

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



BROWN TOWNSHIP REGULAR SESSION

Held: April 21, 2025

The Brown Township Board of Trustees convened in regular session on Monday, April 21, 2025 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:19 p.m. in the second-floor meeting room at 2491 Walker Rd Hilliard, Ohio 43026. Trustee Vice-Chair Martin called the meeting to order with the following members present:

Joseph Martin, Present
Pamela Sayre, Present
Peter Marsh, Present
Becky Kent, Present

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Sayre made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2025 Regular Session and March 25, 2025 and March 28, 2025 Special Meetings. Trustee Marsh seconded the motion. Motion passed three AYES, no NAYS. Motion carried.

Fiscal Actions

Bills were presented for payment. Trustee Sayre made a motion to approve the payment of bills. Trustee Marsh seconded the motion. Motion passed three AYES, no NAYS. Motion carried.

The Trustees previously reviewed the April 2025 payroll report. Trustee Sayre made a motion to approve the payroll report. Trustee Marsh seconded the motion. Motion passed three AYES, no NAYS. Motion carried.

The Trustees previously reviewed the bank reconciliation and the supporting financial reports for the month of March 2025. Trustee Sayre made a motion to approve the bank reconciliation. Trustee Marsh seconded the motion. Motion passed three AYES, no NAYS. Motion carried.

Sheriff's Report

Brown Township's Community Liaison, Deputy Haren, was present for the meeting. For 3/18/2025-4/21/2025 there were 110 calls for service, 22 reports taken, and 10 arrests/citations in Brown Township.

Norwich Fire Department Report

Norwich Fire Chief David Baird was present for the meeting. During March 2025, Norwich Township answered 604 calls for service with 156 Fire runs and 448 EMS runs.

Of those 604 calls, there were (19) EMS runs and (8) Fire runs in the unincorporated areas of Brown Township. There was also (1) EMS run and (0) Fire runs in the incorporated area of the Township.

Chief Baird welcomed Pete Marsh to the Board of Trustees. The Chief reported on an open burn issue on Davis Road and asked whether anyone in the audience had any questions about the fire levy. The new fire station is on track to be completed mid-2025.

Melissa Brinkerhoff, Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel Representative

Melissa reported that the March Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel did not meet in April. She stated that Hill Farm II was approved by Hilliard and is viewed by many as breaking the Darby Accord. Trustee Martin remarked that the

article in the Columbus Dispatch was highly critical of Hilliard's actions. He asked Melissa if it was really as bad as the article suggested. She affirmed that it was.

Steering Committee Update

Trustee Sayre reported that the next Steering Committee meeting will be on May 20 and the committee will have a first draft to review. A Darby water quality monitoring BDART meeting is scheduled for April 30 at the Hilliard library.

Audience Participation

A resident wanted to thank the firemen for their service and wanted them to know they have his full support with the upcoming Fire Levy.

A Feder Road resident has contacted the Franklin County Board of Health about open burning near their property. The Board of Health has referred them to Economic Development and Planning because the open burning might be in violation of zoning compliance.

A Roberts Road resident stated that he is concerned with the status quo of development encroaching Brown Township.

A resident shared his displeasure with the proposed noise resolution and stated that it is rubbish. Trustee Sayre read the Ohio Revised Code demonstrating what the township is and is not permitted to do in relation to a noise resolution. Trustee Marsh is waiting to hear from the township attorney to see if a time frame for the resolution may be set to establish quiet hours rather than have it in effect 24 hours per day.

Cole Gillfillan and Doug Gillfillan from Earthcraft were in attendance. They updated the Board on several regular tasks they perform annually. Previously they working with Trustee Dever to schedule these tasks. These tasks include mowing the Darby Knolls and Morris Road ditches and cutting back vegetation on Cole Road, Alton Darby Creek Road, and Carter Road for visibility. Several other upcoming tasks were discussed. They are going to camera the catch basin on Langton Road. They will quote a price to seed the south side of Station 82 in prairie grass and bring another truckload of mulch to extend the play area and make a space for a bench. They also have a drone scheduled to video the new walking path now and then again after prairie grasses and flowers have developed.

Trustee Sayre asked Cole and Doug whether the township could call them when people call about septic or drainage issues. Cole suggested that septic issues be referred to the Board of Health or Yoders Septic. He agreed drainage issues could be filtered through Earthcraft. They would be willing to meet with residents and help determine whether issues are township or private responsibility.

Executive Session

At 8:08 p.m., Trustee Sayre made a motion to enter into an Executive Session to consider the employment and/or discipline of a public employee pursuant to 121.22 (G)(1) of the Ohio Revised Code. Trustee Marsh seconded the motion.

Chair Martin asked for the roll call: Trustee Chair Martin AYE; Trustee Vice-Chair Sayre AYE; Trustee Marsh AYE. Motion carried.

Also invited was Fiscal Officer Kent. Board moved into Executive Session.

The executive session concluded at 8:33 p.m.

Trustee Sayre made a motion that Fiscal Officer Kent update the township policy manual to reflect township-owned motorized vehicles may only be operated by township employees. Trustee Marsh seconded the policy. Motion passed three AYES, no NAYS. Motion carried.

Trustee Sayre made a motion to hire Tom Janz as a third snowplow driver at \$30.00/hour. Trustee Marsh seconded the motion. Motion passed three AYES, no NAYS. Motion carried.

Trustee Sayre made a motion that snowplow shifts be changed to 8 hours instead of 12. Trustee Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed three AYES, no NAYS. Motion carried.

Newsletter

Brown Township's Summer 2025 newsletter deadline is June 15. The newsletter will include an article on Trustee Marsh, information on the comprehensive plan, and an article about Trustee Dever including a recap of a planned dedication and tree planting in May.

Roads

Trustee Martin is still waiting on a quote from Franklin County Engineers for berm work.

Old Business

Trustee Marsh will follow up with Brian Zets, township attorney, with some questions about the proposed noise resolution.

New Business

Fiscal Officer Kent suggested the township begin using StarOhio, an investment pool run by the Ohio Treasurer's Office, for short term investments. Trustee Sayre made a motion that Brown Township open an account with StarOhio and Fiscal Officer Kent manage investing with StarOhio as she sees prudent. Trustee Marsh seconded the motion. Motion passed three AYES, no NAYS. Motion carried.

The trustees discussed renaming the Township Hall to Dever Building. Trustee Sayre will contact Pebble Construction about attaching a sign to the east side of the building. A dedication and tree planting of two trees purchased by the Gillfillan and Ruwe families will occur in May.

Donnie Williams, road crew member, suggested that the water line in the Township Hall be moved because it follows the outside wall of the building and freezes. Trustee Martin will check with West Jeff Plumbing on quoting the job.

On the recycling plant tour, someone asked Rumpke whether they plan to ever provide curbside recycling to customers. Rumpke asked Trustee Sayre to about getting a township resident mailing list to gauge interest. Trustee Martin suggested she let them know they can get that information from the County Auditor's website.

Trustee Sayre reported that Chandra from ISKCON informed her that phase 1 of the temple construction is complete. They are parting ways with CK Construction and bidding out Phase 2. They currently plan to open April 2026.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Trustee Martin asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Sayre made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Marsh seconded the motion. Motion passed three AYES, no NAYS. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.


Joseph Martin, Chair


Becky Kent, Fiscal Officer

All formal actions of the Trustees/ Fiscal Officer of Brown Township concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.