GUILFORD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 20, 2025

The Board of Guilford Township Trustees, Medina County, Ohio, met for a regular Trustees meeting on May 20, 2025 at 8:00 P.M. at the Guilford Township Hall. The following Trustees were present: Bob Rohrer, Gene Morris, Scott Phillips and Fiscal Officer, Ray Ruprecht.

Also present were Andy Liston, Brian Cyphert, Joyce Kimbler, Patrick Rhonemus, Mayor Carter, Jerry Springer, Ron Scuderi, Dianne Widowski, Scot Wagner, Howard Wagner, Blythe Wagner, Karyn Phillips, Sheriff Grice, Jim Leaver and Don Searle, and Shannon Colonna

** Swearing in of newly appointed trustee Scott Phillips by Judge Joyce Kimbler

Wadsworth Municipal Court Annual Report for 2024 (Judge Susana Lewis)

- Judge Susana Lewis presented the annual report for Wadsworth Municipal Court.
- She provided a few highlights of her experience in 2024 as a new Judge.
- They are working on a paperless system that will make notifications easier.
- They have implemented better security at the courthouse.

Approval of Minutes

Gene Morris **moved** to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 6, 2025. Bob Rohrer seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Phillips – yes.

Department Reports

Fire-EMS Department (Brian Cyphert)

2025 INCIDENT COUNT YEAR TO DATE	
Type	**# Incidents**
EMS	198
Fire/Other	102
TOTAL	310

	Year to date:
FIRE INSPECTIONS	25

Announcements

- On May 12 at 17:35 the Seville - Guilford Fire Dept was dispatched to a kitchen fire in the 100 block of Greenwich Rd. Seville PD officers arrived and confirmed a working structure fire with flames showing and that the family had evacuated prior to dispatch. Seville Engine 1 arrived within 5 minutes with two firefighters. Fire was noted on the side of the structure coming from a window and heavy smoke showing. Two hand lines were deployed, and the first two arriving firefighters began fighting the flames. The next arriving crew pulled a third line and were assigned to protect the neighboring structure. A second alarm was requested for additional manpower to assist with the original structure and due to concerns of fire spreading to nearby neighboring homes. Incoming crews were directed to an interior attack and ventilation of the roof. The fire was under control by 17:56 and crews continued to work to put out hot spots and overhaul. Command reported the fire was out at 18:47. The fire was contained to the original structure with only minor damage noted to a nearby home. No firefighters or civilians were

injured. The mutual aid departments were Westfield, Lafayette, Wadsworth, Medina City, Sharon Township, Erhart/York, Lodi, Canaan Township, Sterling, Rittman, Central and Town & Country, Seville PD and BOPA. The cause of the fire remains under investigation. Medina County FIU and the Red Cross also assisted with this incident.

- He noted that with modern structures and modern building supplies, people only have a few minutes to get out. It is very important to make sure smoke detectors are operational.
- They had some training this week on warehouses and large manufacturing buildings.
- The State Fire Marshall is going to be doing some leadership training with the department in October.

Road Supervisor (Andy Liston)

- Cleaned a ditch on Rawiga Rd
- Mowed roadsides
- Cleaned up a tree from storm
- There is a tree at the Township Hall that has been problematic. He has been cleaning it up and wondered if they wanted him to continue doing that. Bob thinks we should try to save it, but to have it trimmed to take some of the weight off of it.
- Gene asked if Andy thought any more about the layout of the building. Andy responded that he is fine with the proposed layout. They will need to determine the square footage.
- Gene noted that the septic discharge that was installed into a ditch has been moved.

Zoning Secretary (Shannon Colonna)

- The Zoning Commission held its regular meeting on May 8.
- Reviewed action items from the joint training sessions with Bill Thorne.
    - Identified several changes that could be made immediately.
    - Flagged additional topics for more in-depth discussion at future meetings.
- Updates to Conditionally Permitted Uses are complete.
- Shannon has been working on:
    - Reorganizing the zoning resolution.
    - Incorporating completed and proposed changes into a unified draft.
- A public hearing on updates to the Comprehensive Plan is scheduled for: Thursday, June 12 at 7:00 PM.
- If no members of the public attend the hearing, the Commission plans to use the time for a work session to review changes in more detail.

Zoning Inspector (Julie Carr)

- Julie attends the first meeting of the month.
- Bob spoke with Julie about the trailer rental place and she was working with the Prosecutor's Office about that. The neighbor that complained about it let Bob know that the neighbor is going to be moving the trailers off the property.

River Styx Cemetery/**Mound Hill Cemetery** (Jeff Kersey)

- Bob delivered some more straw to the cemetery.
- There are no other cemetery reports.

Trustees Reports

Bob Rohrer

- Bob spoke to a resident about the trailer rental business.

Gene Morris

- Gene spoke with Patti at the Historical Society, and they were going to be dropping of supplies for a sign.
- Gene attended the advisory meeting at the county. Zoning has been talked about restricting development in the designated secondary septic location. The County is going to be reviewing this more going forward. They may need to pass a Resolution and send to the county about being advised about any off-lot discharge.

Scott Phillips

- Scott does not have any updates.

Comments from the Public

- Diane Widowski, owner of Seville Gardens Manufactured Community, extended an invitation to their Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and provided an update on the improvements they have made on the property. This will be an over 55 community. This will be Thursday at noon.
- Ron Scuderi received a call from a resident who wanted to use the hall for a couple hours. He suggested that they might consider allowing use of the Hall to residents at no charge for two and a half hours or less. There is agreement that they will still sign the contract and no charge for township residents.
- Mayor Carter asked about the Memorial Day readings. Bob will set up the microphone and podium.

Old Business

- Reminder that they will need to work on updates to the Employee Handbook

New Business

- Renewal of 1 mill fire service levy with an increase of .5 mills. This Resolution will allow them to go to the County Auditor to determine what the levy would generate.

Bob Rohrer moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-06

A RESOLUTION DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO LEVY A TAX ABOVE THE TEN MILL LIMIT THROUGH THE RENEWAL OF AN EXISTING ONE (1) MILL FIRE LEVY WITH AN INCREASE OF FIVE TENTHS (0.5) MILL FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING FIRE APPARATUS, MECHANICAL RESUSCITATORS, UNDERWATER RESCUE AND RECOVERY EQUIPMENT, OR OTHER FIRE EQUIPMENT AND APPLIANCES, BUILDINGS AND SITES THEREFOR, OR SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLY AND MATERIALS THEREFOR, FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF LINES OF FIRE-ALARM COMMUNICATIONS, FOR THE PAYMENT OF FIREFIGHTING COMPANIES OR PERMANENT, PART-TIME, OR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTING, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE, ADMINISTRATIVE, OR COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL TO OPERATE THE SAME, INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF ANY

EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS REQUIRED FOR SUCH PERSONNEL UNDER SECTION 145.48 OR 742.34 OF THE REVISED CODE, FOR THE PURCHASE OF AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT, FOR THE PROVISION OF AMBULANCE, PARAMEDIC, OR OTHER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OPERATED BY A FIRE DEPARTMENT OR FIREFIGHTING COMPANYAND REQUESTING THE MEDINA COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY THE RATES AND AMOUNTS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5705.03(B)(2), PURSUANT TO SECTIONS

5705.03, 5705.19(I), 5705.191, AND 5705.25.

WHEREAS, this Board finds that the amount of taxes which may be raised within the ten mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of Guilford Township and that it is necessary to levy an additional tax in excess of that limitation through a renewal of an existing one (1) mill fire levy along with an increase of five tenths (0.5) mill for the purpose of providing fire services in Guilford Township, Ohio, as authorized under Section 5705.19(I) of the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Division (B)(2) of Section 5705.03 of the Revised Code, in order to submit the question of a tax levy pursuant to Sections 5705.19(I), 5705.191 and/or 5705.25 of the Revised Code, this Board must request that the Medina County Auditor certify the rates and amounts specified in the statute; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution is required to state the items listed in division (B) of Section 5705.03 of the Revised Code; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the Township of Guilford, Medina County, Ohio, that:

Section 1. This Board declares that the amount of taxes which may be raised within the ten-mill limitation by levies on the current tax duplicate will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of Guilford Township and that it is necessary to levy an additional tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation through the renewal of an existing one (1) mill levy and a five tenths (0.5) increase. The Board further declares:

a. The purpose of said renewal of the Township's existing one (1) mill fire services tax levy with a five tenths (0.5) mill increase is to provide and maintain fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, underwater rescue and recovery equipment, or other fire equipment and appliances, buildings and sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire-alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs the purposes as authorized under Section 5705.19(I) of the Revised Code.

b. The tax shall be a renewal levy of an existing tax at a rate of one (1) mill for each one-dollar of valuation with an increase of five tenths (0.5) mills for a total of one and five tenths (1.5) mills for each one dollar of valuation which amounts to fifteen ($0.15) cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation for five (5) years.

c. The submission of the question of the renewal with an increase in the levy is authorized by Sections 5705.03, 5705.19(I), 5705.191, 5705.192, and/or 5705.25 of the Revised Code.

d. The term of the tax levy shall be for five years (see the permissible term for Section 5705.19(I) in Section 5705.19).

e. The territory where the tax is to be levied shall be the entire territory of Guilford Township, Medina County, Ohio.

f. The date of the election at which the question of the tax levy shall appear on the ballot is November 4, 2025.

g. The territory where the ballot measure is to be submitted is the entire territory of Guilford Township, Medina County, Ohio.

h. The tax year in which the tax will first be levied is 2025 and the calendar year in which the tax will first be collected is 2026.

i. The Township has territory in Medina County and in no other county

Section 2. This Board requests that the Medina County Auditor certify to this Board the rates and amounts specified in Section 5705.03(B)(2) of the Revised Code for the renewal levy specified in Section 1.

Section 3. Pursuant to Section 5705.03(B)(1), the Township Fiscal Officer is authorized and directed to deliver promptly to the Medina County Auditor a certified copy of the Resolution.

Section 4. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board and of any of its committees concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board or committees, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with the law.

Section 5. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and immediately after its adoption.

Scott Phillips seconded the motion.

Upon roll call on the adoption of the Resolution, the vote resulted as follows: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Phillips – yes.

Signing of the Warrants

Bob Rohrer **moved** to pay the warrants, payroll/accounting EFTs of $69,840.54**.** Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris –yes, Rohrer – yes, Phillips – yes.

Adjournment

Bob Rohrer **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Scott Phillips seconded the motion. Roll call: Rohrer - yes, Morris - yes, Phillips - yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:56 P.M.

_____ _____

Bob Rohrer Gene Morris

_____ _____

Scott Phillips Ray Ruprecht