

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Wheeling Township, for April 28, 2026, was held in the Paula Ulreich Meeting Room, in the Township of Wheeling, 1616 North Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Supervisor Zeller Brauer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Clerk Gauza called the roll and the following members were present, Supervisor Maria Zeller Brauer, Trustee John Geier, Trustee Lorri Grainawi, Trustee Trisha Chokshi (sworn in), Trustee Sheri Williams and Clerk Joanna Gauza.

Also in attendance: Wheeling Township Attorney Ross Secler, and Wheeling Township Director of Finance and Administration Regina Stapleton.

Absent: Wheeling Township Assessor Ken Jochum

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Zeller Brauer led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

2026-27 Town, General Assistance, and Mental Health Board Budget and Appropriation Ordinance

Supervisor Zeller Brauer asked if there is anyone in the public that wished to speak regarding 2026-27 Town, GA, and Mental Health Board Budget and Appropriation Ordinance. No one wished to speak.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Williams, Grainawi, Geier, Zeller Brauer
NAYS: None.... Motion Carried.

2026-27 Road Management Budget and Appropriation Ordinance

Supervisor Zeller Brauer asked if there is anyone in the public that wished to speak regarding 2026-27 Road Management Budget and Appropriation Ordinance. No one wished to speak.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Williams, Grainawi, Geier, Zeller Brauer
NAYS: None.... Motion Carried.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

None

PRESENTATION

Supervisor Zeller Brauer acknowledged that May is Mental Health Awareness Month. A resolution proclaiming May as Mental Health Awareness Month was read and accepted.

MOTION #1: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON MARCH 24, 2026

Motion by Trustee Geier, seconded by Trustee Williams, to approve the minutes of March 24, 2026 Regular Board Meeting.

VOICE VOTE: All Ayes: Motion Carried.

AUDIT

MOTION #2: AUDIT FOR TOWN FUND

Motion by Trustee Grainawi, seconded by Trustee Geier, to approve batch #3/31/26, #4/10/26 and #4/28/26 against the Town Fund in the amount of \$194,228.30 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grainawi, Geier, Williams, Zeller Brauer
NAYS: None.... Motion #2 Carried.

MOTION #3: AUDIT FOR CEMETERY FUND

Motion by Trustee Grainawi, seconded by Supervisor Zeller Brauer, to approve batch #042826 against the Cemetery Fund, in the amount of \$5,346.78 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grainawi, Zeller Brauer, Geier, Williams
NAYS: None.... Motion #3 Carried.

MOTION #4: AUDIT FOR ROAD MANAGEMENT FUND

Motion by Trustee Grainawi, seconded by Trustee Williams, to approve batch #3/31/26, #4/10/26 and 4/28/26 against the Road Management Fund, in the amount of \$17,703.85 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grainawi, Williams, Geier, Zeller Brauer
NAYS: None.... Motion #4 Carried.

REPORTS

SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Zeller Brauer reported:

- Julie Villarreal is back in the office; we meet weekly to discuss plans to help with efficiency and expansion of social services and the food pantry. We are so excited to have her back.
- The Township's first eNewsletter will be sent next week. The staff meets weekly with Vicarious Multimedia to discuss our communication and marketing initiatives. We have been very happy with the work they have done so far.
- Hosted a tour with the Community Engagement and Government Relations staff at Endeavor Health on April 6.
- Attended the Age Options Legislative Breakfast on April 10 with Regina Stapleton and Senior Services staff.
- Thank you again to Regina and her staff who helped with the Annual Town Hall meeting on April 14.
- Attended the Generation2Generation event on April 15. This event brings together residents from Bella Terra Nursing Home and students from Wheeling High School's Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program to meet and make meaningful connections.
- Met with members of the Community Relations staff at Harper College to discuss possible future partnerships on April 23.
- Attended the Food Pantry Volunteer Luncheon on April 24, giving volunteers a chance to come together and celebrate their hard work and discuss issues and ideas.
- Attended a virtual meeting hosted by Cook County Commissioner Maggie Trevor, bringing together government agencies and nonprofit organizations to discuss the need for emergency housing in our area on April 27.
- For the past week, I have been sitting in on all staff reviews, giving me a chance to hear from both full-time and part-time staff and thank them for the service to the residents of the township.
- Next month, Representative Mary Beth Canty will be hosting a drive to collect menstrual and adult incontinence products, two items that we often need in our food pantry and are not covered by SNAP benefits.

CLERK: Clerk Gauza reported:

- Final reminder that Statement of Economic Interest is due on May 1st. Failure to file SEI results in a penalty fee.

ASSESSOR: Administrator Stapleton reported:

- TAX YEAR 2025

WHEELING TOWNSHIP MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING APRIL 28, 2026

- The Board of Review has published result letters for Wheeling Township. No summary of results has yet been released.
- We worked with taxpayers to submit 1,223 Senior Freeze exemptions during a very brisk exemption season. The office serviced over 2,400 taxpayers who visited our Township.
- Tax bills normally sent in July for August payment will be late. Since we are being advised this early we anticipate another very late tax billing. Continuing issues with the County technology installation are to blame.
- Certificates of Error for tax year 2025 have still not been processed by the County.
- TAX YEAR 2026
- The County Assessor has begun the appeal process with the early township in the southern triennial. Wheeling Township will likely be open for appeals in mid-August.

MENTAL HEALTH BOARD: Trustee Grainawi reported:

- The Mental Health Board will approve purchases
- The Mental Health Board adopted a purchasing policy and process
- Site visits will ask same questions to all agencies
- An Executive Director is common for Mental Health Boards
- The Mental Health Board will be attending the Community Mental Health Fair sponsored by the Arlington Heights Library.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Stapleton reported:

- Julie Villarreal started on April 15 as Assistant Administrator of Social Services.
- I have been working with Julie, getting her up to speed with what we are doing here at the Township. Julie has been busy reviewing GA/EA cases and LIHEAP denials.
- We received two large food drives, one from Olive Mary Stitt and the other from Rob Roy. Thank you all for your generous donations.
- We hosted our Food Pantry Volunteer Luncheon, and everyone was happy to see Julie back. We had good discussions about how things are going, where we need to improve, and how we should rethink our approach. All in all, it was a very productive meeting.
- The 2025 Tax Prep year has ended. AARP Tax Prep prepared 444 returns, 10 more than last year, with \$442,084 in refunds.

- Good news. The DOJ has extended the WCAG 2.1 compliance deadline to April 26, 2027. We are reviewing the contract with Revise to create a new website and ensure compliance.
- Please let me know if you would like to attend TOCC's Spring Conference on June 18, 2026.
- Stats for March 2026
 - 1,909 rides – 986 non-medical, 923 Medical, (Disabled 251 rides)
 - 916 - meals delivered
 - 579 - visits to the Food Pantry – 1,185 people, 298 Children, and 517 Seniors

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION #5: APPROVAL OF THE 2026-27 TOWN, GENERAL ASSISTANCE, AND MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #2026-04

Motion by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Grainawi to approve the 2026-27 Town, General Assistance, and Mental Health Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #2026-04.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Williams, Grainawi, Geier, Zeller Brauer
NAYS: None.... Motion #5 Carried.

MOTION #6: APPROVAL OF THE 2026-27 ROAD MANAGEMENT BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #2026-05

Motion by Trustee Grainawi, seconded by Trustee Geier to approve the 2026-27 Road Management Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #2026-05.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grainawi, Geier, Williams, Zeller Brauer
NAYS: None.... Motion #6 Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION #7: ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE, AUSTIN MEJDRICH

Motion by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Geier to approve the Acceptance of Resignation of Township Trustee, Austin Mejdrich.

VOICE VOTE: ALL AYES
NAYS: None.... Motion #7 Carried.

MOTION #8: APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF TRISHA CHOKSHI TO FILL THE VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE, TERM EXPIRING MAY 21, 2029

Motion by Supervisor Zeller Brauer, seconded by Trustee Geier to approve the Appointment of Trisha Chokshi to Fill the Vacancy in the Office of Township Trustee, Term Expiring May 21, 2029.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Zeller Brauer, Geier, Grainawi, Williams
NAYS: None.... Motion #8 Carried.

Swearing – In Of Trisha Chokshi As Township Trustee:

Clerk Gauza swore in Wheeling Township Trustee, Trisha Chokshi.

MOTION #9: APPROVAL OF THE FUNDED AGENCY AGREEMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027

Motion by Trustee Geier, seconded by Trustee Williams to approve the Funded Agency Agreement for Fiscal Year 2026/2027.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Geier, Williams, Chokshi, Grainawi, Zeller Brauer
NAYS: None.... Motion #9 Carried.

MOTION #10: APPROVAL OF WEBSITE REDESIGN TO BE ADA COMPLIANT WITH REVISE AMOUNT \$14,700

Motion by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Grainawi to approve the Website Redesign to be Compliant with Revise Amount \$14,700.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Williams, Grainawi, Chokshi, Geier, Zeller Brauer
NAYS: None.... Motion #10 Carried.

MOTION #11: APPROVAL OF WEBSITE CONTENT AND DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT AGREEMENT WITH VICARIOUS MULTIMEDIA

Motion by Trustee Geier, seconded by Trustee Williams to approve the Website Content and Development and Support Agreement with Vicarious Multimedia.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Geier, Williams, Grainawi, Chokshi, Zeller Brauer
NAYS: None.... Motion #11 Carried.

MOTION #12: APPROVAL OF PACE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2026 CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES FOR FTA ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Motion by Trustee Grainawi, seconded by Trustee Williams to approve the Pace Federal Fiscal Year 2026 Certifications and Assurances for FTA Assistance Program.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grainawi, Geier, Williams, Chokshi, Zeller Brauer

NAYS: None.... Motion #12 Carried.

MOTION #13: APPROVAL TO REAPPOINT SHAWN CLISHAM AND BILL MCDONALD TO THE PROSPECT HEIGHTS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TO A THREE -YEAR TERM EXPIRING 5/1/2029

Motion by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Geier to approve the Reappointment Shawn Clisham and Bill McDonald to the Prospect Heights Fire Protection District to a Three – Year Term Expiring 5/1/2029.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grainawi, Williams, Chokshi, Zeller Brauer
NAYS: None.... Motion #13 Carried.

MOTION #14: APPROVAL TO REAPPOINT TERRI PACION TO THE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD TO FINISH OUT SUSAN HAYES TERM, EXPIRING 12/31/2026

Motion by Trustee Grainawi, seconded by Trustee Chokshi to approve the Reappointment Terri Pacion to the Community Mental Health Board to Finish Out Susan Hayes Term, Expiring 12/31/2026.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grainawi, Chokshi, Williams, Geier, Zeller Brauer
NAYS: None.... Motion #14 Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- May 5, 2026 – Debunking Medicare and Medicaid Myths 10 am via Zoom.
- May 13, 2026 – Wheeling Township Community Mental Health Board Meeting at 7 pm.
- May 28, 2026 – Wheeling Township Board of Trustees Meeting 7 pm.

DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES:

Trustee Geier: Enjoyed Food Pantry Meeting.

Trustee Williams: Spoke about Food Pantry

MOTION #15: ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Supervisor Zeller Brauer seconded by Trustee Williams to adjourn.

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes.... Motion #15 Carried.

WHEELING TOWNSHIP MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING APRIL 28, 2026

The meeting for Tuesday, April 28, 2026, was declared adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next scheduled regular board meeting is set for Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Joanna M. Gauza
Wheeling Township Clerk