

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Blendon Township Board of Trustees Meeting

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held March 11

20 26

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Trustee Zobel.

Trustee Zobel asked that anyone who wished to have a moment of reflection stay seated, or they could stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present

Trustee Zobel, Trustee Ciamacco, Trustee Adkins, and Joann Bury, Fiscal Officer.

Also in attendance were John Belford, Police Chief; Pat Myers, Administrator; and Brian Miller, Westerville/Blendon Fire Chief

Swearing in Police Officer Justin Finehout—Trustee Adkins swore in Officer Finehout.

Public Comment

Blendon Twp. Resident Chris Stevko asked the Board about the township website and if it could be more user-friendly. Administrator Myers ensured that they are already working on finding a new website company.

Another resident asked the Board about the upcoming Community Garden season. Administrator Myers explained the need to decrease plots to start developing the land for future Cemetery use. Matt Newman explained that the gardens will be permanently moved to the corner of the lot.

Trustee Comment

Trustee Ciamacco— Trustee Ciamacco announced that during the month of February alone, our police made 307 runs:

Huber Ridge: 46

Sunbury Woods: 16

Cleveland Heights: 16

Hoover East: 6

The additional runs not included in the preceding totals are for areas outside of neighborhoods (Westerville Rd, industrial parks, Sunbury Rd, 161, 270, etc.).

She also invited the Franklin County Auditor to present at the upcoming Regular Trustee Work Session. Franklin County Auditor Michael Stinziano will attend the next Regular Trustee Work Session on Wednesday, March 15, 2026, at 5:30 PM, held at the Blendon Township Senior Center, 6330 S Hempstead Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081. Auditor Stinziano will provide an informative presentation covering several timely property tax topics, including:

- The tax abolishment issue
- How to apply for and who qualifies for the Homestead Exemption
- Additional ways residents may be able to reduce property taxes
- How to read and understand your property tax bill and levy allocations
- What the triennial update is and why it occurs
- Steps residents may take if they disagree with a newly assessed property value

Residents are encouraged to attend and take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about how property taxes are calculated and what options may be available to lower their property taxes and assessed value. If you are concerned about your property tax increase and the upcoming Triennial assessment, she encouraged everyone to attend and tell neighbors.

Trustee Adkins—Trustee Adkins reported that he was recently invited to speak with a younger local scout unit, where they discussed basic concepts of voting, decision-making, and community involvement. The scouts were engaged throughout the discussion, and the visit concluded with a pinewood derby activity, which was described as an enjoyable and nostalgic experience.

Next, he provided an update on the Aqua rate case, which remains ongoing and is approaching final review. Current expectations suggest implementation of new rates in April or May 2026. Based on the latest review figures, a rate increase in the mid-teens percentage range is anticipated. The Board was encouraged to keep this in mind as spring approaches.

He also reminded attendees of the upcoming Breakfast with the Easter Bunny event and expressed hope that community members and their families would attend.

Lastly, he noted continued concerns from residents regarding electric and gas charges. He reiterated his availability to assist residents in exploring alternative suppliers and encouraged individuals to reach out via Facebook or by cell phone for guidance.

Trustee Zobel— Trustee Zobel discussed visiting Sunbury Commons last week after the request of a resident who has had backyard flooding issues. She is exploring the use of rain gardens to mitigate that issue. They have reached out to Franklin County Soil and Water as well as the Franklin County Drainage Engineer to help with the issue.

She also briefly brought up a topic discussed at the last work session: having one monthly Trustee meeting instead of two. The Board asked the public if that would be something they are interested in. One resident stood up and stated her disagreement with the idea. Another resident also brought up the website issues and doesn't like the idea of one monthly meeting to get information. The Board agreed that there is more research to be done on the idea.

Fiscal Officer Report

Minutes—Fiscal Officer Bury asked the Trustees if they had reviewed the February 25, 2026, Minutes. Trustee Adkins motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Approval of Purchase Orders—Fiscal Officer Bury asked the Trustees if they had reviewed the Purchase Orders. Trustee Adkins motioned to approve the purchase orders as presented. Trustee Zobel seconded. All voted yes.

Bills—Fiscal Officer Bury asked the Trustees if they had reviewed the bills presented. Trustee Ciamacco motioned to approve the bills as presented. Trustee Zobel seconded. All voted yes.

Approval of Bank Reconciliation— Fiscal Officer Bury asked the Trustees if they had reviewed the bank reconciliation. Trustee Adkins moved to approve the bank reconciliation as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Resolution 2026-08 Supplemental Appropriation— Fiscal Officer Bury explained that the Senior Center stove is at the end of its life and parts are not available. She presented the resolution to purchase a new stove for \$6,500. Trustee Adkins moved to approve supplemental appropriation for the purchase of a new stove for the Senior Center. Funds received from the Columbus Foundation, donated by an anonymous donor, are to be used only at the Senior Center. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Clemons Nelson Wage Study Update—Fiscal Officer Bury discussed a recently completed wage study for non-union/non-elected employees. She, along with Administrator Myers, have discussed scenarios to implement the study's results in some way. A recommendation will be brought to the Board within the next month. Administrator Myers explained that 14 townships submitted comparable information and that, as a whole, non-union employees are about 23.96% below market.

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Administration/Human Resources

Resolution 2026-07 A Resolution establishing a Blendon Township Neighborhood Advisory Committee— Administrator Myers presented Resolution 2026-07 to the Board for approval. Trustee Zobel moved to approve the resolution as presented. Trustee Adkins seconded.

Discussion: Trustee Ciamacco stated it will be interesting to see how it works. Trustee Zobel discussed the ability to form subcommittees and to pursue resident-driven initiatives.

All voted yes.

Resolution 2026-09 A Resolution approving the allocation of Township funds to purchase a membership to Friends of Alum Creek and Tributaries—Administrator Myers presented Resolution 2026-09 to the Board, which would approve a \$500.00 membership to FACT. Trustee Adkins moved to approve the resolution as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Employee Spotlight— Administrator Myers discussed the employee spotlight initiative that's been started. They are going to try to do 2 a month, and they will be posted to Facebook, email blasts, and newsletters.

Newsletter— Administrator Myers discussed potential changes to the Township Newsletter that could be discussed at the next work session.

Maintenance/B&G/Parks/Cemetery

Matt Newman discussed how he, along with Chris and Mitsu, attended the 811 Pipeline Safety Meeting.

Police

OVI Task Force Blitz—Chief Belford announced that next Tuesday, March 17th, there will be a county-wide OVI Task Force Blitz.

Approve Conditional Offer of Employment—Chief Belford asked the Board for authorization to offer a conditional offer of employment to Megan Ryan as a Part-Time Police Officer. Trustee Ciamacco moved to approve as presented. Trustee Zobel seconded. All voted yes.

Fire

Chief Miller announced that they have a new Deputy Chief coming from Mount Vernon. He will be the interim Chief until Chief Miller retires. His retirement date is April 2nd. He took a moment to give appreciation to Blendon Township and its residents for their support.

Public Comment

Stephen Hostetter discussed the Sunbury Woods flooding issue and asked her to check another area over there between Blue Bonnet and Beauty Rose.

Announcements

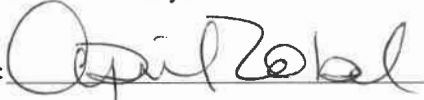
Wednesday, March 25, 2026, will be the next Board of Trustees Meeting at 6:30 PM at the same location, 6330 Hempstead Rd., Westerville, Ohio, and live-streamed on YouTube (The work-session will be held at 5:30PM.).

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny/Egg Hunt is on March 28th at 9AM.

Adjournment

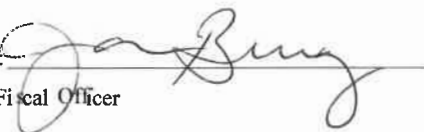
There being no further business before the Board, Trustee Zobel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:08PM. Trustee Ciamacco seconded the motion. All voted yes.

Approved by:



April Zobel, Chairperson

Approved by:



Joann Bury, Fiscal Officer