The American Township Trustees met in regular session with the following members present: Paul Basinger and Ross Harmon.

Motion by Trustee Basinger second by Trustee Harmon to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 24, 2025. Roll call, all yes.

Motion by Trustee Basinger second by Trustee Harmon to approve the payment of the warrants as presented by the Fiscal Officer. Roll call, all yes.

Privilege of the floor was granted to Joe Wassink representing Life Wise Academy-Elida and would like to host a Labor Day 5k once again for 2025 and seeking permission from the Trustees to use township roads. Both Trustees said that was not a problem and were in full support of the 5k.

Motion by Trustee Basinger second by Trustee Harmon to allow Lifewise Academy to host a 5k on Labor Day using some of the township roads. Roll call, all yes.

The Fiscal Officer presented Cash Reconciliation, Appropriation Status, Revenue Status, and Cash Summary By Fund reports for the month of February. He also reported the cost of our renewal insurance for vehicles, buildings, and insurance through Webb Insurance using OTARMA is roughly $15,000 more for 2025 than 2024. With that significant increase he is getting another quote with Stolly Insurance who carries OPRM and suggest postponing payment to OTARMA until that quote is received. Finally, he mentioned the Elida Schools Levy Committee would like the support of the Trustees for their upcoming renewal levy. The Trustees and legal counsel stated they can individually support this but not officially as a township.

Motion by Trustee Harmon second by Trustee Basinger to accept the reports as presented. Roll call, all yes.

Motion by Trustee Basinger second by Trustee Harmon to table paying OTARMA until the OPRM quote is received. Roll call, all yes.

Zoning Inspector Bishop stated different permits and violations within the township since the last meeting. He also started a Board of Appeals meeting was held on 3/4/25 for an approved conditional use permit and a Zoning Commission meeting will be held on 3/11/25 to go over some possible updates to the Zoning Regulations guidelines.

Road Superintendent Osting stated the report within the department thus far for March. He then gave details on the Dutch Hollow Ditch project and stated the cost of $34,771.34 to pay off the entire amount with no interest. He would also like to hire 1 or 2 kids for summer help for mowing versus having it outscored and discussed possibly trading in our 2 mowers for new ones from Neidert’s at a cost of just under $10,000 after trade in. Finally, he has completed his ride along with the county and working to finalize the 2025 Road Program.

The Trustees and fiscal officer discussed paying off the entire amount now for the ditch project to avoid any interest. The Trustees also agreed in hiring some high school kids for summer help along with either trading in the mowers or even keeping them in addition to news ones.

Motion by trustee Basinger second by Trustee Harmon to pay the entire amount of $34,771.34 for the townships portion of the Dutch Hollow Ditch Project. Roll call, all yes.

Police Chief Haines stated that two of the cruisers are getting worked on right now but should be back up and running by the end of the week. He also there have been several are break-ins around the Shawnee area and to remind residents to lock vehicles at night.

Chief Hadding stated that Nate Twining will be going for his fire training towards the end of May to become level 2 certified and is hoping grant money will pay for this. He also suggest paying him a straight 40hr week during this time and will get information for other departments on how they handled training as a guide for ATFD since this is the first for the township. He will submit his findings to the fiscal officer so they can get official guidelines approved at the next meeting. He also stated that the department received a grant for equipment of $14,848 from the Ohio’s State Fire Marshall Department.

Legal Counsel Huffman stated Jon Sickles made a payment of $700 and is down to owing $300 in reimbursements from ARPA funds previously distributed.

Trustee Basinger suggested that the township quit paying to have someone open/close the township house when it is rented and instead have one of the trustees or other staff take care of this. He feels this will save the township money and the same services provided can be covered in house by current employees already working. The trustees will look into options of covering this and have further discussions at the next meeting.

Trustee Harmon is requesting an executive session for employee compensation.

The regular meeting was postponed for executive session.

The regular meeting was resumed.

Motion by Trustee Basinger second by Trustee Harmon to adjourn. Roll call, all yes.

Sincerely,

Brady Overholt, Fiscal Officer Ross Harmon, Chairman