

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
REGULAR MEETING TOWNSHIP BOARD -**APPROVED**-  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198 517.853.4000,  
Township Hall Room  
TUESDAY, March 3, 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, Chief Grillo, Officer Mandernack, Deputy Manager Opsommer, Chief Hamel, Director Schmitt, Director Gebes.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Hendrickson called the March 3, 2026, Regular Township Board meeting to order at 6:01 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. Introduction of New Police Officer-Spencer Mandernack

Chief Grillo introduced Officer Mandernack.

B. Local Road Program

Deputy Manager Opsommer updated the Board on the Local Road Program.

Board members asked about asphalt rejuvenator treatments, asphalt stabilization, and chip seal treatment for gravel roads.

C. Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Collector Installation Project

Deputy Manager Opsommer presented the AMI Collector Installation Project.

Board members asked about cost savings over the current collection method and overlap with emergency sirens.

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comment at 6:45 pm.

Jade Shi, Paulette Grace, Yidi Du, Vincent Tomonica, Dianna Cavalier, Raman S spoke in opposition to item 12.A.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comment at 7:03 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Dempsey gave updates on:

- The new website is live. Feedback can be provided from a link on the website.
- The Prime Meridian Magazine is expected to be available mid-April.

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clerk Demas attended Lunar New Year, Polar Dash & Splash, MSU Facility for Rare Isotope Beams tour.

Treasure Burkhardt thanked Manager Dempsey for his kind words for Treasury and Utility Billing staff who served 231 residents at the counter, processed over 500 check payments, received \$2.9 million in tax payments on tax day alone. She also attended the MSU Facility for Rare Isotope Beams tour and Ingham County Michigan Township Associations (MTA) meeting.

Trustee Lentz attended Ingham County MTA meeting and provided information about the ITC transmission line from the meeting, and he attended Tri-County Regional Planning Commission meeting.

Trustee Trezise attended the ZBA meeting, two applications were approved and two were denied. He also has been appointed to the Ingham County Materials Management Planning Committee.

Trustee Wilson attended the Neighborhood Policing meeting; traffic, speeding, and barking dogs were discussed.

Supervisor Hendrickson attended the State of the State event.

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Clerk Demas requested to add an additional action item to approve establishment of polling locations, absent voter counting place, and early voting site.

**Clerk Demas moved to approve the Agenda with 11.D Establishing Polling Locations, Absent Voter Counting Place, and Early Voting Site added to the Board Action Items. Supported by Trustee Wilson.**

**VOICE VOTE:**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 6-0**

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor Hendrickson listed the consent agenda items.



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

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 6-0**

**10. HEARINGS**

**A. Sanctuary #2 Public Streetlighting Improvement Special Assessment District #430**

Deputy Manager Opsommer gave a brief overview of the District and the process that has occurred to date.

Supervisor Hendrickson opened the public hearing at 7:18 pm.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed the public hearing at 7:18 pm.

**B. Sierra Ridge #4 Public Streetlighting Improvement Special Assessment District #431**

Deputy Manager Opsommer gave a brief overview of the District and the process that has occurred to date.

Supervisor Hendrickson opened the public hearing at 7:19 pm.

Cleavon Redwine spoke in opposition to the assessment because he thinks it should have been paid by the developer or included in his property taxes.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed the public hearing at 7:20 pm.

**11. BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Sanctuary #2 Public Streetlighting Improvement Special Assessment District #430**

Deputy Manager Opsommer gave a brief overview of the process. He noted that neighborhood streetlight districts are paid by special assessment districts per Township policy, that the assessment can be initiated by the developer as part of the development or by a neighborhood that wants to have streetlights installed. Developers typically pass along the construction cost as part of the sale of the property, and the assessment itself is for electric use and any associated maintenance costs incurred by the lights over time.

Board members commented that many township residents pay special assessments on streetlights.

**Trustee Trezise moved to approve the Sanctuary #2 Public Streetlighting Improvement Special Assessment District #430 - Resolution #3, which approves the construction of the public improvement, the estimate of cost, and defraying the cost by special assessment; determines the Special Assessment District, and directs the making of an assessment roll. Supported by Trustee Wilson.**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 6-0**

**B. Sierra Ridge #4 Public Streetlighting Improvement Special Assessment District #431**

Deputy Manager Opsommer gave a brief overview of the process.

Board members asked about the properties in the neighborhood that will be affected by this assessment.

**Trustee Trezise moved to approve the Sierra Ridge #4 Public Streetlighting Improvement Special Assessment District #431 – Resolution #3, which approves the construction of the public improvement, the estimate of cost, and defraying the cost by special assessment; determines the Special Assessment District, and directs the making of an assessment roll. Supported by Trustee Wilson.**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 6-0**

**C. Board Policy Document Revisions**

Manager Dempsey gave an overview of the proposed changes.

Board members expressed concerns about wording being restrictive of the day of the week for agenda procedures.

**Clerk Demas moved to approve the revised Board Rules, Policies, and Procedures Manual as presented with the inclusion of changing days to numbers. Supported by Trustee Lentz.**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 6-0**

**D. Establishing Polling Locations, Absent Voter Counting Place, and Early Voting Site**

Clerk Demas presented the proposed polling locations, absent voter counting board location, and early voting site.



Board members asked about signed contracts for all polling locations for all 2026 elections, process for changing polling locations between elections, statutory deadlines for notifying voters of polling location and precinct changes, the school plan for early voting, pre-processing for absent ballots

Board members made suggestions for alternate polling locations.

**Treasurer Burkhardt moved to approve the polling location changes as presented in March 3, 2026 memorandum and in the attached map for precincts 1-14 as required for the May 5, 2026 Special Election, subject to adjustments as necessary by the Township Clerk. Supported by Trustee Sundland.**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 6-0**

**Trustee Wilson moved to approve the Town Hall Room of the Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Rd, Okemos, MI as an early voting site for all precincts in Meridian Township for the May 5, 2026 Special Election, subject to adjustments as necessary by the Township Clerk. Supported by Trustee Trezise.**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 6-0**

**Trustee Wilson moved to approve the Town Hall Room of the Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Rd, Okemos, MI 48864 as the location for pre-processing on May 4, 2026 and for any Meridian Township absent voter counting boards established now or in the future for the May 5, 2026 Special Election, subject to adjustments as necessary by the Township Clerk. Supported by Trustee Lentz.**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 6-0**

**At 7:48, Supervisor Hendrickson called a 5-minute recess. The Board reconvened at 7:55.**

**12. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Authentix-Proposed Settlement Agreement Modification**

Director Schmitt gave an overview of the proposal and reviewed discussions that have occurred to date and provided updates that have been made to the proposal since previous discussion.

Mark Clouse, representing the property owner, spoke about the changes made since the last discussion. Eric Hahn, representing the developer, gave details about the changes made since the last discussion and addressed public comments.

Board members asked about the terms of development, tree cover, wetland setback, waiver of special use permits, changing the location of one building to meet a lower density the middle parcel, sunset on the settlement agreement, drain commission progress, potential for zoning issues, the manner in which conditions and terms travel with the settlement agreement, emergency bollards, conservation easement restrictions, and planning commission input on these changes.

Board members agreed with the building setback, building height changes, and noted that this is a reasonable compromise.

Board members expressed concerns about the density and road traffic.

Board members discussed returning the proposal to the planning commission.

Board members requested staff bring the proposal forward to action at the next meeting, preparing two resolutions for the current proposal and a proposal that incorporates a lower density in the middle parcel.

#### B. Township Millages

Manager Dempsey provided an overview of the current and expiring Township millages.

Board members asked about timing for putting millages on ballots and pre-Headly rates.

Board members commented that the County millage questions will be on the August ballot.

#### 13. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comment at 9:36 pm.

Vince Tomonica, Yidi Du, and Paulette Grace spoke in opposition to Item 12.A.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comment at 9:45 pm.

#### 14. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None

#### 15. ADJOURNMENT

**Trustee Wilson moved to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Lentz.**

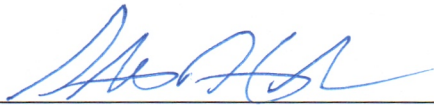
**VOICE VOTE**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 6-0**

**The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.**



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Scott Hendrickson  
Township Supervisor



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Angela Demas  
Township Clerk