



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP ADVISORY BOARD

1030 NORTH LINCOLN STREET SUITE 1400

GREENSBURG, IN 47240

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

September 23, 2025, 5:00 p.m.



Attendance: Bev Rivera- Trustee

Randy Hoeing - Advisory Board President

James Stewart – Advisory Board Member

Angie Morrow- Advisory Board Member

Lori Garringer- Clerk

Key Discussion Points:

- Approval of revised minutes from July 9 and August 12 meetings.
- Public hearings on both the Capital Improvement Plan and the 2026 Budget were opened and closed, with no public comments received.
- Review and approval of the fire contract proposal for 2025 and 2026 with the City of Greensburg. Emphasis on the need to negotiate future contracts ahead of the budget cycle and secure data from the city regarding fire runs by February 1, 2026 for better planning.
- Discussion on the city's new fire truck and fleet operational procedures, with support for continued collaboration and reassurances to the community about ongoing fire protection. The city has received their new engine and it will be able to operate from Station 2. When asked if they would go back to our original agreement of splitting time at Station 2 with our engine, Mayor Marsh told Randy and Bev, "That is the intention but we still maintain operational control."
- Consideration of definitions and responsibilities for major and minor repairs to fire trucks, with potential for clearer delineation in future contracts. We would like to see a dollar amount threshold.
- Update on the brush truck purchase: approval was given to proceed with an anticipated 6 month delivery period, and the order will be placed, with funds allocated from the current and next year's budgets as needed.
- Cemetery maintenance updates, particularly concrete slab improvement at Springer Cemetery is finished and sealcoating at Sand Creek Cemetery will be within the next couple of weeks.
- Discussion of budget adjustments, particularly for the Fire contract in the fire budget, ensuring compliance with fund allocation rules. The board approved \$180,000 but budget lists \$160,000 so there will be a need to move monies within that fund to cover the contract. The board will also approve the Salary Ordinance for 2026 along with the budget at the October meeting.
- Review and approval of new equipment purchases for the fire department based on input from firefighters.
- Introduction and approval of a new resolution specifying township ownership and insurance responsibilities for all future equipment purchased for the fire department.

Decisions Made:

- Approval of July 9 and August 12 meeting minutes. Jim made a motion to approve, Angie seconded. Jim- aye, Angie- aye, Randy- Aye.

- Formal closure of public hearings for the Capital Improvement Plan and 2026 Budget, with no public input recorded. For each, Jim made a motion to close, Angie seconded. Jim- aye, Angie- aye, Randy- Aye.
- The Capital Improvement Plan was reviewed and approved with clarification of new office property- it could be land to build an office, or an existing building that may require renovation to meet our needs. Anticipated revenue for 2026-2027 has been factored into the numbers on the plan and assigned accordingly. The plan highlights the township's approach to preserving unrestricted funds for their own use, as well as required state compliance. A copy is available in the township office for the public to review. Jim made a motion to approve, Angie seconded. Jim- aye, Angie- aye, Randy- Aye.

- Fire contract for 2025-2026

- Statement read by Bev Rivera concerning the fire contract:

“Randy and I were told yesterday by the city that if this contract with their terms is not signed, they would pull the contract at the end of the year. We want the public to be aware of our stance and understand that we have no intention of removing our partnership with the city in the contract for fire protection of Washington Township. We take this responsibility very seriously and believe our contract with the city is of great value and plan to continue this relationship. We will also continue to do our due diligence in negotiations of this contract to be sure that we are doing what is best for our Washington Township residents. We began talking about the fire contract in the township meetings back in January. During the past few months, we have continued to negotiate with the city over this contract starting with our first proposal on April 1. We have changed that proposal three times, intending to bring the two sides of the contract closer together. Now we are back to the first proposal of the city who has maintained their stance the entire time and has not been willing to negotiate the terms. I am asking you to approve this contract tonight so that we can maintain the fire contract with the city of Greensburg fire department. This is definitely in the best interest of the township, and I look forward to continuing our work with them. Specifically, we are glad to offer our commitment to the firefighters. As I often say, our goal as the township office is to help them do their job as safely and efficiently as possible, doing what we can to help protect them and the people that we both serve. Each year, we are proud to offer some additional equipment to help them end their jobs, and I plan to ask that we continue to do that in each budget year. An additional item we need to put to rest is for everyone in the township, including those in industry to lay aside any fears of us not providing fire protection. And, again, it is our goal here at the township office to maintain the contract with the city of Greensburg fire department. We intend to ensure all homes and businesses will continue with the coverage they have through our agreement with the fire department.”

- Approval of the 2025 and 2026 fire contract with the City of Greensburg. The contract amount is \$180,000 for each year. Angie made a motion to accept, Jim seconded. Jim- aye, Angie- aye, Randy- Aye.
- Bev presented a list of items to be considered for new equipment purchases for the fire department.

- Items to consider from suggestions/requests from the firefighters during the meetings Bev held with each shift.
 1. Gas powered chainsaw
 2. High pressure airbags set for \$10-11,000
 3. Gas monitors – more of the same we purchased last year
 4. Backup turnout gear
 5. Thermal Imaging Camera - \$2,000
 6. Cribbing – large and small, 4 of each, \$1,000-\$1,500 per set (2 large and 2 small)
 7. Flammable dust detector
 8. Electronic rams – these are battery powered. Their rams they currently have are hydraulic. Request 2 - \$10-11,000 each

We have \$52,000 to allocate to equipment purchases for 2025. Jim suggested for more immediate public safety, we could go with the airbags and rams. The department has a functioning brush truck and is covered in that area.

The board approved the purchases of high-pressure airbags and battery-operated rams, with the remaining budget applied toward the brush truck. Jim made a motion to approve, Angie seconded. Jim- aye, Angie- aye, Randy- Aye.

- Approval of a resolution stating that all new fire equipment purchased by the township is to remain under township ownership and insurance. Angie made a motion to accept, Jim seconded. Jim- aye, Angie- aye, Randy- Aye.
- Setting the meeting schedule for 2025, with flexibility to accommodate any conflicts.
- Jim made a motion to adjourn; Angie seconded. Jim- aye, Angie- aye, Randy- Aye.

Action Items:

- City of Greensburg is to provide data on the number and type of fire runs by February 1 to assist in future contract negotiations (responsible: city representatives).
- Board to discuss and develop formula and criteria for future fire contract negotiations prior to the next budget cycle; consideration of clear cutoffs and definitions for major/minor equipment repairs
- Township to proceed with ordering the approved brush truck and manage payments spanning two fiscal years.
- Trustee to follow up on seeding and landscaping at Springer Cemetery as needed.
- Board to complete required adjustments within the fire fund to reflect the approved contract amount, with internal reallocation as required.
- Trustee to maintain communication with fire chief and firefighters for ongoing equipment needs and relationship building.
- Board members to review and respond with any conflicts for 2025 meeting dates

Full meeting details can be obtained at <http://youtube.com/@WashingtonTownship16N>

2025 Meeting Dates- Held at 5:00 pm in the township office.

October 14- Final Vote of budget

December 9 – if needed

Randy Hoeing

Randy Hoeing, President

absent

Angie Morrow, Secretary

James Stewart

Jim Stewart

10-14-25

Date of Approval