

**BRUNSWICK HILLS TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**May 26, 2026**

The Brunswick Hills Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at Brunswick Hills Township Town Hall.

Board of Trustees Chair Ryan Nixon, Trustee Vice-Chair Thomas DeCastra, Trustee Tony Destro, Zoning Inspector Daryl Lucien, Interim Fire Chief Tim Haas, Police Chief Tim Sopkovich, and Service Foreman Cory Schultz present.

Trustee Chair Nixon called the meeting to order at 7 PM, noting that the meeting was properly advertised.

**PRESENTATION:**

Louis Farkas of Farkas Farms, LLC gave a presentation regarding his company's interest in opening a Dispensary in Brunswick Hills Township.

**MINUTES:**

Trustee Nixon moved to approve the April 28, 2026, Trustee Work Session minutes. Destro seconded. DeCastra – yes. Destro – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Trustee Nixon moved to approve the May 12, 2026, Trustee Regular Meeting minutes. Destro seconded. DeCastra – yes. Destro – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Trustee Nixon moved to approve the May 12, 2026, Trustee Work Session minutes. Destro seconded. DeCastra – yes. Destro – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Zoning Department:**

Zoning Inspector Daryl Lucien presented the monthly report for April:

The following activity was reported:

5 Accessory building permits

1 House permit

4 Pools/Hot Tubs permits

2 Formal site plan reviews

5 Fence Permits

A couple minor subdivisions

For a total collected of \$4,098.44

**Police Department:**

Chief Tim Sopkovich requested a PO for Dronesense Subscription for Law Enforcement Drone support sharing in the amount of \$1,700.00 from account 2191-760-740-0000 Machinery, Equipment furniture. Trustee Nixon moved to approve the PO request to Dronesense for the 1-year subscription in the amount

of \$1,700.00. Trustee DeCastra seconded the motion. Destro – yes. DeCastra – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Chief Sopkovich urged drivers to slow down and to not drive distracted. With the weather getting nicer, there have already been several serious accidents involving motorcycles. Most are due to speed and distracted driving. But also, people running stop signs.

Trustee Nixon stated to Chief Sopkovich, we have spoken about the complaints that are coming in about kids on electric scooters. Is there anything you would like to touch on regarding those scooters? Chief Sopkovich stated that as long as the kids are wearing helmets and are not driving in the middle of the road, they aren't doing anything wrong. There are some younger kids that probably shouldn't be on them but that is the parents' responsibility. If they are destroying property by riding on grass, etc., we will pick them up. If you have an issue, just call us and we can come out to mediate that and contact their parents if needed.

Trustee DeCastra stated I would like to thank the community because we did get the certification on the levy from the election. That has passed certified by the Board of Elections. We will have that Levy money for the next five years. Thank you to everyone in the community for their support and for supporting our safety services.

**Fire Department:**

None.

**Service Department:**

Service Foreman Cory Schultz requested the Trustees signatures for the Medina County engineering assistance for OPWC funding for the subdivision The Estates of Sleepy Hollow. Trustee Nixon moved to approve the request for engineering assistance for the Estates of Sleepy Hollow. Trustee DeCastra seconded. Destro – yes. DeCastra – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion Carried.

Request for resolution to Increase appropriations for the service department by \$60,000 for the purchase of the Kenworth cab/chassis plow/dump truck. Trustee Nixon offered and moved for adoption of **Resolution 38-2026** Resolution to Increase Appropriations in Fund 1000-330-390-0000 by \$60,000.00, to cover the purchase and build of a new Kenworth plow/dump truck including Front Plow, Plow Hitch, Mark E Dump Body, Tailgate Spreader, Chassis and installation with work done by Henderson Products. Trustee DeCastra seconded the motion. Destro – yes. DeCastra – yes. Nixon – yes. Resolution adopted.

Police Chief Sopkovich thanked Service Foreman Cory Schultz and his crew for their help covering some eye sores around the Police Station. The ugly generator on the side of the building was fenced in and secured by Cory and his crew.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

**Ryan Nixon:**

None.

**Thomas DeCastra:**

Trustee DeCastra wanted to make sure the Board is good with moving forward with the Ohio Cyber Institute Memorandum of Understanding with Ohio Persistent Cyber Improvement Partners. The State of Ohio passed a statute that required local jurisdictions to have cyber policies and training in place. As part of that, the state opened Ohio Persistent Cyber Institute, which is free for us to participate in, and they will offer our Township Cyber training free of charge. The MOU allows us access to that program. Then we can initiate training for all the Township employees and elected officials. Trustee Nixon asked if the training is a video done at any time or are there specific dates? Trustee DeCastra stated that both are available. We can have in person training or what they call asynchronous training. We set the user profiles up, we will know who takes the training, how long they take it and if they pass the training. It can be taken at the employees' leisure; we don't have to schedule a class. But if we feel we are taking that next level and we want in person they can do that for us. There are 3 different levels of training related to the level of risk for the individual employee. Trustee DeCastra made a motion to move forward and accept the Ohio Cyber Institute Memorandum of Understanding with Ohio Persistent Cyber Improvement Partners. Trustee Nixon seconded the motion to move forward with the Cyber training and sign the MOU. Destro – yes. DeCastra – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

**Tony Destro:**

Reminder that next Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, is the deadline for submitting resumes for the Full-time Fire Chief position.

**FISCAL OFFICER:**

Request approval for Payroll Payment Listing dated 5/26/2026 in the amount of \$77,813.14. Trustee Nixon moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$77,813.14. Trustee Destro seconded the motion. Destro – yes. DeCastra – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried. FO Roksandich noted that the new Fire Inspector has a paper check due to an error when setting him up for direct deposit.

Request approval for Warrant Payment Listing dated 5/26/2026 in the amount of \$22,211.22. Rapid Wrench & Lube for \$1,179.62 service for multiple police cars, 880 Construction \$6,500.00 catch basins and road patch, Huntington Bank \$4,054.69 Credit Cards, Wex Bank \$2,642.70 Fuel and Ohio Edison \$2,326.83. Trustee Nixon moved to approve the warrant payment listing dated 5/26/2026 in the amount of \$22,211.22. Trustee DeCastra seconded the motion. Destro – yes. DeCastra – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Request approval for the following PO/BC's:

|    |                                |                   |                     |              |
|----|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| BC | Repairs & Maintenance Vehicles | 2191-210-323-0323 | Vehicle Repairs     | \$15,000.00  |
| BC | Other Supplies & Materials     | 2191-210-490-0000 | SWAT                | \$2,500.00   |
| BC | Police Medical                 | 2191-210-221-0000 | Medical             | \$100,000.00 |
| PO | PD Gas                         | 2191-210-353-0000 | PD Natural Gas      | \$1,500.00   |
| BC | Township Medical               | 1000-110-221-0000 | Medical Twp         | \$50,000.00  |
| BC | Repairs & Maintenance Facility | 1000-590-323-1323 | Township            | \$800.00     |
| BC | Office Supplies Township       | 1000-110-410-0000 | Office Supplies Twp | \$1,500.00   |
| BC | Township Dues & Fees           | 1000-110-519-0000 | Dues & Fees Twp     | \$1,350.00   |
| BC | FD Medical                     | 2191-220-221-0000 | Medical             | \$70,000.00  |
| BC | Uniform Tool & Equipment       | 2191-210-251-0000 | Police Uniforms     | \$5,000.00   |

Trustee Nixon moved to approve the BC/POs for a total of \$247,650.00 as read by FO Roksandich. Trustee

DeCastra seconded the motion. Destro – ye. DeCastra – ye. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Trustee Nixon stated, on 3/17/2025 a former employee was running an errand for the Township in a Township vehicle in the Village of Newburgh Heights and got a traffic camera speeding ticket. This employee is no longer working for the Township. The payment for this will be coming out of the service department budget for a total of \$195.00. Trustee DeCastra stated we have had conversations about this. This is a former employee that we have deemed not re-hire able for this reason and other reasons. This is a way to move forward for our service department and close out this issue. We understand that this is not ideal for taxpayer money. Unfortunately, we don't have a whole lot of other options. We could probably pursue this if we wanted to but at what cost. Trustee Nixon stated we could, but this was a traffic camera stop not an officer stop, so I don't know how successful we would be at disputing it. Photographic evidence is pretty solid. That being said, we did try to address this last year. Usually there is an unspoken agreement between Townships and Cities when something like this happens where they will usually be discarded but this was not the case here. I did call along with one of the former Trustees who also called. I told them I was ready to pay for this however, they insisted that I offer up my driver's license as part of this, and I didn't really think that was appropriate. So here we are. Trustee Nixon moved to approve this one time only expenditure in the amount of \$195.00. Trustee DeCastra seconded the motion. Destro – yes. DeCastra – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion Carried.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

We have a regular trustee meeting on 6/23/2026 that we need to reschedule because at least two of us are unable to be here. Trustees agreed to reschedule the meeting for Thursday June 18, 2026, at 7 PM. The Trustee Work Session for 6/23/2026 will be cancelled and not rescheduled.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS & CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Trustees:

Reg Mtg. 6/9/26

Special Mtg. 6/16/26

BZA:

Reg Mtg 6/10/26 @ 7 PM

Zoning Commission:

Public Hearing 6/11/26 @ 6:15 PM

Reg Mtg 6/11/26 @ 7 PM

#### **PUBLIC INPUT:**

##### **Cannabis Dispensary Discussion**

Several residents provided comments regarding the potential establishment of a cannabis dispensary within Brunswick Hills Township.

**Alida Schiederer** expressed opposition to the proposal, citing concerns regarding public safety, crime, youth exposure to marijuana advertising, potential impacts on families and mental health, increased demands on public services, and the possibility of increased homelessness and illegal market activity.

**Linda Hudson**, 314 Pearl Rd., spoke in support of allowing a dispensary, noting the growing legalization of cannabis across the country, evolving federal policies regarding medical marijuana, and the potential for

tax revenue to support township services. The resident stated that regulated dispensaries operate under strict state oversight and could provide economic benefits to the community.

**Kelly Gualdoni** 1791 Marks Rd., a healthcare professional, spoke in support of the proposal, citing research and published studies that, in their view, do not demonstrate a direct link between regulated dispensaries and increases in crime, homelessness, or community instability. The speaker noted that dispensaries are highly regulated and suggested that local tax revenue could benefit township services and infrastructure.

Trustees also received and read into the record three email submissions from township residents opposing the proposal. Correspondence cited concerns about community character, proximity to residential neighborhoods and schools, property values, public safety, youth exposure to drugs, and the overall appropriateness of a dispensary within Brunswick Hills Township.

The Board thanked residents for their comments and correspondence.

#### **OFF CAMERA:**

Trustee Nixon moved to go off camera at 8:15 PM for the purpose of signing warrants and purchase orders and any other business we may have forgotten. DeCastra seconded. Destro – yes. DeCastra – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Trustee Nixon moved to adjourn. DeCastra seconded. Destro – yes. DeCastra – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

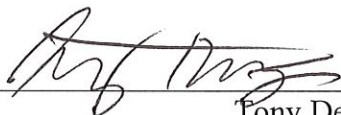
Adjourned at 8:45 PM.



Ryan Nixon, Trustee Chair



Thomas DeCastra, Trustee Vice-Chair



Tony Destro, Trustee

Bob Roksandich, Fiscal Officer