

January 14, 2025

Salem Township Trustees - At the Salem Township Conference Room

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The Salem Township Board of Trustees met on January 14, 2025 in regular session at the Salem Township Fire Station Conference Room for the purpose of transacting the business of the Township. Trustee Ralph Blanton called the meeting to order at 7:00pm with Trustee Heath Kilburn present. Mr. Blanton led all those present in the pledge to the flag.

Vice-Chairman Ralph Blanton turned the meeting over to the Fiscal Officer for the following motions:

Election of officers for 2025

Fiscal Officer Vicky VonHolle opened the nominations for **2025 Chairman of the Board...**

Mr. Blanton nominated Mrs. Ramsey for the Chairman. Mr. Kilburn second the nomination.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

Nominations were then open for **2025 Vice-Chairman of the Board...**

Mr. Kilburn nominated Mr. Blanton for Vice-Chairman. Mr. Blanton second the nomination.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

2025 Mileage reimbursement – Mr. Blanton made a motion to increase current mileage rate of \$.67 per mile to \$.70 per mile per the IRS standard mileage rate for 2025. Mr. Kilburn second the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

2025 Meeting dates – Mr. Blanton made a motion to keep the current meeting date and time. 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Mr. Kilburn second the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

Mr. Blanton made a motion for **2025 to keep allowing Trustees to sign checks outside of meetings.**

Mr. Kilburn second the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

Fiscal Officer Vicky VonHolle turned the meeting over to Vice-Chairman Mr. Blanton

Meeting Minutes:

- The trustees read the minutes from the December 10, 2024 meeting. Mr. Blanton made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

Guest: Gary Paynter and Mitchell Fisher

- Morrow Mayor Mitchell Fisher attended tonight's meeting to let the Trustees know that they have applied for a Block Grant in the amount of \$150,000.00 to modify the entrance to the Morrow Cemetery. There is a \$20,000.00 matching funds with the grant. The Village of Morrow ask if the Trustees would split the matching funds and contribute half of in the amount of \$10,000.00. Mr. Blanton made a motion to contribute half of the matching funds in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the block grant if awarded. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

Mr. Blanton thanked the Village for their work on this project. Mr. Fisher said they should find out in March if they receive the grant.

Fire Department: Asst, Chief Moenster reported:

- Responded to a structure fire at 123/22-3 near LCNB Bank. Crew did a great job.

Fire Department: Asst, Chief Moenster reported – Continued:

- Display cases are being filled with donations of history from the Fire Department. Exciting to see the history being preserved.
- Would like to offer Chris Dotson the Asst. Fire Chief position with a Salary of \$88,000.00 and effective date of 2-14-2025. Mr. Blanton made a motion to hire Chris Dotson as Asst Fire Chief with a salary of \$88,000 and effective date of 02-14-2025. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

- Would like to offer the position of full-time Lieutenant to Gideon Conger with a start date of 02-14-2025. Mr. Blanton made a motion to hire Gideon Conger as full-time Lieutenant with start date of 02/14/2025. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

Fire Chief Harrison reported:

- Request to accept retirement of Richard Oeder. Mr. Blanton made a motion to accept retirement of Richard Oeder. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

- Retirement ceremony planned on February 13, 2025 at 1:00pm for retirees Ralph Blanton, Richard Oeder and Bill Harrison.

Zoning: Zoning Inspector Mike Yetter reported:

- Received a couple of permits
- Request BZA re-appointment for Michelle Toller until 2029. Mr. Blanton made a motion to re-appoint Michelle Toller for BZA until 2029. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

Trustee Heath Kilburn reported:

- Research for equipment to put on hoe for use at cemetery. Cost around \$10,000.00. Mr. Blanton asked to table it – a lot of money and would like to make sure it would be used and worth the amount of money. Mr. Kilburn agreed.
- Ask Mr. Blanton to make sure the road crew washes up the equipment and get all the salt off of it. Mr. Blanton replied the underbody wash to be set up and used this week.

Trustee Ralph Blanton reported:

- Received Township Highway Mileage Certification request from ODOT. Mr. Blanton made a motion certify 23.995 miles for Salem Township. Mr. Kilburn second the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

- Received request from Warren County Engineers office for 2025 paving projects. Will need to have list of projects for the February 11, 2025 meeting.
- New salt truck chassis to go to Kalida
- Road crew have been busy with snow storm. Plow in ditch 2-times on Gheils-Carrol Rd. Used Case towing to get them out of the ditch.

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Cemetery updates:

December 2024 Cemetery

12/18/24	Edna Julien	Sec 4 Lot 207	Center West - Ashes	Vales
12/19/24	Carolyn Wright	Sec 4 Lot 294	NW #2 - Ashes	Edgington
12/21/24	Mary Lou Phillips	Sec 4 Lot 126	NE #2	Vales

Fiscal Business Vicky VonHolle, Fiscal Officer reported:

- Presented payroll and bills that are ready for payment. Mr. Kilburn made a motion to approve the payroll and to pay the bills as presented. Mr. Blanton seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey - absent Mr. Kilburn – yea

Adjournment:

- With no further business to come before the board, Mr. Kilburn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm. Mr. Blanton seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey - absent Mr. Kilburn – yea