

# Regular Meeting of the Goshen Township Trustees

October 14, 2025

Trustee Chair Shawn Mesler called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with the pledge to the flag. Trustees Shawn Mesler, John Bricker, and Teresa Stratton and Fiscal Officer Michele Barratt were present.

## Approve Minutes:

Minutes of the September 9, 2025 regular meeting and September 30, 2025 special meeting were presented as distributed.

**Motion by Bricker, seconded by Stratton, to approve these minutes. Voting YES – Bricker, Stratton, Mesler. Motion carried.**

## Public Comment/Special Guests:

A resident told Police Chief Calko that the officer at Parks Nursery did a good job over the weekend.

Mariana Benner from West Branch Little Warriors Wrestling said that if the township raised the rent on the gym or decided not to rent to them that that would hurt the 70 or more youth that are in the program,

## Police Report:

Police Chief John Calko presented the stats for the month of September:

Goshen:	6995 miles driven with 337 events
Green:	7180 miles driven with 395 events

On September 26, when responding to an assistance request from Washingtonville Police Department, Sgt Platt and Officer Cirbus were involved in an altercation with the individual being placed under arrest by Washingtonville PD. Platt's sustained an injury to his hand and was out on injured leave. Cirbus received a concussion. Both are back to work now.

Calko applied for a grant from the state to purchase cameras. The department received the grant in 2021 and is now re-applying because only 7 out of the 16 cameras are still working. The company that manufactured them is out of business.

The 2025 Goshen Township Halloween Extravaganza has been planned and will be hosted here at the Goshen Administrative Building from 6pm to 8pm on Friday, October 31.

Calko requested a motion to hire Russell Beatty as a new part-time officer.

**Stratton made a motion to hire Russell Beatty as a Part-Time Officer, effective immediately. Bricker seconded. Voting YES – Bricker, Mesler, Stratton. Motion carried.**

## Old Business:

none

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## Approve Bills:

**Motion by Mesler seconded by Bricker, to approve payment of:**

Payroll	\$ 78,889.98
Warrants	\$ 175.00
Other Electronic Payments	<u>\$ 118,734.79</u>
Total	\$ 197,799.77

**Voting YES – Mesler, Stratton, Bricker. Motion carried.**

The September 2025 bank statement is in balance and was reviewed by the Trustees.  
The September 2025 VISA statement has been reviewed by the Trustees.

Barratt said that it was time to review the lighting assessment. She expects this year to be close to break even for the fund. It has lost money for at least the last nine years. The U.S. Energy Information Administration expects electricity costs to rise 13 – 18% in 2026. In order to be safe and possibly recoup some of the money lost over the last nine years, she recommends raising the assessment by 18%.

## **RESOLUTION 2025-1014-01**

**A resolution to accept changes to lighting assessment. Mesler moved, Stratton seconded. Voting YES – Mesler, Bricker, Stratton. Resolution adopted.**

Barratt reported the need for a resolution to increase appropriations for the General Fund of \$29,000 to pay for the new emergency generator for the Administration Building. Bricker asked if the project was completed. Mesler said it was. The last detail is supplying a phone number for notification of activation. Mesler recommended using the Road Forman's cell number since that was a township phone and would not change.

## **RESOLUTION 2025-1014-02**

**A resolution to increase appropriations for General Fund. Mesler moved, Stratton seconded. Voting YES – Mesler, Bricker, Stratton. Resolution adopted.**

## **RESOLUTION 2025-1014-03**

**A resolution to participate in the new national opioids secondary manufacturers settlement (Alvogen, Amneal, Apotex, Hikma, Indivior, Mylan, Sun, and Zydus) Stratton moved, Mesler seconded. Voting YES – Mesler, Bricker, Stratton. Resolution adopted.**

Barratt said the MORE grant application is due before the end of the year.

**Bricker made a motion to authorize Barratt to apply for, receive, and administer the MORE grant. Stratton seconded. Voting YES – Stratton, Mesler, Bricker. Motion carried.**

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## Road and Parks Report:

Road Foreman Adam Corll was excused. Chip Althouse reported that in September, 1132 miles were put on trucks. They used 124 gallons of diesel and 103 gallons of gasoline. There were no weather events and they used no salt mix.

There was one burial and one cremation. They poured no stone foundations. There were no culvert installations. They applied no cold patch and used no of limestone or asphalt.

## Fire Report:

Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Prevention Officer April Thorne submitted the report for September 2025.

Damascus Fire Department responded to 66 out of 66 calls for the month of September:

- 44 medical calls (Goshen – 22, Butler – 12, Winona – 1, Green – 1, Sebring – 7, Georgetown - 1),
- 2 Structure Fires (Ellsworth – 1, Salem – 1),
- 3 MVA with injuries (Goshen – 3),
- 4 Fire Alarm (Goshen – 4),
- 7 Football Standby Detail (West Branch High School– 7),
- 1 False Call (Butler – 1),
- 1 Brush Fire (Goshen – 1),
- 4 Tree/Wires Down (Goshen – 3, Butler – 1).

The department had 46 training hours in September.

## Trustee Items:

Bricker explained that the reason the township was considering raising the price of renting the gym for the season was because the township was losing revenue because others couldn't rent the gym on the weekends due to the wrestling mats being left down. Mariana Benner and Jeff Benner from West Branch Little Warriors Wrestling said they use the gym most Monday afternoons – Thursday evenings, from November 10 through February 19. After December 18, they would not need Thursdays. They agreed to move the mats to the side of the gym if the township had other people that wanted use of the gym when the team was not. Mesler requested to know the nights when the team would not be using the gym. The Benners assured the trustees that the parents would keep the area clean. Mesler said that the township would not be responsible for any damage to items left in the gym. Mariana agreed to add Goshen to their liability insurance.

**Mesler made to motion to rent the gym to West Branch Little Warriors Wrestling Monday through Thursday, from approximately November 10, 2025 through February 19, 2026 for the fee of \$1500. Stratton seconded. Voting YES – Mesler, Stratton, Bricker. Motion carried.**

The gentleman from the fiber company did not show up to discuss Seacrist Rd. The company requested permission to do an open cut to install the fiber. Bricker will contact him. They need

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to discuss load bearing lids and 3 vaults. Mesler suggested running it by Mahoning County Engineer Pat Ginetti before making final decision.

Mesler reported that a person on social media had asked when the meeting was. He wanted to discuss vacating an alley in Damascus. The individual would need to hire a surveyor and there would be costs associated with it. The trustees do not want to spend any tax payer money to vacate the alley.

Bricker thanked the Road Department for going the extra mile with screening the grindings.

Mesler thanked Martig Farms and Raymond Bricker for the use of their loaders.

Mesler reported that the township scored very high on the recent OPWC application. He is cautiously optimistic that the township will receive \$75,000.

Stratton encouraged everyone to get out and vote on November 4.

### **Adjournment:**

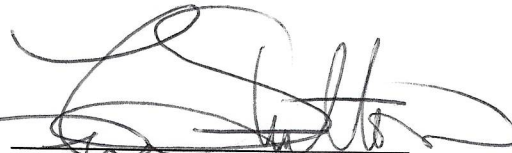
The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, November 11, 2025 at 6:00pm.

**With no further business to conduct, Bricker moved, seconded by Stratton to adjourn at 6:50 pm. Voting YES – Stratton, Bricker, Mesler. Motion carried**

Attest:



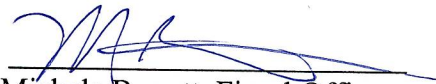
John Bricker, Chairman



Teresa Stratton, Vice Chairperson



Shawn Mesler, Trustee



Michele Barratt, Fiscal Officer