

Union Township
March 16, 2026
Regular Trustee Meeting

The Union Township Trustees met on March 16, 2026, at 7:00 pm for a regular meeting. The Fiscal Officer Karen Nethers Roll Call showed the following trustees: Jeff Sharps, Roger Start and John Slater. Administrator Paula Greene and Dave Cable, Road Superintendent, were present. Trustee Sharps led the Pledge of Allegiance. Guest – Martha Cable, Jessica Freytag, Bill Loizer, Charlie Prince, Matt Bauman (BL of Tomorrow), Buckeye Lake Eagles members Mike Bradley, Dave Wallace and Dave Bradley.

Minutes –Mr. Slater motioned, and Mr. Sharps seconded to approve the March 2 minutes. Motion carried.

Bills – Mr. Slater motioned, and Mr. Sharps, seconded to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Public Comments – Charlie Prince expressed concerns regarding the potential route of the Licking County Pipeline, and its impact on the Township and Hayes Road. Mr. Prince provided his perspective on the companies that might be involved with the pipeline project. He requested that the Trustees postpone the scheduled Zoning Resolution update hearing to allow additional time for review; however, the hearing will proceed as planned. Should the Trustees require more time during the hearing, they retain authority to continue the hearing.

Bill Loizer feels that the JEDD maps and contracts do not sufficiently delineate the JEDD area. He raised questions about possible annexations and housing developments affecting the Granville School District. Mr. Lozier was advised to submit specific inquiries to the Township in writing.

Matt Bauman, representing Buckeye Lake Regional Corporation, voiced concerns about water quality amid increased activity from Data Centers and air pollution issues related to Freepoint in the Newark Industrial Park. Mr. Start reported has spoken with the EPA and Freepoint regarding these matters.

Mike Bradley, from Buckeye Lake Eagles, requested consideration for a larger sign, believing it would enhance visibility and drive greater business for the organization. Paula provided relevant contact information to further discuss signage options.

Fiscal Officer –

FO Nethers presented the 2026 Budget and a Resolution for regular electronic payments. Ater a brief discussion the following resolution was presented:

Resolution 2026-18 Electronic payments

Mr. Start moved and Mr. Sharps seconded to allow electronic payments to specified businesses.

Roll call: Mr. Sharps ~ yes Mr. Start ~ yes Mr. Slater ~ yes

Permanent Budget – FO Nethers presented the permanent budget stating there were no changes from the Temporary Appropriations passed earlier this year. After a brief discussion the following motion was presented:

Motion: Mr. Slater motioned and Mr. Start second to approve the 2026 Permanent Appropriations.

FO Nethers received semiannual financial data from the Licking County Auditor. Mr. Sharps inquired about the Yacht club reimbursement. Paula will consult the prosecutor's office.

Road and Bridge –

ODOT – Chris West contacted Dave. ODOT will be repair areas of Deeds and Canyon affected by the detour. Dave requested repairs also be made to the bridge between Lees and Hallie Lane.

Other – Working clean-up from severe weather.

Administration-

Zoning Resolution Update – Reminder Trustees hearing to be held March 23 at 6:00pm.

Lighting - The lights initially selected for the main area of the meeting room failed to provide the expected brightness. Alternative lights were chosen, but the expenses went beyond the original estimate. Paula requested an additional \$3,201.00 for the lighting project. The following motion was proposed.

Motion -Mr. Roger motioned and Mr. Slater seconded to increase the Meeting room lighting budget by \$3,201.00. Motion carried.

Robertson Drive Meeting – Paula reported meeting with several individuals interested in alternative housing for this area. More research is needed.

Licking County Pipeline – Ian Nickey was unable to attend the previous Township meeting but plans to attend the April 6 meeting.

Hebron Fish Hatchery – Open House April 4 from the hours of 10am -2pm.

Health Department DAS meeting – Paula represented the Trustees at the March 11 meeting.

FEMA Hazzard Mitigation Grant Stake Holders Meeting - Trustee Slater and Paula participated in the meeting. MS Consultants addressed the flooding concerns impacting the Township and presented potential mitigation strategies. Trustee Slater contributed feedback and noted that the meeting was productive.

