

Canaan Township Board of Trustees
Regular and Budget Meeting
July 14, 2026
Minutes

Chairman Tyler Levering called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Roll call showed all trustees and the fiscal officer present. Also present were County Commissioner Tim Abraham, Morrow County Treasurer Jim Jahn, and Canaan Township Resident Samantha Swope.

Commissioner Abraham and Treasurer Jahn presented a Morrow County Land Bank program available to townships for property cleanups. Under the program, the township would obtain cost estimates and submit them to the Land Bank for approval. If approved, the Land Bank would pay 50% of the cleanup cost, with the township paying the remaining 50% upfront. The township's share would then be certified to the County Auditor and assessed against the property owner's taxes. The process requires notice letters to be sent to the property owner 30 days and 10 days before action is taken, allowing the owner an opportunity to correct the issue. Brent Russell also offered assistance to the township in navigating the required procedures.

Treasurer Jahn also presented some information showing 52 delinquent parcels and one mobile home parcel delinquent for Canaan Township tax payers. He cited it was one of the lowest in the county.

Treasurer Jahn also discussed Ohio House Bill 186 and explained its impact on property taxes. He noted that the legislation is intended to limit increases in certain school district property taxes following large increases in property valuations. The Treasurer explained that while property values may increase significantly during a reappraisal, qualifying school district tax revenues are generally limited to the rate of inflation rather than the full percentage increase in property values. As an example, he stated that if property values increased by 23% and inflation was 4.3%, the qualifying school district taxes would generally be limited to an increase closer to 4.3% rather than 23%. The Treasurer further explained that the legislation primarily affects certain school district levies and does not directly impact township road, fire, cemetery, or general fund levies.

The fiscal officer presented the minutes from the June 9, 2026, meeting. Mr. Carwell made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The 2027 budget estimate was examined. No changes were recommended. A motion was made to adopt a resolution to approve the budget.

Resolution 7.14.26.1

Be It Resolved by the Township Trustees of Canaan Township.

***WHEREAS*, this date, July 14 2026, Trustee Carwell moved the adoption of the following Resolution and**

***WHEREAS*, the Township is required to adopt a tax budget for the next year according to Revised Code 5705.28 and**

***WHEREAS*, the budget shall include an estimate of contemplated revenue and expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year and**

***WHEREAS*, the meeting to approve the budget shall be a public hearing with a legal aid to notify the public placed in a local newspaper and/or the township website and**

***NOW THEREFORE*, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Board that:**

- 1. The yearly budget has been reviewed and approved by the trustees.**
- 2. The budget hearing was held in an opening meeting on July 14, 2026**
- 3. The budget will be delivered to the County Auditor by July 20, 2026.**
- 4. The County Auditor will present the budget to the County Budget Commission for approval.**
- 5. The budget will be the first Official Certificate for 2027.**

Trustee Bayles seconded the Motion.

The roll being called upon its adoption the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Levering, yes; Mr. Bayles, yes; Carwell, yes.

The fiscal officer reported receipts and balances to date in all funds. The bank reconciliation report was also presented. Automatic drafts were examined. The Park National and STAR Ohio Statements were also distributed. Credit card purchases for June and early July were reviewed and the attestation statement signed by Mr. Levering. Mr. Carwell made the motion to approve the reports and pay all bills, including electronic payments. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Prior to this meeting, July 14, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., the trustees opened bids for OPWC Project Township Road 133 Improvements. The minutes for that meeting are recorded separately. The bid was awarded to Small’s Asphalt Paving with a bid of \$201, 990.00. The trustees adopted the following resolution to appropriate the OPWC Grant money it will receive for this project:

RESOLUTION 7.14.26.2

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR AN OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION (OPWC) ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, Canaan Township has been awarded funding from the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) for the improvement of township roads; and

WHEREAS, the Township has entered into a Project Grant Agreement with the Ohio Public Works Commission providing grant funding in the amount of One Hundred Forty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Forty-Five Dollars (\$146,445.00); and

WHEREAS, these funds were not included in the Township’s original 2026 Certificate of Estimated Resources or annual appropriations; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested and received an Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources certifying the availability of said funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Canaan Township, Morrow County, Ohio, that the following supplemental appropriations are hereby made for Fiscal Year 2026:

Fund: 4401

Account Number	Account Description	Amount
4401	OPWC TR 133 Road Improvement Project	\$146,445.00

TOTAL SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION: \$146,445.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fiscal Officer is authorized and directed to make the necessary entries in the Township’s accounting records and to certify a copy of this Resolution to the appropriate officials as required by law.

The roll being called upon its adoption the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Levering, yes; Mr. Bayles, yes; Carwell, yes.

Communications included:

- The Grassroots Clippings newsletter
- June 2026 Zoning Report
- 1st half 2026 Call Volume Report from Mt. Gilead Fire Department
- 2026 Trash Bash Report
- OTARMA Proposal/Quote letter from Craig Hibner

The June 2026 Zoning Report showed 11 zoning permits, 16 lot splits, and 8 new house numbers issued. A Conditional Use application for a private event rental at 4230 Township Road 49 in Washington Township was approved. Two major subdivisions were also approved: an 11-lot industrial park subdivision in Bennington Township and a 16-lot residential subdivision in Peru Township.

The 1st Half Call Volume Report from the Mt. Gilead Fire Department showed 9 calls in Canaan Township from January 1 through June 30, 2026. Year-to-date, the department has responded to 398 calls, including 64 calls in June, of which 38 were Rescue/EMS incidents.

The township received notice that the Clover Posse 4-H Club cleaned 20.3 miles of township roads during the May 2026 Trash Bash. A total of 12 adults and 38 youth participated, collecting over 120 pounds of trash and 80 pounds of recyclables. In accordance with the Board's previous motion to pay \$25 per mile cleaned, a check for \$507.50 was issued to the club. The trustees expressed their appreciation for the volunteers' efforts in cleaning up township roads and ditches.

A letter was received from Craig Hibner of OTARMA offering to provide an insurance quote. The trustees were satisfied with the savings achieved by switching to The Ohio Plan through Rinehart Insurance last year and expressed their intent to remain with their current coverage.

The roads were checked on Wednesday, July 8, 2026. It was noted that one of the new Horse Drawn Carriage signs at the Northwest corner of TR 67 and CR 28 has been stolen. The Road Sign Inventory and Management form was completed and is on file.

Mr. Bayles gave the 1st Consolidated report. New carpet was installed and the driveway sealed as part of recent facility improvements. Marion County Engineer Brad Irons has offered to review the architect's drawings for the proposed SR 98 station pending confirmation of no conflict of interest. An older truck stored at the Martel Township building was damaged beyond repair by mice and was disposed of for scrap.

The Board reviewed the insurance renewal quote from Rinehart Insurance. The renewal premium decreased by \$456 from last year. Property, inland marine, and electronic data processing coverage limits were adjusted for inflation, and the cyber deductible was reduced from \$25,000 to \$5,000. Mr. Carwell moved to approve the renewal with Rinehart Insurance. Mr. Bayles seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Levering, yes; Mr. Bayles, yes; Mr. Carwell, yes. Motion carried.

The trustees and fiscal officer signed a deed for Robert J. and Connie L. Wilson for the purchase of new Lots 16A and 16B in Worden Cemetery.

The trustees reviewed correspondence from Del-Co Water regarding a waterline crossing at County Road 59 and Township Road 62. Del-Co requested permission to cut Township Road 62 to lower the waterline and repair a damaged tile. The Trustees granted permission, and Del-Co will repair the roadway upon completion of the work.

The trustees reviewed correspondence from ODOT regarding a SR 95 project in Denmark between County Road 28 and County Road 130. During surveying, ODOT identified four pipes entering the catch basin at the front of the township property and requested any available records showing the source of the pipes, including downspout or septic system drainage.

There being no further business to come before the board, Mr. Bayles made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Carwell seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Trustee: _____
Tyler Levering, Chairman

Trustee: _____
John Bayles, Vice Chairman

Trustee: _____
Matthew Carwell

Fiscal Officer: _____
Jill Retterer

Canaan Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
July 14, 2026
Minutes

June 2026 Receipts

Date:	Amount:	Receipt #:	From:	For:
6/6/2026	\$75.00	53-2026	Georgann Kneipp	Township Hall Rental
6/7/2026	\$75.00	54-2026	Aaron Bush	Township Hall Rental
6/16/2026	\$741.20	55-2026	Morrow Co. Auditor	June Local Government Distribution
6/16/2026	\$528.32	56-2026	Morrow Co. Auditor	June Local Gov. Dis. Per sec 57
6/18/2026	\$10,439.42	57-2026	Morrow Co. Auditor	June Excise Gas Tax
6/18/2026	\$2,698.67	57-2026	Morrow Co. Auditor	June cents per gallon Gas Tax
6/18/2026	\$757.67	58-2026	Morrow Co. Auditor	June License Tax - State
6/18/2026	\$376.50	58-2026	Morrow Co. Auditor	June License Tax - County
6/30/2026	\$1,033.51	59-2026	STAR Ohio	June Income Dividend Reinvestment Interest
6/30/2026	\$98.61	60-2026	Park National	June ICS Interest
TOTAL:	\$16,823.90			

June 2026 Payments:

Date:	Amount:	Voucher/Warrant:	To:	For:
6/2/2026	\$1,057.10	48-2026	OPERS	May 2026 Payroll
6/2/2026	\$618.00	49-2026	Auditor of State	3rd Quarter 2026 UAN Fees
6/3/2026	\$56.39	50-2026	Ohio Edison	Denmark Street Lights
6/3/2026	\$42.29	50-2026	Ohio Edison	Climax Street Lights
6/8/2026	\$44.99	51-2026	Elan Financial Services	Amazon - 3 ring binder
6/8/2026	\$49.32	51-2026	Elan Financial Services	Amazon - Wilson Jones Minute Book
6/9/2026	\$1,428.57	4494	Zach Faust	June 2026 Mowing Contract
6/9/2026	\$185.00	4495	TORCO Termite & Pest Control	Treatment for ants at township hall
6/9/2026	\$21,000.00	4496	Slaughterbeck Services LLC	Berming TR 10 and TR 66
6/9/2026	\$463.10	4497	John Bayles	May Health Ins. Reimbursement
6/9/2026	\$472.68	4498	Matthew Carwell	May Health Ins. Reimbursement
6/9/2026	\$301.48	4499	Tyler Levering	May Health Ins. Reimbursement
6/9/2026	\$413.50	4500	Jill Retterer	May Health Ins. Reimbursement
6/10/2026	\$69.21	52-2026	Ohio Edison	Township Hall Electric
6/16/2026	\$16.00	53-2026	Delco Water	Township Hall Water
6/30/2026	\$820.12	4501	John Bayles	June Payroll
6/30/2026	\$843.48	4502	Matthew Carwell	June Payroll
6/30/2026	\$850.03	4503	Tyler Levering	June Payroll
6/30/2026	\$954.54	4504	Jill Retterer	June Payroll
TOTAL:	\$29,685.80			

Bank Balances June 30, 2026

Park National Balance:	\$143,226.39
Park National MM Balance:	\$59,298.51
STAR Ohio	\$329,902.84
TOTAL:	\$532,427.74