

SPRINGCREEK TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
February 23, 2026

President Dennis Ingle called the meeting to order with The Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call at 7:02 P.M. Those in attendance were trustees Dennis Ingle, John Levering and Vernon Quinter, Jr. and Fiscal Officer Lori Wirt.

Also attending were:

Tom Walter	Sam Robinson	
Bob Black	Alex Hessler	
Sherri Hamilton	Lawrence Hamilton	
Thomas "Harold" Gates, II	Kevin Denning	
Pat Gates	Thomas Gates, Sr.	
Diannia Gray	Jeff Gray	Ashlay Gray
Paisha Thomas (Land of the Freed)		
Derek Heyman (Ohio Attorney General's office)		

The minutes of the January 28, 2026 meeting were approved with Mr. Quinter moving and Mr. Levering seconding the motion.

In Old Business:

Mr. Levering presented a hand-out regarding the ongoing status of the 2027 City of Piqua Fire/EMS contract, which is on hold until March. To compare local data; Mr. Levering has had conversations with Troy Fire Dept and Piqua Fire Dept and has requested public records for budgets, personnel, and capital equipment on the township's behalf. He will bring the records and analysis to the board at March's meeting.

The potential impact of the upcoming property tax issue on the fire negotiations was noted.

In New Business:

Mr. Levering cited the need for detailed discussions on agenda items. Mr. Levering made a motion to purchase a television & mounting bracket with an estimated cost of \$250-\$300, to support presentations & agenda displays during future meetings. Mr. Quinter and Mr. Ingle stated at this time, they don't feel this is necessary. Mr. Levering disagreed and emphasized the importance of having a monitor for detailed discussions. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Derek Heyman, Senior Assistant Ohio Attorney General, explained the attorney general, Dave Yost's interest regarding the African Jackson Cemetery. The cemetery is considered a charitable asset and is being wasted due to lack of access & upkeep, besides the mowing being done by the township. Paisha Thomas, Land of the Freed, led the Jackson Cemetery Project discussion along with Sherri Hamilton, a US Armed Forces veteran. Both expressed interest & commitment in maintaining the cemetery and highlighting veterans who are buried there.

Per Ms. Thomas: The Rossville/Springcreek Historical Society's defunct status was confirmed. Land of the Freed plans to proceed with legal action to seek transfer of title for the cemetery and 2 adjacent parcels. Land of the Freed aims to restore the cemetery and develop the 2 adjacent parcels, to bring beautification and historical awareness to the area. The Land of the Freed will coordinate with the township board and notify the community before filing.

The trustees addressed concerns about future maintenance. Ms. Thomas reassured the township board, if Land of the Freed obtains the properties, they will accept responsibility to maintain the Jackson Cemetery by mowing, (taking this responsibility away from the township), basic upkeep, and hiring landscapers as needed.

The township board had concerns about the feasibility of maintaining and snow plowing brick roads in the plan. (The township's snow plow is too heavy for brick road construction.) The board was assured that there will not be brick roads. (An incorrect plan had been submitted previously to the board of trustees, which included brick streets.)

Tom Gates, Sr. expressed support for the project, but stressed the need to address property rights and potential legal issues.

Other concerns of historical significance, potential impact of the flood plain and the previous wrecking yard were mentioned. The importance of transparency, community engagement, and the need for a detailed master plan for Rossville was emphasized, with Land of the Freed stating commitment to this and addressing any remaining issues.

Jeff Gray asked for township approval to have one "green burial" on the property at 8388 N. County Rd. 25A, Piqua. Mr. Gray has an approval, from the year 2000, from the township trustee at the time, Mike Havenar & the fiscal officer at the time, A. Snyder. The current board has no objections; stating the State of Ohio governs this and the zoning & health departments, also. The board referred him to the Miami County Zoning and Health Departments respectively.

The trustees will coordinate and identify which roads need maintenance, sending the information for a quote from Miami County Engineers Office (MCEO) by the March 20th deadline and will report at the next meeting, it has been noted that the Villages of Springcreek plat will be re-paved this year.

The next meeting was scheduled for March 23, 2026 at 7P.M. at the township building.

The floor was opened for public comments and questions:

Kevin Denning asked questions regarding Mr. Levering's motion to purchase a TV & mounting hardware, stating that he thought it was a good idea.

Tom Walter also commented that he liked the idea of having meeting presentations projected on a TV screen.

Sam Robinson, commented too, that he is in favor of this. Stating that most organizations have such presentations as another level of transparency for their constituents.

In summary, all three township residents are in favor of monitor presentations and asked the board to reconsider Mr. Levering's proposal. Chairman Ingle stated that it will be considered, but not at this time.

Kevin Denning asked what "Long's Property Management" is on the township payment reports.

Chairman Ingle answered Long's Property Management takes care of snow plowing & spreading salt in the plats off of Hetzler Rd. (Farmington Meadows, The Villages, Parker Drive, and The Greens). The township's snow plow is too large for those streets which have on street parking.

Mrs. Wirt presented financial reports and purchase orders/payments from Jan 27th – Feb 23rd. The following payments were approved:

- Ingle, Dennis \$ 1,194.50 Salary
- Levering, John \$ 1,232.67 Salary
- Quinter, Vernon Jr. \$ 1,232.67 Salary
- Wirt, Lori \$ 2,090.67 Salary
- Bank Service Charge \$ 50.00
- Vision Service Plan \$ 50.20
- City Utilities \$ 86.19
- Elan (Visa) \$ 25.31 Snow Plow Repairs
- Elan (Visa) \$ 250.00 Ohio Twp Assoc. Subscription
- Elan (Visa) \$ 98.62 Office Supplies & USPS to IRS
- Elan (Visa) \$ 516.08 Diesel Fuel for Snow Plow
- Spectrum \$ 178.93
- Long’s Property Mngmt \$ 5,205.00 Snow plowing of plats off of Hetzler Rd.
- Lori Wirt \$ 485.34 Reimbursement for Folding Chairs purchase
- Dennis Ingle \$ 4,320.00 Annual Reimbursement for Medical Insurance
- Vernon Quinter, Jr. \$ 3,897.12 Annual Reimbursement for Medical Insurances
- Lori Wirt \$ 5,031.00 Annual Reimbursement for Medical Insurance
- John Levering \$ 671.18 Reimbursement / Ohio Twp Assoc Conference/Training
- Cheyenne Paiva \$ 53.49 Reimbursement for Twp Resident Mailbox Replacement
- AIM Media \$ 44.14 Publication in Newspaper regarding Year End Financials
- MCEO Salt & Grit \$ 5,391.45 #1 of Season
- RE Taxes \$ 16.83
- Centerpoint Energy \$ 451.92

Having no further business, Mr. Quinter moved the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Levering seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Lori Wirt
Fiscal Officer

 _____ Trustee President