

MINUTES OF REGULAR TRUSTEE MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 10, 2026

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TATE TOWNSHIP MET IN REGULAR SESSION WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: TRUSTEE WILSON, TRUSTEE STEIMLE, TRUSTEE DURBIN, AND FISCAL OFFICER KATHY BRANNOCK.

AFTER THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, OPENING PRAYER WAS GIVEN BY MARY DURBIN.

MR. WILSON INTRODUCED THE BOARD.

MOTION BY MS. STEIMLE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 27, 2026. 2ND BY MR. DURBIN. ROLL CALL: MS. STEIMLE, YES, MR. WILSON, YES, MR. DURBIN, YES.

MOTION BY MS. STEIMLE TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 2026 BILLS. 2ND BY MR. DURBIN. ROLL CALL: MS. STEIMLE, YES, MR. WILSON, YES, MR. DURBIN, YES.

MOTION BY MS. STEIMLE TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 2026 PAYROLL, EFTS, AND WITHHOLDING VOUCHERS. 2ND BY MR. DURBIN. ROLL CALL: MS. STEIMLE, YES, MR. WILSON, YES, MR. DURBIN, YES.

MR. WILSON READ THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION RULES AND ASKED ANYONE THAT WISHED TO SPEAK TO SIGN IN. THERE WILL BE A LIMIT OF 5 MINUTES PER PERSON WITH A LIMIT OF 1 HOUR. ALL COMMENTS ARE TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD.

NEW PUBLIC PARTICIPATION-NONE

FIRE-NEW BUSINESS

CHIEF COOPER PRESENTED THE JANUARY 2026 FIRE AND EMS REPORT. THERE WERE 199 RUNS IN JANUARY, 71 FIRE AND 128 EMS. CHIEF COOPER THANKED ED STANLEY AND THE MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT FOR HELPING TO KEEP THE STATION LOT CLEANED AND PROVIDING EXTRA PLOWING AND SALT DURING CERTAIN EMERGENCY DETAILS.

CHIEF COOPER INFORMED THE TRUSTEES THAT THE NEW FULL-TIME FF/EMT, TIMOTHY FOSTER, HAS FINISHED ALL THE STEPS OF THE PROCESS AND IS ON TRACK TO START ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2026.

THERE WERE NO TORNADO SIREN TESTS CONDUCTED THIS MONTH FOR THE COUNTY DUE TO THE COLD TEMPERATURES. THE NEXT SCHEDULED TEST IS MARCH 4, 2026 AT NOON.

THE NEW TIRES HAVE BEEN INSTALLED ON THE BRUSH UNIT. CHIEF COOPER WISHED TO THANK BANTAM TIRE FOR MOUNTING AND BALANCING THE TIRES AND DONATING THEIR TIME AND MATERIALS AT NO COST TO THE TOWNSHIP.

THE DEPARTMENT APPLIED FOR THE STATE OF OHIO MARCS GRANT IN OCTOBER, 2025 FOR (2) NEW MOBILE RADIOS FOR OUR AMBULANCES AT A COST OF \$8,402.16. UNFORTUNATELY, WE WERE DENIED DUE TO THE OVERWHELMING NUMBER OF REQUESTS.

THE 2025 YEAR END EMS BILLING REVIEW WAS COMPLETED AND PROVIDED BY MEDICOUNT. THE REPORT WAS PRESENTED TO THE TRUSTEES.

FIRE DEPARTMENT-NEW BUSINESS

THE 2013 AMBULANCE HAD AN AIR BAG DEVELOP A HOLE IN IT AND WAS LEAKING. THE AIR BAGS ARE DESIGNED TO ALLOW THE AMBULANCE TO DROP DOWN FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING THE COST AS WELL AS RIDE. THE AMBULANCE WAS TAKEN OUT OF SERVICE FOR A SHORT TIME UNTIL NEW BAGS COULD BE LOCATED. THE BAGS WERE PURCHASED AND INSTALLED BY THE TOWNSHIP EMPLOYEES. THE COST FOR THE AIR BAGS WAS \$698.32. THE SQUAD IS BACK IN SERVICE.

ALL THE FIRE ENGINES HAVE HAD THEIR ANNUAL MAINTENANCE COMPLETED. CHIEF COOPER THANKED ED FOR SPARING HIS TWO EMPLOYEES, KONRAD SANDKER AND MIKE LONG. THEY SPENT JUST OVER A WEEK GOING THROUGH THE TRUCKS THOROUGHLY. A FEW MINOR ISSUES WERE FOUND AND FIXED AS WELL AS A LOT OF SMALL ITEMS.

THE ANNUAL LADDER TESTING WAS COMPLETED AT THE END OF JANUARY. ALL OF THE GROUND LADDERS PASSED TESTING. OUR LADDER TRUCK HAD 12 ITEMS THAT NEED ATTENTION, 2 OF THEM CAUSING THE LADDER TO NOT BE CERTIFIED. ONCE CORRECTED, WE JUST HAVE TO SIGN OFF AND SHOW PROOF AND THEN THE TRUCK WILL BE RECERTIFIED. CHIEF COOPER STATED THAT HE HAS REACHED OUT TO OUR OUTSIDE FIRE TRUCK MECHANIC TO REVIEW THE LIST OF REPAIRS NEEDED. HE WAS TOLD THAT THE FIRST ITEM COULD COST \$10,000 FOR THE PART ALONE, BUT THE REPAIR COULD BE DONE HERE BY HIM.

CHIEF COOPER STATED THAT THE FRONT SCENE LIGHT ON OUR 2004 ENGINE NEEDS TO BE UPDATED FROM A BULB LIGHT TO AN LED LIGHT. THE OTHER 4 LIGHTS ON THE TRUCK WERE UPDATED IN 2024 AND NOW THE FRONT LIGHT NEEDS TO BE UPGRADED. HE ASKED THE BOARD TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF (1) FIRE RESEARCH FLAT BROW MOUNT LED SCENE LIGHT AT A COST OF \$2,365.00 FROM VOGELPOHL FIRE EQUIPMENT. MR. WILSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF (1) FIRE RESEARCH FLAT BROW MOUNT LED SCENE LIGHT AT A COST OF \$2,365.00 FROM VOGELPOHL FIRE EQUIPMENT. 2ND BY MR. DURBIN. ROLL CALL: MS. STEIMLE, YES, MR. WILSON, YES, MR. DURBIN, YES.

CHIEF COOPER INFORMED THAT BOARD THAT THE BATTERY POWERED FAN THAT IS USED FOR SMOKE REMOVAL HAS HAD A BATTERY GO BAD. THE FAN IS POWERED BY (2) BATTERIES AT A

TIME. THE LIFE EXPECTANCY OF THE BATTERIES IS 3-5 YEARS. THE ONE THAT JUST WENT BAD IS AT ITS 5 YEAR MARK. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE (2) BATTERIES TO REPLACE THE CURRENT ONE THAT HAS FAILED AND IN ANTICIPATION OF THE NEXT ONE. HE ASKED THE BOARD TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF (2) 40V RAMFAN BATTERY PACKS AT \$377.52 EACH FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$755.04 FROM HERITAGE FIRE EQUIPMENT. MOTION BY MR. WILSON TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF (2) 40V RAMFAN BATTERY PACKS AT \$377.52 EACH FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$755.04 FROM HERITAGE FIRE EQUIPMENT. 2ND BY MR. DURBIN. ROLL CALL: MS. STEIMLE, YES, MR. WILSON, YES, MR. DURBIN, YES.

CHIEF COOPER INFORMED THE BOARD THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS APPLIED TO THE 2026 FIRE DEPARTMENT INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT GRANT THAT IS FUNDED THROUGH THE STATE OF OHIO FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE. WE APPLIED FOR (10) SETS OF FIREFIGHTING BOOTS, (10) FIRE PAGES, AND (1) THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA. THE TOTAL REQUEST IS \$14,880. AWARDS ARE NORMALLY AWARDED IN LATE SPRING.

CHIEF COOPER INFORMED THAT BOARD THAT PART-TIME FF/EMT MIKAYLA MANN JUST GRADUATED FROM PARAMEDIC SCHOOL AND HAS NOW OBTAINED HER PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATION. HE ASKED THAT THE BOARD PROMOTE MIKAYLA MANN FROM AN FF/EMT TO AN FF/PARAMEDIC AND INCREASE HER PART-TIME SALARY BY \$1.50 PER HOUR EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 16, 2026. MOTION BY MR. WILSON TO PROMOTE MIKAYLA MANN FROM AN FF/EMT TO AN FF/PARAMEDIC AND INCREASE HER PART-TIME SALARY BY \$1.50 PER HOUR EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 16, 2026. 2ND BY MR. DURBIN. ROLL CALL: MS. STEIMLE, YES, MR. WILSON, YES, MR. DURBIN, YES.

CHIEF COOPER ASKED THE BOARD TO APPROVE SENDING FF/EMT LILLIAN EARLS TO FIRE INSPECTOR SCHOOL BEING HELD AT MILFORD COMMUNITY FIRE DEPARTMENT THROUGH BROWN & CLERMONT CAREER CAMPUS STARTING 3/31/2026 AT A COST OF \$995.00 LAST YEAR THE CLASS HAD A REIMBURSEABLE GRANT OF \$600 THROUGH THE STATE OF OHIO FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE THAT WE WOULD GET BACK IF SHE PASSES THE COURSE AND WERE AWARDED THE GRANT. MR. WILSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE SENDING FF/EMT LILLIAN EARLS TO FIRE INSPECTOR SCHOOL BEING HELD AT MILFORD COMMUNITY FIRE DEPARTMENT THROUGH BROWN & CLERMONT CAREER CAMPUS STARTING 3/31/2026 AT A COST OF \$995.00. 2ND BY MR. DURBIN. ROLL CALL: MS. STEIMLE, YES, MR. WILSON, YES, MR. DURBIN, YES.

CHIEF COOPER ASKED THE BOARD TO APPROVE SENDING LIEUTENANT LEVI TROUTMAN TO FIRE OFFICER I & II CLASS BING HELD AT CENTRAL JOINT FIRE-EMS DISTRICT THROUGH BROWN & CLERMONT CAREER CAMPUS STARTING 3/16/2026 AT THE COST OF \$850.00. HE EXPLAINED THAT THIS TYPE OF CLASS PREPARES THE OFFICERS FOR THEIR CURRENT POSITION AS WELL AS THE NEXT STEPS IN THE FIRE SERVICE AS THEY MOVE UP THE CHAIN OF COMMAND. THIS COST WOULD NOT BE REIMBURSED BY A GRANT. MOTION BY MR. WILSON TO APPROVE SENDING LIEUTENANT LEVI TROUTMAN TO FIRE OFFICER I & II CLASS BING HELD AT CENTRAL JOINT FIRE-EMS DISTRICT THROUGH BROWN & CLERMONT CAREER CAMPUS STARTING 3/16/2026 AT THE

COST OF \$850.00. 2ND BY MR. DURBIN. ROLL CALL: MS. STEIMLE, YES, MR. WILSON, YES, MR. DURBIN, YES.

CHIEF COOPER STATED THAT THE DEPARTMENT CURRENTLY HAS (4) OPEN PART-TIME POSITIONS DUE TO ALL THE RECENT PROMOTIONS TO FULL-TIME. THE OFFICERS ARE IN THE PROCESS OF CONDUCTING INTERVIEWS BUT HAVE ONE CANDIDATE THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO GET STARTED SOONER. CHIEF COOPER ASKED THE BOARD TO APPROVE THE HIRING OF FF/EMT ZACHARY TAYLOR FOR PART TIME AND PLACED ON A 1 YEAR PROBATION. MOTION BY MR. WILSON TO APPROVE THE HIRING OF FF/EMT ZACHARY TAYLOR FOR PART TIME WITH A 1 YEAR PROBATION. . 2ND BY MR. DURBIN. ROLL CALL: MS. STEIMLE, YES, MR. WILSON, YES, MR. DURBIN, YES.

THE BOARD WAS INFORMED THAT THERE WAS A MINOR TRAFFIC INCIDENT ON 2/2/2026. NO INJURIES OCCURRED AND VERY MINOR DAMAGE TO BOTH VEHICLES. OUR DRIVER WAS FOUND TO BE AT FAULT BUT WAS NOT CITED. THE FF WILL GO THROUGH SOME REMDIAL DRIVER'S TRAINING AS FAR AS THE LAWS AND TERMINOLOGY, BUT NO SUSPENSIONS OR WRITE-UPS ARE RECOMMENDED.

ROAD/CEMETERY-OLD BUSINESS

THE JANUARY REPORT WAS PRESENTED. THERE WERE 7 BURIALS, 3 FOUNDATION ORDERS AND 2 GRAVES SOLD.

ED ASKED THE TRUSTEES FOR APPROVAL TO SELL TWO GRAVES, OPENING/CLOSING AND FOOTER TO E C NURRE WITH PAYMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT A LATER DATE WHEN THE LIFE INSURANCE POLICY IS PAID OUT. THE TOTAL COST IS \$2900 PLUS THE COST OF THE FOOTER. MS. STEIMEL QUESTIONED WHO THE BENEFICIARY OF THE POLICY IS. ED SAID THAT HE BELIEVED IT HAS ALREADY BEEN THROUGH THE COURT. MS. STEIMLE SUGGESTED CALLING E C NURRE FOR CLARIFICATION BEFORE MAKING A DECISION.

ED INFORMED THE BOARD THAT ROADS WERE SALTED ON 7 SEPARATE DAYS USING APPROXIMATELY 65T OF SALT. 49.7 T WAS DELIVERED AND ANOTHER ORDER OF 50 T WAS PLACED TODAY. MR. DURBIN ASKED HOW MUCH SALT IS IN STOCK. ED REPLIED THAT THERE IS APPROXIMATELY 170 TONS IN STOCK. THE SALT BARN HAS A CAPACITY OF 275 TONS. HE WILL KEEP ORDERING TO STOCK UP FOR NEXT YEAR.

ED STATED THAT 1 MAILBOX WAS HIT DURING THE SNOW PLOWING. THAT MAILBOX IS ON DAVIS ROAD. THE POST WILL BE REPLACED WHEN THE WEATHER PERMITS.

MIKE LONG HAS PASSED THE WRITTEN PORTION OF THE CDL TEST AND HAS HIS TEMPS.

ED WANTED TO THANK THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR ALLOWING THE ROAD DEPARTMENT USE THE BAYS TO WASH THE TRUCKS.

ED USED THE ZONING EXPLORER TO DRIVE TO THE OHIO TOWNSHIP WINTER CONFERENCE IN COLUMBUS. HE HAD AN OIL CHANGE DONE ON IT. HE RECOMMENDED THAT THE CONTROL ARMS BE REPLACED AT A COST OF \$120 FOR THE PARTS.

MR. WILSON AND MR. DURBIN COMPLIMENTED THE ROAD DEPARTMENT ON THE EXCELLENT WORK DURING THE SNOW EVENTS.

ED PRESENTED THE BOARD WITH THE PRICE LIST FROM RUMPKE.

ZONING-OLD BUSINESS

JANUARY REPORT WAS PRESENTED. THERE WERE 5 PERMITS ISSUED. THE BOARD WAS UPDATED ON ZONING VIOLATIONS AND COMPLAINTS.

MR. WILSON STATED THAT HE HAD A COMPLAINT ABOUT PARKING ON A ROAD THAT WAS BEING SNOW PLOWED. THAT ISSUE WAS RESOLVED. MR. BAIRD STATED THAT HE WILL HANDLE ANOTHER SET OF COMPLAINTS. OFFICER PIKE SAID TO CALL DISPATCH AND THEY WILL HAVE THE VEHICLE TOWED AS LONG AS THE ROAD IS MARKED "NO PARKING". MR. BAIRD WILL CHECK TOMORROW

MR. BAIRD GAVE AN UPDATE ON THE SURVEY. THERE HAVE BEEN TWO MORE RESPONSES SINCE THE LAST MEETING.

THE ZONING COMMISSION MET ON FEBRUARY 3RD. MS. RIDDLE SERVED AS SECRETARY. THE COMMISSION SET THE REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 2026. THE NEXT ZONING COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE MARCH 3, 2026.

ON JANUARY 20, 2026 THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS HELD A HEARING FOR A RIDING STABLE. THE CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION WAS APPROVED. THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON FEBRUARY 17, 2026. ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN AT THAT TIME.

POLICE-OLD BUSINESS

OFFICER PIKE PRESENTED JANUARY REPORT.

OLD BUSINESS

MS. STEIMLE HAS PAUSED THE ZONING CODE AND LAND USE PLAN. SHE WANTS TO FOCUS ON A COUPLE OF SECTIONS. THERE IS A LITTLE MORE WORK TO BE COMPLETED. SHE EXPECTS THE WORK TO BE COMPLETED IN ONE MORE MONTH AT AN ADDITIONAL COST OF \$20,000. IT CANNOT BE COMPLETED UNTIL THE DRAFT IS RELEASED BY COUNSEL. SHE ASKED THE BOARD TO APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL \$20,000 BEFORE TALKING TO MCBRIDE DALE CLARION NEXT WEEK. MR. WILSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE UP TO \$20,000 ADDITIONAL TO FINALIZE

THE ZONING CODE. 2ND BY MR. DURBIN. ROLL CALL: MS. STEIMLE, YES, MR. WILSON, YES, MR. DURBIN, YES.

MS. STEIMLE UPDATED THE BOARD REGARDING THE CYBER POLICY. SHE STATED THAT THE COMMITTEE MET WITH SWOCA TO REVIEW THE REQUIREMENTS AND GET ADVICE ON HOW TO MANAGE COMPLIANCE WITH HB 96 OURSELVES. THEY WILL QUOTE THE EMAIL MIGRATION COST. THEY WILL ALSO HELP WITH GRANTS TO FUND THE MIGRATION AND PAY FOR A PORTION OF SERVICES. HOPEFULLY, THE QUOTE WILL BE RECEIVED BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING SO THEY CAN BEGIN TO WORK ON THE GRANT.

OLD PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

LYNN BUEDE ASKED WHEN SHELBY WAS HIRED/REHIRED. MS. STIEMLE RESPONDED THAT HE WAS REHIRED LAST YEAR AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL HIS NEXT REVIEW.

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY DURBIN, 2ND BY WILSON.