026 -

Trustee Kusmer *made a motion* to nominate Trustee Reser as Chairperson, and Trustee Kusmer as Vice-Chairperson for 2026. Second by Trustee Farmer. Roll Call Vote, Trustee Farmer -Yes; Trustee Reser -Yes; Trustee Kusmer -Yes; The Motion Passed.

Trustee Farmer *made a motion* to keep the Trustee Meeting days and times the same as in the past, with the meeting set for the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm for 2026. Second by Trustee Kusmer. Roll Call Vote, Trustee Reser -Yes; Trustee Kusmer -Yes; Trustee Farmer - Yes; The Motion Passed.

Trustee Reser *made a motion* to set the *Audit Committee* as the Trustees and Fiscal Officer for 2026. Second by Trustee Kusmer. Roll Call Vote, Trustee Reser -Yes: Trustee Kusmer -Yes; Trustee Farmer -Yes; The Motion Passed.

Trustee Reser *made a motion* to appoint Kocher and Barney as Township Solicitor for 2026. Second by Trustee Kusmer. Roll Call Vote, Trustee Reser -Yes; Trustee Kusmer -Yes; Trustee Farmer -Yes; The Motion Passed.

Trustee Reser *made a motion* to appoint Trustee Farmer as a *voting member* of Sandusky County Regional Planning and Trustee Kusmer as alternate for 2026. Second by Trustee Kusmer. Roll Call Vote, Trustee Reser -Yes; Trustee Kusmer -Yes; Trustee Farmer - Yes; The Motion Passed.

Trustee Farmer *made a motion* to appoint Trustee Kusmer to the Sandusky County Health Department Advisory Committee for 2026. Second by Trustee Reser. Roll Call Vote, Trustee Reser -Yes; Trustee Kusmer -Yes; Trustee Farmer -Yes; The Motion Passed.

Trustee Farmer *made a motion* to appoint Trustee Kusmer to the Tax Incentive Committee for 2026. Second by Trustee Reser. Trustee Reser -Yes; Trustee Kusmer -Yes; Trustee Farmer - Yes; The Motion Passed.

Public Comment-

A resident asked about how the *Township Finances* are going. Trustee Farmer said they are doing well, and actually have a surplus in the roads fund, that the County Auditor asked about in the last meeting. The Township has been saving money to replace two old trucks in the fleet, and that was the reason for the surplus, which satisfied the Auditor.

Trustee Farmer also mentioned the Trustees will propose passing a Resolution later in this meeting, to not collect .025% of the fire levy for tax year 2026, (to be collected in 2027) which will save residents on their property tax.

Trustee Farmer also relayed that we are going to also get a change in the Local Government Fund, generated from state collections, which will get the Township around $90,000 a year, compared to $18,000 which we now get. This was brought about by a new bargaining agreement with County, Cities, and Townships.

Cemetery Board Report - Jack Ferguson Chairperson

Mr. Ferguson was absent.

Trustee Farmer asked about getting the fees set for the cemeteries, and if they get him the information, he will put it into a spreadsheet for them to use. Both, Trustees Farmer and Reser mentioned we should put standard rates on all the cemeteries. Mr.Lagrou and Mr. Lindsay will look at the fees, and come up with something to bring to the Trustees.

Zoning Inspector Report - Troy Thatcher Inspector

Mr. Thatcher was absent due to family matters.

Parks Board Report - Kerry Wood and Bill Lagrou

Mr. Wood reported that Trustee Kusmer has an estimate for Gazebos and a Pavilion. In reviewing the estimates, four gazebos to replace at Connor Park would cost $31,980 to include delivery and installation on concrete pads provided by the Township. The 24x30 Pavilion for Chudzinski-Johannson Park would cost $47,510.

Trustee Farmer *made a motion* to purchase the Gazebos for Connor Park at a cost of $31,980 and a Pavilion for Chudzinski-Johannson Park at a cost of $47,510 from EF Structers. Second by Trustee Kusmer. Roll Call Vote, Trustee Reser -Yes; Trustee Kusmer -Yes; Trustee Farmer -Yes; The Motion Passed.

Road Superintendent Report - Bill Lagrou

Mr. Lagrou asked how to handle the deposits via the Auditor. Discussion took place between the Trustees, Fiscal Officer, Mr. Lagrou, and Mr. Lindsay to make sure everyone is on the same page.

Trustees Comments -

Trustee Kusmer and Mr. Lagrou are looking at another H2O Grant and see if there is other equipment they might need.

Trustee Kusmer mentioned he is hoping to get the paving projects out to bid and hopefully they can get done by end of February or early March.

Trustee Reser asked Mr. Ackerman if he needs reservations for the Township Banquet, he said it stands at 5 currently, and will let her know of any changes.

Trustee Reser asked Township Solicitor about the Pollard Case. Mr. Barney mentioned that Pollard hired Chris Liebold and they have not heard any additional information. Mr. Liebold reported that Pollard is looking for a realtor to sell the property. There is currently a lean by the Township of $45,000 and they would be 3rd in line for payoff.

Trustee Reser asked about the Roselawn Dr. dog issue, and wondering if a letter had been sent. Mr. Barney replied the complaint has been sent.

Trustee Farmer No further comment.

Old Business -

Trustee Kusmer sent all employees an email, for a health insurance survey to be filled out, for UIS to provide a quote.

Trustee Kusmer came off the current Health Insurance Policy, and is asking if he can get reimbursed for the cost, which is much cheaper than what is currently offered.

Trustee Farmer *made a motion* to reimburse Trustee Kusmer in the amount of $243.38 for his health insurance premium.

Mr. Barney said he will look into this to make sure this ok, and not raising his pay, which cannot be done. Motion was tabled.

Trustee Farmer read off Resolution 2026-1, which is to cease collection .025% of the Fire Levy in 2026 which is collected in 2027, and this to be looked at annually.

Trustee Farmer *made a motion* to accept Resolution 2026-1 to cease collection of .025% of the Fire Levy in 2026 which is collected in 2027, and this will be looked at annually. Second by Trustee Reser. Roll Call Vote, Trustee Reser -Yes; Trustee Kusmer -Yes; Trustee Farmer -Yes; The Motion Passed.

New Business - No New Business

Trustee Reser made a motion to adjourn meeting, with no objections, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted.

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Thomas Ackerman, Fiscal Officer

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Rich Farmer, Trustee Chairperson

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Bob Kusmer, Trustee

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Mary Ann Reser, Trustee Vice- Chairperson