

**SWANTON TOWNSHIP**  
**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**

**AUGUST 14, 2025**

Trustees Present: Mike Nowicki, Kyle McPherson, Jeff Michael  
Fiscal Officer: Sandy Speiker  
Visitors present: 17

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed.

Chairman Mike Nowicki called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Fiscal Officer took attendance.

Motion to move to Executive Session at 6:01 for discussion of matters to be kept confidential per ORC 121.22 by Jeff Michael. 2<sup>nd</sup> Kyle McPherson.

Roll call: Jeff: Yes Kyle: Yes Mike: Yes  
Motion Carried.

Return from Executive Session at 6:17 p.m. No voting took place during Executive Session. Mike Nowicki reconvened the Special Meeting.

Trustee Jeff Michael announced that as a result of legal negotiations with Lucas County, the Swan Creek Watershed Assessment - that was currently set to be imposed as a special assessment for the next six years on Swanton Township residents' tax bills, has been eliminated. This action will save township residents approximately - and at the very least - \$700,000 over a six-year period and \$113,000 yearly – possibly more, because the cost could be increased at any time. The elimination of this tax will provide financial relief for all township residents at a time when inflation is high.

As a result of this agreement, the township will be responsible for cleaning its ditches. A ditch maintenance fund will be created and Lucas County will reimburse the township yearly for work performed. It was noted that the county and the township will meet yearly to determine what ditches will be cleaned. Jeff also stated that The Lucas County Port Authority, Oak Openings Metropark and the Ohio Turnpike Commission are not included in this agreement and will be responsible for cleaning their ditches and assessments. Since Swan Creek is a major watershed, it may be planned to clean ditches that do not drain into Swan Creek first and clean the ditches that do after the Metroparks have cleaned their portion of it. Details will be worked out as to when Swan Creek will be cleaned so future cleanings can be coordinated.

Jeff also stated that the final agreement also addresses concerns for the destruction of property, permanent easements, destruction that affects wildlife and debris left behind. The township will be performing or directing all work performed and it will be diligent in doing so, much more so than if the county performed the work.

Jeff reiterated that Swanton Township is the only township that has reached this agreement with the Lucas County Engineer's office. This agreement will undo a huge financial burden that was originally caused by an entity outside of the township's boundaries and eliminates the financial burden that would have been imposed upon Swanton township residents.

Jeff acknowledged the help, support, cooperation, drive and passion of the current board and former Fiscal Officer, Peggy Michael, for the devotion, contribution and time she put into making this accomplishment such an important and impactful agreement.

Motion to adopt, approve and sign the Joint Cooperation Agreement for Swan Creek Watershed Maintenance between the Board of Swanton Township Trustees and Lucas County to exempt and eliminate the assessments from all residents of Swanton Township for the entire six-year period of the Swan Creek Watershed Project by Jeff Michael, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kyle McPherson.

Roll Call:                    Jeff: Yes                    Kyle: Yes                    Mike: Yes  
Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at 6:27 p.m. by Mike Nowicki, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kyle McPherson.

Roll Call:                    Mike: Yes                    Kyle: Yes                    Jeff: Yes  
Motion carried.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Sandra C. Speiker, Fiscal Officer

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Trustee

ORIGINAL OFFICIAL DOCUMENT