

**WHEATLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**  
**7:00 P.M. January 19, 2026**  
**MINUTES**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER 7:03 P.M.** with the Pledge of Allegiance being recited by all present.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Tom VanSyckle Absent Julie Sellers X Kim Thiel X Ethan McNeal X Lee Carte X**  
**Others present:** Chief Kevin Thiel, Commissioner Chris Zimmerman, Kathy Smith DDA, Jeanette Aldrich and MaryAnn Wernette Library, Adam Phillip and Matt Germaine MMPA, Taylor & Chris Elder Assessors.

**SUPERVISOR REPORT:** Supervisor VanSyckle was absent, Trustee Lee Carte ran meeting. Clerk Thiel added Poverty Exemption Act to #4 New Business.

**MINUTES:** A motion was made by Ethan McNeal to accept the minutes as written for the December 15, 2025 Board Meeting, Julie Sellers supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

BOARD MINUTES- December 15, 2025

**TREASURER REPORT:** A motion was made by Ethan McNeal to accept the Treasurer Report and payments as presented for December 15, 2025 Board Meeting, Kim Thiel supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report- December 15, 2025

**MMPA REPORT:** Adam Philipp was present, he had report for December.(find attached) He stated that he has been extremely busy with power outages due to inclement weather. A part of this power outage was in the Ferric Building was flooded due to a broken valve from a power spike. He has since cleaned this up. They have heaters out there now that is keeping the building at 55. Adam is presently working on Waste process to utilize while the plant is not using facility (SLOW TIME). He is going to do this by using milk powder to feed plants to build bacteria for bug growth for processing waste when the plant goes back on line.

Matt Germaine, Environmental Compliance MMPA, was present, he said that MMPA has a fast paced factory project still looking at March no firm date. He has been working with Adam and stated that Adam is a wonderful hard worker and wouldn't of been able to do it without him. Matt makes sure Adam is in compliance. They have a new Plant Manager wanting to attend a meeting for greetings soon.

**FIRE REPORT:** Chief Thiel reported the fire department has 284 runs for 2025 and 14 runs to date in 2026. The new position for EMS has been in effect as of January 1, 2026 they have had to fill the position with part time help for now until their full time person gets back from service. The position is Mon-Fri 8-4. They have two people in Firefighter 1 class. Thiel stated that they have received a DNR grant for \$10,000 for 800 mega hertz radios is a 50/50 grant. Thiel stated that he will send the payroll to Clerk 1/20/26 and should be paid twice a month the 1st and 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**LIBRARY REPORT:** Jeanette Aldrich and Mary ann Wernette were present for the Library report. Story hour is starting on Thursday's February 12-May 14, 2026 10:30-11:30. AARP tax helpers on

Wednesday's February 4-April 15, 2026 by appointment. The Christmas party went wonderfully lots of people.

A: Kathy Smith, treasurer was present for the DDA. She reported there was no meeting in January. Christmas event went well, there were some learning events but overall, the weather did not cooperate.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Commissioner Chris Zimmerman was present stated that the county building is looking for a secretary. They are tearing down the old Pizza Hut building. The planning commission postponed any decisions on the mobile home park until February, the Board asked if they could extent it further so we can meet with property owner and get some answers to questions they have. Chris thought they could do this.

Clerk Thiel shared Sheriff's report.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Ditch work in park: Postponed until Spring.
2. Road repair millage. Lee Carte stated that it is at 1 mill for 10 yrs. It expired December 31, 2025 but we use the monies thru this year. Need decision and ballot language by June or July. We also need to get our "wish list" done for Road Commission.
3. Maintenance Update: Tom VanSyckle has been filling in for snowplowing , sidewalks and garbage pickup and will be reimbursed for this at \$20.00 hr. The full time position has been filled due to start in February.
4. Hall furnace: Ethan McNeal stated the furnace will be installed early next week. Clerk Thiel requested something being done to offices due to Supervisor and Fire Office really warm? Ethan said that there is no return air duct in there and he will look into this further upon installing furnace.

1. 5. alleywork: signs are in , letter done, nothing further until Spring.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Sink hole on S Fremont St.: Clerk Thiel stated that Supervisor VanSyckle said that he had gotten call on it and referred Kevin Thiel to put barricade up. Kevin Thiel said that it is the storm sewer gutter pan off to curb side not hazard. Supervisor stated that he is working with Drain Commissioner Karla Miller on this to see what we have to do and to get road fixed, Twp. County or State?
2. May School Election: Just confirmed that the school is requesting a special election in May, but no ballot verbage confirmed yet.
3. EMS full time position/FD? Answered in Fire report.
4. Poverty Tax Exemption Resolution 2026-001: Lee Carte made motion to except the resolution as written, Kim thiel supported, passed.

**ADJOURN:** Trustee Ethan McNeal made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Treasurer Julie Sellers supported the motion all in favor the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Berly S. Thiel  
Wheatland Township Clerk