

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
REGULAR MEETING TOWNSHIP BOARD -**APPROVED**-  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198  
517.853.4000, Township Hall Room  
TUESDAY, August 19, 2025, 6:00PM

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

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Township Manager Dempsey, Township Deputy Manager Opsommer, Fire Chief Hamel, Finance Director Blonde, IT Director Gebes, Community Development and Planning Director Schmitt, Parks and Recreation Director Wisinski, Communications Manager Diehl

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Hendrickson called the August 19, 2025, 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 board members present at 6:01 pm.

4. PRESENTATION

A. Val Lafferty, Food Rescue US – Lansing Communities

Val Lafferty gave a presentation about Food Rescue US.

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comment at 6:15 pm.

Beth Bechtel spoke about land preservation.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comment at 6:17 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Dempsey gave updates on:

- Budget preparations are in progress.
- Police awards ceremony and promotions
- National Night Out.
- Congratulations on police promotions and retirements

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Treasurer Deschaine announced his resignation effective September 16.

Trustee Trezise spoke about Meridian Township Police and Fire training provided to Okemos Schools.

Trustee Wilson noted that schools start Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> and to drive safely.

Clerk Demas announced that the August 2025 election has been canvassed. She attended the police awards ceremony and the Lake Lansing Property Owners Association (LLPOA) meeting. A Democracy Class will be held on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve the Agenda. Supported by Trustee Lentz.**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 7-0**

9. CONSENT AGENDA

**Trustee Wilson moved to approve the Consent Agenda with a friendly amendment to address a minor spelling error to item 9.F. Supported by Trustee Trezise.**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 7-0**

10. ACTION ITEMS

A. Ordinance 2025-06 Rooster Regulation Introduction

Director Schmitt gave an overview of the discussion that has occurred to date.

**Trustee Wilson moved to adopt the resolution approving for introduction Text Amendment #2025-06 to amend the Code of Ordinances of the Charter Township of Meridian at Section 86-368 to update the standards for the keeping of roosters in the Township. Supported by Trustee Trezise.**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 7-0**

11. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Parking Lot Landscaping Ordinance

Director Schmitt outlined the proposed ordinance update.

Board members asked about feedback from developers, for clarity regarding language, and that this item be presented for action at the next meeting.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comments at 6:38 pm.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comments at 6:38 pm.

13. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None

14. CLOSED SESSION

**Trustee Wilson moved to enter closed session under MCL 15.268(1)(h) to consult with the Township attorney regarding a confidential written legal opinion. Supported by Trustee Trezise.**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 7-0**

**At 7:37, the Board returned to Open Session.**

15. ADJOURNMENT

**Treasurer Deschaine moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Lentz.**

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

**NAYS: NONE**

**Motion carried: 7-0**

**The meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm**



Scott Hendrickson  
Township Supervisor



Angela Demas  
Township Clerk