

Minutes of the Board of Licking Township Trustees, Regular Meeting held at Licking Township Fire Station #600 at 7:30 p.m. on May 19, 2025.

Mr. Holman called the meeting to order with the following members present: John Cormican, John Holman, Dave Miller, Andrea Lynch.

Others Present: Edna Latham, Dave Moraine(*); Paul Matthews (*)
(*) Present but did not sign in

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. This meeting was recorded.

Paul Matthews, Chairman of the Licking Township Zoning Commission, presented and read the following letter:

Licking Township Zoning Commission
Andrea Lynch, Zoning Clerk,
P.O. Box 222, Jacksontown, OH 43030
Paul Matthews, Chairman ~ Christopher Powell, Vice Chairman
Edna Latham; Bonnie Miller; Max Ungerman
www.lickingtwpplc.gov

May 16, 2025

Licking Township Trustees,

The Licking Township Zoning Commission held a public hearing on 5/15/25 for Applicant, Licking Township, Licking County, 6864 National Road, Jacksontown, OH, who wish to replace the Licking Township Comprehensive Plan drafted in 2002 with a new Licking Township Comprehensive Plan finalized in 2025. This new plan was developed in 2024-2025 at the request of the Licking Township Trustees and through the collaborative efforts of the Licking Township Steering Committee; Crossroads Community Planning, Licking Township Zoning Commission; as well as feedback from key stakeholders, community surveys, & public meetings.

The hearing was led by the applicant's representative, Ben Harder of Crossroads Community Planning, who provided a power point presentation overview of the proposed document. Information boards were displayed in the conference room and printed copies of the Comprehensive Plan were available. The hearing was well attended by approximately 12-15 members of the public who were given an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback/comments.

After the public hearing, the Board adjourned the hearing. During the Zoning Board's regular public meeting thereafter, the request and feedback from the public was deliberated. (Please note that the replacement and adoption of a Comprehensive Plan does not require input solicited from Licking County Planning & Development). The Board agreed that they heard no objections to the Comprehensive Plan but rather feedback/comments centered more on questions regarding how the Comprehensive Plan would impact the specific zoning of their property. Other comments or concerns included: not enough representation by the public on the matter; need for more communication and notification by the township to reach residents; understanding cluster housing and how "green space" is determined; Industrial & Commercial use potential on Ridgely Tract Road at the western border; safety of Route 13 and Route 40 intersection. These questions/concerns were addressed by the Board, the Zoning Inspector, Mr. Gardner, and/or Trustee Cormican whom was in attendance.

The Zoning Board 1st made a motion to make a recommendation to the Licking Township Trustees regarding the application. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

The Zoning Board then made a specific motion to recommend to the Licking Township Trustees, the adoption of the Licking Township Comprehensive Plan as presented. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved unanimously as follows:

Christopher Powell	Approve as presented
Edna Latham	Approve as presented
Bonnie Miller	Approve as presented
Paul Matthews	Approve as presented

(*) Max Ungerman was unable to attend the hearing due to a prior business obligation.

The Licking Township Zoning Commission now moves this matter on to the Licking Township Trustees for their review and consideration.

Sincerely,
Paul Matthews – Chairman
Licking Township Zoning Commission

Mr. Matthews led a discussion with the Trustees concerning feedback heard at the ZC hearing held on 5/15/25 including resident's concerns about better communication options with the public. The Trustees discussed the

advertised meetings, postings on the website & LED Board, and surveys that were distributed last year prior to beginning the retooling of the comprehensive plan. Mr. Holman and Mr. Cormican both commented that they unsure what criteria was used by Crossroads Community Planning to mail out the original surveys but noted that many residents expressed not having received one.

A discussion took place regarding the "next steps" for consideration of adoption of the Licking Township Comprehensive Plan. Mrs. Lynch provided the option of 2 dates but encouraged the Board to consider 6/16/25 as this would allow the residents additional time to review the posted documents, see the advertisements, etc. The Board concurred.

Mr. Holman made a motion that the LTWP Board of Trustees hold a public hearing at the Licking Township Fire Station on June 16, 2025 @ 6:30 p.m. to consider the adoption of the Licking Township Comprehensive Plan with regular business to follow thereafter and directed the LTWP Fiscal Officer to place a legal ad in the Newark Advocate, post on the LED Board, and post on the LTWP Website.

Mr. Cormican seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Cormican, yes; Holman, yes; Miller, yes.

Mrs. Lynch said that she would post the documents at the Hebron Library and Jacksontown USPS for public inspection as was done for the ZC Hearing and will request that the notice be placed on the LTFC Facebook page. She indicated the documents would also be posted on the township website home page.

Mr. Matthews gave a brief update on the ZC work being done. Mr. Moraine noted that there were concerns at the hearing regarding the zoning map "circles" on the comprehensive plan and the impact this may have on someone's zoning. Mr. Matthews complimented the efforts of the ZC members and the amount of time and work being spent on both the comprehensive plan review as well as several zoning resolution updates. Mr. Moraine thanked Mr. Matthews for his efforts in leading the ZC during a time of considerable growth and change. The Board concurred with both comments.

Mrs. Lynch presented the following cemetery deeds for signatures:

Deed #198 - Howell - Jacksontown Cemetery Section 3 Lot F24 Grave 3

Deed #199 - Howell - Jacksontown Cemetery Section 3 Lot F24 Grave 4

Deed #200 - Arnett - Jacksontown Cemetery Section 3 Lot C5 Grave 2

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented, approved, and signed by the Trustees.

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the expenditures totaling \$25,486.79

Mr. Cormican seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Cormican, yes; Holman, yes; Miller, yes.

There are funds on hand or in the process of collection to pay the attached listed bills. _____, Fiscal Officer.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Fiscal Officer's input for Chief Weekly's review in June

There was no Fire Report.

Dave Moraine gave the Zoning Report. There were 4 permits issued since the previous meeting which consisted of:

- Timmy & Catherine Allen - Del Mar Place- Pool - \$125
- Cody Lee - Cornell Rd - Newark Ave - Room addition - \$75
- Sarah Lee - Zanesville Rd - Pool - \$125
- Daniel & Shanda Wyrick - Licking Trail Rd - Pool - \$125

Mr. Moraine asked if an electronic signature on a zoning permit was an acceptable legal signature. Mr. Holman said he had allowed a legal signature on a permit many years ago as an exception. A brief discussion took place. Mr. Moraine will contact the LCPO to obtain a legal opinion.

Mr. Moraine provided updates on the following zoning violations:

- o **Dove** - Mr. Moraine received email from property owner who has requested an additional week extension. The Board advised Mr. Moraine to use his discretion on the extension.
- o **O'Neill** - Mr. Moraine will reach back out to the LCPO as he has not heard from the LCPO on the status.

Mr. Cormican asked about the Grosse Brothers sign placed on a storage container (Conex box) visible from I-70. Mr. Moraine will inspect and follow up on the matter.

Mrs. Lynch reminded the Board of the upcoming ZC meetings as follows:

- 6/05/25 - ZC, Crossroads Community Planning, & Trustee Cormican - continue discussion and finalizing the Buckeye Lake overlay district.
- 06/19/25 - ZC regular business meeting

Mrs. Lynch reported that ZC Member Bonnie Miller has expressed an interest in assisting the township with a newsletter and/or mailers to increase and improve communication with township residents. The Board stated that a township administrator may be a future consideration with the intent of that role being more related to evaluating legal and regulatory matters. Mr. Cormican and Mr. Holman both cited the expense to onboard a township administrator.

Mr. Moraine thanked the Trustees for the investment in drafting a new Comprehensive Plan as it will help as the ZC revises the LTWP Zoning Resolution.

Mr. Cormican provided an update on the following:

- OPW Grant for Harbor Hills. Discussion regarding Licking County vs Licking Township's responsibility for financing the paving project.

- Flail mower was sold for scrap and earned \$74.20.

Mr. Miller reported receiving a phone call regarding speed limit signs on Fairmount (near Route 40) posted as 45 mph however closer to White Chapel it is 55 mph. Mr. Cormican explained the speed limits on that section and where they change.

There was no public comment.

Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting @ 8:21 pm

Mr. Cormican seconded the motion.

Roll call: Cormican, aye; Holman, aye; Miller, aye.

May 19, 2025

Attest