HARMONY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
September 14, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Harmony Township Board of Commissioners was called to order at **6:02 P.M.** The meeting was electronically recorded by the Township Assistant Administrator.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners and Other Officials - Present

Ms. Barlamas, President
Mrs. Mylan, Vice President
Mr. Angus, Commissioner
Mr. Molchen, Commissioner
Ms. Barlamas, Commissioner
Ms. Shannon Steele, Solicitor
Mrs. Kim Villella, Interim Township Manager
Mr. Dan Barna, Township Engineer
Juan Villagomez, Police Chief
Mike Thomas-Public Works Public Works Forman
Lori Thompson, Township Office Administrator/Treasurer

Absent:

Mrs. Grace DeBona, Commissioner

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC

- Fabiola Gergerich – Woodland Road
- John Cermack – Manning Street
- Angela Meyers- Woodland Road
- Duke McGaughey – Ridge Road
- Chris Whipple-Virginia Avenue

FINANCIAL SOFTWARE AND ACCOUNTING REVIEW

Pam McGill, QuickBooks Consultant, was present to provide an update concerning the Township's accounting records, QuickBooks systems, reconciliation procedures, and transition to a consolidated accounting system.

It was reported that the Township had previously been utilizing both QuickBooks desktop and online versions, resulting in duplicate entry and reconciliation work. The Township's accounting files have been consolidated, with class tracking being used to distinguish the various funds rather than maintaining separate files and subscriptions.

The 2024 audit was completed, and audit adjustments were entered into the 2024 records. The 2025 records were provided to the auditors for review, with outstanding deposits and checks identified for cleanup as part of the 2025 audit process.

The 2026 books were established using the 2025 ending balances, and activity from January forward was entered and reconciled to bank statements. Monthly budget and detail reports are being developed, and supporting bills, statements, and reconciliations are to be attached to the accounting records to streamline future audits.

The Board advised that additional cleanup of the chart of accounts is being performed, including consolidation of certain accounts. Monthly bank reconciliations are being completed to prevent outstanding items from accumulating.

Discussion was also held concerning budget-versus-actual reporting and the presentation of outstanding loan principal balances. The Board was encouraged to review the reports and provide input concerning additional reports or information desired for future meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Visitor comments were limited to agenda items, with individual comments and dialogue limited to five minutes.

John Cermack - Police Vehicles

A resident questioned the Township's purchase of an additional police vehicle and whether an existing vehicle would be sold.

The Board and Police Department explained that the Township currently has four police vehicles, with a grant providing funding toward an additional vehicle. One vehicle is presently out of service, and the additional vehicle would assist with maintaining a rotation of vehicles and reducing excessive use of individual vehicles. The Department noted that vehicles have historically been rotated and replaced as necessary.

Duke McGaughey - Traffic Concerns - Ridge Road/Laurel Street

Duke McGaughey addressed the Board regarding speeding and traffic safety concerns in the area of Ridge Road and Laurel Road. He cited school bus stops, pedestrians, dog walkers, delivery vehicles, and vehicles traveling at excessive speeds.

Mr. McGaughey requested that the Township consider installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Ridge Road and Laurel Road.

Discussion followed concerning speed enforcement, portable speed signs, possible speed bumps, and the requirements for conducting a study and adopting an ordinance if a permanent traffic-control measure is pursued.

The Board indicated that the matter would be considered further and that police enforcement could be utilized in the area.

A question was also raised concerning the traffic study previously anticipated for Ridge Road. It was reported that the study did not appear to have commenced at this time.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the August 2026 monthly meeting minutes as presented.

Motion Mylan Second Molchen
Voice Vote: Motion carried

REPORTS

Tax Collector

No Tax Collector report was presented.

Township Administration / Property

The Board reported that efforts continue toward completing the closing on the Logstown property. Through Beaver County Planning and a professor from Slippery Rock University, ground scanning is being arranged to assist in locating graves on the property at no cost to the Township. The Township is working toward completion of the process so the property may be transferred into the Township's name.

Public Works

The Public Works Department reported that mowing and pothole repair remains behind schedule due to repeated periods of heavy rainfall. The department continues working to address the backlog.

Police Department

The Police Department reported that a police vehicle is scheduled for repairs on or about September 28. The repair is expected to be paid by the other party's insurance company.

The Department also reported positively on the Harmony Heros program has been a success.

Motion Molchen Second Mylan
Voice Vote: Motion carried

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The Finance Committee recommended approval of the accounts payable for the period **August 11, 2026 through September 14, 2026**, in the total amount of:

FUND	AUG. 11th SEPT. 14th
General fund	$ 135,515.45
*Health Insurance ACH	$ 33,981.47
Liquid Fuels	$ 10,887.65
Sewer Fund	$ 103,761.63
Pay Roll	$ 87,254.79
US Bank Bond	$ 177,893.75
TOTAL	$ 549,294.74

Roll Call Vote:
Motion Angus Second Molchen
Molchen Y Mylan Y Angus Y Barlamas Y DeBona A
Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board reviewed the consent agenda. The items were described as self-explanatory and not expected to require further review or discussion. Items could be removed for separate consideration upon request of a Board member.

The consent agenda included:

1. Acceptance of the resignation of **Commissioner Grace DeBona**, effective September 14, 2026, with appreciation expressed for her years of service.
2. Acceptance of the resignation of **Municipal Authority member Bill Gandjos**, with appreciation expressed for his many years of service. Recognition of his service is anticipated at a subsequent meeting.
3. Acceptance of the resignation of **Planning Commission member David Howe**, who is relocating.
4. Purchase of a **2027 Dodge Durango Pursuit all-wheel-drive police vehicle** in the amount of **$68,008.00**.
5. Final payment for the paving project to **Youngwood Paving** in the amount of **$425,000.00**.

Roll Call Vote:
Motion Molchen Second Angus
Molchen _Y__ Mylan _Y__ Angus _Y__ Barlamas __Y__ DeBona_A__
Motion carried..

NEW BUSINESS

2027 Budget

The Board discussed beginning the annual budget process. The goal is to have the first round of the budget completed by the end of October, with presentation and further review beginning in November. The budget will subsequently be advertised in accordance with applicable requirements.

Commonwealth State Aid — Volunteer Fire Relief Association

The Board advised that the **2026 Commonwealth State Aid supporting the Volunteer Fire Relief Association**, in the amount of **$19,713.22**, was scheduled to be received by direct deposit on September 16, 2026. The funds were described as essentially a pass-through payment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration and Personnel

No new matters were reported.

Finance

The Board discussed the upcoming budget process, with budget work scheduled to take place during October.

Public Works / Parks Recreation

The Board discussed preparations for the Township's **America 250** parade float.. The float is scheduled to participate in the parade on September 19th.

Building and Grounds

No additional report was provided.

Fire Department

No representative was present to provide a Fire Department report.

Engineering

The Township Engineer provided an update concerning grant matters.

The Township has an application pending for **LSA funding for Ridge Road**. The Board advised that approximately **$500,000** in funding for Ridge Road was anticipated or largely committed, subject to the applicable process.

The engineer further reported that approximately **$50,000** was available for coring/geotechnical work. The geotechnical engineer was prepared to proceed and was awaiting availability of the traffic-control subcontractor.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was presented.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION

Leaf Collection

A question was raised regarding the Township's leaf collection schedule.

The Public Works Forman indicated that leaf collection is conducted according to a schedule maintained by the Township. The schedule was expected to begin toward the end of October or beginning of November and continue approximately until the first snow, subject to available equipment and weather conditions.

The Board discussed providing residents with additional information concerning the schedule, including use of notices and available Township communication channels.

Online Payments / Rental Registration

The Board discussed the Township's online payment system and the need to separate rental registration payments from sewer-related funds.

It was discussed that the online payment system had previously been associated with a sewer fund account, creating the potential for payments intended for other Township purposes to be deposited or processed through the wrong fund. The Board discussed establishing a separate account for rental registration and maintaining appropriate separation between funds.

The Board also discussed the possibility of implementing an automated notification/communication system that could be used for Township emergency notifications, road closures, delinquent sewer notices, and other resident communications. The system was reported to cost approximately $800 annually, with unlimited telephone notifications. Additional information was to be obtained regarding available features and implementation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public was invited to comment on matters of interest, with individual comments and dialogue limited to five minutes.

John Cermack - E-Bikes and E-Scooters

Mr. Cermack expressed concerns regarding the operation of electric bicycles and electric scooters by juveniles, including reports of unsafe riding, riding on sidewalks, and lack of helmet use.

Discussion indicated that the Township already has an ordinance addressing motorized vehicles and that the Police Department would review the existing ordinance to determine its applicability to e-bikes and e-scooters.

John Cermack - Woodland Road

Mr. Cermack raised a question regarding cause of the prior Woodland Road collapse.

The Township Engineer explained that heavy rainfall and the underlying soil conditions contributed to the landslide. The area contains soils that are susceptible to landslides, and it was difficult to identify one single cause. It was noted that the failure occurred on the sewer-side portion rather than the water-line side.

John Cermack - Board Vacancies

Mr. Cermack raised a question regarding appointments to fill vacant Township positions following the resignation of Commissioner DeBona and other resignations.

The Board stated that it had thirty days to determine how to proceed and that no final decision had yet been made. The Board discussed the process for appointments and indicated that interested residents could make their interest known to the Township Interim Manager.

Fabiola Gergerich - Municipal Building Renovation

Mrs. Gergerich requested an update concerning the Township municipal building renovation.

The Board reported that a meeting had occurred involving Township representatives, the County, the project manager, and contractors. Concerns were raised regarding the general contractor's attendance and progress.

The Board reported that the County had subsequently contacted the contractors and that work had resumed. Plumbing and electrical work were reportedly progressing, while the general contractor remained the principal concern.

The project continued to target an **October 31, 2026,** completion date. The Board stated that it would continue to monitor the contractor's performance and the project schedule.

Fabiola Gergerich – Americas 250 Parade Float

Mrs. Gergerich requested an update concerning the Townships float for the America's 250 Parade in Beaver on September 19th.

Decorating the float is planned for Thursday, September 17th & Friday, September 18th, with the float to be stored indoors as necessary. Township personnel and volunteers were contributing materials, decorations, and other items. The Interim Township Manager reported expense discussed was parade candy.

The Board encouraged participation by volunteers and discussed logistics for storing decorations and materials prior to the parade.

ANOUNCEMENTS

The Board announced that the next Commissioners' workshop was scheduled for **Monday, October 5, 2026**.

The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for **Monday, October 12, 2026**, notwithstanding the Columbus Day federal holiday, and the Board indicated that the meeting would remain scheduled for that date.

The Board also announced upcoming community events hosted by the Fire Department, including the **Cash Bash on October 24, 2026**, and the Fire Department spaghetti dinner.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by **Commissioner Angus** and seconded by **Commissioner Mylan.**.

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 P.M.