

Geneva Township
Regular Meeting
October 8, 2025

Chairman Mills called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

The pledge of Alliance was recited.

Roll Call: Mr. Mills, Mrs. Miller and Mr. McGrath were present.

Others present were Fiscal Officer Caya, Fire Chief Shook, Drew Raymond, Eric Hrin from the Gazette, Tony Vaccariello, Trudy Varccariello, Jim Andrus, Brad MacMichael, Ed Andrus and Bill Douglass.

Mrs. Miller made the motion and seconded by Mr. McGrath to approve minutes from the September 10, 2025 meeting. Roll Call, all trustees voted yes. Motion passed.

Mr. McGrath made the motion and a second by Mrs. Miller to approve bills for \$68,017.75 covered by E□payments E 254-2025 through 282-2025 and Warrants 23429 through 23456. Roll Call, all trustees voted yes. Motion passed.

Public Comment:

There was a question asked about when Padanarum was chip and sealed do they take care of the dip at the end of the driveways.

There was a discussion about the Cold mix paving that was done on Maple Ave. It is a different process than chip and sealing. Without the Township doing the Chip and seal on the roads, they would be in a lot worse shape. There was a discussion about using the spray process when the chip and seal is done but it is very corrosive.

Fire:

Chief Shook reported there were 12 calls in the month of September in the Township. There were 4 motor vehicle accidents, none at Maple & 534. Austin Road was closed for a while when a box truck pulled down some wire and a pole.

Zoning Report:

Ron Cerjan reported he handled 5 permits in September. Still dealing with a fence issue by Raymond's. The owner assured that he would tear the fence down and get it on his property. He also reported he has been dealing with the Health Department on Wheeler Creek property by the power lines with sheds and an Air BNB. He is also getting phone calls about the current zoning maps. Zoning maps on the website are unclear. Need a digital copy to upload for better clarity.

Road Department:

Savannah Workman was unable to attend the meeting so Tim Mills gave the report. The road department completed all the chip and seal and swept the roads. They caught up on a three-year backlog of piping in ditches. They have completed approximately 2,000 ft of pipe work this

summer. A neighbor's piping work was inspected and approved. "It was a different size pipe but we okayed it because it actually was a heavier, heavier duty pipe than we use. "Roadside mowing is being done. New employees want to do more in-house work. Fabricating things themselves instead of using welding shops. An \$8,500 backhoe repair was done in-house for \$25 an hour in 15 hours. They are building an awning to match the building to address a problem with the front window and wet carpet. They will install it this winter. The carpet will be replaced with vinyl laminate flooring. They have been out burning. They are also getting ready for winter by preparing plows and putting up snow fence in open fields to help keep roads clear.

Fiscal Officer: Mrs. Caya went over the September month end financials. She has been working on the budget process for 2026. She has asked the Road Department for their needs for 2026. The first draft of the 2026 operating budget will be sent to the Trustees for review in November. The final budget will be on the December meeting agenda. The organizational meeting will need to be set at the December meeting. The Salt building is now tax exempt after applying for it a couple times. Mrs. Caya reported that the Township received another letter from attorney Andrew Trice regarding Windstream Kinetic.

New business:

Resolution 2025-12 - A Resolution Adopting the Geneva Township Comprehensive Plan. Mrs. Miller made the motion to table Resolution 2025-12, seconded by Mr. McGrath to table Resolution 2025-12. Roll Call, all trustees voted yes. Resolution was tabled

Tammy Caya reported that the state of Ohio is mandating that every Township create and adopt a cybersecurity policy due to statewide AI issues. The state sent over a draft cyber policy for Townships to adapt, focusing on employee training regarding email security and computer usage. The deadline for passing the policy was initially September 30th, but has been extended to June for finalizing the training program. The Township needs to pass the policy as it is a state mandate.

Resolution 2025-13 - A Resolution. Resolution Adopting a Cybersecurity Policy. Mrs. Miller made the motion and a second by Mr. McGrath to approve Resolution 2025-13. Roll Call, all trustees voted yes. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Tiffany Miller reported that NAD had a successful 50-year celebration. They are is doing well, although calls are slightly down this month.

The Trustees thanked Bob Russell and Andrew Raymond for running the candidate's night.

Dave attended a Growth World Independence Together (GRIT) meeting in Ashtabula.

Tim commented that the current road department works well together, which has resulted in significant cost savings. Dave McGrath mentioned he was taking several phone calls about the road department two years ago and the chaos that ensued before the current team was reorganized.

There was a comment that Tiffany's has worked on the Comp plan that will be great tool for the Township.

There was a comment made that Tammy Caya has worked very hard on the budget over the past couple of years and watched it close

Tim Mills reported that Tammy Caya and himself went the County Budget Commission to explain to the County why the cemetery board had a surplus of carryover funds this year. The funds were saved for upcoming pavement at Maplewood Cemetery and a new mower, a vehicle replacement and a roof repair. The roof repair is estimated to cost \$11,000 due to damage from heavy snow. The county questioned the surplus because smaller entities are expected to spend the money.

There was a discussion on the zoning issues and the complaints that people have. The Township will be working with their attorney on trying to solve some of them.

Dave McGrath reported that the village is close to having a proposal for a part-time officer to handle complaints and issues in Geneva Township. They are hoping they can cite people in the mayor's court. He is still working on the Sheriff's office as a backup.

Tiffany Miller reported she is still working with Wood and Lampion. She stated she needs to give the Wooden Lamp law firm more feedback on marijuana use buildings, businesses, and short-term rentals. There was a comment made that they are disappointed that the zoning and comp plan are not moving together. It was said that they did a very good job for the village and they did." It was commented, they wonder if there's an alternative to the Wooden Lamp law firm.

Tim Mills talked about a Water Line Extension request made for North Ave in the area of Padanarum Road and North Avenue. The plan is to extend the waterline down north. Tom Snook from the septic company is the spokesman for the project. All residents have agreed to pay the lineal foot charge. A meeting is scheduled in October to review the project. The cost is approximately \$55 per lineal foot. The total cost for the section is around \$56,000. The water company will contribute to the cost. The township cannot own a utility but can use fire fund taxes to purchase fire hydrants to offset costs. Seven properties are involved in the current extension. A woman who lives in Florida initiated the project. She camps on her property in the summer and wants water access. The waterline will reach North Avenue, near Tom's property. The county will cover the cost of boring under the road. A fire hydrant will be placed at the corner.

The waterline will be on the west side of the road. Future extensions are possible through petitioning. Doug Starkey from the County has been involved in discussions about the project. The current project has been in progress for a year and a half. A similar project was done on New London Road. It took almost two years to get the water line extension done. They got a deal because the company had pipe left from another job and the county did some of the engineering

during their off time in the winter. Only the people who wanted the water line extension paid for it. After two or three years, others can tie in but will have to pay a \$3,000 tapping fee. The current tap is only good for 26 or 27, and the tapping fee is being raised to \$3,500.

There was a question asked on how much the Township has spent on Wood and Lamping for the zoning rewrite costs. Mrs. Caya reported that in 2024, they paid \$1,786, in 2025, they paid \$6,753, for a total of \$8,539, which is not much for a zoning rewrite so far. They have provided some draft language and stuff.

Public Comment:

The students in attendance introduced themselves.

Next Meetings

- November 12th at 7 PM
- December 10th at 7:00 PM
- January 14th at 7:00 PM

Mrs. Miller made the motion and a second by Mr. McGrath, there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM. All trustees voted yes. Motion passed.

Recorded and documented by Tammy Caya, Fiscal Officer
