RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of AUBURN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES—REGULAR Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held Auburn Township Administration Building October 20, 2025 Page 1 20

The regular meeting of the Auburn Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Trustee Chairman Eugene T. McCune, Jr. Also present were Trustees Michael S. Troyan and Patrick J. Cavanagh.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sandra Williams, Director of Government Affairs for Charter Communication.

GUESTS:

Charter Communications / Spectrum

Sandra R. Williams, Director of Government Affairs for Charter Communications and Emil Symister, Construction Manager for Charter Communications attended the meeting. Ms. Williams explained that Charter Communications is the parent company of Spectrum which also acquired Altice USA. In 2023, Charter Communications announced a nearly $1.25 billion investment in Ohio. Their investment will enable the delivery of symmetrical gigabit and multi-gigabit speeds across the state of Ohio.

Ms. Williams reported that they are also upgrading to DOCSIS 4.0, which will enable them to offer symmetrical multi-gigabit speeds over their hybrid fiber coaxial network. Spectrum currently has 541 passings in Auburn Township, and they pay Auburn Township a 5% franchise fee, which in 2024 amounted to a little over $18,000. With the acquisition of Altice, they will acquire an additional 412 residential and business customers. The transaction will encompass cable assets and applicable video service authorizations. The deal was finalized on December 31st of 2024.

The construction team led by Mr. Symister have been working on the design, engineering, and construction of the cable system to integrate into the Spectrum Network. Most of that work has already been completed and none of the work impacted any current customers. They are now at the stage where customers are beginning to be switched over to the Spectrum Network and have begun to send out letters to current customers or current customers of Altice. Those letters went out on October the 17th. Ms. Williams said more letters will be sent and will also be calling customers to schedule installations of their new equipment necessary to receive their service as they cannot get internet or cable with any of the old equipment they have.

Mr. Troyan asked if this service would be available to every household in Auburn Township, and Mr. Symister said yes, explaining that if a household wasn't serviced by anyone prior, Spectrum would walk it out, and pick up the address as a passable address. Mr. Symister asked Mr. Troyan if he had a list of those addresses, he would be happy to take them back with him, just to confirm.

Mr. Cavanagh noted that the Trustees filled out several questionnaires as to what type of coverage was available in the Township, and Ms. Williams thanked the Trustees for writing a letter of support.

Mr. Cavanagh noted that with previous cable/internet companies, they strung cables through culvert pipes. Mr. Symister said that is not their installation method, and they are going to fix those.

Ms. Williams said the max speed as far as download will be one gig. She explained that with the investment Spectrum is making right now, with the network evolution, the speeds will be symmetrical, and at some point, they are going up to 10 gigabits up and down.

Ms. Williams encouraged the Trustees to contact her and Mr. Symister if they have any problems - if residents or businesses cannot get resolved through the normal process. She noted the headquarters are in Streetsboro, the local tech center is in Mentor, and she is in Cleveland Heights.

A resident asked if the Spectrum fiber optic network was going to be above ground, and Mr. Symister said it would be a combination of above ground and below ground. Mr. Symister added that the location for the source electronics based on the network they are deploying is located in Windham, Ohio.

Mr. Symister said everything should be completed by mid to late December 2025. A resident asked if there would be a charge for new customers if Spectrum had to run wires underground and Mr. Symister said there would be no additional charges for that infrastructure.

A resident asked about Spectrum prices and Ms. Williams replied that the prices for Spectrum are the same in all 41 states, so whatever the charge is in New York or Alabama – Auburn Township residents would be paying the same. The prices range from $30 to $100, depending on the speed you want. Ms. Williams noted there is a lot of competition in their industry and their rates must be competitive. She also explained that Spectrum does not share any of their

technology or equipment with anyone. They build their own technology and are responsible for it, 100%.

A resident asked about pricing and Ms. Williams said they have a sales team for residential and a sales team for business. She explained that if there is a price increase, they send letters to local government officials to let them know about the price increase and the exact date it will happen. Promotions usually last about a year; there are no contracts.

The Trustees thanked the Spectrum guests for attending the meeting and explaining their progress.

Mr. McCune Jr. addressed a resident, Riley Davis who was in the audience. Mr. Davis is campaigning for Township Trustee. Mr. McCune Jr. questioned Mr. Davis regarding what he was telling residents while campaigning door to door. Mr. McCune said: "I know it's an election year and things are being said on this, and I want to make a correction here. Riley, I'm glad you're here. I'm told as you go door to door, one of your issues is the health care benefits that township trustees receive or don't receive, and you're quoting $50,000 a year amount spent on myself and Mr. Troyan for health care. I don't take health care from the township. In fact, I saved the township over $22,000 a year by not accepting the health care program here. I have my own health care. So, if you're saying that, I wish you would stop and put on your webpage that I do not take any health care benefits from the township."

Mr. Riley Davis responded by saying: "Well, that's good. It sounds like you're telling the residents that. I mean, it doesn't affect me as a resident, but $50,000, eye of the beholder. So, the healthcare number is critical to think about. What would it cost me or this gentleman to have that type of plan? Okay, you might be eligible for plan B for example, might be 10-12 grand, great, but having a wife, childbearing age, having a child, to get a plan like that would cost me, let's say 1,500 a month. That's a fair number, times that by 12, add that to the $23,000, boom, you're real close to $50,000. That's how that number is construed."

The back-and-forth continued between Mr. McCune and Mr. Riley while another guest on the agenda was waiting to be heard. Mr. Cavanagh asked if the discussion could continue at the end of the meeting. Mr. Troyan added that he also takes the health benefits as well as his paycheck.

Mr. McCune then introduced the next guests on the agenda Kim Kuhnle and Bobbie Maniglia. Mr. Kim Kuhnle stated that he and his partners owned the property and building for The Patio Bar & Grille. He noted that two of the three original partners passed away, and he is the sole owner now. He explained that he was here tonight to ask the Trustees to consider the judgement entry that was made with the original owners over 11 years ago. He felt the fence they have now is much safer than a six-foot-tall board on board fence, where no one can see outside when female employees and customers of the bar go outside at night to get in their vehicles. Mr. McCune Jr. stated that it wasn't much nicer or safer to the neighbors who have been to three Trustee meetings to complain about the fence.

Mr. Cavanagh explained the history of the judgement entry decision and said Mr. Frank Kitko, Zoning Inspector, could not attend the meeting today, and he was the point of contact between the Township and The Patio Bar & Grill. Mr. McCune Jr. recalled that Mr. Kitko was not in favor of changing the agreement, and there were other issues with the parking, and outdoor music.

Ms. Bobbie Maniglia spoke, and she said she and her son purchased the assets of the Unc's Patio Lounge last November, and they were not aware of the judgement entry. Mr. McCune Jr. said he understood, but the judgment entry was still in force. Mr. Kuhnle said when he was informed by Mr. Kitko about the judgement entry, he informed Ms. Maniglia and said they can't do the music, and it has stopped. As a business owner, Ms. Maniglia said all the other establishments in Auburn Township have outdoor music, and she thought 10:00 p.m. was reasonable. She noted this past summer; they had outdoor music three times and one night it went late. She asked the Trustees for their consideration in allowing them to do what other establishments in Auburn Township are doing; they are allowed to have outdoor music and don't have six-foot fences. Mr. McCune Jr. explained that the other establishments did not have residents right next to them. The Trustees discussed the parking lot issue, ingress and egress, requirements of Ohio Liquor Control Board, safety issues and resident rights with Mr. Kuhnle and Ms. Maniglia. Mr. Troyan said there were a lot of issues the Trustees had to look at, and they would not decide today.

Mr. Troyan said the Trustees do have a judgement entry and can make them put the correct fence back up – as the owners agreed to the judgement entry. He said it was a starting point - that the Trustees were willing to look at what they brought up; but there were a lot of factors they had to look at. Mr. Troyan said they were not there to put The Patio Bar & Grill out of business, and they were not trying to make the residents miserable – they want to come up with the best solution for everyone involved – the business and the residents. Mr. Cavanagh concurred.

Mr. Troyan explained the reason for the judgement entry was to allow a patio, because the business was expanding, and it was a good amount of expansion – so it was a concession to say they could have a patio so people wouldn't have to stand outside on East Washington Street, smoking.

A resident asked if there was a noise ordinance in Auburn Township. Mr. Cavanagh said there was, for about four or five years now.

Mr. Cavanagh thought there were three points to the judgement entry – the height of the fence, no live music on the patio, and the time outside music is allowed on the patio with outdoor speakers. Mr. Troyan wondered if there was some sort of state requirement for businesses to have their dumpsters to be enclosed.

Mr. Cavanagh felt the Trustees should be looking at ingress to egress from the bar, because they know where the right-of-way is. Mr. Troyan said another thing they would consider is no more parking on the side of the building – just leave that as a safe walkway. Ms. Maniglia said that space was for employee parking. Ms. Maniglia noted that with families – the kids like to play in the yard, and said when the employees walk out at night, they can walk out by themselves instead of not knowing what's around the corner.

Mr. Cavanagh said he didn't see much negotiation with the live music on the patio or the timing of the music, and felt it was like a good neighbor clause. Ms. Maniglia argued that other establishments are playing music, and she would like to be able to do a few special things in the summer.

The Trustees said they would discuss this with the Zoning Inspector, and if they did amend anything it would have to go the Geauga County attorney. Mr. Cavanagh said he understood why they were there, and thanked them for coming in.

MINUTE APPROVAL:

Motion by Michael S. Troyan and seconded by Patrick J. Cavanagh to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Auburn Township Board of Trustees on October 6, 2025. VOTE: Troyan, yes; Cavanagh yes, McCune Jr., yes. The motion PASSED.

Motion by Michael S. Troyan and seconded by Patrick J. Cavanagh to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing Meeting of the Auburn Township Board of Trustees for ZC2025–01, on October 6, 2025. VOTE: Troyan, yes; Cavanagh yes, McCune Jr., yes. The motion PASSED.

Motion by Patrick J. Cavanagh and seconded by Michael S. Troyan to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing Meeting of the Auburn Township Board of Trustees for ZC2025–02, on October 6, 2025. VOTE: Troyan, yes; Cavanagh yes, McCune Jr., yes. The motion PASSED.

Motion by Michael S. Troyan and seconded by Patrick J. Cavanagh to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing Meeting of the Auburn Township Board of Trustees for ZC2025–03, on October 6, 2025. VOTE: Troyan, yes; Cavanagh yes, McCune Jr., yes. The motion PASSED.

SCHEDULED REPORTS:

Auburn Fire Department Chief John Phillips presented the monthly detailed report for the Auburn Fire Department. He presented a Year-to-Date Statistics Report comparing 794 year-to-date total calls, from January to September 2025; to 781 total calls in 2024. The percentage of multiple calls was 25.44% for January-August 2025, compared to 22.40% in 2024.

Chief Phillips noted a new camera system was installed, which was part of their security, especially since they house drugs at the station. This helps them maintain their drug license. There is also a camera installed near the fuel tanks, of which the road superintendent shares the camera use. The new security system also enables the Road Superintendent to log in and see the weather remotely.

Chief Phillips announced they have a new website, which is auburnfd.org. The old website was .com. He reported they are still making some changes and addressing some issues, but it is up and online and starting to move ahead.

Firefighter and AFD Board of Directors Secretary, Keith Blaser gave an update on grants that the Fire Department was able to secure. Mr. Blaser said they were notified earlier in the month of a grant for $22,000 they received from FEMA for the Assistance to Firefighter Grants Program and were able to purchase 3 thermal imaging cameras, which he showed to the Trustees and the audience. He explained that the Auburn Fire Department must match funds with this FEMA grant, which is 5% - so they are looking at a cost of about $1,100.

Mr. Blaser reported they obtained a Bureau of Worker's Compensation Grant for firefighting gloves and barrier hoods for their firefighters. This is an effort to cut down on cancer causing carcinogens. The total cost is about $13,000. The Worker's Comp Grant gave them $11,000, so that leaves the fire department with a cost of about $2000. Mr. Blaser reported they also are going to be receiving a $3,600 Priority One grant from the state of Ohio for EMS to purchase batteries for LifePak monitors and updated stethoscopes.

The total estimate for these projects was about $36,000. The cost for the Auburn Fire Department will be about $3,000. Mr. Blaser added they are still waiting to hear about a grant sponsored by Firehouse Subs – they put in a grant application for battery-powered smoke ejection fans.

Mr. Blaser demonstrated the thermal imaging cameras and noted that you can buy cheap ones at Home Depot for $150. Their new cameras are rated for going into bad situations and they can also be used to look for people who got lost, for instance, in a park. He said it was a very valuable tool.

TRUSTEE & FISCAL OFFICER REPORTS:

Mr. Michael S. Troyan reported they had new secretaries for the Zoning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals. There was discussion among the Trustees as to the bonding of the new employees. Mr. Troyan felt the new employees should be bonded, as it wouldn't cost the Township anything more to bond the new employees. He went over the list of the employees that are bonded, which was most. They also discussed the bonding of Mark Sturm, who is the road department foreman, and agreed he should also be bonded. The Trustees agreed to have the new employees and Mr. Sturm bonded.

Mr. Troyan reported that Colleen Sharp, who is the head of Girl Scout Unit 778, along with 15 others, went out last Saturday and picked up four bags of trash along the LaDue ramp area. Mr. Troyan thanked them for picking up the trash.

Mr. Cavanagh reported that the prosecuting attorney said the Township should not be allowing activity on Township property that violates the agreement with the Western Reserve Land Conservancy – regarding residents adjacent to Auburn Community Park cutting township property grass. Mr. McCune Jr. stated that a letter should be drafted and sent to three specific property owners who are currently cutting grass on the property of Auburn Community Park. The letter will clarify that while the Township permits them to continue mowing, the land remains Township property. These property owners will be required to sign the letter to acknowledge their understanding to satisfy the Western Reserve Land Conservancy. Mr. McCune Jr. said he will meet with the administrative assistant, and they will draft a letter.

Mr. Cavanagh reported they got a new streetlight put in, which took 9 months. It is located at Bartholomew Road and Route 44.

Mr. Cavanagh said at the last Trustees' meeting they hired a new employee for the Road Department, Mr. Thaddeus Wojtasik, and he started today.

Mr. Cavanagh reported they had a road department employee resign to take another job. Help wanted ads have been placed for a Road Department employee. Two people were scheduled to be interviewed by the Trustees tonight, but they canceled.

Fiscal Office report - Mr. Dan Matsko, Fiscal Officer, presented the payment listing for payments processed since October 6, 2025 - listing 11 electronic payments processed for $47,731.23 and 19 warrants processed for $9,885.03, totaling $57,616.26.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. McCune Jr. noted they had already signed the minutes for the Public Hearings for the three Zoning Commission amendments. The Trustees discussed the Zoning Amendments individually, and decided if they would adopt, deny, or adopt with modifications of recommendations of the zoning board.

ZC2025 – 01 – Water Management and Sediment Control. Mr. Cavanagh noted that at the last Trustee meeting, they had 2 members of the Zoning Commission present, as well as David Dietrich, consultant. Mr. Dietrich was leaning towards adopting with a modification. Mr. Dietrich pointed out under section (c) **Requirements and Applications Procedures**, item (4) – the recommendation of the Zoning Commission was to change the paragraph to read "If the lot owner is required to prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) in accordance with the most recent version of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) Construction General Permit, this SWP3 may be submitted in lieu of the separate WMSC Plan."

Mr. Cavanagh proposed adopting with the modification, section 3.05C4. With reference to the Ohio NPDES permit, it should be changed to something more general, and he proposed the most recent version of the Ohio EPA construction general permit. Mr. McCune Jr. said they would write the modification to the proposed amendment. Mr. Cavanagh explained this would prevent the amendment from being null and void if the EPA changes their general permit.

Motion made by Michael S. Troyan to adopt Zoning Amendment ZC2025 – 01 – Water Management and Sediment Control, with the modification. The motion was seconded by Patrick J. Cavanagh. VOTE: Troyan, yes, Cavanagh, McCune Jr., yes. The motion PASSED.

ZC2025 – 02 – Outdoor Dining. Mr. Cavanagh said once again, having discussed this with their consultant and the Zoning Commission, as well as discussing it in a public meeting, he was in favor of adopting the amendment as is.

Motion made by Patrick J. Cavanagh and seconded by Michael S. Troyan to adopt Zoning Amendment ZC2025 – 02 – Outdoor Dining, as is. VOTE: Troyan, yes, Cavanagh, yes, McCune Jr., yes. The motion PASSED.

ZC2025 – 03 – Storage Containers and miscellaneous. Mr. Cavanagh said based on the exact same thing he said about the last amendment, he has faith in the Zoning Commission and the consultant.

Motion made by Patrick J. Cavanagh and seconded by Eugene T. McCune Jr. to adopt Zoning Amendment ZC2025 – 03 – Storage Containers and miscellaneous, as is. VOTE: Troyan, yes, Cavanagh, yes, McCune Jr., yes. The motion PASSED.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. McCune Jr. said the Township is accepting letters of interest from residents wishing to serve as alternates on the Zoning Commission, the Board of Zoning Appeals, and the Kenston Community Education Board. The Trustees discussed people who are leaving the Boards, and the alternates that may replace them.

Mr. McCune Jr. read the upcoming Save the Dates from the agenda.

Mr. McCune Jr. asked if anyone else in the audience wished to address the board before they adjourned. Mr. Riley Davis addressed Mr. McCune Jr., and wanted to clarify that residents were not asking about Mr. McCune Jr, specifically. (Referring to wages and compensation)

He said there are 1300 Townships in Ohio and (residents) have asked what the salary of a Trustee is. Mr. McCune Jr. said the salary of a Trustee is based on the budget of the Township. Mr. McCune Jr. thought he wasn't making himself clear and explained to Mr. Davis, again – that if Mr. Davis was going door to door, stating that two Trustees are spending $50,000 of Township money, it simply wasn't true. He asked Mr. Davis to stop saying that.

Mr. Davis responded by stating it's a generalized question of how a Trustee gets paid and good to clarify and tell the people how it works when they ask. Mr. Davis wanted to clarify that no one was talking about Mr. McCune Jr. specifically, and said it was never directed towards Mr. McCune Jr. at all.

Mr. Troyan asked Mr. Davis if he does get elected, if he would be taking the salary and the health care benefits. Mr. Davis explained he was researching the possibility of donating his salary but hasn't yet determined how to do it legally. Mr. Cavanagh responding by saying "You know when I first ran, I had no idea the job even paid anything." Mr. Troyan added: "I'm a firm believer if I wanted to do volunteer work, I'd become a candy striper, but they don't have any outfits my size."

Mr. McCune asked if there was a comment from anyone else in the audience. There were none so he asked if there was a motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Patrick J. Cavanagh and seconded by Michael S. Troyan to adjourn the meeting. VOTE: Troyan, yes, Cavanagh, yes, McCune Jr., yes. The motion PASSED. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Daniel J. Matsko, Fiscal Officer

Eugune T. McCune Jr., Chairman

Patrick J. Cavanagh, Vice-Chairman

Michael S. Troyan, Trustee

Nov. 3, 2025

Date