



Hanover Township Butler County, Ohio

**Board of Township Trustees Special Meeting
May 1, 2025 8:30AM Personnel and Finance Issues**

Call to Order: Jeff Buddo, Presiding. Roll Call: Township Fiscal Officer/Clerk-Gregory L. Sullivan. Present Trustees Buddo, Miller and Johnson, Township Administrator Mr. Henry.

Purpose of the meeting: Personnel Issues, Employee Compensation and Finances

Motion: Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Jeff Buddo to move out of public Session and move into Executive Session as per ORC Section 121.22 for Personnel. Mr. Sullivan called the roll with all three Trustees voting yes.

Motion: Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Miller to move out of Executive Session and reconvene the public portion of the meeting. Mr. Sullivan called the roll with all three Trustees voting yes.

Mr. Henry presented a packet of information covering expenses of all operations, economic data including cost of living figures, levy information with projections, and general personnel information.

M. Henry discussed the difficulties in reaching a final financial agreement with Daimler due to complicated documents presented which included an indemnification clause which legal counsel advised against. A 30 day extension for the rate has been approved by Daimler but the company would not compromise on the contract wording despite the fact the last truck purchase financed through them had removed the indemnification clause. Given this information, a **motion** was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Buddo to authorize the Township Administrator to seek other more favorable proposals consistent with the advice of legal counsel. After discussion, Mr. Sullivan called the roll with all three Trustees voting yes.

With regard to retaining qualified full time employees, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to provide a retention bonus to all full time Road and Cemetery employees of \$500.00 payable at the end of June if the employee is on the payroll in good standing on June 21st and \$500.00 payable at the end of December if the employee is on the payroll in good standing on December 20th. This motion was seconded by Mr. Buddo. After discussion, Mr. Sullivan called the roll with all three Trustees voting

yes. Mr. Henry also stated that Township Pay Plans will need some revisions as the Board looks toward the future. These suggested changes will be presented at a later date.

Mr. Sullivan presented information regarding Fire Department expenses and projection of costs related to recent proposals from the department. Something has to be done or money will run out for Fire Department operations which means a new levy is essential based upon current property valuation. Discussion took place regarding the amount of mills for a new fire levy and consideration of residents on a fixed income. Levies were discussed that ranged from 3.5 mills to 6.5 mills. The 6.5 mills would be close to meeting the needs of the Fire Department for the next 5-7 years. Future funding issues will have to be reviewed again to provide long term adequate funding especially for salaries.

Fire Tax Levy Cost Formulas Existing and Possible Increase

Value and Cost Examples: If the value of a home is \$100,000 home, this figure is multiplied by 35% to determine the assessed valuation. Taxation is based upon millage multiplied by the assessed value. One (1) mill equals 1/1000 of a dollar. Simply put, for every \$1000 of assessed value, the property owner would pay \$1.00. Hanover Township is proposing a new levy of a 3.50 mill fire levy which equates to \$3.50 of tax per \$1000 assessed value. For a \$100,000 market value home, the estimated highest cost would be \$122.50 annually. For a 6.5 Mill levy, this same home owner would pay \$210.00. Owner occupied homes may be subject to property tax rollbacks or related credits which would lower these figures.

Hanover Township Levy Cost: 3.50 Mill tax on a \$100,000 home would equal \$122.50 per year subject to any applicable tax rollbacks in Butler County. Other examples: \$150,000 value home would pay \$183.75 annually subject to any rollbacks; \$200,000 value home would pay \$245.00 annually dependent upon property tax rollbacks. All taxes collected are deposited into the Fire and EMS Fund and can only be spent on Fire Department related operations and expenses.

Types of Levies: To take advantage of the current total property valuation for Hanover Township, any levy is a new levy. Options are new levy of five years or a Replacement Levy- one time vote no renewal until new money is needed.

Different Rates and Calculations based upon a home's worth utilizing the assessed value of 35% with Tax Paid annually:

<u>Mills</u>	<u>\$100,000.00 Value</u>	<u>\$200,000.00 Value</u>
<u>Yield Tot</u>		
3.50	\$122.50	\$245.00
\$1,136,291.55		

- **New Levy Projections: 5.0 mills - \$1,623,273.65**
- **New Levy Projections: 5.5 mills – \$1,785,601.02**
- **New Levy Projections: 6.0 mills - \$1,947,928.38**
- **New Levy Projections: 6.5 mills - \$2,110,255.75**

Again concerns were expressed by the Trustees for residents on fixed incomes and the relative impact of a large levy upon them. However, it is also important to residents provide for adequate Fire/ EMS and rescue services. Mr. Henry pointed out that due to the various reviews and resolutions that need to be passed it would be wise to make a determination soon. The County Auditor and County Prosecutor will have to review said request.

After considerable discussion, the Board approved asking for a new Fire Levy for 3.5 Mills and to have a Resolution of Necessity to be considered at the next meeting. A **motion** to approve the foregoing was made Mr. Buddo and seconded by Mr. Johnson. After discussion, Mr. Sullivan called the roll with the vote being all three Trustees voted yes. Mr. Henry will contact the County Auditor and County Prosecutor as required.

There being no further public business for the Board to take up, Mr. Buddo **moved** to adjourn the Special Board meeting of May 1, 2025 which was seconded by Mr. Johnson. Mr. Sullivan called the roll with Trustees Miller, Johnson and Buddo voting yes with the meeting ending at 11:00AM.

May 1, 2025 Special Board Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2025 Minutes Approved by the Board of Trustees as Witnessed by their Signatures:

Jeff Buddo, President: _____

Larry Miller, Vice President: _____

Douglas L. Johnson Trustee: _____

Date: 5/21/25

Verified by: Gregory L. Sullivan, Fiscal Office: _____