

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMSTOCK TOWNSHIP BOARD
KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SEPTEMBER 21, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Ben Martin	Supervisor	Present
Sandy Bloomfield	Treasurer	Present
Amber Lawrence	Clerk	Present
Kirk Hart	Trustee	Present
John Paver	Trustee	Present
Joe VanBruggen	Trustee	Present
Jerry Amos	Trustee	Present
Rob Thall	Attorney	Present

Meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 PM by Supervisor Martin with Treasurer Bloomfield, Clerk Lawrence, Trustees Hart, Paver, VanBruggen, and Amos, and Attorney Thall present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Clerk Lawrence requested the following changes to the agenda: move the August 19, 2026 minutes out of the Consent Agenda to the first item under Clerk; add a proposal to discontinue Granicus under Clerk; move Bills Payable (July 23 – September 18, 2026) to the Consent Agenda under Treasurer; add Forensic Audit RFPs after the millage rate item; and add the MDOT presentation as the first item under Supervisor.

Trustee VanBruggen made a motion that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion was supported by Treasurer Bloomfield. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Trustee VanBruggen
SECONDER: Treasurer Bloomfield
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Approximately five members of the public commented. Tammy Keeler opposed the battery energy storage system (BESS), citing safety incidents in California, air quality, and the effect on the schools, and asked the Board to help residents fight the project. Karen Hite said the BESS

decision was made at the state level under PA 233 and by the previous board, and is now outside the Township's control. Mary Beth Wood (8229 Fawn Meadow Trail) raised concerns about noise, groundwater, wells, and property values near the BESS and asked for the applicant's construction timeline. Jessica Vetter welcomed the new Board, urged continued resistance to the BESS, and asked to tour the fire stations and learn more about Fire Department funding. John Dickman said the proposed battery technology is two generations newer and safer than the California facility, and that PA 233 removed local control over such projects.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DEPARTMENTS/BOARDS/COMMISSIONS

Kalamazoo County Road Commission

Road Commissioner Larry Stehouwer introduced himself as the Township's liaison. He reported that construction is winding down for the season, service requests are being handled more promptly, and revenue is running slightly above the adopted budget. Neighborhood road funding is expected in the next month or two. He also mentioned the Safe Streets for All program.

County Commissioner's Report

County Commissioner John Gisler distributed the Equalization Department's nine-year taxable value spreadsheet (through 2025) and a flyer for the Senior Expo at the Expo Center on October 6, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, which has more than 150 exhibitors. He also distributed the Housing Department's annual report on how the \$9.2 million housing millage was spent. He reported that Kalamazoo's airport reopened to commercial traffic on September 19 with a 500-foot southern extension of the main runway. He shared lockable "pot pouches," available free at the Health and Community Services Department, to keep cannabis away from children and pets.

CONSENT AGENDA

Treasurer Bloomfield made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended. Supported by Trustee Amos. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT:	PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER:	Treasurer Bloomfield
SECONDER:	Trustee Amos
AYES:	All members present
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None

- Bills Payable: July 23, 2026 – September 18, 2026

PRESENTATION(S)

There were no presentations.

BUSINESS

There were no items discussed under Business.

FIRE & RESCUE

Request to Purchase Station Alerting Equipment for New Fire Station 93

Fire Chief Beauchamp welcomed the new trustees and requested approval to buy station alerting equipment for new Fire Station 93, totaling \$147,894.46. The equipment is included in the station budget and is an owner-provided item. A 6% price increase takes effect at the end of the week, so buying now saves over \$8,800. The equipment is sole-source: U.S. Digital Designs Phoenix G2, the system dispatch uses and already in all three Township stations. Existing equipment will be moved where possible. In response to Trustee Hart, the Chief said Kalamazoo Public Safety, Portage Public Safety, and Kalamazoo Township also use the system. Trustee Paver noted the funds are already budgeted and the purchase supports BESS preparedness.

Trustee Hart made a motion to approve the purchase of the station alerting equipment. Motion supported by Trustee Paver. Motion passed by voice vote, six to one.

RESULT: PASSED (6–1, voice vote)
MOVER: Trustee Hart
SECONDER: Trustee Paver
AYES: Six members (voice vote) Supervisor Martin, Treasurer Bloomfield, Clerk Lawrence, Trustee Hart, Trustee Paver, Trustee VanBruggen
NAYS: Trustee Amos
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

PLANNING & ZONING

Nothing discussed for Planning and Zoning.

CLERK

Meeting Minutes — August 19, 2026

Clerk Lawrence explained that the August 19, 2026 minutes were pulled from the Consent Agenda to correct formatting errors, including duplicated motions. The content was accurate.

Treasurer Bloomfield made a motion to approve the amended minutes. Motion supported by Trustee VanBruggen. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Treasurer Bloomfield
SECONDER: Trustee VanBruggen
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Proposal to Discontinue Granicus

Clerk Lawrence explained that the Granicus agenda and minutes software is cumbersome, contributed to the errors in the August 19 minutes, and still prints a former supervisor's name on its templates. Annual costs rose from \$7,800 (2023) to \$8,200 (2024), \$9,000 (2025), and \$10,000 (2026), and would likely reach \$11,000 next year. The contract ended

in April 2025. She proposed using a PDF template uploaded to the new Township website, and said she would ask about a prorated refund. Treasurer Bloomfield praised the new minutes format. Supervisor Martin supported the change.

Trustee VanBruggen made a motion to discontinue using the Granicus software and not renew the subscription. Motion supported by Trustee Hart. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Trustee VanBruggen
SECONDER: Trustee Hart
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Citizen Comment

Clerk Lawrence recommended letting citizens address both agenda and non-agenda items during public comment, so residents don't have to wait through the entire meeting to be heard.

Treasurer Bloomfield made a motion to change citizen comment to include both agenda and non-agenda items for the first public comment at board meetings. Motion supported by Trustee Amos. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Treasurer Bloomfield
SECONDER: Trustee Amos
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Election Commission Trustee Appointments

Clerk Lawrence explained that in a charter township the Election Commission is the Clerk and two trustees. Appointees must attend the Public Accuracy Test on October 8, 2026, at 12:00 PM and help with other election duties. Trustees Hart and Paver volunteered.

Clerk Lawrence made a motion that Trustee Hart and Trustee Paver be appointed as the trustee members of the Election Commission. Motion supported by Trustee VanBruggen. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Clerk Lawrence
SECONDER: Trustee VanBruggen
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Homecoming Parade Permit — October 2, 2026

Clerk Lawrence presented Comstock High School's homecoming parade permit request. The parade will run from 4:30 to 6:30 PM, starting at Family Worship Center on East H Avenue, turning onto North 26th Street, and ending at Comstock High School, with about 150 participants.

Trustee Amos made a motion to accept the Homecoming parade permit for October 2, 2026. Motion supported by Clerk Lawrence. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Trustee Amos
SECONDER: Clerk Lawrence
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Insurance Renewal Plan Review

Clerk Lawrence reviewed the annual benefits renewal. A lower-cost plan was rejected after several listed providers had never heard of it. Estimated cost increases were: renewal of the current HMO with HSA, \$72,000; PPO without HSA, \$167,000; HMO with lower HSA, \$145,000; and PPO with HSA, \$114,000. She recommended renewing the current plan so employees can keep their established doctors. Employees could upgrade to another plan at their own expense, provided at least one employee enrolls in any added plan. Supervisor Martin said most staff are happy with the current plan. Trustees Hart and Paver reported that on-duty fire personnel they met with that day strongly supported keeping it. Treasurer Bloomfield noted the Fire Department is not raising its millages and will absorb most of the cost. Trustee VanBruggen asked about step-up options for employees. Fire Chief Beauchamp reported that 20 employees are eligible, most funded through the Fire Department. He said the department saved over \$100,000 this year through staffing practices and a renewed highway safety traffic grant. Staff had already moved from a PPO to an HMO three years ago after a 23% increase. He cited firefighters' elevated cancer risks and asked that coverage stay as is. Attorney Thal advised on the wording of the motion.

Clerk Lawrence made a motion to renew the current healthcare plan with options for additional plans at the employee's expense. Motion supported by Trustee Paver. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Clerk Lawrence
SECONDER: Trustee Paver
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

PA 152 Opt-Out

The Board discussed opting out of the 80/20 cost-sharing requirement of PA 152. Chief Beauchamp estimated that opting in would cost the Fire Department about \$25,000 more, not counting overtime, because the Township's compensation policy would require making employees whole. Clerk Lawrence and Supervisor Martin supported opting out, saying

savings should not come at employees' expense. Trustee Paver agreed. Trustee Amos said he could support an exception for the Fire Department but opposed opting out for the rest of the Township.

Trustee Paver made a motion to opt out of PA 152. Motion supported by Trustee Hart. Motion passed by voice vote, six to one.

RESULT: PASSED (6–1, voice vote)
MOVER: Trustee Paver
SECONDER: Trustee Hart
AYES: Six members (voice vote) Supervisor Martin, Treasurer Bloomfield, Clerk Lawrence, Trustee Paver, Trustee Hart, Trustee Vanbruggen
NAYS: One member — Trustee Amos
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Elections Consultant Request

Clerk Lawrence asked permission to hire an experienced former clerk as a consultant to help set up the November federal election. Trustee Hart and Attorney Thal stressed how complex election law is and the risk of costly lawsuits if errors occur. The consultant's rate is \$30 per hour. Tim Snow was recommended, and Trustee VanBruggen endorsed him.

Treasurer Bloomfield made a motion to approve hiring an election consultant at \$30 per hour. Motion supported by Trustee Amos. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Treasurer Bloomfield
SECONDER: Trustee Amos
AYES: All members present (voice vote; no nays heard)
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

TREASURER

2026 Millage Rates — L-4029

Treasurer Bloomfield reported that no millages are being raised. The library voluntarily reduced one of its millages from 0.5048 to 0.3065, so no Truth in Taxation hearing is needed. The total proposed levy is 5.3734 mills. A police millage will be on the November ballot. Attorney Thal explained that the cover sheet showed maximum authorized rates, and that the rates in box 11 of the L-4029 are the ones being levied. The L-4029 is due to County Equalization the next day. Supervisor Martin said the Board aims to lower millage further once expected revenue is confirmed.

Clerk Lawrence made a motion to approve the 2026 L-4029 with the following millage rates: Charter Operating 1.8484; Library Extra Voted 0.3065; second Library line Extra Voted 0.9685; Roads 1.2500; and Senior 1.0000. Motion supported by Trustee Paver. Roll call vote was taken. Trustee VanBruggen - yes. Trustee Paver - yes. Treasurer Bloomfield - yes. Supervisor Martin - yes. Clerk Lawrence - yes. Trustee Amos - yes. Trustee Hart - yes. The resolution will be assigned the next resolution number in order.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (7–0)
MOVER: Clerk Lawrence
SECONDER: Trustee Paver
AYES: Trustee VanBruggen, Trustee Paver, Treasurer Bloomfield, Supervisor Martin, Clerk Lawrence, Trustee Amos, Trustee Hart
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Forensic Audit RFPs

Treasurer Bloomfield, Clerk Lawrence, and Supervisor Martin interviewed two firms. Plante Moran requires a \$10,000 retainer. Rehmann requires \$7,000 and offers a two-part approach: an investigation led by former FBI agent Chuck Story and a risk advisory review led by Kristy Clark. The total cost is estimated at about \$60,000. Clerk Lawrence questioned the return on investment but noted that transparency and unity have value. Trustee Paver was concerned about cost and the added expense of pursuing any recovery. Treasurer Bloomfield and Trustee Amos strongly supported the audit, saying residents have asked for it. Trustee Hart asked about interviewing former personnel. Attorney Thal said participation would be voluntary, and that recovery could come through bonds or criminal referral. Supervisor Martin suggested a cost cap. Trustee VanBruggen, Treasurer Bloomfield, and Clerk Lawrence preferred Rehmann.

Clerk Lawrence made a motion to pursue the forensic audit with Rehmann at a cost not to exceed \$57,000. Motion supported by Trustee Paver. Roll call vote was taken. Trustee Hart - yes. Trustee Amos - yes. Clerk Lawrence - yes. Supervisor Martin - yes. Treasurer Bloomfield - yes. Trustee Paver - yes. Trustee VanBruggen - yes.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (7–0)
MOVER: Clerk Lawrence
SECONDER: Trustee Paver
AYES: Trustee Hart, Trustee Amos, Clerk Lawrence, Supervisor Martin, Treasurer Bloomfield, Trustee Paver, Trustee VanBruggen
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

TRUSTEE

No items were discussed.

SUPERVISOR

MDOT Proposal — Gull Road

The MDOT Kalamazoo TSC operations engineer Bandhan Ayon presented planned improvements on Gull Road. These include more capacity at Sprinkle Road, better alignment at Gull Rd./Meijer, and a possible traffic signal at 26th Street. All are unfunded, with no set timeline. MDOT is also pursuing about \$2 million for non-motorized improvements on the south side of Gull Road: a sidewalk from Sprinkle Road to 26th Street, and a separate shared-use path west of Sprinkle Road toward Sunnyside Drive and beyond. There have been seven bicycle crashes on the corridor in five years, one of them fatal. MDOT would pay to build them, but the Township would be responsible for maintenance,

and a local commitment makes the funding application more competitive. Supervisor Martin said the project supports the master plan and development along Gull Road. Clerk Lawrence and Trustee VanBruggen supported it. Trustee Amos asked about the right turn from Sprinkle Road, and MDOT noted a road project planned for 2029. In response to Trustee Hart, an MDOT traffic and safety engineer said an operations study of the I-94/35th Street interchange is expected next year.

Trustee Hart made a motion to support the MDOT proposal for the maintenance of new non-motorized thoroughfares on Gull Road, if and when installed. This is a non-binding expression of support; a formal maintenance agreement would follow. Motion supported by Clerk Lawrence. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Trustee Hart
SECONDER: Clerk Lawrence
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Planning Commission Appointment

Supervisor Martin presented Mary McDermott's application for the one open seat on the seven-member Planning Commission, noting the different perspective she would bring. Clerk Lawrence noted McDermott had also been a strong candidate for the trustee vacancies.

Clerk Lawrence made a motion to accept the Planning Commission appointment of Mary McDermott. Motion supported by Trustee Amos. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Clerk Lawrence
SECONDER: Trustee Amos
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

City of Kalamazoo Public Services — Properties, Forest, and Deer Management

Gene of City of Kalamazoo Public Services asked for the Board's support of the City's forest and deer management plan on City-owned property within the Township. Director Baker was unable to attend. The plan is tied to wellhead protection and the DNR's Forest Michigan program. Hunters will be vetted, pre-assigned to tree stands, and required to complete a mandatory class. Walking trails are excluded from the hunting area and will be signed. The plan was already approved by the City. Trustees Amos and VanBruggen spoke in support.

Trustee VanBruggen made a motion to support the City of Kalamazoo Public Services Properties, Forest, and Deer Management plan. Motion supported by Trustee Paver. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Trustee VanBruggen
SECONDER: Trustee Paver
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Employee Navigator Integration

Supervisor Martin proposed using Employee Navigator, a benefits platform offered through the Township's insurance provider, integrated with the iSolved payroll platform through Mercantile Bank. The cost is \$0.65 per employee per month, month-to-month. It would make open enrollment electronic, keep employee census data current, and support multiple plan options. Board members supported it.

Clerk Lawrence made a motion to approve the use of the Employee Navigator integration (orange package through iSolved). Motion supported by Trustee Hart. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Clerk Lawrence
SECONDER: Trustee Hart
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Tustin's Revised Parking Lot Quote

Supervisor Martin presented a comprehensive repair quote of \$19,630 for the Township Hall parking lot, which has problem drains and washouts. A full replacement quote from J. Allen was \$60,000. The repair is expected to last five to seven years. Treasurer Bloomfield, Trustee VanBruggen, and Trustee Amos doubted a crack-and-seal repair would last that long and asked for more quotes, including concrete. Trustee Paver urged a decision before asphalt plants close around Thanksgiving.

Trustee VanBruggen made a motion to table discussion on parking lot repair or replacement to the next meeting. Motion supported by Trustee Paver. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Trustee VanBruggen
SECONDER: Trustee Paver
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

PUD Ordinance No. 571 — Second Reading

Clerk Lawrence explained that the PUD ordinance, modeled on South Haven's, passed the Planning Commission unanimously several months ago. It encourages development while keeping Planning Commission oversight and alignment with the master plan. The second

reading had been delayed when an earlier meeting lacked a quorum. Treasurer Bloomfield and Trustee Amos spoke in support.

Clerk Lawrence made a motion to accept PUD Ordinance No. 571 for the second reading. Motion supported by Trustee VanBruggen. Roll call vote was taken. Supervisor Martin - yes. Treasurer Bloomfield - yes. Trustee Paver - yes. Trustee VanBruggen - yes. Clerk Lawrence - yes. Trustee Amos - yes. Trustee Hart - yes.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (7-0)
MOVER: Clerk Lawrence
SECONDER: Trustee VanBruggen
AYES: Supervisor Martin, Treasurer Bloomfield, Trustee Paver, Trustee VanBruggen, Clerk Lawrence, Trustee Amos, Trustee Hart
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Trespassing Ordinance No. 572 — First Reading

Supervisor Martin explained that the ordinance came from the Township's homeless committee after the ordinance officer found the Township had no way to trespass people from public land. Attorney Thal said the Township's only existing trespass ordinance covered vehicles. The new ordinance adds general trespass provisions and prohibits camping on Township property. Violations are misdemeanors, so enforcement can actually move people along, but a person must first be warned. The camping prohibition does not apply in emergencies. Attorney Thal will bring an enforcement policy for the ordinance officer and Sheriff's Department with the second reading. Trustee Hart asked about emergencies, and Trustee VanBruggen asked about protests, which require separate First Amendment analysis.

Trustee Paver made a motion to receive the first reading of Trespassing Ordinance No. 572. Motion supported by Treasurer Bloomfield. Roll call vote was taken. Trustee Hart - yes. Supervisor Martin - yes. Trustee VanBruggen - yes. Treasurer Bloomfield - yes. Trustee Paver - yes. Trustee Amos - yes. Clerk Lawrence - yes.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (7-0)
MOVER: Trustee Paver
SECONDER: Treasurer Bloomfield
AYES: Trustee Hart, Supervisor Martin, Trustee VanBruggen, Treasurer Bloomfield, Trustee Paver, Trustee Amos, Clerk Lawrence
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

EGLE Renewable Ready Grant — Intended Use

Trustee Paver addressed community concerns about the battery energy storage system (BESS), noting that PA 233 put much of the decision out of local control and that first-responder preparedness is essential. Attorney Thal reviewed the concessions the Township secured compared with state siting. The setback from sensitive areas such as schools increased from 500 to 2,000 feet, compared with 300 feet under state law. Sound limits are measured at the property line. The community host agreement is worth about \$6.5 million, compared with about \$800,000 under state law. The Township is also eligible for the EGLE Renewable Ready grant of up to \$2 million. Supervisor Martin described the MISO

interconnection history and upcoming decommissioning, bond, development, and open-space agreements. Trustee Amos said the prior board had fought the project as hard as it could. Supervisor Martin reported that grant login access has been recovered and asked for ideas for the application's intended-use section. Ideas included: the 100-acre community open space; transfer station equipment such as a skid steer; Township Hall driveway and sewer repairs; investing funds to help lower millage; emergency sirens with voice capability (Treasurer Bloomfield, Trustee Amos); a website form for community ideas (Trustee Paver); community safety (Trustee VanBruggen); necessary maintenance throughout the Township (Clerk Lawrence); sidewalks (Trustee Amos); and keeping the golf course and leasing it to an operator (Treasurer Bloomfield, Trustee Hart). Supervisor Martin said the intended use is not binding.

Clerk Lawrence made a motion to authorize Supervisor Martin to pursue the application for the EGLE grant, with the intended use section filled in with the ideas shared at this meeting. Motion supported by Treasurer Bloomfield. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT:	PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER:	Clerk Lawrence
SECONDER:	Treasurer Bloomfield
AYES:	All members present
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None

Transfer Station Discussion

Supervisor Martin asked the Board and community for feedback on transfer station hours. It is currently open Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM and Saturday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, and Thursday and Saturday in winter; adding Friday was suggested. Other ideas included charging landscapers to drop leaves under the new compost license, a wood chipper, and selling wood chips and compost. Trustee Paver and Treasurer Bloomfield supported making better use of the site. Trustee Amos suggested considering relocating the transfer station to free the roughly 55-acre site. Trustee Hart expected demand to grow. Treasurer Bloomfield suggested harvesting timber on the property. No action was taken.

Civic Assure Agreement

Chris Mihelich of Civic Assure presented the platform for ordinance enforcement, zoning administration, and property/GIS management, which the ordinance officer has been piloting. Supervisor Martin noted it will allow cost recovery on enforcement cases, which the Township has not been pursuing. Clerk Lawrence noted it will help manage zoning escrow accounts and lower FOIA costs. The core package is \$4,890 per year (about \$0.73 per parcel) plus a one-time \$1,500 integration fee. Board members supported starting with the core package only.

Trustee Hart made a motion to proceed with the Civic Assure agreement. Motion supported by Clerk Lawrence. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Trustee Hart
SECONDER: Clerk Lawrence
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Township Hall Sewer Connection

Supervisor Martin reported that the Township engineer confirmed a negative grade in the Township Hall sewer connection, which runs through an easement on the adjacent parcel. It has backed up through the floor drain. No maintenance or repair agreement exists with the adjacent owner. The repair quote is \$15,410, compared with an estimated \$70,000–\$100,000 for a new Township line. Ongoing jetting costs about \$1,000 per visit. Trustees VanBruggen, Amos, and Hart and Clerk Lawrence favored repairing it. Trustee Hart noted the risk of sewage reaching the Kalamazoo River if the line breaks. Treasurer Bloomfield suggested bundling it with any parking lot work.

Trustee Hart made a motion to proceed with the repair if and when needed and to table any other work until October 5, 2026. Motion supported by Trustee Paver. Motion passed by voice vote.

RESULT: PASSED UNANIMOUS (voice vote)
MOVER: Trustee Hart
SECONDER: Trustee Paver
AYES: All members present
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

FINANCE

Reports

No discussion was had.

- Cash Summary by Fund — July 2026
- Cash Summary by Bank Account — July 2026
- Fire Department Incident Report — August 2026

INFORMATIONAL/FUTURE ACTION ITEMS

No discussion was had.

- FOIA Requests

PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Approximately six members of the public commented. Karen Hite supported 100% health coverage for full-time firefighters but suggested 80/20 for other employees. Jeanie Kissinger (322 Lawndale) noted Mary Guus's upcoming retirement and the memory center being up for lease, and asked the Board to find ways to help residents who cannot afford home repairs. Jessica Vetter praised the new Board and supported full coverage for first responders and more

police officers. Tim Kearney (9411 Miller Drive) urged a three-quotes requirement for purchases, asked the Supervisor to share duties with other board members, and raised concerns about possible litigation and the DDA board's appointments. Deputy Supervisor Dean Rockwell (8178 Fawn Meadow Trail) announced that county road maps are available from the clerks, that Consumers Energy offers free home energy assessments, and that the Kalamazoo County Homes for All housing millage portal is open until October 23, 2026, at 5:00 PM. He will forward a Discover Kalamazoo kayaking invitation to the Board. He noted his home value dropped after the Planning Commission's BESS vote. John Dickman clarified his earlier PA 233 remarks, praised the meeting, and supported the deer management hunt as a way to protect forest regeneration and the watershed.

MEMBERS COMMENTS

Trustee Hart had no comments. Trustee Amos said the prior board opposed the BESS for the Township's benefit, not for money, and that members paid their own way on the Coldwater tour; he also supported deer control. Clerk Lawrence confirmed members drove their own vehicles on the tour at no cost, agreed with the three-quotes comment, and said an RFP policy will be on the next agenda. Treasurer Bloomfield described the Coldwater tour, encouraged residents to research candidates before voting, and noted that curbside bulk pickup has started. Trustee Paver thanked attendees, asked the community for grace as the new Board learns, and encouraged residents to keep speaking up. Trustee VanBruggen thanked everyone for attending. Supervisor Martin thanked the Board and welcomed the new members.

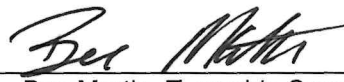
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:07 PM. The next regular meeting is October 5, 2026.

Minutes signatures

Attested:


Amber Lawrence, Township Clerk


Ben Martin, Township Supervisor