

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
REGULAR MEETING TOWNSHIP BOARD -**APPROVED**-  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198  
517.853.4000, Township Hall Room  
TUESDAY, March 17, 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, Police Chief Grillo, Community Planning and Development Director Schmitt, Neighborhoods and Economic Development Director Clark, Parks and Recreation Director Wisinski, IT Director Stephen Gebes, Fire Chief Mike Hamel, Communications Manager Samantha Diehl, and Marketing & Public Relations Specialist Peyton Skiver.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Hendrickson called March 17, 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. All members are present at 6:01pm.

4. PRESENTATION

A. New Meridian Township Website

Communications Manager Samantha Diehl introduced the new Marketing & Public Relations Specialist Peyton Skiver and presented the new Township website.

B. 2025 Annual Report

Township Manager Tim Dempsey presented the refreshed look of the 2025 Annual Report.

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comment at 6:18 pm.

Josh Nahum spoke regarding item 9. H, in support of the Middle Grand River Water Trail State Designation.

Paulette Grace spoke regarding item 11. A, in opposition to the proposed Authenix development.

Erik Hahn spoke regarding item 11. A, in support of the proposed Authenix development.

Vincent Tomonica spoke regarding item 11. A, in opposition to the proposed Authenix

development.

Mark Clouse spoke regarding item 11. A, in support of the proposed Authenix development.

Dianna Cavalier spoke regarding item 11. A, in opposition to the proposed Authenix development.

Ray Gasser spoke regarding item 11. A, in opposition to the proposed Authenix development.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comment at 6:33 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Dempsey gave updates on:

- Attending the Michigan Township Association Legislative Day.
- Williamstown Township is pleased with Meridian Township Police services and spoke highly of the Township's Deer Management Program.
- The evening Egg Hunt at Nancy Moore Park will take place on Saturday at 6:30pm.

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clerk Demas reported that she attended the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks Institute last week.

Trustee Lentz highlighted the Meridian Conservation Corps (MCC) report.

Trustee Sundland shared a summary of the March 5 Economic Development Corporation meeting.

Trustee Wilson mentioned she attended the Community Resources Commission meeting last week.

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Trustee Wilson moved to approve the agenda. Supported by Treasurer Burghardt.**

**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.

**Trustee Trezise 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. HEARING

### A. MI Neighborhood Program CDBG Application

Director Clark introduced the developer of the property at 4690-4696 Okemos Road who presented the vision for the rehabilitation project and requested the Township's participation in applying for the MI Neighborhood Program grant.

Supervisor Hendrickson opened the public hearing at 6:56 pm.

The opportunity to speak during public comment was given.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed the public hearing at 6:57 pm.

## 11. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

### A. Authenix-Proposed Settlement Agreement Modification

Director Schmitt shared the revised plans that the applicant brought forward after the concerns raised about Building 4 at the last Board meeting. The proposal would remove Building 4 and redistribute those units to Buildings 7, 8, and 9. This would create three, three-story buildings on the northern parcel and two, two-story buildings. The remaining four, two-story buildings, would be located between Belvedere and Columbus, along with the clubhouse building.

Director Schmitt stated the following Resolution updates:

- Resolution A-Item 12-The word Commission shall be changed to Department.
- Resolution B-Item 7-Shall read no more than 96 dwelling units on parcel 33-02-22-202-001 and no more than 156 dwelling units on parcel 33-02-02-15-400-031.

Director Schmitt gave an overview of the potential next steps and schedule prior to construction and the three resolutions prepared along with the Township Attorneys.

- Resolution A-Change the zoning on the parcels to RC for the entire site and limit dwelling units to 240.
- Resolution B-Change the zoning on the north parcel to RC and the middle and southern parcels to RD and limit dwelling units to 252.
- Resolution C-No zoning change through an amendment to the consent judgment and leave the existing RD and CS zoning in place.

There was Board discussion and consensus to strike the words "with dwelling units" in Item 15 of Resolution B.

Some Board members indicated their reasons for support and some Board members indicated their reasons for opposition.

**Trustee Lentz moved to adopt Resolution B as presented. Supported by Trustee Trezise.**

**Trustee Wilson moved to amend Resolution B Item 7 to flip the parcel numbers to 96 dwelling units on parcel 33-02-22-202-001 and no more than 156 dwelling units on parcel 33-02-02-15-400-031. Item 12 the word Commission shall be replaced with the word Department. Item 15 be amended to remove the words "with dwelling units." Supported by Trustee Lentz.**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 7-0**

**Trustee Lentz moved to adopt Resolution B as amended. Supported by Trustee Trezise.**

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

**NAYS: Clerk Demas and Treasurer Burghardt**

**Motion carried: 5-2**

**At 7:58 pm, Supervisor Hendrickson called a 5-minute recess. The Board reconvened at 8:05 pm.**

**12. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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

Director Clark gave an overview of the item and answered Board questions along with the developers.

Board discussion occurred which included questions about the developmental impact, environmental remediation, unit size, Brownfield Housing TIF, DDA tax capture, potential issues, and future plans.

The Board indicated for this item to be brought back for action at the next Board meeting.

**B. Joint Local Government/Schools Meeting Topics**

Manager Dempsey gave an overview of the upcoming Joint Local Government/Schools Board meeting and asked for Board input on potential topics.

Board discussion occurred with suggestions presented for meeting topics which included affordable and workforce housing, impact of AI, local control, new development projects, community decision making, emergency response planning, and major road projects.

It was advised to have Manager Dempsey reach out to local superintendents regarding school-related topics including literacy rates, supporting teachers and education.

**13. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comment at 8:47 pm.

The opportunity to speak during public comment was given.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comment at 8:47 pm.

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

None.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Wilson moved to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Lentz.

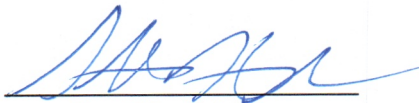
VOICE VOTE

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 7-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.



Scott Hendrickson  
Township Supervisor



Angela Demas  
Township Clerk