

Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees Minutes

August 27, 2026

The Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees held a Special Meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2026 at the Williamsburg Township Hall. The purpose of the Special Meeting was to consider employment and compensation of a public employee and to consider confidential information related to economic development, and all other matters that may come before the Board. Mr. Jordan called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Guy Bainum, Charlie Maklem, and Gary Jordan answered the roll call. Also present was Fiscal Officer Doug Lefferson.

Mr. Jordan motioned to go into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G) (1) to consider employment and compensation of public employees and ORC 121.22 (G)(8) to consider negotiations with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development and the information is directly related to ORC 5709.73 and involves public infrastructure improvements or the extension of utility services that are directly related to an economic development project; and the Board has determined that the executive session is necessary to protect the interests in regard to the possible investment or expenditure of public funds to be made in connection with the economic development project, at approximately 9:01 a.m. Mr. Maklem second. All yeas. Fiscal Officer Doug Lefferson was invited into Executive Session. The Trustees came out of Executive Session at approximately 10:57 a.m. having discussed employment and compensation of public employees and negotiations with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development and information directly related to ORC 5709.73 and public infrastructure improvements or the extension of utility services that are directly related to an economic development project with no action taken and no decisions made.

At approximately 11:00 a.m., Drew DeMarsh, Sue Snell, and Ed Boll joined the meeting. Drew DeMarsh, Clermont County Community + Economic Development, provided an update on the Williamsburg Township Land Use Plan. There was discussion about including an update on the plan in the Township Newsletter for the October or November time period. Mr. DeMarsh suggested an additional community workshop in January or February 2027. Mr. DeMarsh recapped survey results that had been previously discussed in a Trustee Meeting. Mr. Jordan indicated a need for senior housing, stating often residents who want to stay in the community have to go outside the community to find it. He was surprised this issue did not show up in the survey results. Mr. DeMarsh indicated one possible solution is seniors being able to stay in their house and that there were grants to help with ramps, lower cabinets, etc. Mr. Jordan said the maps were hard to read at the first workshop. Mr. DeMarsh displayed a new map and indicated it would be easier to read. He reviewed the map from the initial workshop showing where participants marked areas within 4 categories: Grow, Reinvest, Preserve, and Improve. Mr. DeMarsh discussed the possibility of distinguishing between heavy and light industrial and the possibility of setting parameters for buffers such as mounds or landscaping. Mr. Jordan discussed a traffic study particularly with the growth around State Routes 32 and 133 and the access points to these major highways. Mr. Jordan asked Mr. DeMarsh about the pipe going in along SR 32. Mr. DeMarsh was not aware of what it was. There was limited discussion about the three parcels in the Township that Savion (solar project) owns and their attractiveness for other development. Mr. DeMarsh discussed the remaining timeline for completing the Land Use Plan. The survey is still open, an additional workshop can be announced in the upcoming Township newsletter, a 2nd survey can be opened, 2nd quarter of 2027 a document would be ready for review, then final public meetings. Mr. Jordan requested an email with the schedule. Mr. Jordan discussed the economic development along Half Acre Road and SR 133 and indicated planning should occur with the County Engineer on how we manage the growth in vehicles and semis and upgrade Half Acre Road. Mr. DeMarsh said all County departments have or are updating master plans. Mr. Maklem added comments on Half Acre Road, indicating that if the Taking a Toll property on Tollgate Road and old SR 32 is developed increased traffic would be going across Half Acre Road and the road would need widened and the railroad crossing would need addressed. There would be a need for some level of improvement. Mr. DeMarsh indicated that with any development there would have to be a traffic impact study. He also indicated besides individual projects you would have to look at the impact of all projects together. Mr. Maklem indicated the biggest issue is sewer and water and that the same conversation needs to happen with sewer and water and a new master plan. Mr. Maklem mentioned a sewer and water issue the Village of Williamsburg is discussing, I&I (infiltration and inflow) where ground water enters the sanitary sewer system. Mr. Jordan asked if Clermont County had conversations with Brown County or the Village of Mt. Orab. Mr. DeMarsh replied no. Mr. DeMarsh and the Trustees discussed dates for another follow up meeting on the Land Use Plan. A date of September 16th at 9:00 am was selected. Mr. Boll said with 80 people participating in the survey is there a way to get more. Mr. DeMarsh said putting information in the newsletter will help. The Trustees indicated they want input from people. Mr. Jordan indicated the last time the Township only had 13 people participate in the survey. Mr. DeMarsh indicated Goshen Township had 30 completed surveys. Mr. Boll discussed the potential for sewer around his family property on Half Acre and SR 276. Mr. Jordan indicated there is a process for working with the County.

There being no further business, Mr. Jordan motioned to adjourn at approximately 12:20 p.m. Mr. Maklem second. Mr. Bainum - ye, Mr. Maklem - ye, and Mr. Jordan - ye.

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Fiscal Officer

Chairperson