

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
REGULAR MEETING TOWNSHIP BOARD -**APPROVED**-
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198 517.853.4000,
Township Hall Room
TUESDAY, July 22, 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, Neighborhoods & Economic Development Director Clark, Community Planning and Development Director Schmitt, Parks and Recreation Director Wisinski

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Hendrickson called the July 22, 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. Manager's Semi-Annual Report

Township Manager Dempsey presented semi-annual reports from Township departments.

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comment at 6:19 pm.

Jeff Kessner spoke about proposed Community Center.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comment at 6:21 pm.

6. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Wilson attended the Community Resource Commission (CRC) meeting and a virtual Town Hall with Senator Slotkin.

Clerk Demas gave updates on election information about upcoming August 5, 2025 Special Election.

Treasurer Deschaine attended Michigan Township Association (MTA) mid-year legislative update meeting.

Several Board Members attended the East Lansing-Meridian Water & Sewer Authority (ELMWSA) annual meeting.

7. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Dempsey gave updates on:

- Assessing interns taking photos in community to update assessing database.
- Next Township Board regular meeting is Thursday, August 7th

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Wilson 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

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve the Consent Agenda. 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. Amendment to the Haslett Village Square Brownfield Plan

Director Clark outlined Haslett Village Square Brownfield Plan.

Board members spoke in favor of the project and workforce housing but does not meet the need of affordable housing.

Board members determined that the plan meets the public purpose component.

Board members asked about project timeline.

Trustee Wilson moved to adopt the resolution in support of the Haslett Village Square Brownfield Plan Amendment #1 for properties at 1621 & 1655 Haslett Road,

with a Total Increment Revenue of \$17,608,772 and developer reimbursement not to exceed \$14,563,048, for 23 years. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

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

B. 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments

Director Blonde gave a summary of 2nd quarter budget amendments.

The Board discussed the under anticipated budget.

Trustee Trezise to approve the 2nd Quarter 2025 Budget Amendments with an increase in budgeted fund balance for the General Fund in the amount of \$24,861 which projects a use of fund balance of \$199,307. Based on 2024 results, the projected fund balance at December 31, 2025 will be \$12,453,953. Seconded by Trustee Wilson.

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

C. Acceptance of Audit Findings

Director Blonde gave a summary of 2024 audit process.

Board members thanked Director Blonde for work on 2024 audit.

Trustee Wilson moved to approve the 2024 audited financial statements as presented by Yeo & Yeo. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

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

D. 2026 Board Goals

Manager Dempsey gave a summary of proposed 2026 Board goals.

Board members discussed 2026 Board goals and values including changes made from prior discussion. They also discussed amending communications goal to make it detailed oriented.

Manager Diehl gave an overview of communications department policy of creating a digital accessibility plan in compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by 2027.

Trustee Lentz moved to approve the Board valued and 2026 Board goals as presented in the attached document. Supported by Clerk Demas.

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 7-0

Clerk Demas moved to amend the Board values and 2026 Board goals as presented to communications: identify ways to expand and enhance communication with Township residents and stakeholders; and create a digital accessibility plan that is ADA complaint. Supported by Treasurer Deschaine.

VOICE 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. Central Park Project

Director Schmitt gave an overview of the Central Park project.

Brett Mozzetti and Mark Clouse, representing Eyde Development, and Brett Mozzetti, representing Continental Properties gave a presentation on the project.

Board members spoke in favor of the project over commercialization of area.

Board members asked about zoning ordinance, height requirements, and parking standards. They also requested modifications to concept plan appearances and naming.

Board members voiced concerns about the settlement agreement, curb cuts due to increased traffic, project appearance with parking and trash receptacles, and emergency bollards.

Board members discussed wetland preservation with the project and discussed economic impact.

Board members requested the project to be referred to Planning Commission and a public hearing be held.

B. Meridian Mall/Marketplace on the Green Paving Project

Director Wisinski and Deputy Manager Opsommer gave an overview of the project.

Board members asked about timeline and cost of generator replacement.

Board members requested negotiation with project cost and inclusion of additional accessible parking.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comments at 8:21 pm.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comments at 8:21 pm.

13. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Supervisor Hendrickson spoke about Special Election voting options.

14. CLOSED SESSION

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

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 8:23, the Township Board entered into closed session.

At 11:41, open session resumed.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Trezise moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Wilson.

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 7-0

The meeting adjourned at 11:42 pm



Scott Hendrickson
Township Supervisor



Angela Demas
Township Clerk