

**SHAWNEE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
February 23, 2026**

On February 23, 2026, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees met at the Shawnee Township, 2530 Fort Amanda Road, Lima, Ohio, for a Regular Meeting of the Board.

Chairman Neff called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The roll call indicated the following present: Trustee Neff, Trustee Gross, Police Chief Kohli, Fire Chief Austin Miller, Kevin Cooley, Teresa Pulfer, Lesa Wende, Clay Balyeat, and Valerie Lester. Howard Gray and Joe Recker were absent.

- Trustee Gross motioned to accept the February 9, 2026, Regular meeting minutes. Trustee Neff seconded the motion, which passed 2-0.

REPORT OF THE FISCAL OFFICER:

- 2025 Books are closed

REPORT OF THE LAW DIRECTOR:

- Nothing to report

SWEARING IN – Michael Gaines as Full-time Police Officer

Trustee Neff made a motion to recess the Regular Meeting to conduct the Volunteer Firefighter Dependent Board Regular Meeting reconvened at 6:39 p.m.

RESOLUTION 37-26

FML – T. Stevenson

BE IT RESOLVED, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees authorizes Family Medical Leave for Full-time Police Officer, Troy Stevenson, beginning February 11, 2026, and ending February 18, 2026, in accordance with the Family Medical Leave Act of 1993.

Trustee Gross motioned for approval, Trustee Recker seconded, and the motion carried 3-0

Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Absent Mr. Neff, Yes

Trustee Gross motioned to accept all the reports above as presented. Trustee Neff seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

RESOLUTION 38-26

Acceptance of Resignation – C. Swick

BE IT RESOLVED, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees accepts the resignation of Full-time Firefighter Colin Swick, effective March 6, 2026.

Trustee Gross motioned for approval, Trustee Recker seconded, and the motion carried 3-0

Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Absent Mr. Neff, Yes

RESOLUTION 39-26

Acceptance of Resignation – A. Rosas

BE IT RESOLVED, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees accepts the resignation of Part-time Dispatcher Andrea Rosas, effective February 19, 2026.

Trustee Gross motioned for approval, Trustee Neff seconded, and the motion carried 3-0

Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Absent Mr. Neff, Yes

RESOLUTION 40-26

Request for ODOT Permit for Signage

BE IT RESOLVED, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees requests a sign permit from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to allow welcome signage for Shawnee Township upon entering the general area of the roundabout to be installed at SR 117 and SR 501 in Shawnee Township, and;

FURTHER all proposed signage will conform to the restrictions and guidelines as required by ODOT, and said signage shall be installed by the Ohio Department of Transportation.

Trustee Gross motioned for approval, Trustee Neff seconded, and the motion carried 3-0

Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Absent Mr. Neff, Yes

RESOLUTION 41-26

Authorization to Hire Full-time Police Officer Michael Gaines

BE IT RESOLVED, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees authorizes the hiring of Michael Gaines to serve the Shawnee Township Police Department as a full-time Police Officer effective February 23, 2026, and;

FURTHER, Mr. Gaines' wages and benefits shall be in accordance with the Labor Agreement between the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees and the Fraternal Order of Police.

Trustee Gross motioned for approval, Trustee Neff seconded, and the motion carried 3-0

Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Absent Mr. Neff, Yes

DEPARTMENTS:

Fire

1. House fires last week
2. New hires are doing well

Police

1. A couple of major cases are underway
2. Movement within the department

Dispatch

1. GIS updates to mapping and CAD
2. Rapid SOS to track the caller by cell phone and many other benefits

Roads

1. Absent

Zoning

1. Follow-up meetings with contacts from the Winter Conference
2. Meeting with Allen County Soil and Water
3. People with homes that are damaged or need to be demolished need a line of communication

Cemetery

1. Thank you to those who came to retire wreaths

Mr. Gross made a motion to accept all the departmental reports as presented. Mr. Neff seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

TO PAY THE BILLS:

Trustee Gross made a motion to pay the bills, and Trustee Neff seconded. The motion passed 2-0.

Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Absent Mr. Neff, Yes

COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Would like ODOT to come and make a presentation regarding signs for the roundabout at 117 and 501**

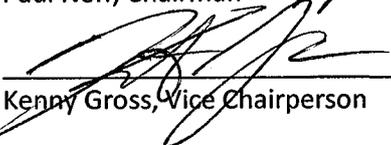
Adjournment

With no further business to be brought before the Board of Trustees, Trustee Gross motioned for adjournment, Trustee Neff seconded, and the motion carried 2-0.

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held February 23, 2026



Paul Neff, Chairman



Kenny Gross, Vice Chairperson

Joe Recker, Trustee at Large

Minutes prepared by Missy Van Meter, Administrative Assistant, Shawnee Township.