

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
REGULAR MEETING TOWNSHIP BOARD -**APPROVED**-
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
517.853.4000, Township Hall Room
TUESDAY, April 7, 2026, 6:00PM

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

ABSENT: Trustee Sundland

STAFF: Township Manager Dempsey, Deputy Township Manager Dan Opsommer, Community Planning and Development Director Schmitt, Neighborhoods and Economic Development Director Clark, Peyton Skiver, Marketing & Public Relations, and Communications Manager Samantha Diehl

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Hendrickson called April 7, 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 of the Board at 6:02pm. Six Board members present.

Trustee Sundland absent.

4. PRESENTATION

A. Recognition of Okemos Public Schools Superintendent John Hood

Supervisor Hendrickson presented an honorary proclamation to Superintendent Hood.

B. Haslett Beautification Association (HBA)

Patty Cotter presented an overview of the HBA history, awards received, and current gardens.

C. Intermediate School District Bond Proposal-Superintendent Jason Mellema

Superintendent Mellema shared information about the Ingham ISD Special Education Facilities Bond that is on the ballot for the May 5, 2026 Special Election.

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comment at 6:35 pm.

Kathy Petroni, President of the League of Women Voters of the Lansing Area, spoke regarding item 9. M, in support of the resolution opposing the Federal SAVE Act and Michigan House Bill 4765.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comment at 6:37 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Dempsey's report included the following:

- Communications Manager Diehl gave a brief overview of the annual Prime Meridian Magazine that will be arriving soon to mailboxes of residents.
- Reminder to residents regarding flooding on the roads. Never drive through standing water and be sure to clean out the catch basins.

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clerk Demas recognized Superintendent John Hood on his retirement. Over 13,000 ballots have been mailed out to voters for the May 5, 2026 Special Election. If anyone is interested in working the elections, please contact the Clerk's Office.

Trustee Lentz highlighted the \$15,000 of Green Grants that will be awarded by the Environmental Commission. The Tri-County Regional Planning Commission will be part of the MSU Science Festival this weekend.

Trustee Trezise attended the Ingham County Materials Management Commission meeting and mentioned they discussed the need to address storm damage and improve recycling.

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 Trezise, and Trustee Wilson.

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 6-0

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor Hendrickson listed the consent agenda items.

Board members spoke in support of the resolution opposing the Federal SAVE Act and Michigan House Bill 4765.

Comments were made about how item 9D-Disposal of Surplus Equipment should be reviewed by Staff for consistency on the payment terms regarding the ambulance item.

Clerk Demas moved the consent agenda. Supported by Treasurer Burghardt.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 6-0

10. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

A. CDBG-Authorizing Resolution Form 2-A MI Neighborhood Grant

Director Clark stated that at the last Board meeting a public hearing was held along with discussion regarding the proposal for rehabilitation of 4690 and 4696 Okemos Road. There was support from the Board for the project.

Trustee Lentz moved to adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Township's application to the MI Neighborhood Program, designating the Township Supervisor, Scott Hendrickson, as the person authorized to sign the application and any amendments; Director Amber Clark as the person authorized to sign payment requests; and designate Township Manager Timothy Dempsey as the certifying officer for NEPA environmental review. Supported by Trustee Wilson.

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 6-0

BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Ordinance 2026-01: Eyde/Capstone – Hannah Boulevard – Conditional Rezoning – PO, Professional Office, and RAA, One-Family, Low Density Residential, to RD, Multiple Family Residential up to 8 Dwelling Units per Acre, Subject to a Conditional Rezoning Agreement

Director Schmitt presented an overview of the item and answered questions. Capstone Collegiate Communities has applied for rezoning of the vacant properties at the end of Hannah Boulevard and Eyde Parkway. The applicant is requesting to rezone the parcels to RD, Multiple Family Residential up to eight dwelling units per acre. They have spoken to the Indian Lakes Estates neighborhood and as a result have adjusted their plan to include the following: PUD submitted- 24 months once the conditional rezoning is approved, limiting the number of units to no more than 270, preserving approximately 38 acres of open space, and providing a natural buffer zone of 248 feet adjacent to the neighborhood.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on February 23, 2026 on the project. Resident concerns included comments about drainage/flooding, but overall support from the neighborhood. The Planning Commission has recommended approval to the Township Board.

Mark Clouse from Eyde Land Holdings and John Acken from Capstone Communities gave a presentation on the conceptual plan of the project.

Board discussion occurred. Questions were asked about the definition of the 24-month condition of submitting the PUD and how the rezoning of RD came about.

Board members expressed concern with stormwater management. Board members expressed support for the applicant working with the Indian Lakes Estates neighborhood, the parking lots hidden behind the buildings, three- and four-story buildings allowing for a smaller footprint, and the large natural area.

The item will be placed under Consent on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

At 7:48 pm, Supervisor Hendrickson called a 5-minute recess. The Board reconvened at 7:58 pm.

- B. Ordinance 2026-02: 2936 Jolly Road – Tekchandani Rezoning – C-1, Commercial, to RB, One-Family, High Density Residential

Director Schmitt presented the application for rezoning of 2936 Jolly Road and answered questions. The owner is looking to sell the property and retire, but has run into issues selling the property, as it is considered non-conforming, since the use of the property does not match the zoning.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on March 9, 2026 and received no public comment on the request.

Board discussion occurred which included a suggestion for the Township to consider approaching the two property owners of the homes to the east and rezone them to conform with their current use.

Support was expressed for this rezoning request.

The item will be placed under Consent on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

- C. Data Centers and Battery Storage Facilities Moratorium

Director Schmitt presented an overview of the item and answered questions.

Director Schmitt stated there has been zero indication or any source of communication that anyone is looking in Meridian Township for space for a data center or battery storage facility. This would fall under industrial zoning. He shared there are 22 total parcels that are zoned industrial in the Township and of those only six do not have a structure on them. Hethen shared that five of the six parcels are unbuildable. The one vacant parcel is about four acres adjacent to Tripp's Autobody on M78.

Board discussion occurred including comments about the moratorium, communities across the state faced with this issue, and about protecting the Township. Suggestions included having the Planning & Development Department work on creating guidelines for such development.

Board members indicated support of a moratorium in place for a safeguard for six months to one year while the Board works to get an ordinance in place.

Director Schmitt will work with the Township attorneys to discuss what a moratorium would need to look like and bring it back to the Township Board.

11. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comment at 8:26 pm.

Sherry Trezise spoke in support of item 9. M, in support of the resolution opposing the Federal SAVE Act and Michigan House Bill 4765.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comment at 8:28 pm.

12. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

13. CLOSED SESSION

Treasurer Burghardt moved to enter closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(h) to consult with the Township attorney to consider a confidential written legal opinion. Supported by Trustee Wilson.

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 6-0

Township Board entered into closed session at 8:29 pm.

Township Board opened public meeting at 8:51pm.

Trustee Trezise moved to approve the settlement agreement between the Charter Township of Meridian and Jackie Fondren as discussed in closed session and authorize the Supervisor to execute the settlement agreement. Supported by Trustee Wilson.

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 6-0

14. ADJOURNMENT

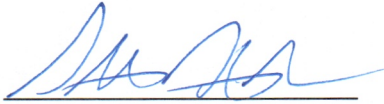
Trustee Lentz moved to adjourn. Supported by Treasurer Burghardt.

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 6-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm.



Scott Hendrickson
Township Supervisor



Angela Demas
Township Clerk