

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
REGULAR MEETING TOWNSHIP BOARD -**APPROVED**-
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
517.853.4000, Township Hall Room
TUESDAY, April 21, 2026, 6:00PM

PRESENT: Supervisor Hendrickson, Clerk Demas, Treasurer Burghardt, Trustee Lentz, Trustee Sundland, Trustee Trezise, and Trustee Wilson

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Township Manager Dempsey, Deputy Manager and Public Works Director Opsommer, I.T. Director Gebes, Neighborhoods & Economic Development Director Clark, Finance Director Blonde, Parks & Recreation Director Wisinski

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Hendrickson called the April 21, 2026, Regular Township Board meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Hendrickson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Clerk Demas called the roll. All Board Members present.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Youth Commission Overview-Autumn Gebara, Chair and Finn Reagan, Vice-Chair

Chair Gebara and Vice-Chair Reagan presented updates on the Youth Commission.

B. Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement – Bernadette Blonde, Finance Director.

Director Blonde gave a presentation on the GFOA Certificate of Achievement.

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comment at 6:13 pm.

Josh Nahum and Barbara Kelly spoke about item 11 A.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comment at 6:17 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Dempsey spoke on the following:

- Thanked Director Blonde, Director Schmitt and staff for the GFOA audit award.
- All local roads in the Township that were closed due to flooding are now reopened. Thanked Ingham County Road Department for their response.
- Received a \$10,000 grant from the DALMAC Fund for the Nancy Moore Park trailhead development.
- The Prime Meridian magazine was mailed to residents. An online version is available on the Township website.
- The first of three Township Board listening sessions is Tuesday, May 12 at 6 pm at 2142 Community Center. The other two sessions are July 28 at Central Park Pavilion and October 27 at St. Luke Lutheran Church.

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Treasurer Burghardt attended the Capital Area Treasurer meeting. She will be out of the office next week attending the Michigan Municipal Treasurers Association Conference.

Clerk Demas informed the Board that the Public Logic and Accuracy Testing of election equipment will be done on April 24 at 2:00 pm in the Town Hall room and provided information about the May 5, 2026 Special Election voter registration, and open office hours.

Trustee Wilson spoke about Boy Scout Troop 125 put down mulch over the Market Place on the Green.

Trustee Lentz announced the Foundation for Haslet Schools is hosting a Blue and Gold 5K on May 9, 2026 to support funding for students. Thanked the Land Steward program for the Vernal Pool Discovery Walk on April 11th and thanked Manager Dempsey and Director Clark for providing information on redevelopment ready communities.

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Wilson moved to approve the Agenda. Supported by Trustee Trezise.

VOICE VOTE: YEAS: Supervisor Hendrickson, Clerk Demas, Treasurer Burghardt, Trustee Lentz, Trustee Sundland, Trustee Trezise, and Trustee Wilson.

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 7-0

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor Hendrickson listed the consent agenda items.

Closed session minutes were provided to Board members for review.

Treasurer Burghardt moved the consent agenda. Supported by Trustee Lentz.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Supervisor Hendrickson, Clerk Demas, Treasurer Burghardt, Trustee Lentz, Trustee Sundland, Trustee Trezise, and Trustee Wilson.

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 7-0

10. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

A. First Quarter Budget Amendments

Director Blonde gave a update on the first quarter budget amendments.

Board discussion occurred which included questions about the Local Road Fund.

Trustee Lentz moved to approve the First Quarter 2026 budget amendments with a decrease in budgeted fund balance for the general fund in the amount of \$61,482 which projects a decrease in year-end fund balance of \$393,254. Based on 2025 results, the projected fund balance at December 31, 2026, will be \$15,117,662. Supported by Trustee Trezise.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Supervisor Hendrickson, Clerk Demas, Treasurer Burghardt, Trustee Lentz, Trustee Sundland, Trustee Trezise, and Trustee Wilson.

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 7-0

B. Legal Services Proposals

Township Manager Dempsey gave an overview of the legal services proposals.

Board discussion occurred which included price differences between the legal services and overall benefits.

The Board concurred in continuing with the Township's current legal services.

Trustee Wilson moved to approve the motion to select Fahey, Schultz, Burzych and Rhodes as the Township's Legal counsel and authorize the Supervisor and Township Manager to negotiate the terms of the engagement agreement. Supported by Trustee Trezise.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Supervisor Hendrickson, Clerk Demas, Treasurer Burghardt, Trustee Lentz, Trustee Sundland, Trustee Trezise, and Trustee Wilson.

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 7-0

11. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Senior Center Update

Township Manager Dempsey gave an update on the grant for the Senior Center and the overall project.

Board discussion occurred which included how to proceed with returning the grant money and the future of a new Senior Center.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comment at 7:04 pm.

The opportunity to speak was provided to the public.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comment at 7:04 pm.

13. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

14. CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Trezise moved to enter closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(d) to discuss the Township's purchase or lease of property. Supported by Trustee Wilson.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS: Supervisor Hendrickson, Clerk Demas, Treasurer Burghardt, Trustee Lentz, Trustee Sundland, Trustee Trezise, and Trustee Wilson.

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 7-0

At 7:05 pm, the Board entered closed session.

At 7:29 pm, the Board returned to open session.

Trustee Trezise moved to authorize township staff to negotiate with the seller's agent to acquire the parcels discussed in closed session up to the amount discussed in closed session and authorize the township manager to sign the conditional offer on behalf of the township. Supported by Trustee Wilson.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS: Supervisor Hendrickson, Clerk Demas, Treasurer Burghardt, Trustee Lentz, Trustee Sundland, Trustee Trezise, and Trustee Wilson.

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 7-0

15. ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Burghardt moved to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Lentz.

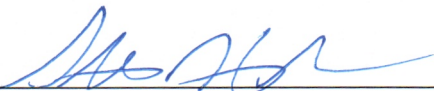
VOICE VOTE

YEAS: Supervisor Hendrickson, Clerk Demas, Treasurer Burghardt, Trustee Lentz, Trustee Sundland, Trustee Trezise, and Trustee Wilson.

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 7-0

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.



Scott Hendrickson
Township Supervisor



Angela Demas
Township Clerk