



AGENDA

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP BOARD – VIRTUAL MEETING

March 16, 2021 6:00 PM

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS
 3. ROLL CALL
 4. PRESENTATION
 - A. Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission
 5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS
 6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT
 7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
 8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
 9. CONSENT AGENDA
 - A. Communications
 - B. Minutes
 - (1) February 23, 2021 Virtual Special Board Meeting
 - (2) March 2, 2021 Virtual Regular Board Meeting
 - C. Bills
 - D. Grant Submission -Towner Road Park Playground
 - E. Regular Board Meeting Date Change Due to Special Election
 10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY
 11. HEARINGS (CANARY)
 12. ACTION ITEMS (PINK)
 - A. 6503 Park Lake Road Open Space Easement
 - B. Resolution Recognizing Autism Awareness Month
 - C. Capital Area District Library Appointment
 - D. Environmental Commission Appointments
 - E. Resolution on COVID-19 Relief Funding for School Districts
 - F. Resolution Honoring the Honorable Frank J. Kelley
 13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS (ORCHID)
 - A. 2021 Citizen Survey
 - B. Expansion of Redi-Ride Services
 - C. Recreational Marihuana
 14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC
 15. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
 16. CLOSED SESSION-Motion to go into closed session to discuss a written confidential legal opinion from the township attorney concerning payment of prevailing wages.
 17. ACTION ITEM-Motion on Township Attorney's recommendation concerning payment of prevailing wages.
 18. ADJOURNMENT
-

All comments limited to 3 minutes, unless prior approval for additional time for good cause is obtained from the Supervisor.
Appointment of Supervisor Pro Tem and/ or Temporary Clerk if necessary.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Meridian Township Board by contacting:
Township Manager Frank L. Walsh, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4258 - Ten Day Notice is Required.
Meeting Location: 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Township Hall (VIRTUAL MEETING)



9A

**CONSENT AGENDA BOARD
COMMUNICATIONS
MARCH 16, 2021**

From: [Candy Parker](#)
To: [Board](#)
Subject: Recreational I Marijuana
Date: Saturday, February 27, 2021 12:00:00 PM

Dear Board Members,

It has come to our attention that allowing recreational marijuana stores in Meridian Township is being considered. We hope that you will not allow this. Recreational Marijuana is readily available in the area without Meridian Township allowing it. This does not seem to be something that would add to Township quality of life. Rather, it would seem to be detrimental.

Yours truly,

Candy and Larry Parker
4361 Aztec Way
Okemos, MI 48864

From: [Smita Vavalumkal](#)
To: [Board](#)
Subject: Recreational marijuana
Date: Sunday, February 28, 2021 10:47:49 AM

Hello,

We moved from another city to Okemos because of its reputation. I have three children all school aged.

I am very concerned about Meridian Township permitting stores selling recreational marijuana near schools. It is not only putting out kids in risk of easy access to these drugs but also normalising this among the younger generation.

I wonder if you have considered how much money federal and state government is spending to rehabilitate citizens who get addicted to these recreational drugs.

I strongly suggest to please do not give permits to these stores.

Thank You,
Smita Manjasseril

From: [Carla Galligan](#)
To: [Dan Opsommer](#); jacksonp@comcast.net; [Kathy Ann Sundland](#)
Cc: [Board](#)
Subject: Opt-In Commercial Recreational Marijuana
Date: Monday, March 1, 2021 12:24:50 PM
Attachments: [Michigan Statewide Ballot Proposal 18-1.pdf](#)

Dear Oppsomer, Jackson and Sundland,

I have reached out to you individually and asked you to contact me regarding this matter as it is not possible to have a dialogue with the Board as a whole.

Can you please provide written responses to the following questions:

- Have Opting-In commitments or agreements been made by individual Board members or the Board as a whole to Commercial Marijuana businesses regarding Opting-In?
- Please provide the data that supports Trustee Opsommer's comment in the February 19, 2021 City Pulse "I believe the community strongly supports opting in to the adult use market".
- Where is the data promised to residents regarding Medical Marijuana?

I object to your using Meridian Township as a Social experiment for the impact of Commercial Recreational Marijuana. The residents of Meridian Township are largely unaware of this Opt-In initiative. It appears you are making irrevocable decisions for the community based on your own personal beliefs and preferences. In the midst of a Pandemic it is very difficult for residents to have access and input in this important decision.

I have attached the Statewide Ballot Proposal for your reference. This is what Michigan residents voted on - decriminalization and licensing not a land use issue.

What's the rush?

Carla A. Galligan
(517) 290-2160

4367 Aztec Way

STATEWIDE BALLOT PROPOSAL

2018

November 2018

This bulletin is available online at www.canr.msu.edu/vote2018.

Eric Walcott, Michigan State University Extension Specialist in Government and Public Policy Programs

Proposal 18-1 will appear on the ballot as follows:

Statewide Ballot Proposal 18-1

A proposed initiated law to authorize and legalize possession, use and cultivation of marijuana products by individuals who are at least 21 years of age and older, and commercial sales of marijuana through state-licensed retailers

This proposal would:

- Allow individuals 21 and older to purchase, possess and use marijuana and marijuana-infused edibles, and grow up to 12 marijuana plants for personal consumption.
- Impose a 10-ounce limit for marijuana kept at residences and require amounts over 2.5 ounces be secured in locked containers.
- Create a state licensing system for marijuana businesses and allow municipalities to ban or restrict them.
- Permit retail sales of marijuana and edibles subject to a 10% tax, dedicated to implementation costs, clinical trials, schools, roads and municipalities where marijuana businesses are located.
- Change several current violations from crimes to civil infractions.

Should this proposal be adopted? Yes [] No []

The Proposal

The proposed legislation, called the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, would amend state law to allow the personal possession and use of marihuana by people 21 and older, allow the lawful cultivation and sale of marihuana and industrial hemp by people 21 and older, permit the taxation of revenue from commercial marihuana facilities, allow for the creation of administrative rules and prescribe penalties for violations of the act. A “Yes” vote supports legalizing recreational marihuana and industrial hemp under the regulations listed in the act, including taxing the businesses involved. A “No” vote opposes enacting the proposed law. The full text of the proposal is available at

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/Petition_-_Coalition_to_Regulate_Marijuana_Like_Alcohol_572185_7.pdf

Background

What is the current law? Marihuana is legal in Michigan for medicinal purposes. Initiated Law 1 of 2008, the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act, was approved by voters in 2008 with 63% voting in support. This law provides protections for qualifying patients and growers and legalizes the use of marihuana for medicinal purposes. Qualifying patients may possess up to 2.5 ounces of usable marihuana and may cultivate 12 plants kept in an enclosed, locked facility (Michigan Medical Marihuana Act, 2008).

From: [james daly](#)
To: [Deborah Guthrie](#)
Subject: Adult Use Marihuana Support
Date: Monday, March 1, 2021 5:23:19 PM

Good Afternoon Deborah-

I hope you've been well. My name is James Daly and I'm the permit holder and owner of the medical marijuana provisioning center at Haslett and Okemos Rd. We are currently under construction and hope to open in a few months. Opening a provisioning center is quite the process!

I wanted to reach out to share my support of the consideration of an Adult Use Opt-In within the township. Arbors Wellness, also my business, was the first Medical Marihuana Provisioning Center to be approved in the State. We worked very hard to achieve that milestone. Since then, I have spent a good amount of time looking at additional locations that would help us serve our existing patient base as well as expand our small business. One of those locations is Meridian Township. The state implemented Adult Use sales in late 2019 and we were on the front lines of that in Ann Arbor. Some surprising data followed. Nearly one-third of our medical patients gave up their medical card within the first two months. In the following 6 months, our medical revenue had decreased by a little more than 50%. We were a bit surprised, but after speaking to many long term medical customers, we came to the realization that the convenience of walking into an Adult Use store superseded the effort it took to maintain a med card for many. And with other Adult Use dispensaries opening up in surrounding areas, the pool of medical card holders dwindled. My fear in Meridian Township is that without an Adult Use opt-In, we will not be able to proceed with opening our business for economic reasons. East Lansing and Lansing have already transitioned to Adult Use facilities and we know from the data that remaining medical only will not support our business. Meridian has approved a small group of good operators. Many of which have invested significant resources and time into their facilities in hopes of opening into Adult Use. In the three years that I have prepared to open a new business in Meridian Township, the state of the Marihuana industry has progressed significantly, bringing Adult Use to the forefront. I write this email with hopes that I can help save my business, employees (many are local to Meridian and are currently training in Ann Arbor), and significant capital investment, by sharing my strong support of the township opting into Adult Use. I greatly appreciate your time.

I would be more than happy to jump on a call or zoom to discuss this. I can be reached at (734) 474-5881.

Sincerely,
James Daly
President, Arbors Wellness
Haslett Gallery Inc.

--
Thank You,

James Daly
Arbors Wellness

Mon 3/1/2021 2:50 pm
Stork, Linda <storkl@msu.edu>

RE: Meridian Township Recreational Marijuana Survey

Here is the estimate, which includes labor and supply costs for a mailing to a random sample of registered voters (8000 is our recommendation) expecting to receive about 800 responses by web or phone. We may receive more due to the communities' interest in the topic, but there is no way to know for sure.

We expect the data collection period to be about four weeks. If we start later in March we should be able to finish data collection in April and provide a brief methodological report, data tables and a summary of the results by late May (perhaps earlier). Starting in March will depend on the Township signing off on a letter of agreement, which we will also have to process through MSU Contracts & Grants office.

Please keep in mind that MSU charges an indirect fee on all projects. The fee is 26% generally, but if the Township has a policy statement specifying that they will only pay up to a certain amount (many local governments and nonprofits have a 10% maximum policy), MSU will accept that policy statement.

I have also attached brief descriptions of three projects we have completed. Please let me know if you need more information regarding those projects.

	Salaries and Labor	\$ 4,793	
	Supplies/Printing/Postage	\$ 6,120	
	Phones	\$ 4	
	Incentives	\$ -	
	Computing and Operations Costs	\$ 690	
	Total Direct:	\$ 11,607	
	Indirect (10%)	\$ 1,161	
	Grand Total	\$ 12,768	

Hope to hear from you soon.

From: [Lynne Page](#)
To: [Board](#)
Cc: [Amber Clark](#); [Frank Walsh](#)
Subject: Commercial Recreational Marihuana-Opposition
Date: Monday, March 1, 2021 3:40:20 PM
Attachments: [L. Page. Township Board. 03.01.21.pdf](#)

To the Township Board,

I have attached a letter dated March 1, 2021 in opposition to allowing Commercial Recreational Marihuana businesses in Meridian Township. Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,
Lynne S. Page
3912 Raleigh Dr.
Okemos, MI 48864

March 1, 2021

Township Board
Charter Township of Meridian
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

Re: Opposition to Commercial Recreational Marijuana in Meridian Township – Resident Input

To the Township Board:

The Board “Study Session” on Commercial Recreational Marijuana was a huge disappointment. Meridian residents were promised data following the Board’s decision to opt in for commercial medical marijuana, including law enforcement, accident, crime, and public health data. Many of the stated claims made by Trustees in support of opting in to commercial recreational cannabis were personal opinions misconstrued as facts.

Here is the complete text of statewide ballot proposal 18-1 approved by Meridian Township voters:

A proposed initiated law to authorize and legalize possession, use and cultivation of marijuana products by individuals who are at least 21 years of age and older, and commercial sales of marijuana through state-licensed retailers. This proposal would:

- Allow individuals 21 and older to purchase, possess and use marijuana and marijuana-infused edibles, and grow up to 12 marijuana plants for personal consumption.
- Impose a 10-ounce limit for marijuana kept at residences and require amounts over 2.5 ounces be secured in locked containers.
- **Create a state licensing system for marijuana businesses and allow municipalities to ban or restrict them.**
- Permit retail sales of marijuana and edibles subject to a 10% tax, dedicated to implementation costs, clinical trials, schools, roads, and municipalities where marijuana businesses are located.
- Change several current violations from crimes to civil infractions.

Should this proposal be adopted? YES NO

- Sheriffs in 73 of Michigan’s 83 counties opposed the commercial adult recreational use ballot proposal, along with the Michigan Sheriffs Association, Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, Michigan Association of Treatment Court Professionals and the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, citing data documenting increased youth use, driving fatalities, and black market activity in other states that previously legalized recreational marijuana. These negative impacts could be magnified in Michigan due to lack of potency limits, relatively high possession amounts, and permitted home cultivation.
- During the Board discussion, some Trustees implied that the passage of the ballot proposal to decriminalize personal adult recreational marijuana signified approval of this land use in Meridian Township. In fact, close to 1,400 municipalities in Michigan have banned commercial marijuana businesses.
- Municipal fees potentially charged to defray application, administrative, and enforcement costs associated with the operation of the marijuana establishments were erroneously construed as profitable for the Township. According to Lansing officials, the costs of allowing commercial marijuana are likely to exceed gains from any fees collected. Legally, Meridian Township cannot profit from such fees.

A decision to opt in to commercial recreational cannabis is irrevocable, and should not be decided based on the personal beliefs and opinions of a few individuals. While I appreciate the consideration of a community survey to obtain additional resident input, the scope of a paper survey is far too limited. I am concerned that allowing online participation could be prone to duplication or participation by non-residents. Gathering input from MTPD Neighborhood Leaders is important. In the past, the Township also held community forums to gather firsthand community feedback on issues of importance.

I have significant concerns regarding the timing of this initiative during a pandemic, when residents may not be aware of this issue and/or may not have the time or resources necessary to participate in this discussion. The accelerated consideration of this initiative raises questions about whether commitments have been made to commercial interests without seeking input from residents and in the absence of the previously promised data.

Using the zoning ordinances adopted for Commercial Medical Marijuana as a template for Commercial Recreational Marijuana is excessive and inappropriate. For instance, East Lansing has only allowed two dispensaries, while Meridian Township's current ordinance permits a total of 21 commercial marijuana facilities, including 6 provisioning centers.

Under Michigan law, Meridian Township cannot impose any income taxes on its residents or businesses. The neighboring communities of Lansing and East Lansing can collect city income taxes from commercial marijuana facilities. If approved, Township residents will bear the burden of the associated public safety, infrastructure, public service, and environmental costs related to these commercial recreational marijuana businesses.

Like most issues that come before the Township Board, this is fundamentally a land use decision that has important economic, social, public safety, and environmental consequences. Recreational marijuana business will place a huge, unnecessary burden on our infrastructure and the demand for public services. Unless and until marijuana is legalized at the federal level, please continue to prohibit commercial recreational marijuana businesses in Meridian Township.

Sincerely,

Lynne S. Page
3912 Raleigh Drive
Okemos, MI 48864

From: [Peter Campbell](#)
To: [Frank Walsh](#); [Ron Styka](#); [Phil Deschaine](#); [Deborah Guthrie](#); [Patricia Herring Jackson](#); [Dan Opsommer](#); [Courtney Wisinski](#); [Kathy Ann Sundland](#)
Subject: Recreational marijuana - No thank you.
Date: Monday, March 1, 2021 8:29:03 AM

To whom it may concern:

I am a property owner in the township and member of the DDA. I am strongly against recreational marijuana being legalized in Meridian Township. It's an element that isn't needed and in my opinion adds nothing of value to the community while greatly lowering our attractiveness to families.

Sincerely,

Pete Campbell

CAMPBELL PRESS REPAIR

Press & Hammer Repair
925 River St. Lansing, MI 48912
517-371-1034 Ext 109, Cell 517-388-1403
Email: pc@campbellpress.com
Web: www.campbellpress.com

From: [Yingxin Zhou](#)
To: [Board](#); [Frank Walsh](#)
Cc: [Planning Commision \(DG\)](#)
Subject: Recreational cannabis businesses (Opposition)
Date: Monday, March 1, 2021 7:09:02 AM

Dear Township Board and Township Manager Walsh,

As an Okemos public schools parent, I'm strongly opposed to opting in to recreational cannabis businesses in our township. One of my concerns is opting in may result in an increase in the use of marijuana among youth.

Many thanks to Supervisor Styka who mentioned in the Feb 16 meeting that very few top schools in Michigan have marijuana facilities nearby. I checked each of Michigan top 20 public school districts by Niche (<https://www.niche.com/k12/search/best-school-districts/s/michigan/>). For those schools Ann Arbor and Grand Rapids are the only 2 municipalities, which both are cities, that opted in to recreational marijuana businesses.

Okemos (OPS) is the #4 best public school district in Michigan by Niche. Could you please give us parents a firm answer on how permitting 6 marijuana stores will impact our schools? If approved the 6 existing medical marijuana facilities will be allowed to sell recreationally. Overlay district # 6 is close to Bennett Woods and #7 is in very close proximity to Hiawatha and close to Kinawa, Chippewa, and Okemos High. In my opinion maintaining marijuana establishments at least 1,000 feet away from schools is simply not enough. The vast majority of the municipalities where the top school districts are located just don't have those facilities in their boundaries.

The township board did make a promise to the community in 2019 that the township wants to have one year of experience with medical marijuana before making the decision on what to do with the recreational use. I went back to the June 4 and July 9, 2019 board meeting recordings and I also looked at media coverage (WILX report: <https://www.wilx.com/content/news/Meridian-Township-votes-on-smoke-shops-512542122.html>). They all confirmed the promise you made. As elected officials you are just going to break your promise?

There are also safety concerns. Treasurer Phil Deschaine's presentation in the Feb 16 meeting is very informative. Even East Lansing, with 30,000 plus students, has only 2 stores. East Lansing has 102 police personnel (51 sworn and 51 non-sworn), MSU has

85 sworn officers. Leoni township near Jackson now has 3 dedicated police officers focused on their 6 recreational marijuana stores. Meridian township only has 41 sworn and 13 non-sworn. Do you have any plan to expand the police workforce if you permit 6 stores? Can you guarantee local residents the same quality of life and safety as what we have now if you permit 6 stores?

I watched the Feb 16 board meeting. Most of the speakers that spoke in support of the proposal work in the marijuana industry trying to sell.

I strongly urge you to put community first and continue to prohibit recreational marijuana businesses in Meridian township.

Sincerely,

Yingxin Zhou
2565 Sophiea Pkwy
Okemos, MI 48864

From: [JAMES RYPKEMA](#)
To: [Board](#)
Subject: March 2 Board Meeting
Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 1:18:02 PM

To Meridian Board,

I am writing to you all concerning the very serious meeting scheduled for tonight regarding allowing cannabis stores to be allowed within Meridian township.

First, as a Meridian resident for 18 years, I believe an issue this serious should be put to the entire township to vote on; not just the current board.

Next, I am writing to let you all know that Kathi and I STRONGLY OPPOSE rescinding the current ban on such dispensaries. All one has to do is drive by already existing "pot shops" and observe the clientele outside these places. I occasionally drive by the one in Lansing on the corner of Pennsylvania and Jolly. It's threatening to observe.

What about the Okemos and Haslett students, who will no doubt be affected by friends able to buy these products? Is this what the township needs or wants? I think not.

We will support any trustees or other elected officers of the township (Supervisor, Treasurer, Clerk) who vote NO to allow this proposal to occur. For those that vote YES,

you can be sure there will be an organized effort via petitions, etc to undo it.

Respectfully,

Jim Rypkema

2167 Heritage Ave.

Okemos, Michigan 48864

(517) 980-5265

From: [Meridian Township, MI](#)
To: [Deborah Guthrie](#)
Subject: joannemahoney0@gmail.com
Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:38:59 AM

Message submitted from the <Meridian Township, MI> website.

Site Visitor Name: Joanne Mahoney
Site Visitor Email: joannemahoney0@gmail.com

I am a Meridian Township homeowner since 1996. We came here so our two sons could have the education that Okemos offers. With that we have come to appreciate the great neighborhoods, friendly, caring responsible people and the support of green space. I am writing today to oppose allowing the sale for recreational marijuana in Meridian Township. I listened to the Board meeting that discussed this topic. From what I gather this is not something that is being actively pursued because the citizens want it to improve our neighborhoods, schools, government or better our lives. Ron Styka hit the "nail on the head" when he said he is always led by what is good for our neighborhoods. This isn't something that is good for our neighborhoods or citizens.

If someone wants to purchase this for recreational use all they need to do is go a few miles up the road to East Lansing. No one is infringing on their right to purchase and use it. Rather we don't need to take on the headaches, challenges and issues that will come with sales here and now. The worst case scenario of non approval of this is that we wait a few years to see how this really plays out. This is not an issue that Meridian Township needs to take a lead role in imposing this on our community at this time. The citizens are not pushing for it as there really is nothing proven to be good for our community.

Please do not allow the sale of recreational marijuana in Meridian Township.

Sincerely,
Joanne Mahoney

From: [Deborah Guthrie](#)
To: [Board](#)
Subject: FW: letter to board
Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:29:26 AM
Attachments: [township board.docx](#)

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Peter Menser <menser@meridian.mi.us>
Date: 3/1/21 5:25 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: Deborah Guthrie <guthrie@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: Robin Faust <faust@meridian.mi.us>, Michelle Prinz <prinz@meridian.mi.us>, Frank Walsh <walsh@meridian.mi.us>, Mark Kieselbach <Kieselbach@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: FW: letter to board

Hi Deborah,

I received this communication to the Township Board from Kathy and Larry McCurdy regarding medical marihuana late Sunday night. Sorry I didn't send it earlier today, fully intended to do so.

Thank you.

-Peter



Peter Menser
Principal Planner
menser@meridian.mi.us
517.853.4576
5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864

meridian.mi.us

From: Kathy & Larry McCurdy [<mailto:kathyandlarrymccurdy@gmail.com>]
Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 11:05 PM
To: Peter Menser
Subject: letter to board

Peter,
We hope all is going well with and yours. Could you please see that the attached letter is placed in the packet for Tuesday night's board meeting?

Kathy & Larry McCurdy

Kathy and Larry McCurdy
2710 Sophiea Parkway
Okemos, MI 48864

Board members,

We are longtime residents of Meridian Township. In 1977, we chose Meridian Township over other communities because of its commitment to providing a safe environment and placing an emphasis on preserving our natural areas.

Just a few days ago we attended a meeting where Supervisor Ron Styka told us that on the most recent list of best places to live in Michigan, Meridian Township was number one. We would like to maintain this rating. By "Opting -in" to commercial recreational marijuana businesses, we are jeopardizing that number one position. In the long run what little we will gain in tax revenue, will be outweighed by the expenditures required of the township to provide a safe environment. Besides, this, the addition of recreational marijuana facilities can lead to a decrease in property values and then of course less tax revenue for the township. It has been stated that the township would be giving access to convenient legal marijuana. This argument does not have merit as the township has two adjacent communities with several accesses to the same – thus we do not need to have outlets here. It has been stated that 61% of the Township voted in favor of legalizing marijuana. We are two of those people. We voted In favor to prevent people who chose to use the substance would not be criminalized for the behavior. That did not mean, then or now, that we want retail outlets in our community. We are not alone in this position as we are aware of many others who voted in favor of legalizing marijuana, but not in favor of retail outlets or other facilities.

We are definitely in agreement with the statements made by both Police Chief Ken Plaga and Treasurer Phil Deschaine. It has also been stated to us that some board members have received contributions to their campaigns from lobbyists to promote the Opt-in proposal. If this is true, we feel that full disclosure of this and the amount of the contribution should be made public. We feel this should be done on any issue, not just this proposal. The Board is elected to represent the residents of Meridian Township, not special interest groups. The board members should not be accepting contributions from lobbyists. We do want to thank the board for their strong efforts in preserving and improving the natural beauty of our community. We just hope that at this time you do not take a huge step backwards and that you put off making any decision on this issue that cannot be reversed. The old adage "you cannot put the genie back in the bottle" certainly applies here.

Sincerely,

Kathy & Larry McCurdy

From: [Leszek Gawarecki](#)
To: [Board](#)
Cc: [Edyta Brustman-Gawarecka](#)
Subject: Marijuana
Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:00:07 PM

Hello: We are respectfully submitting our opposition to opening marijuana stores in Meridian Township and kindly request (1) an information campaign about the impact on our peer and similar communities (2) consultations with community leaders, teachers, law enforcement, legal authorities, and high school students (3) financial analysis independent of the analysts provided by the industry
Finally, after the community obtains the above information, we kindly request an administration of a community survey.

Our rationale is that (1) the industry representatives presented a very weak and highly biased case of our community prospering financially and increasing employment opportunities, and at the same time, solving problems with illegal sales while introducing a completely harmless substance in a secure and safe environment. We believe it is unusual for all of the above to be true about controlled substances. For example, our discretionary income is of course limited, so if we spend \$100 on marijuana, we will not spend it in the Farmer's Market. Therefore the net sales in the township may remain unaffected. (2) Our community is divided on that issue with all of us making unsubstantiated statements about the impact of marijuana on our community. We simply don't know and need to get insight into the above issues in order to make a wise decision.

Thank you for reading, Leszek Gawarecki and Edyta Brustman-Gawarecka.

Leszek Gawarecki

Department Head and Professor of Mathematics
Department of Mathematics

Email: lgawarec@kettering.edu
Phone: (810)-762-9557
Fax: (810)-762-7932
1700 University Avenue ~ Flint, MI 48504

Kettering University

From: [Nic Manenama](#)
To: [Board](#)
Subject: Recreational Weed - One Tax Paying Family's Opinion
Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:31:18 PM

To the board:

How does adding six Weed retailers enhance our already overtaxed "Prime" community?

Is there a long term cost benefit for working family tax payers & homeowners? Yes, long term because this decision will impact our community for YEARS.

Does allowing six Weed retailers in the community enhance property values or family Prime community experiences? Does it enhance our children's schools and community experience? Does it make our community safer?

I/we find it Ironic (and amazing) that a Prime Community Board is even considering six retail recreational use locations of what is still a Federally illegal drug!

What's the big win here? Make it quicker and easier for residents to run out and grab a couple joints? Isn't there an over abundance of rec weed retailers in EL and Lansing that are readily available to Meridian residents? It's not like Pot is "essential" to everyday life!

What's the downside of not approving? We lose a few tax dollars to East Lansing or Lansing, but save huge headaches and costs of overseeing these Weed sellers?

Come on....the optics are really poor on this issue. It being driven by a limited number of individuals whom want to impose their will on the vast majority of us. Don't cave to the lowest common denominator or a small group that wants to profit and is not anchored in the community!

If you're approving it, keep them next to your neighborhood! I/we don't want to pay the amounts of taxes I/we do if Weed stores are added to my neighborhood or community.

I/we live in Meridian Township but don't want to give my real name for fear of being harassed, targeted or subject to the cancel culture on Social media.

With all due respect-

An Okemos Family and Resident since 1965

From: [Wei Li](#)
To: [Board](#)
Subject: Objection to recreational marijuana businesses
Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:33:57 AM
Attachments: [Screen Shot 2021-03-02 at 8.16.01 AM.png](#)
[Screen Shot 2021-03-02 at 8.16.10 AM.png](#)

Dear Meridian township board,

I'm a resident from Champion woods neighborhood in Okemos. I object to opting in to recreational marijuana businesses in our township.

I watched the recreational marijuana study session. I fully agree with Treasurer Phil Deschaine and former township manager Jerry Richards that it is too risky to opt in. Per township 2020 Review 2021 Action Plan, "We are honored that out of 1,700 Michigan communities, Niche has named Okemos as #1 and Haslett as #13 in the 2020 Best Places to Live in Michigan rankings" (Source: <https://www.meridian.mi.us/Home/ShowDocument?id=22409>). I also attached screenshots below.

Why would we put the # 1 community in Michigan on a marijuana experiment? What if the experiment fails and who will be responsible for it?

I'm also concerned with the survey. The proposal should be ended by the township board right now. Why brought up the idea of opting in to the township anyway: it's the marijuana industry or local residents who have difficulty getting recreational marijuana? If you choose to continue with the survey I'd suggest holding study sessions with educators and neighborhood leaders seeking their inputs. If survey on local residents has to be done, the township must provide all the facts and data to educate people first before surveying and the survey needs to be attached to residents' name and address to prevent any duplicates.

Please vote NO on this proposal.

Niche Rating

- We are honored that out of 1,700 Michigan communities, Niche has named Okemos as #1 and Haslett as #13 in the 2020 Best Places to Live in Michigan rankings.



Niche Rating

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Okemos | 6. Birmingham | 11. Northville |
| 2. Troy | 7. Beverly Hills | 12. Northville Township |
| 3. Bloomfield Township | 8. East Grand Rapids | 13. Haslett |
| 4. Ann Arbor | 9. Novi | 14. Gross Pointe Farms |
| 5. Gross Pointe Park | 10. Lodi Township | 15. Gross Pointe |



Regards,

Wei Li

-----Original Message-----

From: Charles Kotz [<mailto:cdkotz73@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 10:56 AM

To: Board <Board@meridian.mi.us>

Subject: Sandhill Cranes: Tastes Like Pork? - University of Michigan Press - Relevant to Meridian Township & continued habitat destruction.

Dear Township Board:

Please bear with me, and consider how your actions regarding re-zoning approvals have implications for wildlife species. Now, a migratory bird, the Sandhill Crane, is under consideration by the State Legislature, to be reclassified as a “game bird”. This species was nearly hunted to extinction, but has made a very slow recovery. However, due to continual habitat loss, they are encroaching on to some farm fields. The solution proposed: shoot them out of existence. FYI, they do currently nest in several areas of the Township—for now.

Meridian Township has plenty of cars, roads, and people. I hope you will consider the impact of your incessant re-zoning approvals on the few native birds remaining in the Township, in the land that has not been subjected to urban sprawl.

Thanks for reading the attachment.

Sincerely,

Charles Kotz
1282 Silverwood Dr.

From: [Phil M](#)
To: [Township Board](#)
Subject: Support for commercial marijuana in Meridian Twp
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:05:40 PM

Dear Township Board members,

I'm writing to voice my support for allowing the sale of recreational marijuana in Meridian Township. I have seen no evidence that this would pose a risk or danger to our community.

When I voted YES on the state-wide proposal, along with about 60% of Meridian Township voters, I was *not* voting "yes, but not in my community". I realize that each community is free to decide whether or not to permit it, but since our community's voters supported it overwhelmingly at the ballot box, I see no need to conduct a survey that would cost thousands of dollars. Had Meridian voters rejected this proposal, then it would make sense to prohibit sales, and you wouldn't even need a survey.

I believe that re-litigating or subverting the results of an election is dangerous, at *any* level of government. I do not believe that there is any survey that can reflect the wishes of our community more accurately than the votes they cast at the ballot box. Just because you have the option to ignore the voters' will on this issue, that doesn't make it right.

I'm also very uncomfortable with the entire "not in my backyard" argument. Where do we draw the line when we let local governments overturn the results of a legal election?

I understand that people are afraid of this change. But do we really want to be making decisions for the entire community based on feedback from citizens who are afraid?

If you believe that this issue *must* be placed before the community again, because you believe that voters did not know what they were voting for (a belief which I strongly reject), then it should be done as a local ballot issue, not a survey. I know it would be more expensive, but it's the only fair way to do this. A survey could overturn the will of the majority of our residents who have already made their opinion known, and that would be a dangerous precedent.

While it has absolutely nothing to do with my opinion, I will add that I am not a consumer of marijuana, I would not be purchasing it, and I have no vested interest in anything except fairness and respecting the results of a legal, fair, honest election.

Sincerely,
Philip F. Martinez
2443 Graystone Drive
Okemos, MI 48864

Sent from my iPad

From: [Paul Zang](#)
To: [Board](#)
Subject: Meridian Township Deer Management Program
Date: Saturday, March 6, 2021 2:51:24 PM

Meridian Township Board:

I have recently discovered that Meridian police officers are culling deer in a few select places in Meridian Township - two of which are Ted Black Woods and the land preserve north on VanAtta from Newman. Carcasses of wounded deer are beginning to show up in backyards and are being eaten by coyotes and/or other wildlife. It sickens me to know that wounded deer are out there suffering and ultimately falling defenselessly as prey to coyotes or automobiles. I had no idea that the Meridian police are baiting and culling the deer population in Ted Black woods or any other township park or natural preserve. Deer baiting is otherwise illegal as I understand. Shooting them in a public park is particularly abhorrent. Using public parks to kill wildlife is antithetical to the purpose and spirit of natural areas not to mention a hazard to the public who go there to enjoy them. Deer carcasses become bait for coyotes who then invade our neighborhoods scavenging for food and making our pets and small children vulnerable.

I am even more upset that police are being used to cull the deer population. That's not what we, as taxpayers, pay them to do and if culling deer is the only way the township can keep these officers busy, then maybe we have too many employees on the force. Can you imagine how much each deer taken costs the township with police officers killing them?

Like it or not, coyotes have brought back a natural balance of nature. While I think death by coyote is worse than death by cop, it is still a more natural way to control a deer population that is too large to be sustainable. Coyotes normally target fawns who succumb faster than adult deer but, here I go, feeling sympathetic for these cute little victims. I'd feel worse if cops were killing fawns.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Zang
pzang4920@gmail.com





From: [Frank Walsh](#)
To: ronstyka@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: Meridian Township Deer Management Program
Date: Monday, March 8, 2021 6:02:50 PM

Board,

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ken Plaga <plaga@meridian.mi.us>
Date: March 8, 2021 at 4:48:45 PM EST
To: pzang4920@gmail.com
Subject: Meridian Township Deer Management Program

Mr. Zang,

I am responding to the email you sent to the Township Board regarding the deer cull that is currently taking place in the Township. I first want to recognize that this is a sensitive issue and many feel strongly on both sides of the topic. I want to take time to provide information about some of the points made in your email.

The program does not wound deer and allow them to roam off and die or fall prey to coyotes or automobiles. Officers are instructed and trained to only take humane and safe shots. The deer are then collected and transported for processing. The Township deer cull has provided over 4200 lbs. of processed venison to area food banks. The officers remove the entire deer leaving no carcasses or remains behind.

The Township has chosen to use the police department to conduct the cull for many reasons. The police are very familiar with the community and safety is of utmost importance. Utilizing officers also has a fiscal advantage. The cull is only conducted in evening hours when parks are closed and on specific dates and times when call volumes are low. Officers have also flexed their work schedule so police services will not be impacted due to cull operations. The cost to have an outside company come and conduct the cull would be \$270 to \$525 per deer or \$40,500 to \$78,750 for the 150 deer the DNR permitted to be taken during the cull. Here is a link to a company that conducts deer culls for reference. <https://www.whitebuffaloinc.org/deer-management>

The DNR has taken an active role in the deer management in Meridian Township. The current cull is under a permit granted by the DNR which allows baiting and taking deer at night. The current number of deer taken will not decrease the deer population in the Township but maintain the population at current levels according to DNR staff. Coyotes are a predator of deer and you are correct they mainly target fawns in the spring, however coyotes do not control the deer population effectively. The police conducted deer cull does not take fawns and will cease in mid-March so there is no impact on fawns by the cull.

If you have any further question please contact me.



A Prime Community

meridian.mi.us

<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]-->**Ken Plaga**

Chief of Police

Plaga@meridian.mi.us

W 517.853.4800 |

5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864

From: [john david faichney](mailto:john.david.faichney@board.org)
To: [Board](#)
Cc: [john david faichney](mailto:john.david.faichney@board.org); [SHEREEN TABRIZI](mailto:SHEREEN.TABRIZI@board.org)
Subject: Re: Rezoning # 21020 (Martin Investment) Kansas Road, Okemos, Mi.
Date: Sunday, March 7, 2021 10:13:11 PM
Attachments: [scan0004.pdf](#)
[scan0003.pdf](#)

Dear Board Members:

My wife and I purchased a home at 3566 Kansas Road for our daughter 12/29/2020. We were notified 2/23/2021 of a proposal to rezone 2 of 3 properties adjacent to ours for medical office space. The Kansas Road is unpaved and like country. Many residents have been on Kansas, and as well on adjacent Indiana Road , for many decades. 17/18 of local residents signed a petition which opposes a change in zoning (please see attached). The development could threaten our well water and the traffic increase , expected to be sixty times, will destroy the idyllic lifestyle of Kansas. Of course, depreciation of land values is a concern as well. The reason for the proposed zoning change, medical office building, is odd because there is a totally empty medical office building across the Jolly Road and there is available undeveloped land on Okemos Road a short way west which could easily be medical office building development. There is no justification to take residential property away from our neighborhood for a project which could be easily achieved elsewhere in Okemos.

The Planning Commission will review the proposal 3/8/2021 at 7 PM. We expect to participate virtually. We hope that you will take an interest in our concerns.

Sincerely yours,

JD Faichney, Shereen Tabrizi

Attachment is petition which includes the signatures of 17 local residents who oppose the change in zoning.

From: john david faichney <jdfaichney@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 1:20 PM
To: commission@meridian.mi.us <commission@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: menser@meridian.mi.us <menser@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Fw: Rezoning # 21020 (Martin Investment) Kansas Road, Okemos, Mi.

From: john david faichney <jdfaichney@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 11:02 AM

Cc: John David Faichney <jdfaichney@hotmail.com>; SHEREEN TABRIZI <shereen-faith@comcast.net>; celene tabrizi <highminded@att.net>

Subject: Rezoning # 21020 (Martin Investment) Kansas Road, Okemos, Mi.

Rezoning # 21020 (Martin Investment) Kansas Road, Okemos, Mi.

TO: Planning Commission, Meridian Township, Michigan and Peter Menser, Principal Planner

We were informed only by a letter from Martin placed personally in our mailbox at 3566 Kansas Road, Okemos, Mi. regarding a proposed development which would be adjacent to our recently (Dec 29,2020) purchased home. Naturally, we were taken aback by this form and content of communication because we had received nothing from Meridian Township. We doubted a clear and compelling reason for a medical office building here because there are numerous vacancies for such activity, even across the street, Jolly Road, from Kansas Road.

We drafted a petition and circulated it amongst neighbors. 17 /18 neighbors were opposed to rezoning property on Kansas Road from residential to medical office building. A copy is attached including 17 signatures. The following reasons are contained in petition:

1. The Meridian Township Master Plan designates 2 of 3 properties targeted for rezoning as residential.
2. These residential properties should not be rezoned without a clear and compelling reason.
3. The proposal for a medical office building will increase the number of daily automobile trips to this property from 19 to 1142, sixty times greater, on a typical weekday according to Rezoning Traffic Study included in application.
4. Kansas Road is a unique and vanishing road in Okemos with low traffic volume, low density, safety and wildlife. A large medical office building will destroy Kansas Road's most desirable qualities.
5. No case has been made to justify exchanging the residential values of Kansas Road versus the need for medical office space in this community. Surely, there are opportunities for such development in an appropriately zoned part of this community.

Given the above and the overwhelming opposition to this proposal, we ask that the Planning Commission reject the proposal for this rezoning and development on Kansas Road.

Sincerely yours, JD Faichney, Celene and Shereen Tabrizi.

Attachment: Petition in opposition to proposed zoning change signed by 17 adult neighbors.

**Petition in Opposition to plan of Martin Investment Company to Rezone,
Otherwise known as Rezoning #21020 (Martin Investment Properties, Inc).**

I have read and understand the Rezoning #21020 letter from Meridian Township dated Feb 18, 2021.

**We, the undersigned, oppose the proposal of Martin Investment Company
To rezone 6 acres of property for the purpose of building a medical office building. The parcels are
#33-353-016 (2446 Jolly Road), parcel # 33-353-005
(3532 Kansas Road) and parcel # 33-353-004 (3558 Kansas Road).**

The reasons for our opposition:

- 1. The Meridian Township Master Plan designates 2 of 3 properties targeted for rezoning as residential.**
- 2. These residential properties should not be rezoned without a clear and compelling reason.**
- 3. The proposal for a medical office building will increase the number of daily automobile trips to this property from 19 to 1142, sixty times greater, on a typical weekday according to Rezoning Traffic Study included in application.**
- 4. Kansas Road is a unique and vanishing road in Okemos with low traffic volume, low density, safety and wildlife. A large medical office building will destroy Kansas Road's most desirable qualities.**
- 5. No case has been made to justify exchanging the residential values of Kansas Road versus the need for medical office space in this community. Surely, there are opportunities for such development in an appropriately zoned part of this community.**

Name	Signature	Date	Address	MC.
Shereen Tabrizi		2/24/2021	3566 Kansas, Okemos	4886
of Faichney		2/24/2021	3566 Kansas, Okemos, Mi	
Renea Kane		2/24/2021	3565 Kansas Okemos Mi	
Josh Basker		2-24-21	3596 Kansas Rd	
Sondra A. Hachin		2/28/2021	3589 Kansas Rd.	
Carlene Hooker		2-27-2021	3663 Kansas Rd	
Anas Aijanadi		2/27/2021	2531 Robins Way	
Ken Miller		2/27/2021	3681 Kansas Rd.	
Brenda Miller		2-27-2021	3681 Kansas Rd	
Carrie Zuyghuizen		2-27-2021	2496 Robins Way	

**Petition in Opposition to plan of Martin Investment Company to Rezone,
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(3532 Kansas Road) and parcel # 33-353-004 (3558 Kansas Road).**

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1. **The Meridian Township Master Plan designates 2 of 3 properties targeted for rezoning as residential.**
2. **These residential properties should not be rezoned without a clear and compelling reason.**
3. **The proposal for a medical office building will increase the number of daily automobile trips to this property from 19 to 1142, sixty times greater, on a typical weekday according to Rezoning Traffic Study included in application.**
4. **Kansas Road is a unique and vanishing road in Okemos with low traffic volume, low density, safety and wildlife. A large medical office building will destroy Kansas Road's most desirable qualities.**
5. **No case has been made to justify exchanging the residential values of Kansas Road versus the need for medical office space in this community. Surely, there are opportunities for such development in an appropriately zoned part of this community.**

Name	Signature	Date	Address
FRANCOIS PARMAR		02/27/2021	2499 ROBINS WAY OKEMOS 48864
Jan Halm		Feb 27, 2021	3535 KANSAS - OKEMOS 48864
Celene Tabrizi		3/1/2021	3566 Kansas Okemos 48864
Jody Wesley		3/1/20/21	2550 Robins Way Okem
Gloria Gokeman		3/1/21	3521 Emulation 48864
Sharon D Merritt		3/1/2021	3531 Indiana Okemos 48864
Gary Merritt		3/1/21	" "

From: [Lynn Hildebrandt](#)
To: [Board](#)
Subject: Letter to the Board Regarding the Deer Management Cull Program
Date: Sunday, March 7, 2021 5:46:20 PM
Attachments: [Meridian Township Board.pdf](#)

Please share with the Board and include in your packet for your March 16, 2021 meeting.

Meridian Township Board of Trustees

On the morning of February 11th as I entered Ted Black Woods from Van Atta I found a blood trail that led directly to the bait pile that Meridian Township put out in order to shoot your goal of an additional 150 deer by the end of March. The trail led from the bait pile to the street, where who knows what happened and how many drivers might have been endangered. This is the first I learned of your new Cull (bait and shoot) program.

Your Deer Management Program started 11 years ago and has yet to prove successful as this latest uptick demonstrates. The plan is flawed – deer will propagate in relation to the environment that sustains them. A few years ago, I attended a meeting at which a then-Board member, now State Representative, spoke. When asked what the goal was – how many deer did they intend to kill – the reply was, all of them. This has never been a reality-based program.

There has not been, or at least is not included in your documentation, a study of deer reproductivity in this township. Therefore, there is no science-based goal for deer reduction.

Spartan Newsroom ran an article in 2018 with the theme that Meridian Township sees higher rates of car-deer accidents than other Ingham County townships. The reality is when you compare accident rates in Meridian Township with those adjacent, Meridian sees higher accident rates, period. In 2018 there were 777 crashes in Meridian, 115 in Williamstown Township, 329 in Alameda, and 146 in Wheatfield. This demonstrates the inappropriateness of this data point that Meridian Township is using.

The use of the Meridian Township Police in this Sisyphean feat is repulsive. The citizens of Meridian Township did not vote through Millage renewals for Public Safety and Parks so that the Police could be coopted into something so Orwellian or so that our parks could be changed from places to enjoy nature to places to destroy nature.

In the document you put together to support the Management Program the township cites statistics of car-deer accidents by year. In 2013, the year with one of the highest total killed (127) we saw the highest number of car-deer accidents (180). In 2018, the year with the lowest kill total, we saw the fewest car-deer accidents. The stated goals in that document include reducing deer-human interactions and reducing car-deer collisions. I can attest, as someone who lives near Ted Black Woods and the Foster Davis Land Preserve, that the current program has increased deer-human interactions. They are in my yard and neighborhood all day every day when their usual environment becomes unsafe. I can also attest to seeing them darting across the road between cars at all times of day since the beginning of February, when this latest Bait and Shoot program started. Since the Bait and Shoot program began a neighbor has found two dead deer in her backyard, both of which attracted coyotes to her yard. We can't prove that these deer were injured by your acts but we can say with certainty that this has never happened before. And the blood trail I found on February 11th is clear evidence that not every deer shot dies quickly. Did these other two die from the stress of a never-ending hunting season, were they merely injured when shot, were they injured jumping over the barbed wire that the township apparently doesn't have the resources to remove from the preserve, or were they injured by running away from the Kill Zone and into a car? We cannot know – any of those are possibilities.

The last thing I want to add is that your bait piles appear to have been strategically placed to optimize the potential for an injured deer to run into traffic in places with the least visibility for a driver. The entrance to Ted Black Woods is a heavily wooded area where deer burst into the street without warning. The bait pile in the Foster Davis Land Preserve is conveniently placed immediately in the curve on Van Atta, where cars have limited sight distance.

This ill-conceived plan is, at minimum, an abuse of the trust of the citizens of the township who vote you into office and for the millages that fund the police and parks.

Respectfully,

Lynn Hildebrandt
4890 Chipping Camden Ln
Okemos MI 48864

From: [Frank Walsh](#)
To: ronstyka@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: Meridian Township Deer Management Program
Date: Monday, March 8, 2021 6:03:17 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ken Plaga <plaga@meridian.mi.us>
Date: March 8, 2021 at 5:05:38 PM EST
To: lynn.hildebrandt6@gmail.com
Subject: Meridian Township Deer Management Program

Ms. Hildebrandt,

I am responding to the email you sent to the Township Board regarding the deer cull that is currently taking place in the Township. I first want to recognize that this is a sensitive issue and many feel strongly on both sides of the topic. I want to take time to provide information about some of the points made in your email.

The program does not wound deer and allow them to roam off and die or fall prey to coyotes or automobiles. Officers are instructed and trained to only take humane and safe shots. The deer are then collected and transported for processing. The Township deer cull has provided over 4200 lbs. of processed venison to area food banks. The officers remove the entire deer leaving no carcasses or remains behind.

The Township has chosen to use the police department to conduct the cull for many reasons. The police are very familiar with the community and safety is of utmost importance. Utilizing officers also has a fiscal advantage. The cull is only conducted in evening hours when parks are closed and on specific dates and times when call volumes are low. Officers have also flexed their work schedule so police services will not be impacted due to cull operations. The cost to have an outside company come and conduct the cull would be \$270 to \$525 per deer or \$40,500 to \$78,750 for the 150 deer the DNR permitted to be taken during the cull. Here is a link to a company that conducts deer culls for reference. <https://www.whitebuffaloinc.org/deer-management>

The DNR has taken an active role in the deer management in Meridian Township. The current cull is under a permit granted by the DNR which allows baiting and taking deer at night. The current number of deer taken will not decrease the deer population in the Township but maintain the population at current levels according to DNR staff.

In your letter you brought up that the culling of deer has no effect on accidents. Below is a chart of the car/deer accidents and the number of deer taken in the Township. The years 2017 and 2018 were the lowest number of car/deer accidents. This can be attributed in part by the large number of deer taken in 2015-2017.

Year	Deer Culled	Deer removed by Hunting	Car/Deer Crashes
2015	403	63	144 (5 PIA)
2016	247	73	164 (5 PIA)
2017	190	80	126 (4 PIA)
2018	112	57	127 (2 PIA)
2019	0	88	153 (3 PIA)
2020	0	176	162 (5 PIA)
2021	150	Not available	Not available

(PIA= Personal Injury Accident)

If you have any further question please contact me.



A Prime Community

meridian.mi.us

Ken Plaga

Chief of Police

Plaga@meridian.mi.us

W 517.853.4800 |

5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864

From: [Mark Stevens](#)
To: [Deborah Guthrie](#)
Subject: Application Printing Error
Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 3:48:14 PM

Clerk Guthrie,

I am writing this email to express my sincere apology for the error that took place in the printing of your absent vote application forms. Our records clearly indicate that you approved the correct copy for your applications that included your name on both sides of the application. Unfortunately, the original version had not been deleted, as is our policy, and we mistakenly printed the outgoing side of the applications with the previous clerk's name. This is completely unacceptable and we take full responsibility for this error. As a result, we will not be charging you for the printing of these cards. We have spoken to the person responsible for the error. Although this has never happened before, we are reviewing our processes to see if there is additional measures we can take, going forward. Please forgive us for any inconvenience this causes you or your staff.

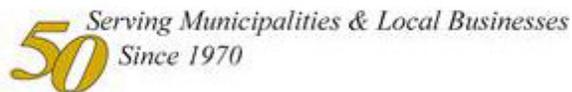
Sincerely,
Mark Stevens

Mark F. Stevens

12005 Beech Daly Rd. | Taylor, MI 48180
(734) 946-5111x228 | (800) 95-12345x228
(734) 678-5111 Cell | (734) 946-1115 Fax

mstevens@printingsystems.us

www.printingsystems.us



From: [Peter Menser](#)
To: jdfriz66@gmail.com
Cc: [Frank Walsh](#); [Deborah Guthrie](#); [Mark Kieselbach](#)
Subject: RE: Medical Marihuana Question
Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 11:58:02 AM

Hi Justin,

I understand you had reached out to Clerk Guthrie with some questions about the Township's medical marihuana ordinance. As the primary staff for the program I was asked to follow up with you.

Currently, there are six applicants interested in establishing commercial medical marihuana facilities here in the Township, specifically provisioning centers. Of the six applicants, four of those have received special use permit approval, which is a pre-requisite for the commercial medical marihuana facility permit. To date, the Township has not issued any commercial medical marihuana facility permits.

The Township is not currently accepting any new applicants. In adopting an ordinance in 2019 the Township Board limited the number of slots available (both in total number and by geographic area) and those are all currently taken. You may have heard at that one of the applicants dropped out last fall when renewals were due, however we opened a new application window earlier this year and received an application, so that spot is once again taken.

If you aren't already, I encourage you to follow the Township Board's discussions about the potential for adopting recreational marihuana. That conversation may or may not impact the medical marihuana program. The Board will be discussing recreational marihuana at its next meeting on Tuesday, March 16.

Happy to answer any other questions you may have on this topic. Feel free to give me a call anytime at the number below.

-Peter

Peter Menser
Principal Planner
menser@meridian.mi.us
517.853.4576
5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864
meridian.mi.us

From: [Frank Walsh](#)
To: [Deborah Guthrie](#)
Subject: FW: Deer Cull Ends
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 11:59:08 AM

Deborah & Board,

Please see below. We will have a better number for you next week. So far, about 6,600 pounds of venison donated. I believe we are going to provide a stipend of \$300 for each police officer and public works employee involved. And, \$500 to our team leader at public works.

Frank

“Best Town in Michigan to Raise a Family” Newsweek Magazine 2021

“Best Small Town in Michigan to Live” Niche 2020

“Be Somebody that Makes Everybody Feel Like Somebody.”

Frank L. Walsh

Township Manager

walsh@meridian.mi.us

W 517.853.4258 | F 517.853.4251

5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864

meridian.mi.us

From: LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 10:40 AM
To: Michelle Prinz <prinz@meridian.mi.us>; Frank Walsh <walsh@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: Derek Perry <perry@meridian.mi.us>; Abigail Tithof <tithof@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: RE: Deer Cull Ends

Hi Frank and Michel

Mike is picking up last weeks' deer tomorrow and will pick up this weeks' deer next Wednesday so it would be best if we waited to provide a complete final report at the end of next week. Right now, we have donated 4,228lbs of venison to local food banks from the police cull and 2,280lbs from the archery season.

Hope this helps for now.

LuAnn

The list of food banks include:

Okemos Community Church

Haslett Community Church
Saint Paul Lutheran Church
Capital Area Community Services
Lakeside Chapel of Park Lake
City Rescue Mission of Lansing
Dansville Clothing and Food Bank
Redeemer United Methodist Church of DeWitt
Charlotte Assembly of God
Williamston Food Bank
Our Savior Lutheran Food Bank of Lansing

I will provide final details next week.

Thank you.

LuAnn

From: Michelle Prinz <prinz@meridian.mi.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 10:08 AM
To: Frank Walsh <walsh@meridian.mi.us>; LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: Derek Perry <perry@meridian.mi.us>; Abigail Tithof <tithof@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: RE: Deer Cull Ends

LuAnn,
Can you help to answer Frank's question below? Thank you!

Michelle Prinz
Executive Assistant
prinz@meridian.mi.us
W 517.853.4258 | F 517.853.4251
5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864
meridian.mi.us

-

From: Frank Walsh
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 9:28 AM
To: Michelle Prinz <prinz@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: Derek Perry <perry@meridian.mi.us>; Abigail Tithof <tithof@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Fwd: Deer Cull Ends

Can you get a good number and locations for donated venison. Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Deborah Guthrie <guthrie@meridian.mi.us>
Date: March 10, 2021 at 9:11:03 AM EST
To: Frank Walsh <walsh@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: RE: Deer Cull Ends

Looking forward to hearing the total amount of venison donated. Great work and kudos to all involved in this effort and the benefit of venison being donated to food banks for people in need. Deborah

From: Frank Walsh
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 8:08 AM
To: 'ronstyka@gmail.com' <ronstyka@gmail.com>
Subject: Deer Cull Ends

Ron & Board,

I'm really proud of the teamwork between our parks and police departments. Last night, we took 10 deer to reach our goal of 326 deer. We have exhausted our DNR tag limit. Hence, the amplified deer cull has ended. We surpassed our original goal of 300.

More good news, even after we provide an appreciation stipend to the cull team, we will have spent approximately ½ of the Board approved \$75,000 deer cull budget. If we were to hire a private company to complete the same program, the budget would have exceeded \$350,000.

Frank

“Best Town in Michigan to Raise a Family” Newsweek Magazine 2021

“Best Small Town in Michigan to Live” Niche 2020

“Be Somebody that Makes Everybody Feel Like Somebody.”

Frank L. Walsh
Township Manager
walsh@meridian.mi.us
W 517.853.4258 | F 517.853.4251
5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864
meridian.mi.us

From: [Lynn Hildebrandt](#)
To: [Ken Plaga](#); [Board](#)
Subject: Letter to the Board and Chief Plaga
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 6:04:02 PM
Attachments: [Meridian Township Board and Chief Plaga.pdf](#)

Please include this letter in the Board packet for their 16 March, 2021 meeting.

Chief Plaga and the Meridian Township Board of Trustees

Thank you for your response, Chief Plaga, to my email of 3/07/2021 concerning the current Deer Bait & Shoot Program. I appreciate that you tried to provide information on some of the points made in my email, I'm taking the liberty to do the same.

I'm sorry you misunderstood my point about wounded deer. I'm also sorry if I was the one to break the news to you about the blood trail outside Ted Black Woods. I've seen evidence of numerous of your kills and know the difference between a blood spot that is the result of a clean kill and a blood trail that clearly indicated that a deer was wounded and fled toward the street and, potentially, into the way of drivers. I also know that you pick up your kills. And I know that since this Bait & Shoot Program started my neighbor has found two dead deer in her yard being devoured by coyotes. That has never happened before. In my initial letter I made clear that I can't, with certainty, attribute this to the Bait & Shoot Program. Since this has never happened before and I don't put my trust in coincidence, I believe they might be related. A deer wounded by one of your officers is only one of the scenarios I posed. Please share the research that's been done on the hunting season having been extended to five months and the impact that has on the health of the herd. Does that constant stress increase the possibility of deer dying at a rate that hasn't been seen in the past? And of course, a panicked deer could conceivably run into the barbed wire that's not been taken down around the land preserve or even into a moving car in their attempt to escape.

I appreciate that officers are able to flex their schedules but that misses the point that there are other ways for them to serve the community with those flexed schedules. They could, for instance, work on mitigating the over-all accident rate in the township. Here's a look at how we stack up compared to adjacent townships according to the MSP site:

TOTAL CRASH COUNTS BY TOWNSHIP

Township	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Alaiedon	323	253	298	275	320	315	298	297	329	299
Meridian	931	863	901	905	858	835	988	873	777	835
Wheatfield	132	118	110	122	125	160	135	113	146	140
Williamstown	117	144	116	126	117	129	150	115	115	112

It's difficult for me to believe that there are not more effective ways to make use of the millage that was voted for in 2020.

Other issues that have not been addressed include a study on reproductivity rates of deer in the area. Without that information any target number for the kill is merely a guess. This warrants, at minimum, more study before numbers are bandied about.

The positioning of the Kill Sites is questionable at best and appears to demonstrate a lack of interest in thinking critically about the consequences of actions. Perhaps there was something behind the determination of those sites that I've missed, please fill me in.

In the Township document regarding the Deer Management Program there are options that could be considered and are not discussed. For example, Rochester Hills MI is cited as an example in other literature for the work they have done to reduce car/deer crashes. They have done considerable outreach to educate the citizens about deer resistant plantings, they've clearly noted where car/deer accidents are most likely to happen and articulated that to the citizens, and they have engaged the citizenship in seeking out solutions. I get around my neighborhood and to the parks more than most people and I have spoken with a number of neighbors and park walkers. I have yet to find a single person who knew of the Bait & Shoot Program before I spoke of it. I know the Township does the minimum to notice people who are immediately adjacent to parks but that is simply not enough. I'm doing my part to educate people despite the fact that I have a full-time job and other responsibilities. If you

want buy-in for this Orwellian program you simply have to figure out how to get your message out to the people in the township.

I stand by my contention that this program is ill-conceived, ill-advised, and a betrayal of the citizens who vote for millage monies for parks and police.

Respectfully,

Lynn Hildebrandt

Ms. Hildebrandt,

I am responding to the email you sent to the Township Board regarding the deer cull that is currently taking place in the Township. I first want to recognize that this is a sensitive issue and many feel strongly on both sides of the topic. I want to take time to provide information about some of the points made in your email.

The program does not wound deer and allow them to roam off and die or fall prey to coyotes or automobiles. Officers are instructed and trained to only take humane and safe shots. The deer are then collected and transported for processing. The Township deer cull has provided over 4200 lbs. of processed venison to area food banks. The officers remove the entire deer leaving no carcasses or remains behind.

The Township has chosen to use the police department to conduct the cull for many reasons. The police are very familiar with the community and safety is of utmost importance. Utilizing officers also has a fiscal advantage. The cull is only conducted in evening hours when parks are closed and on specific dates and times when call volumes are low. Officers have also flexed their work schedule so police services will not be impacted due to cull operations. The cost to have an outside company come and conduct the cull would be \$270 to \$525 per deer or \$40,500 to \$78,750 for the 150 deer the DNR permitted to be taken during the cull. Here is a link to a company that conducts deer culls for reference. <https://www.whitebuffaloinc.org/deer-management>

The DNR has taken an active role in the deer management in Meridian Township. The current cull is under a permit granted by the DNR which allows baiting and taking deer at night. The current number of deer taken will not decrease the deer population in the Township but maintain the population at current levels according to DNR staff.

In your letter you brought up that the culling of deer has no effect on accidents. Below is a chart of the car/deer accidents and the number of deer taken in the Township. The years 2017 and 2018 were the lowest number of car/deer accidents. This can be attributed in part by the large number of deer taken in 2015-2017.

Year	Deer Culled	Deer removed by Hunting	Car/Deer Crashes
2015	403	63	144 (5 PIA)
2016	247	73	164 (5 PIA)
2017	190	80	126 (4 PIA)
2018	112	57	127 (2 PIA)
2019	0	88	153 (3 PIA)
2020	0	176	162 (5 PIA)
2021	150	Not available	Not available

(PIA= Personal Injury Accident)

If you have any further question please contact me.

Ken Plaga

Chief of Police

Plaga@meridian.mi.us

W 517.853.4800 |

5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864

From: [Cathy Liu](#)
To: [Board](#)
Subject: NO recreational marijuana stores in Okemos!!!
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 9:20:45 PM

Hello, I am a registered voter of Meridian Township. I live in 1338 Spicewood Dr, Okemos. I am strongly against opening recreational marijuana stores in Okemos. Okemos is a place to raise families. Marijuana business is not suitable for our township. As a resident, I am willing to pay high property tax to live in Okemos because of our high-quality schools and safe neighborhood. I will not be willing to pay my current property tax to live in a neighborhood 5 minutes away from a recreational marijuana store. I am not against people using Marijuana, but Okemos is NOT a right place to open 6 recreational marijuana stores. Please be responsible for your decision.

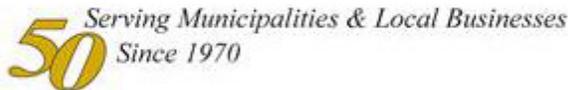
Hui Liu

From: [Mark Stevens](#)
To: [Deborah Guthrie](#)
Cc: [Brian Bonkowski](#)
Subject: RE: Application Printing Error
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 9:29:42 AM

Deborah, I will put this back on press for your extras and we will not charge anything for them. Again, I'm extremely sorry that this happened. I will get the reprint to you as quick as possible.

Mark F. Stevens

12005 Beech Daly Rd. | Taylor, MI 48180
(734) 946-5111x228 | (800) 95-12345x228
(734) 678-5111 Cell | (734) 946-1115 Fax
mstevens@printingsystems.us
www.printingsystems.us



From: Deborah Guthrie <guthrie@meridian.mi.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2021 4:58 PM
To: Mark Stevens <mstevens@printingsystems.us>
Subject: RE: Application Printing Error

Mark,

As I understand it, these misprinted 9,500 absent voter applications were unable to be intercepted at the post office which was dropped yesterday. Today, we noticed the error upon receiving the 1,500 unaddressed applications sent to our office. Please send Meridian a corrected version to replace the 1,500 sent to our office that we will need to submit if requested by voters. I should hope we can at least have those versions corrected and I hope Meridian is not charged for any of this as well.

Thank you, Deborah

Deborah Guthrie

Clerk, Meridian Township
guthrie@meridian.mi.us
W 517.853.4324 | F 517.853.4251
5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864
meridian.mi.us

From: Mark Stevens [<mailto:mstevens@printingsystems.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 3:48 PM
To: Deborah Guthrie <guthrie@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Application Printing Error

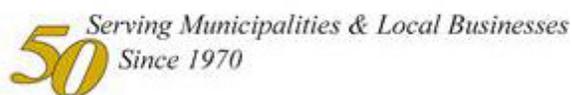
Clerk Guthrie,

I am writing this email to express my sincere apology for the error that took place in the printing of your absent vote application forms. Our records clearly indicate that you approved the correct copy for your applications that included your name on both sides of the application. Unfortunately, the original version had not been deleted, as is our policy, and we mistakenly printed the outgoing side of the applications with the previous clerk's name. This is completely unacceptable and we take full responsibility for this error. As a result, we will not be charging you for the printing of these cards. We have spoken to the person responsible for the error. Although this has never happened before, we are reviewing our processes to see if there is additional measures we can take, going forward. Please forgive us for any inconvenience this causes you or your staff.

Sincerely,
Mark Stevens

Mark F. Stevens

12005 Beech Daly Rd. | Taylor, MI 48180
(734) 946-5111x228 | (800) 95-12345x228
(734) 678-5111 Cell | (734) 946-1115 Fax
mstevens@printingsystems.us
www.printingsystems.us



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To: mstevens@printingsystems.us Message Score: 50

High (60): **Pass**

From: guthrie@meridian.mi.us My Spam Blocking Level: Medium

Medium (75): **Pass**

Low (90): **Pass**

[Block](#) this sender

[Block](#) meridian.mi.us

This message was delivered because the content filter score did not exceed your filter level.

From: [Carla Galligan](#)
To: [Dan Opsommer](#)
Cc: [Board](#)
Subject: Opt-In Commercial Recreational Marijuana
Date: Thursday, March 11, 2021 4:29:15 PM

Dear Trustee Opsommer,

I would like more information on why you asked for the issue of Opting-In to Commercial Recreational Marijuana be placed on the Township Board's agenda:

- 1). Did Representative Julie Brixie ask you to raise this issue?
- 2). Did contributors to your campaign, the Brixie for Michigan Fund , the Julie Brixie Blue Wave Fund or Commercial Marijuana representatives / enterprises request your advocacy on this issue?

You were elected to represent Meridian Township residents. In your role as a Township Trustee your opinions and beliefs should not take precedence over our established single family community values.

This is an irrevocable decision. Residents deserve their voices to be heard.

Please provide answers to my questions in writing or at a public meeting. I have written to you previously and received no response.

Sincerely,

Carla A. Galligan
4367 Aztec Way
Okemos, Michigan

From: [Randy Schaetzl](#)
To: [Board](#)
Subject: deer cull success
Date: Thursday, March 11, 2021 11:48:48 AM

Dear Board members,

Months ago I wrote to you of the serious deer overpopulation problem that many of the Township's neighborhood were facing. Jane Greenway and her team of hunters are/were making a dent in the deer population, but everyone would agree that they simply could not do enough to keep pace with reproduction. In response to my concern and similar concerns voiced by other residents, you brought in the police as night-time snipers. Thanks to Office McCready, who has been filling me in on the progress of this latest cull initiative, I now know that 326 deer were harvested from the Township over the past few months. And 32 of those came from near our neighborhood. That's a lot of venison for hungry mouths, and countless hostas and tomatoes saved!

I am writing to thank you, the Board, and Manager Walsh, for making this cull possible, and to thank Director Maisner, the police officers and Chief Plaga who made it successful. This is a great example of government working for its citizens. You were not afraid to try a new approach, and it worked. And it was, as far as I know, done with minimal expense. Bravo. Now let's get even more next year!

All the best,

Randall Schaetzl
Professor
Department of Geography, Environment, and Spatial Sciences
673 Auditorium Rd, Rm 128
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1117

Phone: 517-353-7726

Fax: 517-432-1671

My web page: <https://people.geo.msu.edu/schaetzl/>

Department website: <http://geo.msu.edu/>

I am a member of the Quaternary Landscapes Research Group at MSU.

Visit us at: <https://project.geo.msu.edu/qlrg/>

From: [Yingxin Zhou](#)
To: [Board](#); [Frank Walsh](#)
Subject: Recreational marijuana (Opposition)
Date: Thursday, March 11, 2021 8:31:34 AM

Dear Township Board and Township Manager Walsh,

I heard some speakers express concerns during citizen's address session: marijuana is available for purchase in Lansing and East Lansing, but not in Meridian Township. I don't think this is a valid concern. There is a Costco in East Lansing vs. we don't have a Costco in Meridian. Can we ask to have a Costco to in Meridian? There is MSU in East Lansing vs. we don't have any university in Meridian. Can we ask to have a major university in Meridian? Please keep in mind that marijuana is still illegal under federal law and municipalities can completely ban recreational marijuana businesses under Michigan law. Also different municipalities have different functions.

Access to marijuana isn't an issue for Meridian township residents. One of the 2 stores that East Lansing has is Pleasantrees, that is located on 1950 Merritt Rd, East Lansing, MI 48823, right across from Costco. It's only 3.7 miles or 7 minutes' drive from the township building at 5151 Marsh road.

Clerk Guthrie mentioned in the last board meeting that she called nearly 10,000 local residents for her campaign last year and the top 3 issues that was heard from the residents are: fixing the roads, Okemos downtown development and social equity. 0 people said that they have difficulty in obtaining recreational or medical marijuana.

I'm wondering why you are considering this during Covid pandemic? Many people have been stressed out and thus don't have time and energy for this. Okemos schools are reopening this coming Monday 3/15 but they're only offering 10 hours in-person instruction per week. So parents will continue to be overwhelmed by work and kids' virtual learning.

I strongly urge you to continue to ban recreational marijuana businesses and keep Meridian as the best place to live in Michigan.

Sincerely,

Yingxin Zhou
2565 Sophiea Pkwy

Okemos, MI 48864

1950 Merritt Rd, East Lansing, MI 48823

From: [Tze-Lan Sang](#)
To: [Board](#)
Subject: No recreational marijuana shops in Okemos
Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 12:54:53 PM

Dear Board:

I oppose recreational marijuana shops in Okemos. Through the Treasurer Phil Deschaine's analysis, it is clear that there is no economic benefit for Meridian Township to allow marijuana shops in Okemos. On the contrary, there are potentially huge costs, such as increased police workload, litigation costs, and falling real estate prices.

I agree with Chief Plaga in opposing recreational drug outlets in Meridian Township.

Meridian is a family-centered community. Let us send a clear signal to our children that recreational drugs are discouraged in Meridian.

Sincerely,

T. Deborah Sang
3717 Fairhills Dr.
Okemos, MI 48864



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 1, 2021

CONTACT: Kati Adams, Harris Nature Center Coordinator
517.349.3866 | kadams@meridian.mi.us

Harris Nature Center
A Meridian Township Park Millage Facility



Attract Birds and Butterflies to Your Garden with Native Plants
Harris Nature Center Hosts a Native Plants Sale

Meridian Township, MI – Add native wildflowers, grasses, sedges or shrubs to your gardens this spring by ordering plants from the Harris Nature Center’s Annual Native Plants Sale. Order forms are available now and all orders are due by Friday, April 23rd.

Orders will be available for pick-up on Saturday, May 1st at the Harris Nature Center (3998 Van Atta Road) in Meridian Township where additional plants will be available for sale on site.

All plants are grown locally by Designs by Nature in Laingsburg and Go Grow Plant Natives in Charlotte. The proceeds from the sale support the Harris Nature Center.

“Native plants thrive in Michigan and will attract birds and butterflies to your garden,” said Nature Center Coordinator Kati Adams. “We hold this sale every year to help people discover the ease and importance of using native plants in their gardens.”

Adams says plant prices vary and available plants include Michigan native shrubs, sedges, grasses, wildflowers, ferns and complete garden kits.

For more information and to receive an order form, contact hnc@meridian.mi.us or 517.349.3866.

Visit the Harris Nature Center webpage on the Meridian Township website at www.meridian.mi.us/HNC for more information. Residents are also encouraged to follow the Harris Nature Center on social media at www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter and www.instagram.com/harrisnaturecenter.

###

The community of Meridian Township is in close proximity to the Michigan State Capitol and Michigan State University. The Township serves the community through exceptional services, beneficial amenities and an outstanding quality of life. It is a welcoming community that celebrates quality education, recreation and lifestyles.





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 2, 2021

CONTACT: Kati Adams, Harris Nature Center Coordinator
517.349.3866 | kadams@meridian.mi.us

Harris Nature Center
A Meridian Township Park Millage Facility



Learn about Michigan Song Birds at the Harris Nature Center
Bring your family to HNC for a private-guided nature program

Meridian Township, MI – The Harris Nature Center (HNC) continues to offer Private-Guided Nature Programs each month and in March, visitors can learn all about Michigan song birds. Those attending the program will learn about the different species of birds found in Michigan, explore their nesting habits and enjoy a guided walk. Families are encouraged to dress for outdoor activities and masks are required during the program.

“Migration has begun and spring is right around the corner. We can hear many of the birds singing their spring songs now!” said Park Naturalist Allison Goodman. “Families will get to enjoy time on the trail with a naturalist looking and listening for some of Michigan’s over 450 bird species.”

Goodman says the private guided nature programs are appropriate for all ages and are tailored to groups depending on the ages of the children in attendance. Programs can be scheduled between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Friday.

The fee is \$20 per private program and is due at the time of registration. For more information and to schedule your private-guided program, call 517.349.3866.

Visit the Harris Nature Center webpage on the Meridian Township at www.meridian.mi.us/HNC for more information. Residents are also encouraged to follow the Harris Nature Center on social media at www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter and www.instagram.com/harrisnaturecenter.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY

LEGAL AD NOTICE: Special Use Permit #21021

Mr. R's Driving School

MONDAY, March 22, 2021

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Special Use Permit #21021
(Mr. R's Driving School)
Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via the Zoom web conferencing application to hear all persons interested in a special use permit (SUP) request. The applicant, Mr. R's Driving School, is requesting a special use permit to install a driving test course in the parking lot behind the building at 1575 Haslett Road. The project site is zoned C-2 (Commercial).

The Zoom meeting ID for the public hearing is 872 0006 8286 and the password is 5151. To participate in public comment during the virtual meeting please call 517.349.1232. If you have any questions about accessing the meeting contact Principal Planner Peter Menser at 517.853.4576 or menser@meridian.mi.us.

Materials related to the request are available for viewing on the Township website at the following location: <http://www.meridian.mi.us/government/at-your-fingertips/current-applications-before-meridian-township> or at the Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Planning Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to planningcommission@meridian.mi.us.

Publish: Towne Courier
March 7, 2021

Deborah Guthrie
Township Clerk

1 Affidavit, please



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 8, 2021

CONTACT: Kati Adams, Harris Nature Center Coordinator
517.349.3866 | kadams@meridian.mi.us

Harris Nature Center
A Meridian Township Park Millage Facility



Chipmunk Story Time is back at the Harris Nature Center
Chicory Chipmunk presents "Counting Nature"

Meridian Township, MI- Story time is back in-person and children can once again interact with puppets Chicory Chipmunk and his animal friends at the Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, in Meridian Township. Participants can choose to attend either Thursday, March 18th or Friday, March 19th at 10 am for this month's Chipmunk Story Time, *"Counting Nature"*.

"We are very excited to host story time in person again!" said Nature Center Coordinator Kati Adams, "Children will enjoy stories, nature activities and time outdoors on the trails."

Adams says there is also a virtual option for this month's story time for anyone not able to attend in person. For more information and to register, contact hnc@meridian.mi.us or 517.349.3866.

The fee is \$5/ child and is due at the time of the program. Space is limited so you must register in advance by calling 517.349.3866.

Visit the Harris Nature Center webpage on the Meridian Township at www.meridian.mi.us/HNC for more information. Residents are also encouraged to follow the Harris Nature Center on social media at www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter and www.instagram.com/harrisnaturecenter.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10, 2021

CONTACT: Deborah Guthrie, Township Clerk
517.853.4324 | guthrie@meridian.mi.us

2021 May Special Election Approaches

Meridian Township Outlines Voter Information

Meridian Township, MI – Meridian Township will hold a Special Election on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 for voters in the Okemos Public School district to vote on two school proposals. Polls will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

The two proposals on the ballot include the Okemos Public Schools Operating Millage Renewal Proposal and the Okemos Public Schools Sinking Fund Proposal. Full ballot language is available on the Township website at www.meridian.mi.us/Elections.

To register to vote in this Special Election:

- Register online at the Secretary of State's Michigan Voter Information Center (MVIC) www.michigan.gov/VoterRegistration.
- Register in person at the Meridian Township Clerk's Office at 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos.
- All registrants must be 18 years of age or older when they vote, a United States citizen, a resident of Michigan and a resident of Meridian Township.

Absentee Voter (AV) Ballots will be available beginning March 22. Applications for AV Ballots are automatically sent to voters on the Permanent Absentee Voter List. Applications may also be requested online through the MVIC website, in person at the Meridian Township Clerk's Office or by contacting the Clerk's Office at 517.853.4300 or emailing elections@meridian.mi.us.

The deadline for requesting an AV Ballot to be mailed is Friday, April 30 at 5:00 pm. Ballots may be requested in person at the Clerk's Office until 4:00 pm on Monday, May 3. If a voter requests an AV Ballot on Monday, May 3 (the day before Election Day), they must vote the ballot at the Clerk's Office. New voters may register to vote at the Meridian Township Clerk's Office on Election Day. Once registered, a voter may vote either at the polls after registering or by AV Ballot at the Clerk's Office.

The MVIC provides information about registering to vote and voting, voting equipment, polling place locations, state and local ballots and more. The Meridian Township Clerk's Office can help with questions about voter registration, polling place location and working at the polls on Election Day.

For more information about this upcoming election, please visit the Township website at www.meridian.mi.us/Elections.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10, 2021

CONTACT: Deborah Guthrie, Township Clerk
517.853.4324 | guthrie@meridian.mi.us

May 2021 Special Election Precinct Information

Meridian Township Polling Location Changes

Meridian Township, MI – A Special Election for Okemos Public Schools will take place on Tuesday, May 4 in Meridian Township.

To better accommodate all voters, including meeting accessibility requirements, two precinct locations are being consolidated. Voters in Precinct 10 who normally vote at the Meridian Service Center will vote at Wardcliff. Voters in Precinct 15 who normally vote at the Meridian Senior Center will vote at Kinawa Middle School inside the gymnasium. Mailed notices regarding the new polling locations have been sent to voters in these precincts.

Precinct Polling Locations – May 4 Special Election:

PCT 6 Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 7 Kinawa Middle School, 1900 Kinawa Drive, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 8 Cornell Elementary School, 4371 Cornell Road, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 9 Edgewood School, 1826 Osage Drive, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 10* Wardcliff School, 5150 Wardcliff Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823
PCT 11 2/42 Community Church, 2600 Bennett Road, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 12 Wardcliff School, 5150 Wardcliff Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823
PCT 13 Central Elementary School, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 14 Hiawatha Elementary School, 1900 Jolly Road, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 15* Kinawa Middle School, 1900 Kinawa Drive, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 16 Moved to Precinct 17
PCT 17 Bennett Woods Elementary School, 2650 Bennett Road, Okemos, MI 48864

On Election Day, May 4, polls will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm, and all voters are required to vote at their assigned precinct. Voters at the polls must show a picture ID or sign an affidavit that they are “not in possession of a picture ID” before they are allowed to vote. All voted Absentee Voter Ballots must be returned to the Clerk’s Office by 8:00 pm on Election Day, May 4, 2021.

Voters can visit the Meridian Township website www.meridian.mi.us/elections for up-to-date Election Day information or call 517.853.4300 to confirm precinct/polling location information.

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meridian.mi.us

Charter Township of Meridian Polling Locations

PCT 1	St. Luke Lutheran Church 5589 Van Atta Road Haslett, MI 48840	PCT 11	2/42 Community Church 2600 Bennett Rd. Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 2	Haslett Middle School 1535 Franklin Street Haslett, MI 48840	PCT 12	Wardcliff School 5150 Wardcliff Drive East Lansing, MI 48823
PCT 3	Haslett High School 5450 Marsh Road Haslett, MI 48840	PCT 13	Central Elementary School 4406 Okemos Road Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 4	Murphy Elementary School 1875 Lake Lansing Road Haslett, MI 48840	PCT 14	Hiawatha Elementary School 1900 Jolly Road Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 5	Haslett Community Church 1427 Haslett Road Haslett, MI 48840	PCT 15	Kinawa Middle School 1900 Kinawa Drive Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 6	Meridian Municipal Building 5151 Marsh Road Okemos, MI 48864	PCT 16	MOVED WITH PRECINCT 17 (as of 3/23/2012)
PCT 7	Kinawa Middle School 1900 Kinawa Drive Okemos, MI 48864	PCT 17	Bennet Woods Elementary School 2650 Bennett Road Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 8	Cornell Elementary School 4371 Cornell Road Okemos, MI 48864	PCT 18	Snell Towar Recreation Center 6146 Porter Ave. East Lansing, MI 48823
PCT 9	Edgewood School 1826 Osage Drive Okemos, MI 48864	PCT 19	United Church of Christ MI Conference 5945 Park Lake Road East Lansing, MI 48823
PCT 10	Wardcliff School 5150 Wardcliff Drive East Lansing, MI 48823	PCT 20	New Hope Church 2170 E. Saginaw Hwy East Lansing, MI 48823

County Commissioner Districts:

District 11 - Pcts. 1,2,3,4,5,6,10,18,19,20
District 12 - Pcts. 7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,17

All Precincts:

U.S. Congressional District 8
State Senate District 23
State Representative District 69

School Districts:

Haslett:

Meridian Township includes Pcts.1,2,3,4,5, part of 20
Woodhull Township votes at Twp. Hall, 7315 W. Beard Rd., Shaftsburg
(or Meridian Pct. 3 when only School Election)
Bath Township votes at Bath Pct.2 Park Lake Memorial Bldg., 5959
Park Lake Rd., Bath 48808 or Pct.4 Chapel Hills Methodist Church
7501 Coleman Rd., EL 48823
Williamstown Township votes at Williamstown Pct. 1 Township
Hall, 4990 N. Zimmer Rd., Wmst. or Pct. 2 St. Katherine Episcopal
Church, 4650 N. Meridian Rd., Wmst. (or Meridian Pct. 3 when only
Sch. Elec.)

Okemos:

Meridian Township includes Pcts. 6, part of 7, 8 -15, part of 17
Alaiedon Twp. votes at Alaiedon Twp. Hall, 2021 W. Holt Rd., Mason
Williamstown Township votes at Williamstown Pct. 2
St. Katherine Episcopal Church, 4650 N. Meridian Rd., Wmst. (or
Meridian Pct. 6 when only Sch. Elec.)

East Lansing (Meridian Twp. residents only)

Votes at Pct. 18, 19, part of 20

Williamston City (Meridian Twp. residents only)

Votes at Pct. 7





DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

5151 MARSH ROAD

OKEMOS, MI 48864

517.853.4440

DPW@MERIDIAN.MI.US

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE**

2021 Michigan DNR Grant Application

Notice is hereby given that the Transportation Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a virtual public hearing on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 7:00 pm to hear comments from all persons interested in the proposed 2021 DNR grant applications for the following project:

- Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant application for the MSU to Lake Lansing Phase III pathway construction project. Phase III will connect the existing inter urban pathway at Marsh Road with the Ingham County Lake Lansing South and North park properties.

The virtual public hearing may be accessed using the Zoom web conferencing application.

Meeting ID: 880 2838 5000

Password 5000

Information may be examined at the Department of Public Works Administration Office, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI between the hours of 8:30 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Questions, call 517.853.4440 or email dpw@meridian.mi.us.

Publish: Towne Courier
March 14, 2021

Deborah Guthrie
Township Clerk

1 Affidavit, please

From: [Pamela Wygant](#)
To: [Jennifer Shuster](#); [Deborah Guthrie](#); [Mikell Frey](#); [Brandie Yates](#); [Alexander Quinn](#)
Subject: ELMWSA Mtg (March)
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 3:35:22 PM
Attachments: [Agenda ELMWSA 3-18-21 \(Mar\) Mtg.pdf](#)
[Notice 3-18-21 Remote Meeting ELMWSA.pdf](#)

Jennifer - Deborah,
Please post the meeting notice and agenda in the lobby for the public.

Mikell - Brandie,
Please post the meeting notice and agenda on the website for the public.

Thank you,

Pamela Wygant
East Lansing-Meridian Water & Sewer Authority
Administrative Assistant
2470 Burcham
East Lansing, MI 48823
T. (517) 337-7535
F. (517) 337-7240

EAST LANSING – MERIDIAN WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

2470 BURCHAM DRIVE – EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN 48823

PHONE: 517-337-7535 – FAX 517-337-7240

Agenda

East Lansing-Meridian Water and Sewer Authority

March 18, 2021

11:00 A.M.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DEREK PERRY
Chair

SCOTT HOUSE
Vice-Chair

CHUCK PETERSON
Secretary

BRADLEY BROGREN
Trustee

JIM CLELAND
Trustee

JIM ECKLUND
Trustee

•

JILL FELDPAUSCH
Treasurer

•

CLYDE DUGAN
Operator/Manager

1. Roll call.
2. Approval of minutes of the February 18, 2021 meeting.
A. Motion to approve.
3. Communications.
4. Public Comments.
5. Treasurer's Report.
6. Preliminary Budget for fiscal 2021/22 Draft 2.
7. Water Quality Report / Consumer Confidence Report.
(No motion needed).
8. Long Term Planning update.
9. Manager's Report.
A. Expenditure list (Motion to acknowledge).
10. Other Business.
11. Adjournment.

EAST LANSING – MERIDIAN WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

2470 BURCHAM DRIVE – EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN 48823

PHONE: 517-337-7535 FAX 517-337-7240

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC AND TELEPHONIC MEETING

Please take notice that the Board of Trustees of the East Lansing – Meridian Water and Sewer Authority (“Authority Board”) will hold a public meeting at 11:00 AM, on Thursday, March 18, 2021 by convening the Authority Board through remote electronic access as provided in this Notice. Proceedings conducted at this meeting are pursuant to the provisions of the amended Michigan Open Meetings Act, (Public Act 254 of 2020).

1. The Authority Board is meeting electronically to address necessary business operations and allow ongoing work to sustain and protect the lives of the residents of its constituent municipalities.
2. This meeting is being held electronically to comply with federal and state agency recommendations to cease in-person public assemblies, self-quarantine, and help prohibit the spread of COVID-19. The Authority Board recognizes its continuing responsibility for needed decision-making and will conduct this meeting in a manner that effectuates as fully as possible the purposes of the Open Meetings Act.
3. Individuals are encouraged to participate in the meeting electronically, including providing public comment, either through prior e-mail correspondence, online audio-conferencing, and telephone comments.
4. For those seeking to participate electronically through online video or audio-conferencing, participants can access the electronic meeting through the following link: <https://zoom.us/s/572589791>, Password 2470, or by calling 1 (646) 558-8656, Meeting ID 572 589 791, Password 2470. Participants may use any device that supports the video-conferencing app or when prompted after clicking the link, choose to join the meeting through a default browser, if applicable. For those who choose to access through the video-conference app, you will be prompted to download the app to participate.
5. To participate in public comment during the virtual meeting, upon entering the meeting indicate you wish to take part in public comment in the chat, or verbally if on the phone or audio-conferencing. You’ll be called upon by the Chairperson during the Public Comment section or other appropriate sections of the meeting. When directed by the Chairperson, please call (517) 349-1232 to make your comments. Members of the public are allowed three minutes to speak. You can then return to the meeting as before
6. Questions and comments may be submitted prior to the meeting by email to cdugan@elmwsa.com. Emails to that address relevant to this meeting will be distributed to the Authority Board.
7. Further information and materials related to this meeting can be requested by contacting cdugan@elmwsa.com or (517) 337-7535 Ext. 1.
8. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Authority Manager at (517) 337-7535 Ext. 1 or through the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TDD) at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the meeting to request visual, hearing, technological, or other assistance.
9. If you are unable to access the meeting due to technical difficulties, please contact Director of IT, Stephen Gebes; (517) 853-4222; geb@meridian.mi.us. Every effort will be made to help you participate in the meeting.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10, 2021

CONTACT: Deborah Guthrie, Township Clerk
517.853.4324 | guthrie@meridian.mi.us

SEE CORRECTIONS BELOW

May 2021 Special Election Precinct Information *Meridian Township Polling Location Changes*

Meridian Township, MI – A Special Election for Okemos Public Schools will take place on Tuesday, May 4 in Meridian Township.

To better accommodate all voters, including meeting accessibility requirements, two precinct locations are **being moved**. Voters in Precinct 10 who normally vote at the Meridian Service Center will vote at Wardcliff. Voters in Precinct 15 who normally vote at the Meridian Senior Center will vote at Kinawa Middle School inside the gymnasium. Mailed notices regarding the new polling locations have been sent to voters in these precincts.

Precinct Polling Locations – May 4 Special Election:

PCT 6 Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 7 Kinawa Middle School, 1900 Kinawa Drive, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 8 Cornell Elementary School, 4371 Cornell Road, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 9 Edgewood School, 1826 Osage Drive, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 10* Wardcliff School, 5150 Wardcliff Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823
PCT 11 2/42 Community Church, 2600 Bennett Road, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 12 Wardcliff School, 5150 Wardcliff Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823
PCT 13 Central Elementary School, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 14 Hiawatha Elementary School, 1900 Jolly Road, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 15* Kinawa Middle School, 1900 Kinawa Drive, Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 16 **Consolidated with** Precinct 17
PCT 17 Bennett Woods Elementary School, 2650 Bennett Road, Okemos, MI 48864

On Election Day, May 4, polls will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm, and voters are required to vote at their assigned precinct. Voters at the polls must show a picture ID or sign an affidavit that they are “not in possession of a picture ID” before they are allowed to vote. All voted Absentee Voter Ballots must be returned to the Clerk’s Office by 8:00 pm on Election Day, May 4, 2021.

Voters can visit the Meridian Township website www.meridian.mi.us/Elections for up-to-date Election Day information or call the Clerk’s Office at 517.853.4300 to confirm precinct/polling location information.

###

The community of Meridian Township is in close proximity to the Michigan State Capitol and Michigan State University. The Township serves the community through exceptional services, beneficial amenities and an outstanding quality of life. It is a welcoming community that celebrates quality education, recreation and lifestyles.

A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us



YOUR VOTE MATTERS

Okemos Public Schools Special Election Information

Meridian Township will hold a Special Election on Tuesday, May 4, 2021. The ballot consists of two Okemos Public School proposals. Be an informed voter and learn about early voting, voter registration and the ballot language.

[More Information](#)



Commemorating Women's History
Township Board Approves Resolution

[Learn More](#)



2021 Township Project Updates
Roads, Pathways, Parks and More

[More Details](#)



2021 Development Projects
New Businesses & Developments in Meridian

[Project Updates](#)



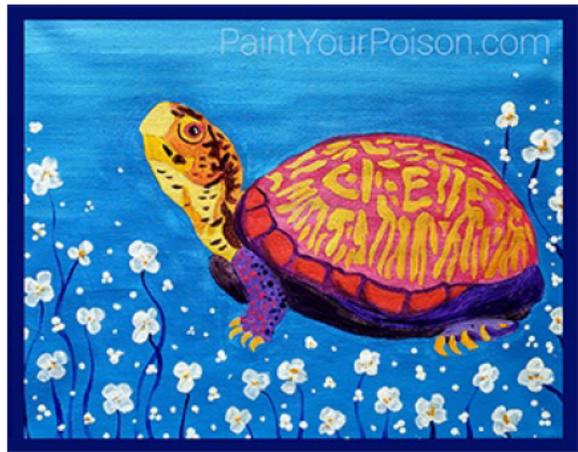
New Restaurant Opening in Township
Lil Emil's Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

[Ceremony Details](#)



Invasive Species Field Training
Land Stewardship Saturdays

[More Details](#)



Virtual Paint Nature Fundraiser
Proceeds to Benefit Harris Nature Center

[Registration Details](#)

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Meetings



Events



Careers



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LIVE STREAM

MEETINGS

NEWS

PROGRAMS

INTERNSHIP

[CADL Okemos Celebrates March is Reading Month In a New Way This Year](#)



[Township Park Commissioners Show Gratitude for Eagle Scout Projects](#)



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From: [Andrea Smiley](#)
To: [Andrea Smiley](#)
Subject: Meridian Happenings Newsletter
Date: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 10:12:56 AM

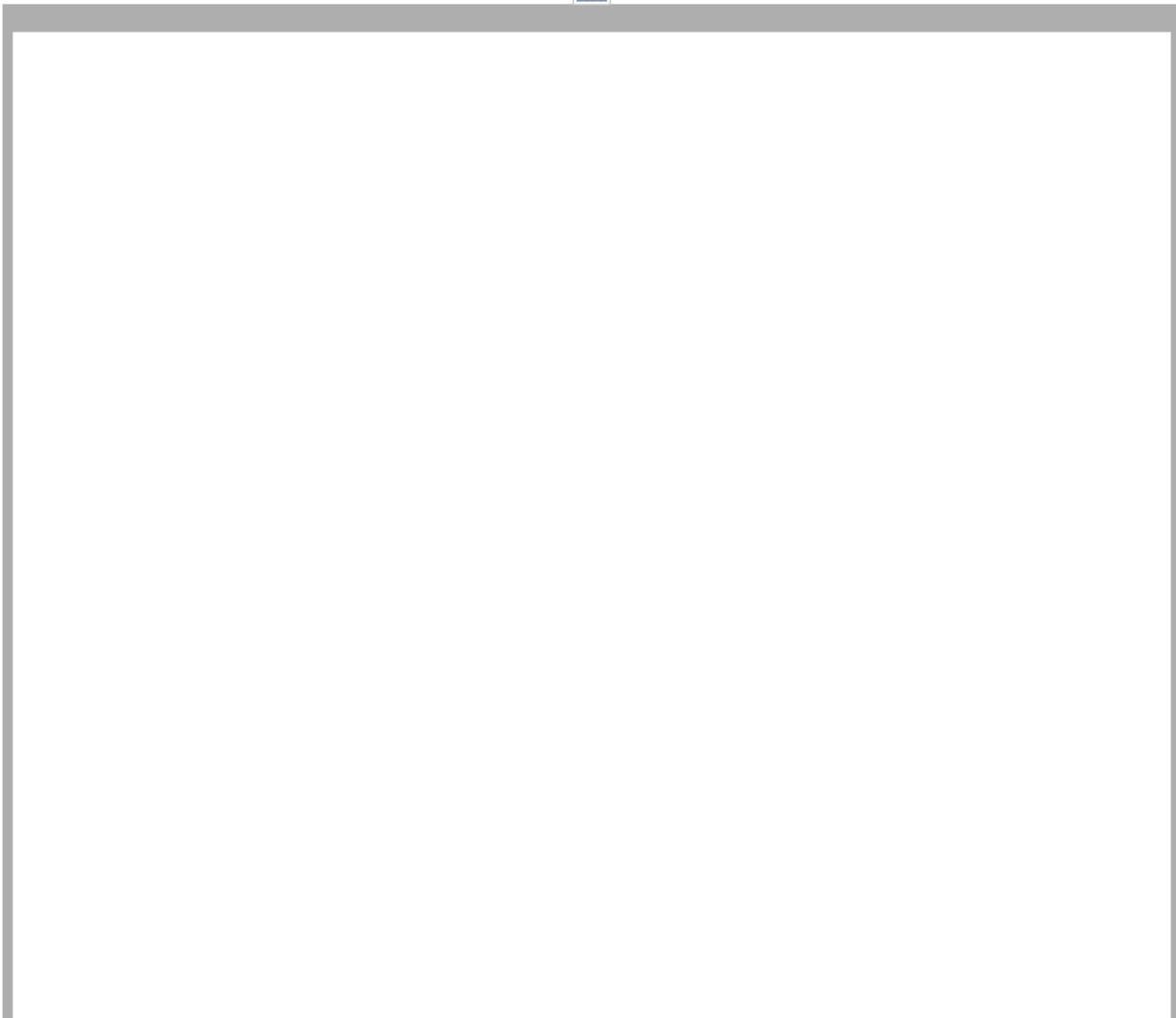
Good Morning Everyone,

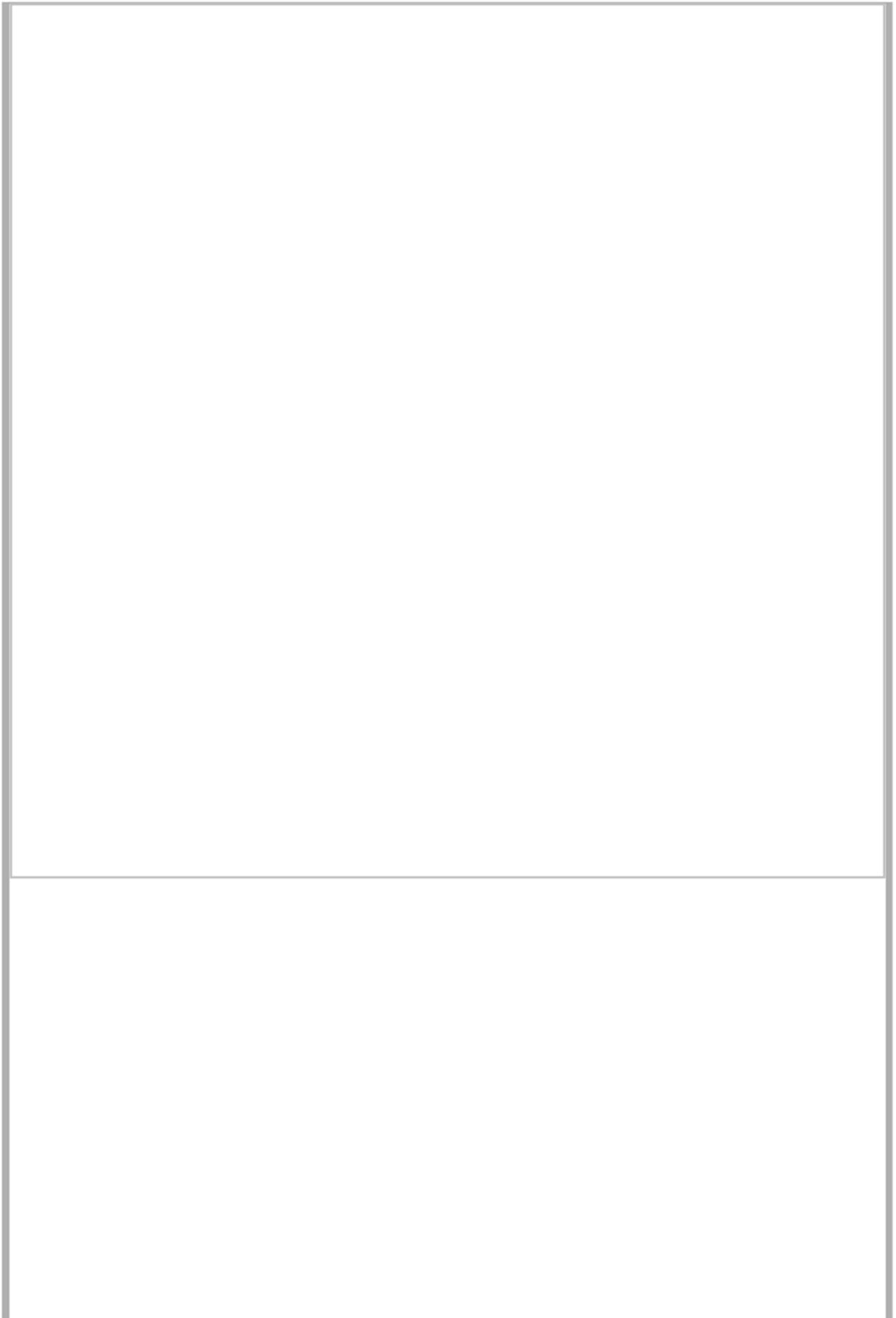
The latest #MeridianHappenings e-Newsletter just hit inboxes! Read about the 'Township's Youth Sports Programs Opening, LEAP Awards Relief Grants to Township small businesses & more' in this edition, <https://conta.cc/3b9VE59>.

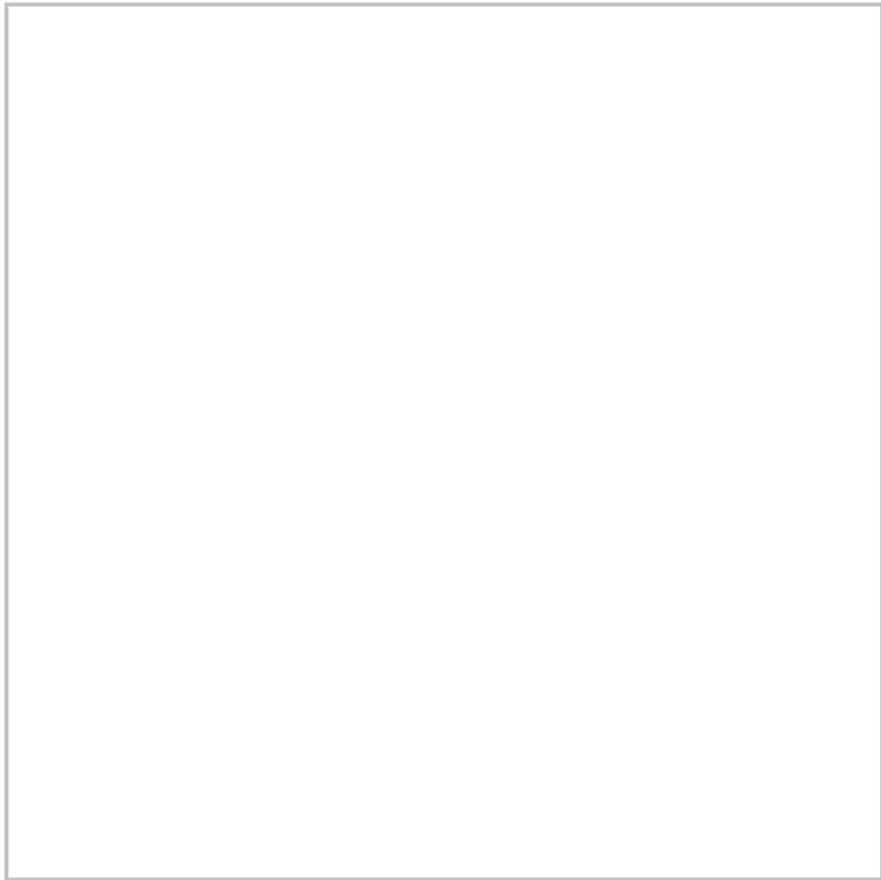
Stay connected and learn about current Township projects, meetings and more by subscribing today, <http://bit.ly/MTwpHappenings>.

Thanks, and have a great week.
Andrea

Subject: Meridian Youth Sports Programs Opening, LEAP Awards Relief Grants & More!



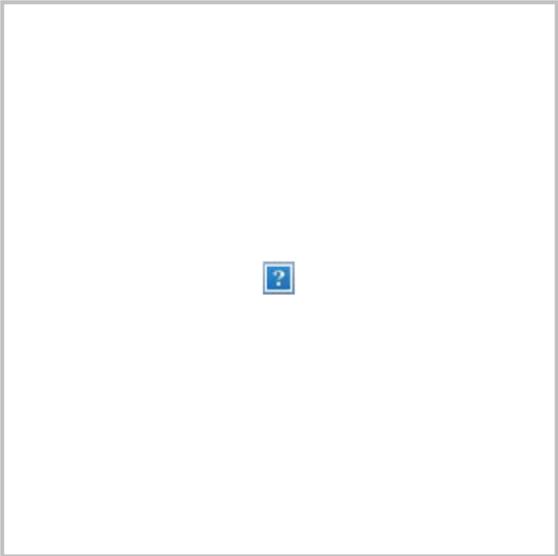
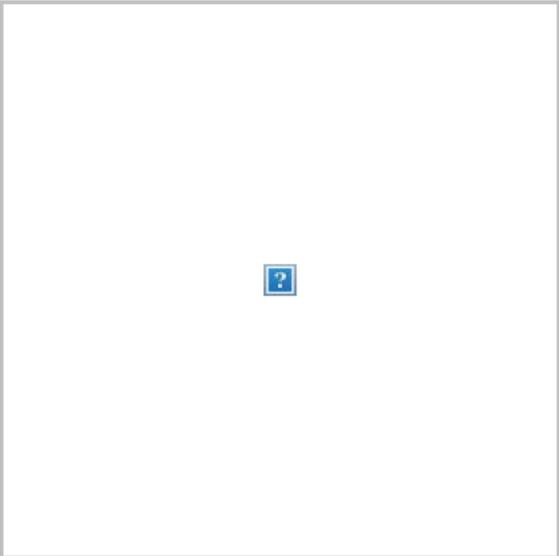




Meridian Township Youth Sports Registration Opening Soon

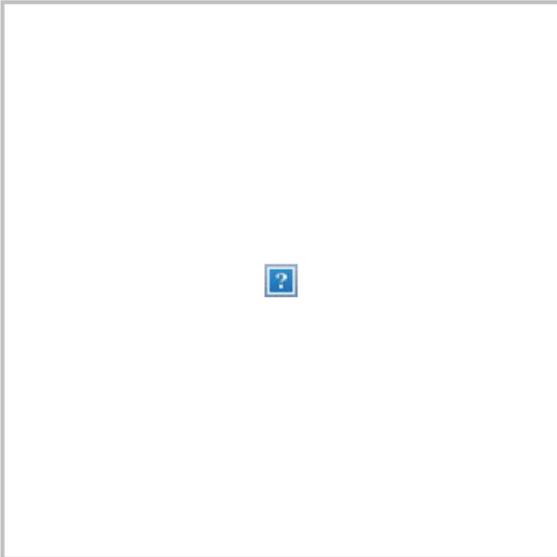
Spring is around the corner and the Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Department will be opening up youth sports program registration soon.

[Learn More](#)



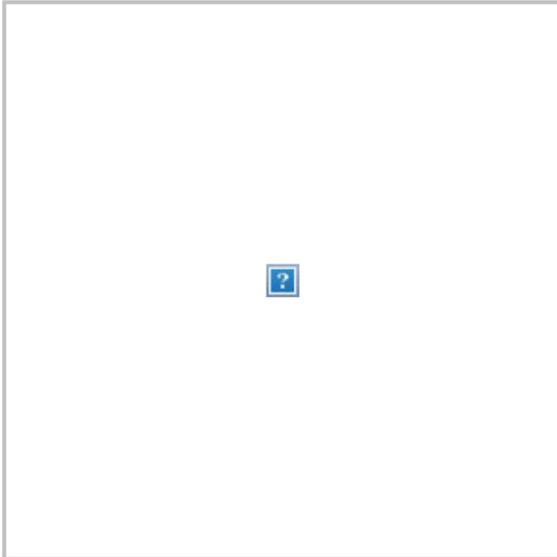
2021 March Board of Review Sessions
Meetings to Review Property Tax Assessments

More Information



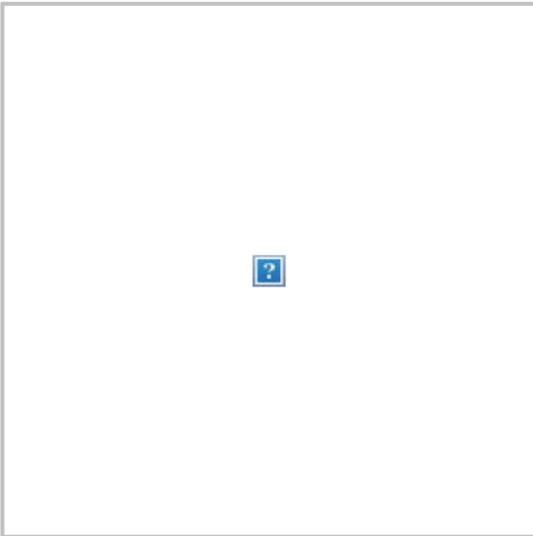
Upcoming Public Hearings
Public Comment Encouraged from Residents

More Details



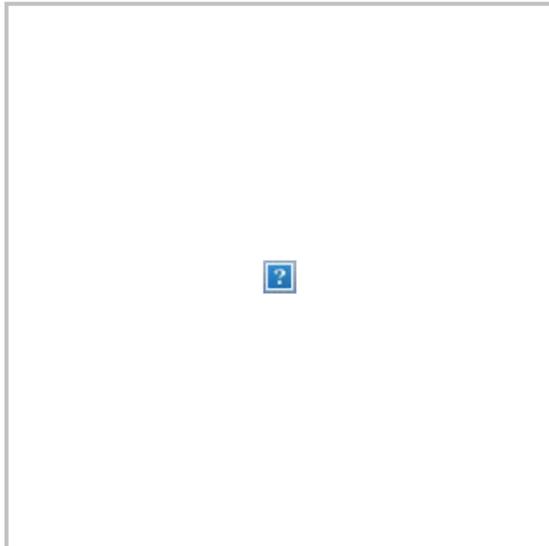
LEAP Awards Business Relief Grants
26 Township Businesses Named Recipients

Awardee List



New Restaurant Opening in Township
Lil Emil's Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Ceremony Details



Join Our Meridian Township Team
Employment Opportunities Available

Job Openings

Attract Birds & Butterflies to Your Garden
HNC to Host Native Plant Sale

More Information



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Channel providing exclusive gavel-to-gavel coverage of Township meetings, community news, original programming and video production services.



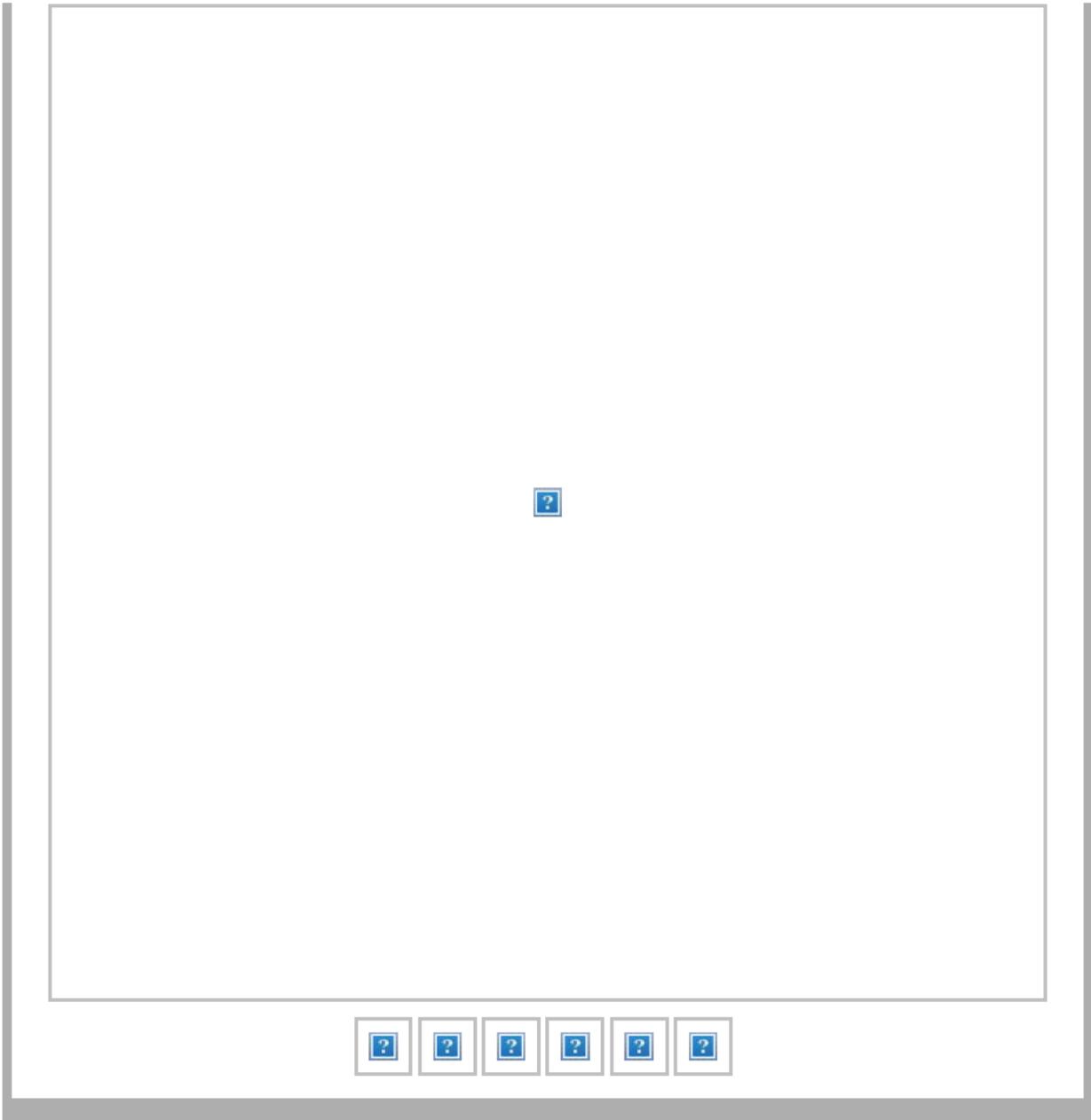
[Okemos Public Schools Return to In-Person Learning Plan](#)

[Haslett Teen Killed in Single Vehicle Crash](#)



HOMTV Virtual Intern Appreciation & Golden Tape Awards Program





Meridian Township | 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos, MI 48864

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Township community named state's 'No. 1 Small Town to Raise a Family'

Meridian Charter Township (Ingham Co.) is once again in the national spotlight after its community of Okemos was named by *Newsweek* magazine as the “No. 1 Small Town to Raise a Family in Michigan.”

Using 2020 data from Niche, which ranks places based on a variety of factors including public schools, jobs and cost of living, *Newsweek* took a look at what makes these small towns so special and why people live there. Only communities with a population under 40,000 were considered.

“The prime community of Meridian is grateful for this recognition of what our residents know, Meridian Charter Township—with its award-winning schools, friendly neighborhoods, beautiful parks and natural areas, and convenient businesses—is the number one choice of families, young professionals and senior citizens,” said Supervisor **Ron Styka**.

The community had previously earned other high rankings from Niche, including No. 1 for best places to live in Michigan and No. 1 for best suburbs to live in the state. Last year, its area schools were also ranked in the top 100 Michigan schools, according *U.S. News and World Report*. Township Assistant Manager **Derek Perry** also received the “Best of the Best—Top Assistant Manager” Award from the Michigan Municipal Executives earlier this year.

“It’s an honor to represent Meridian Township,” Perry said. “I am fortunate to be surrounded in the organization by so many excellent public servants. The award is truly a reflection of all of our efforts to make Meridian prime.”

Coming in at No. 2 and No. 3 on Niche’s list of “Best Small Towns to Raise a Family” were **Lodi Township** (Washtenaw Co.) and **Bloomfield Charter Township** (Oakland Co.), respectively. **Northville Charter Township** (Wayne Co.) came in at No. 10.

Tell us your township's story! We love telling your township's news, accolades, initiatives and programs! You're proud of your township, and we are, too. Let us help you tell your story. Email your story ideas, happenings in your townships, pictures, etc. to jenn@michigantownships.org.





9.B

**CONSENT AGENDA
PROPOSED BOARD MINUTES
MARCH 16, 2021**

PROPOSED MOTION:

- (1) Move to approve and ratify the minutes of the the Virtual Regular Meetings of February 2, 2021 as submitted.**

ALTERNATE MOTION:

- (1) Move to approve and ratify the minutes of the the Virtual Regular Meetings of February 2, 2021 with the following amendment(s):**

[insert amendments]

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD VIRTUAL SPECIAL MEETING **-DRAFT-**
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
517.349.1232, Virtual Meeting via Zoom
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021 **6:00 pm.**

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Township Manager Walsh, Director of Public Works Perry, Fire Chief Hamel, Community Planning and Development Director Kieselbach, Information Technology Director Gebes, Parks and Recreation Director Maisner, Finance Director Mattison, Human Resources Director Tithof, Economic Development and Neighborhoods Director Clark, Communications Manager Yates

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Styka called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Styka led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Clerk Guthrie called the roll of the Board.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Findings of the Local Officials Compensation Commission

Human Resources Director Tithof presented an overview of the determination of salaries for Elected Officials 2021 and 2022 by the Local Officials Compensation Commissions.

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Styka opened public remarks at 6:04 pm

None

Supervisor Styka closed public remarks at 6:05 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Walsh reported

- Deer Management Program – Cull Deer Phase: to date 275 deer have been culled and the maximum through the approved DNR program is 326. He thanked the Police, Parks and Recreation and Public Works Teams for their efforts to make this program a success.
- Woda Cooper Development – The site plan has been submitted to the Planning Department and the Board will receive an update at a future meeting.
- Jolly Road Proposed Rezoning – It will be heard by the Planning Commission on March 8 and the Board will receive an update at a future meeting.

- MSU Credit Union – the Township received notice they will be amending their facility plan as it pertains to the drive through lanes on Central Park Drive
- 2021 Township Action Plan Work Groups – On March 2, the Board will receive the first updates from the groups
- Proposed Synthetic Ice Rink for Marketplace on the Green – the bid opening is scheduled for May 1 for a 100'x40' proposed area
- Free Sled Program – This idea is from Sault Saint Marie. To offer free sleds for visitors to use during a visit at North Meridian Road Park. Since we are nearing spring, this program may not happen this year but will next year
- Former Walnut Hills Country Club Site – demolition is almost complete with the recent removal of the pool and club house
- Food Pantry – met with Cecelia Kramer on moving forward with a proposed site and working with Clerk Guthrie and others on other proposed locations. A second pantry will be installed at the Faith Lutheran Church on Dobie Road. Sites are being approved through the Planning Department by Director Kieselbach

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Treasurer Deschaine:

- Commended the installation of the food pantries and announced the Okemos Community Church charity bingo asking for donations for those in need.
- As of February 17, the winter tax collection is at 99% of where it was last year. The summer tax collection was at 99.9%. On March 1, the Township will turn over unpaid taxes to the Ingham County Treasurer. The County Treasurer writes a check to the Township for the delinquent tax amount and then will spend the next three years trying to collect the taxes that will include interest and penalties.

Clerk Guthrie:

- Election Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24, at 6 pm to review the possibility of relocating precinct locations, accessibility issues, and review the post-election findings from the Ingham County Clerk. She thanked Deputy Manager Perry and staff for meeting with Okemos Public School officials to look at alternative polling locations.
- She thanked the City of East Lansing Clerk's Office for assisting with election and training materials. She will be working with former City Clerk Marie Wicks to assist with training for the upcoming election.

Trustee Wisinski:

- Will be attending the Election Commission meeting on Wednesday.
- Will be attending a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force meeting on Thursday, February 25.
- Will be attending the Environmental Commission meeting on March 3. The Environment Commission has received four letters for green grants from Okemos and Haslett Schools. Grainger has offered \$1,000 and some of the other businesses have volunteered to match funds. She will be on the committee to review the grants. The Commission received a presentation on using social media for environmental change as a way to inform citizens on environmental concerns and what is happening in Meridian Township.
- Attended Groundwater Management Board meeting. The Board is looking for support for a geographical survey that will assist in locating the wells in Michigan. The Board will be writing

a grant or look for funding to update the survey and will be asking for letters of support for the project.

Trustee Opsommer

- The Land Preservation Advisory Board is discussing the renaming of some of the land preserves. In the February 10 Advisory Board meeting packet, Chair Hiller included a list of perspective names. If a citizen or board member would like to comment, a message can be sent to the staff. Some of the preserves do have naming rights that were part of the purchase agreement.
- The Planning Commission on Monday, February 22 held a n public hearing on the Auto Dealership Amendment

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Wisinski moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Clerk Guthrie, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka

NAYS: None

Motion carried 7-0.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor Styka reviewed the consent agenda.

Treasurer Deschaine moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Jackson

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

A. Communications

Treasurer Deschaine the communications not already assigned for disposition be referred to the Township Manager or Supervisor for follow-up. Seconded by Trustee Jackson

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

B. Approval of Minutes – February 2, 2021 Virtual Regular Meeting

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the February 2, 2021 Virtual Regular Meeting, as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Jackson

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

C. Bills

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve that the Township Board approve the Manager's Bills as follows: Seconded by Trustee Jackson

Common Cash		\$ 2,075,039.78
Public Works		\$ 559,364.21
Trust & Agency		\$ 3,704.72
	Total Checks	\$ 2,638,108.71
Credit Card Transactions 1/29/2021-2/7/2021		\$ 15,289.92
	Total Purchases	\$ 2,653,398.63
ACH Payments		\$ 1,145,760.44

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

D. Lake Lansing Road at Dawn Avenue Sanitary Sewer Benefit Charge

Treasurer Deschaine move to approve the resolution establishing sanitary system benefit charges for Lake Lansing Road at Dawn Avenue, and establishing a cost of \$16,280.89 for 2783 Lake Lansing Road, parcel 33-02-02-08-201-001 (plus 5% annual increase). Seconded by Trustee Jackson

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY – NONE

11. HEARINGS

A. Powell Road Paving Public Road Improvement SAD

Deputy Manager Perry stated the Township Board had previously held a public hearing on the Powell Road Paving SAD. It will be 1,600 feet of new pavement from Grand River to the Silverstone Development. The estimated project cost is \$460,000. The developer will cover 56% of the project costs but a portion of the costs will be returned to the developer through the special assessment district. As part of the special assessment process, two public hearings are required. Tonight's public hearing provides an opportunity for Township Board to receive comments on the special assessment district.

Supervisor Styka called the public hearing to order at 6:25 pm.

Gary Laundroche, Lafontaine Buick Group, 4000 W Highland Road, Highland, MI, spoke in opposition to the SAD and raised concern that the paving costs being assessed on their site was because they have not completed their project. It appears the Silverstone developer is diverting their paving costs onto their project site.

Supervisor Styka closed the public hearing at 6:29pm.

12. ACTION ITEMS

A. Ratification of Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Appointment

Treasurer Deschaine move to approve the appointment of Brenda Chapman to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for a term ending 12/31/2023. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Opsommer, Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Trustees Sundland, Wisinski

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

Supervisor Styka thanked Jade Sims for serving on the Economic Development Corporation and the Brownfield Development Authority and wished her well on her future endeavors. He welcomed Brenda Chapman to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

B. Fire Services Agreement – Alaiedon Township

Fire Chief Hamel summarized the proposed fire services agreement with Alaiedon Township.

Discussion:

- When asked about why the fees have not been increased, Chief Hamel stated the proposed fees cover the Township's costs.
- When asked if cost comparisons have been conducted, Chief Hamel replied no. The intent of this agreement is to assist Delhi with coverage of this section of Alaiedon Township and traditionally, there it is mutual aid involved with neighboring areas.

Trustee Opsommer move to approve the agreement between Delhi Charter Township and Meridian Charter Township for fire and rescue services within Alaiedon Township and authorize the Township Manager and Fire Chief to sign the agreement. Seconded by Trustee Jackson

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Sundland, Wisinski, Opsommer, Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Supervisor Styka, Treasurer Deschaine

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Powell Road Paving Public Road Improvement SAD

Discussion:

- Clerk Guthrie summarized a communication received Sunday from New China of MI Inc. in opposition to the special assessment and reported it will be included in the next meeting packet. Deputy Manager Perry addressed the concerns outlined in the communication.
- The Lafontaine site plan included an egress onto Powell Road from their two parcels, one on the east side and one on the west side of Powell Road
- The paving of Powell Road was a condition of the preliminary plat for Silverstone.

Board consensus to place this item on the next Board meeting agenda.

B. 2021 Citizen Survey

Director Clark summarized information from two communities who do not use the National Research Center.

Discussion:

- Manager Walsh explained how the City of St. Joseph conducted their in-house survey, the response percentages and due to feedback, they moved to mailing it out to registered voters.
- Manager Walsh reported Deputy Manager Perry, Director Clark and himself would lead the project. He suggested the Board could set aside time to outline the topics to be covered and staff can investigate whom to hire to create the questions on the subject matter. The questions could be reviewed by the Township Board and mailed out.
- Director Clark offered a timeline of: begin question preparation, have finalized for mailing in June, results compiled in July, and findings presented to Board in August.
- Manager Walsh stated he will work with staff to develop questions and two main topics to include are adult use recreational marihuana and deer management program. When asked if the results could be made available before August, Manager Walsh stated there are two options for conducting the survey. One is to perform a survey based only on recreational marihuana and waiting until next year to send out an extensive survey or proceed with a survey that covers multiple topics.
- It was the consensus of the Board to proceed with an in-house survey and staff was directed to develop a timeline for a single or two-issue survey and for a multi-questioned survey.

Board consensus to place this item on the next Board meeting agenda.

14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Styka Opened Public Remarks at 7:36 pm.

Haibiao Zhang, 4719 Powell Road, Okemos, voiced concern about the large developments, how the environment has changed because of the removal of the trees on the site adjacent to his property including trees on his property, and how it has damaged the wetland. He is requesting the trees be replanted including on his property, not just grass and asked how to make sure the developer protects the environment, their property and community. He spoke about the problems this has caused to his area and is against the special assessment.

Supervisor Styka Closed Public Remarks at 7:39 pm.

15. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Supervisor Styka reported the Planning Commission is asking for a joint meeting with the Township Board and he asked about setting aside an hour at the next meeting.

Trustee Jackson asked if there is a specific topic.

Supervisor Styka stated they mentioned recreational marihuana.

Trustee Opsommer stated the Commission also mentioned form based code.

Supervisor Styka stated he would contact the Planning Commission Chair and schedule a time during an upcoming Township Board Meeting.

Clerk Guthrie announced this Thursday, February 25, from 6-8 pm, HOMTV will be hosting their annual Intern Appreciation and Golden Tape Awards Ceremony. Normally it is held at Studio C as a red carpet event but will be held virtually this year.

Trustee Opsommer asked when the Special Use Permit for Lafontaine expires. Director Kieselbach replied he believed it is July this year. It was approved in 2019 for two years but he will verify the date. Trustee Opsommer stated with the SUP due to expire, the Auto Dealership Amendment would require it to be heard by the Township Board and then referred to the Planning Commission. With the right-of-way issues Deputy Perry is having with DTN, he suggested the Township could allocate some of the tree planting project funds for tree to be planted in the public right-of-way on the Lafontaine site to start reforesting the area.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Deschaine moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried 7-0.

Supervisor Styka adjourned the meeting at 7:46 pm.

RONALD J. STYKA,
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

DEBORAH GUTHRIE,
TOWNSHIP CLERK

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING **-DRAFT-**
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
517.349.1232, Virtual Meeting via Zoom
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021 **6:00 pm.**

PRESENT: Supervisor Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski

ABSENT: Supervisor Styka

STAFF: Township Manager Walsh, Director of Public Works Perry, Fire Chief Hamel, Community Planning and Development Director Kieselbach, Information Technology Director Gebes, Parks and Recreation Director Maisner, Finance Director Mattison, Human Resources Director Tithof, Economic Development and Neighborhoods Director Clark, Communications Manager Yates, Principal Planner Menser

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Styka called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Styka led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Clerk Guthrie called the roll of the Board.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. 2021 Township Action Plan Work Groups Updates

Manager Walsh outlined the ten (10) work groups and staff offered updates on: 1) COVID-19; 2) Sustainability; 3) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; 4) Downtown Okemos/Downtown Haslett Development Areas; 5) Roads; 6) Broadband/High Speed Internet; 7) MSU/Lake Lansing Pathway; 8) Signage; 9) Website; 10) Retirement/MERS

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Styka opened public remarks at 6:20 pm

TJ Waller, 5508 Okemos Road, Okemos spoke in support for recreational marihuana in the Township and requested to have a safe place in his community to make his purchase.

Caroline Reynnet, 256 W Grand River, Okemos, asked the Board to offer their views on recreational marihuana facilities and how will these shops enhance living in the Township. She supports medical marihuana but does not recreational marihuana in the Township.

Owen Frank, 334 E. Washington Street, Ann Arbor, MI, spoke in support for allowing recreational marihuana in the Township.

Joyce VanCoevering, 5882 Okemos Road, Okemos, spoke in support of conducting a survey to receive citizen input on recreational marihuana before allowing recreational marihuana in the Township.

Mei You, 2690 Morning Glory Drive, Okemos, spoke in opposition to allowing recreational marihuana but does support medical marihuana in the Township.

Vance Poquette, 2226 Kent Street, Okemos, stated there is no an immediate need for recreational marihuana at this time.

Mary Waller, 5508 Okemos Road, Okemos questioned spending \$10,000 on a survey when recreational marihuana has already been voted on. She asked the Board to do its job and trusts the Board to create an ordinance to address this issue.

Manuela Kress, 1376 Biscayne Way, Haslett, stated she has already moved in the Township because her neighbor was smoking marihuana and is concerned with this smell in her new neighborhood.

Kevin Liu, 2690 Morning Glory Drive, Okemos, stated he sent a communication and spoke in opposition to recreational marihuana.

Wei Li, 2565 Sophiea Parkway, Okemos, spoke in opposition to allowing recreational marihuana.

Lynne Page, 3912 Raleigh Drive, Okemos, spoke in support for prohibiting commercial recreational marihuana businesses in the Township.

Marcus Baldori, 2267 Mt. Hope Road, Okemos, spoke in support of recreational marihuana facilities.

Leszek Gawarecki, 4568 Tacoma Boulevard, Okemos, stated the ballot language was to allow recreational marihuana but not to build facilities. Although he is against building facilities, he recommended obtaining citizen input and a financial analysis before making any decisions.

Supervisor Styka closed public remarks at 6:51 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Walsh reported

- Prime Meridian Magazine will be mailed out next week
- Deer Management Program – 304 deer have been harvested to date. The Cull Deer Phase has 25 tags remaining
- Jolly Road Proposed Rezoning – It will be heard by the Planning Commission on March 8 and the Board will receive an update at a future meeting
- Food Pantry – met with the Okemos Library and have confirmed a panty location on their site
- LEAP Public Art Grant – should hear the announcement soon on the public art grant submitted for the Marketplace on the Green
- Redevelopment Opportunity on Powell Road – meeting with developers interested in developing a senior housing complex on the Lafontaine parcel
- Prevailing Wages – the policy is being challenged and will be heard by the Board on March 16
- SmartZones – Director Clark is working with East Lansing and Lansing on project in the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) Smart Zones and the Board will receive an update at a future agenda

- Congratulated Chief Engineer Younes Ishraidi on celebrating 32 years with the Township and stated he is one of three who assisted with the design of the Okemos Road boardwalk.

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Treasurer Deschaine:

- Attended the February 17 CATA Board Meeting, the February 20 Township Board Retreat and the February 22 DDA Meeting
- Today, March 2, is the last day to pay winter taxes. After today, a resident will need to pay their taxes with the Ingham County Treasurer. 99% of last year’s receipts have been paid

Trustee Jackson:

- Attended the February 23 Tri-County Regional Planning Commission Board Meeting where there was an amendment to the Transportation and Improvement Program (TIP) which included changes to lights and traffic movement on Grand River Avenue, Dobie Road and Central Park Drive

Supervisor Styka

- Attended the February 22 DDA meeting and all board members attended the Township Board Retreat on February 20

Trustee Opsommer:

- The Land Preservation Advisory Board (LPAB) is in the process of renaming of some of the land preserves. If a citizen or board member would like to comment, a message can be sent to the staff. Information is located online in the LPAB February Board Meeting packet.
- Reported the construction on the light changes for green arrows from Central Park Drive and Dobie Road onto Grand River Avenue will begin in September

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustee Jackson

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor Styka reviewed the consent agenda.

Trustee Wisinski moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Sundland, Wisinski, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

A. Communications

Trustee Wisinski the communications not already assigned for disposition be referred to the Township Manager or Supervisor for follow-up. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Sundland, Wisinski, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

B. Approval of Minutes – January 19, 2021 Virtual Regular Meeting and January 26, 2021 Virtual Joint Meeting of Boards and Commissions

Trustee Wisinski moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the February 2, 2021 Virtual Regular Meeting, as submitted. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Sundland, Wisinski, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

C. Bills

Trustee Wisinski moved to approve that the Township Board approve the Manager’s Bills as follows: Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

Common Cash		\$	185,767.84
Public Works		\$	4,133.20
Trust & Agency		\$	<u>4,806.09</u>
	Total Checks	\$	194,707.13
Credit Card Transactions		\$	6,516.02
02/18/2021-02/24/2021			
	Total Purchases	\$	<u>201,223.15</u>
ACH Payments		\$	<u>6,404.79</u>

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Sundland, Wisinski, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

D. Disposal of Surplus Vehicles & Equipment

Trustee Wisinski moved to authorize the disposal of vehicle #2 (2013 Ford Taurus, vehicle #46 (2013 Ford Taurus), vehicle #101 (2012 Ford Focus), vehicle #102 (2012 Ford Focus), vehicle #611 (2013 Ford Taurus), vehicle #9 (2008 Sterling dump truck), vehicle #10 (2001 Freightliner Vactor), equipment #59 (1991 Trackless including attachments), equipment #78 (2007 Toro Mower), equipment #86 (2001 Toro 455D mower), equipment #88 (1992 John Deere 1070 Tractor), flood lights with stand, water line thaw machine, Ammoco Drum/Rotor Lathe, Snap-On tire balancer, and drinking fountains by public auction, internet auction, direct sale to another municipality or by sealed bid. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Sundland, Wisinski, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

E. Request for Section 61 Review for Proposed Land Acquisition for Parks

Trustee Wisinski move to forward the proposed acquisition of property for park purposes to the Planning Commission for approval of revisions to the Township’s Comprehensive Development Plan as required by MCL 125.39 (Section 61 Review). The Section 61 Review is for the acquisition of 1.85-acre parcel (Parcel #33-02-02-16-200-011) located at 5280 Okemos Road, Haslett. This site, when acquired, will host an improved entrance to Nancy Moore Park and serve as a trailhead area for users of the Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway System. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Sundland, Wisinski, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

F. Election Polling Location Changes

Trustee Wisinski move to approve the resolution for the temporary relocation of Precinct 10 from the Meridian Township Service Center to Precinct 12; Wardcliff School and to approve the temporary relocation of Precinct 15 from the Meridian Township Senior Center to Precinct 7; Kinawa School for the May 4, 2021 Special Election. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Sundland, Wisinski, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY – NONE

11. HEARINGS - NONE

12. ACTION ITEMS

A. Powell Road PRI SAD #43 – Resolution #3

Deputy Manager Perry stated this is Resolution #3 of the Special Assessment District to pave Powell Road 1,600 feet north of Grand River Avenue to the Silverstone Estates Development. The projected cost is \$460,000. The developer’s cost is at 56% for a projected cost of \$256,000 and the remaining percentage assessed is to the other properties in the district. A public hearing was held on February 23 and this resolution is an authorization to proceed with the special assessment district.

Treasurer Deschaine move to approve Powell Road Public Road Improvements Special Assessment District #43 Resolution #3; to approve the improvements to grade, gravel and pave Powell Road, and be completed by the owner of Silverstone Subdivision; and to defray the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties specially benefitted thereby in the manner previously listed; approve the total estimated cost of \$460,003.62; and approve the special assessment district. Seconded by Trustee Jackson

Discussion:

- Information on the possibility of preserving the trees will be available after the meeting with the developer on March 3 but it is challenging with the grade of Powell Road

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski, Clerk Guthrie, Supervisor Styka, Treasurer Deschaine

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

B. Resolution Celebrating Women’s History Month

Treasurer Deschaine move to approve resolution Celebrating Women’s History Month. Seconded by Trustee Jackson

Discussion:

- Trustee Jackson moved the following amendment to include department heads and staff as follows: “WHEREAS, women have played and continue to play a major role in the governing of the Charter Township of Meridian, serving on numerous Boards and Commissions and as the Supervisor, Treasurer, Clerk, *Trustees, Department Heads and staff members* throughout the Township’s history” Seconded by Trustee Wisinski

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Amendment carried 7-0

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Guthrie, Supervisor Styka, Trustees

Jackson, Sundland, Wisinski, Opsommer
NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 6503 Park Lake Road Open Space Easement

Director Kieselbach stated the Open Space Easement request is from David and Joan Johnson, Halmich Sod Nurseries, Inc., 6503 Park Lake Road. This request is part of the State's Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program. The easement is an agreement between the landowner and the Township giving the owner certain benefits, tax credits and exemptions for various special assessments to preserve the land as open space. The parcel is 57 acres and was previously a sod farm with a two house and three accessory buildings. A portion of the site is shared with Bath Township and it is currently used for agricultural crops. Director Kieselbach outlined the process and reported he received an email from the Conservation District's Board of Directors stating the Board did not have any concerns or comments on the property going into the open space easement. Township Assessor Dave Lee will be performing an assessment but has indicated the property has zero value for development rights. The Township has 45 days to make a decision on the request and it could be listed as an action item at the March 16 meeting.

Discussion:

- During the 90 years of the agreement, the parcel can continue to be used for agricultural purposes.
- Director Kieselbach stated during discussions with Mr. Johnson indicated he was not interested in allowing public access.
- Director Kieselbach was asked to research with the State on the termination process of an agreement and will work with Assessor Lee on the tax credit information.

Board consensus to place this item on the next Board meeting agenda.

B. 2021 Citizen Survey

Director Clark stated the Township performs a citizen survey every three (3) years and the last survey was conducted in 2018. Typically, the survey is conducted by a national survey service but the Board is entertaining an idea of performing the survey in-house to focus on the Township issues.

The Board had asked for information on organizations that could assist with the project. Information was provided from Colbolt Community Research and MSU's Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. Both institutes have experience working with municipalities and the topic of marihuana.

Colbolt's analysis will include the community's progress, year-to-year and a comparison of the community across the state and at the national level. Colbolt recently perform a community survey on marihuana in Royal Oak. Colbolt has the ability to work with specific questions and can analyze

by a wide variety of demographics. Colbolt can perform a one topic survey for \$10,000 or community multi-topic survey for \$16,000 with postage with a random sampling at 1,500 residents. For every 1,000 resident names added to the sampling, the cost increased by \$1,000.

MSU indicated they could perform a one topic or multiple topic survey at the same cost of \$12,768 plus postage. MSU has an indirect cost policy and the Township would have to adopt it and pay the surcharge.

Eighty percent (80%) of the Township's population is registered voters. Both entities indicated they feel safe using the registered voter sampling and have provisions for on-line sampling. Both entities indicated they will be able to keep the random sampling and on-line sampling information separate and will be able to give an overall view of the community from the data results.

Discussion:

- Director Clark was asked to obtain survey samples, increase the resident sampling number and obtain quotes from additional entities for a multi-topic survey

Board consensus to place this item on the next Board meeting agenda.

C. Recreational Marihuana

Attorney Kuschel reviewed his legal memorandum.

Discussion:

- Board members discussed including the marihuana question(s) in the multi-topic survey

Treasurer Deschaine move to defer discussion of the recreational marihuana ordinance until after receiving the Citizen Survey results. Seconded by Clerk Guthrie

Discussion:

- Treasurer Deschaine suggested completing the data research before proceeding with developing an ordinance

Supervisor Styka stated a parliamentary action is required first. This topic is not an action item and would require a motion to suspend the rules and consider the topic an action item or there can be a motion to table discussion on the topic.

Treasurer Deschaine withdrew his motion and asked to have this topic as an action item on the next Board meeting agenda. He also asked to include Expansion of Redi-Ride Boundaries to include access to medical and/or recreational marihuana facilities as an action item on the next agenda.

Supervisor Styka stated for the next agenda, under discussion, will be the Citizen Survey and Recreational Marihuana and the Expansion of Redi-Ride locations.

Board consensus to place this item on the next Board meeting agenda.

14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Styka Opened Public Remarks at 9:13 pm.

Jeffery Hank, East Lansing, stated he assisted with the drafting of recreational marihuana (MRTMA) and developing the recreational marihuana law. He also ran the campaign to legalize recreational marihuana. He supports opting in; the need for a social equity program and recreational marihuana should be a licensing program and not a land use issue.

Supervisor Styka Closed Public Remarks at 9:18 pm.

15. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

16. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Wisinski moved to adjourn. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried 7-0.

Supervisor Styka adjourned the meeting at 9:18 pm.

RONALD J. STYKA,
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

DEBORAH GUTHRIE,
TOWNSHIP CLERK



To: Board Members
From: Miriam Mattison, Finance Director
Date: March 16, 2021
Re: Board Bills

**Charter Township of Meridian
Board Meeting
3/16/2021**

**MOVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD APPROVE THE MANAGER'S
BILLS AS FOLLOWS:**

COMMON CASH	\$	544,206.24
PUBLIC WORKS	\$	328,500.75
TRUST & AGENCY	\$	158,954.61
TOTAL CHECKS:	\$	1,031,661.60
CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS		
02/25/2021-03/10/2021	\$	13,323.59
TOTAL PURCHASES:	\$	<u>1,044,985.19</u>
ACH PAYMENTS	\$	<u>826,416.83</u>

03/11/2021 10:21 AM
 User: GRAHAM
 DB: Meridian

INVOICE APPROVAL BY INVOICE REPORT FOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
 EXP CHECK RUN DATES 03/16/2021 - 03/16/2021
 BOTH JOURNALIZED AND UNJOURNALIZED OPEN AND PAID
 BANK CODE: GF

Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
1. 2900 PLACE APARTMENTS MJW LLC	PATHWAY EASEMENT FOR MSU TO LAKE LANSING TRAIL	2,500.00	
2. AIRGAS GREAT LAKES	MEDICAL OXYGEN	89.63	
3. ALLEGRA PRINT & IMAGING	PRINTING & MAILING SERVICES PMM	5,839.02	
4. AMERICAN RENTALS	02/21/21 TO 03/21/21 PORTABLE TOILET RENTAL - TRAN TENT RENTAL FOR DEER MANAGEMENT POLICE DEER CULL	60.00 1,014.00	
	TOTAL	1,074.00	
5. APPAREL PRINTERS LTD	MERIDIAN TWP FIRE DEPT UNIFORM T-SHIRTS	987.20	
6. ARROW TREE APARTMENTS	PAYMENT OF RENT FOR R.FIELDS	866.00	104631
7. AT & T	SWITCHED ETHERNET DATA SERVICE - THB - FS91	1,073.82	
8. AT & T MOBILITY	FEB 5 TO MAR 4 2021 DISPATCH NON-EMERGENCY 517.332	76.45	
9. AUTO VALUE OF EAST LANSING	FLEET REPAIR PARTS FEB 2021 FLEET REPAIR PARTS FEB 2021	21.96 20.18 26.09 29.16 79.12 77.99 17.57 182.49 23.04	
	TOTAL	477.60	
10. BANNASCH WELDING INC	UNIT #76 CUTTING EDGE	390.00	
11. BECKS PROPANE	PROPANE FOR VAN ATTA ROAD	469.04	104680
12. BOARD OF WATER & LIGHT	2.1-3.1 2021 STREETLIGHT SERVICE	566.73	104672
13. BOBCAT OF LANSING	UNIT # 686 REAR TURN SIGNAL REPLACEMENT	53.54	
14. BULL ENTERPRISES	JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR TOWNSHIP BUILDINGS -2021	8,477.00	
15. CINTAS CORPORATION #725	MECHANICS UNIFORM CLEANING FEB 2021 - HANSEN/FRANK MECHANICS UNIFORM CLEANING FEB 2021 - HANSEN/FRANK MECHANICS UNIFORM CLEANING FEB 2021 - HANSEN/FRANK MECHANICS UNIFORM CLEANING FEB 2021 - HANSEN/FRANK	48.35 48.35 48.35 48.35	
	TOTAL	193.40	
16. CITY OF EAST LANSING	SHARED ASSESSOR SERVICES	4,492.80	
17. CLIFFORD BARKER	OVERPAYMENT PATIENT AMBULANCE FEE	230.00	
18. COCM	COCM 2021 SPRING CONFERENCE MAY 10-12 & MEMBERSHIP	230.00	
19. COMCAST	SERVICES FROM MAR 1 TO MAR 31 2021 - TV + INET SERVICES FROM MAR 1 2021 TO MAR 28 2021 HNC SERVICES FROM MAR 1 2021 TO MAR 28 2021 FRANCHISE SERVICES FROM FEB 16 TO MARCH 15 2021 - FIRE 91 SERVICES FROM FEB 20 TO MAR 19 2021 - FD 'FREE' DR SERVICES FROM FEB 19 2021 TO MAR 18 2021 - SCADA I	387.61 201.99 24.03 153.35 16.03 138.35	
	TOTAL	921.36	

03/11/2021 10:21 AM
 User: GRAHAM
 DB: Meridian

INVOICE APPROVAL BY INVOICE REPORT FOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
 EXP CHECK RUN DATES 03/16/2021 - 03/16/2021
 BOTH JOURNALIZED AND UNJOURNALIZED OPEN AND PAID
 BANK CODE: GF

Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
20. CONSUMERS ENERGY	PAYMENT OF UTILITIES FOR S.ADAMS	600.00	104632
	PAYMENT OF UTILITY BILL FOR J.HOWARD	615.08	104633
	UTILITY PAYMENT - G BATY	703.76	104679
	TOTAL	1,918.84	
21. CORBIN DESIGN	TOWNSHIP ENTRYWAY, WAYFINDING AND LOCATION SIGN DE	376.66	
22. CREATIVE TOUCH	EMBROIDERY FOR DEER MANAGEMENT SWEATSHIRTS	100.00	
23. CUMMINS INC	PSB GENERATOR REPAIRS	663.75	
24. DALE DOWNES	PATIENT OVERPAYMENT AMBULANCE FEE	183.40	
25. DANIELLE S LEE	OVERPAYMENT PATIENT AMBULANCE FEE	137.89	
26. DAVID L MALHALAB	OVERPAYMENT PATIENT AMBULANCE FEE	350.00	
27. DBI	OFFICE SUPPLIES	2.76	
	OFFICE SUPPLIES	9.99	
	TOTAL	12.75	
28. DTN MANAGEMENT CO	PAYMENT OF RENT FOR P.SPICER	836.00	104634
29. EAST LANSING ACQUISITION GROUP LLC	2815 NORTHWIND DRIVE EASEMENT ACQUISITION- MSU TO	25,000.00	
30. ESRI INC	ESRI GIS SOFTWARE RENEWAL 2021/2022	16,309.00	
31. FAHEY SCHULTZ BURZYCH RHODES PLC	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	3,037.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	11,693.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	780.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	19.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	22.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	663.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	12,812.50	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	4,465.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	1,960.50	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	491.50	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	44.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	809.50	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	880.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	418.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	1,608.50	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	110.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	576.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	1,086.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	44.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	446.00	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	1,921.61	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	1,773.21	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	559.05	
	LEGAL FEES - PROF SERVICES THROUGH FEB 28 2021	996.13	
	TOTAL	47,215.50	
32. FD HAYES ELECTRIC	POWER INSTALL FOR DEER COOLER AT SERVICE CENTER	1,105.00	
33. FIRST AMERICAN ADMINISTRATORS	FEBRUARY 2021 EYEMED VISION EXPENSES	1,956.35	
34. FORESIGHT GROUP	SIGNAGE FOR CLERK'S OFFICE	83.50	

Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
35. GRANGER	RUBBISH & RECYCLING DISPOSAL SERVICES FEB 2021	164.52	
	RUBBISH & RECYCLING DISPOSAL SERVICES 2021	87.00	
	RUBBISH & RECYCLING DISPOSAL SERVICES FEB 2021	17.50	
	RUBBISH & RECYCLING DISPOSAL SERVICES FEB 2021	114.33	
	RUBBISH & RECYCLING DISPOSAL SERVICES FEB 2021	903.63	
	RUBBISH & RECYCLING DISPOSAL SERVICES FEB 2021	74.26	
	RUBBISH & RECYCLING DISPOSAL SERVICES FEB 2021	78.28	
	TOTAL	1,439.52	
36. HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK	ACCOUNT NAME: MERIDIANTWP19	201,250.00	
37. INGHAM COUNTY TREASURER	MEMBERSHIP DUES TRI-COUNTY REG PLANNING COMMISSION	20,185.00	
38. JOHNSON SIGN COMPANY	OVRPMT SIGN PERMIT	125.00	
39. JULIE DWYER	REFUND FOR PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS AT HNC CANCELLED DUE	60.00	
40. KCI	MAILING OF ASSESSMENT CHANGE NOTICES WITH WETLAND	1,994.90	
41. LAMP ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC	ELECTRICAL PERMIT CANCELLED - SEQUOIA TRAIL - 50%	72.50	
42. LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE	TUITION FOR TWO OFFICERS - MAGGIE COLE/MEGHAN COLE	13,900.00	
43. LANSING SANITARY SUPPLY INC	CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES ORDERED MARCH 8 2021	312.47	
44. LANSING UNIFORM COMPANY	UNIFORM ITEMS MCNALLEY/CARR/MALESKO	643.45	
	POLICE UNIFORMS PANTS - HUBBARD/FORBES	119.90	
	TOTAL	763.35	
45. LAWSON PRINTERS	BUSINESS CARDS - A RYAN	65.00	
46. MARK'S LOCK SHOP, INC.	DOOR HANDLES AND KEYS - SERVICE CENTER	896.00	
47. MCKESSON MEDICAL-SURGICAL	GOC SOL		
	AMBULANCE SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	72.52	
	COVID-19 EMS SUPPLIES	194.60	
	AMBULANCE SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	217.56	
	COVID-19 EMS SUPPLIES	42.30	
	AMBULANCE SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	610.76	
	COVID-19 EMS SUPPLIES	919.51	
	COVID-19 EMS SUPPLIES	911.11	
	AMBULANCE SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	743.95	
	COVID-19 EMS SUPPLIES	630.47	
	COVID-19 EMS SUPPLIES	63.45	
	COVID-19 EMS SUPPLIES	118.20	
	COVID-19 EMS GLOVES	36.60	
	COVID-19 EMS GLOVES	197.47	
	COVID-19 EMS GLOVES	183.40	
	COVID-19 EMS GLOVES	206.71	
	TOTAL	5,148.61	
48. MEDICAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS OF	MARCH 2021 COLLECTION FEE FOR AMBULANCE BILLINGS	4,880.37	
49. MEI TOTAL ELEVATOR SERVICES	MARCH THRU MAY QTRLY 2021 ELEVATOR SERVICE	463.84	
50. MERIDIAN PLUMBING	SCHOOL STREET RENTAL HOUSE- WATER HEATER REPLACEME	3,363.00	
	DRINKING FOUNTAIN UPGRADES-ALL BUILDINGS	18,815.00	
	TOTAL	22,178.00	
51. MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	TRANSFER FOR FLEX CHECKING FOR 03/12/2021 PAYROLL	370.23	
52. MICHIGAN AGRITOURISM ASSOC	2021 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FOR FARMERS MARKET	159.00	
53. MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE	CDL CONSORTIUM DRIVERS FEE 01/01/21 TO 12/31/21	1,800.00	

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INVOICE APPROVAL BY INVOICE REPORT FOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
 EXP CHECK RUN DATES 03/16/2021 - 03/16/2021
 BOTH JOURNALIZED AND UNJOURNALIZED OPEN AND PAID
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Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
54. MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION	MTA BOARD OF REVIEW TRAINING - T. WARREN	45.00	
55. MID MICHIGAN EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT	POLICE INTERCEPTORS UPFITTING - UNIT #680	9,858.48	
56. NAPA	FLEET REPAIR PARTS FEB 2021	108.40	
57. OVERHEAD DOOR OF LANSING	OVERHAED DOOR REPAIRS MULTIPLE BLDGS - DOOR #7 SC	286.07	
58. PAUL J JOHNSON	OVERPAYMENT PATIENT AMBULANCE FEE	98.29	
59. PEOPLEFACTS LLC	FEB 2021 EMPLOYEE PRE-EMPLOYMENT CREDIT CHECKS	46.61	
60. POSTMASTER	POSTAGE FOR THE PRIME MERIDIAN MAGAZINE	4,922.83	104630
	POSTAGE FOR SINGLE AV APP POSTCARDS	1,262.11	104673
	TOTAL	6,184.94	
61. PRINT MAKERS SERVICE INC	KIP COPIER SERVICE CONTRACT & METER CHARGES - JAN	1,500.00	
62. PROGRESSIVE AE	PROF SERVICES THRU FEB 26, 2021 - LAKE LANSING WAT	1,681.25	
63. PRO-TECH MECHANICAL SERVICES	PRO TECH - PM SERVICE AT SERVICE CENTER	1,089.34	
	2021 HVAC PM REPAIRS AND SERVICE	4,206.25	
	TOTAL	5,295.59	
64. QUALITY COATING	BED LINER AND UNDERCOATING FOR UNIT #686	1,000.00	
65. RECLAIMED BY DESIGN	APRIL 2021 MONTHLY OPERATION OF RECYCLING CENTER	2,000.00	
66. RESERVE ACCOUNT	2021 POSTAGE FOR MERIDIAN TWP POSTAGE METER	7,000.00	
67. ROWERDINK AUTOMOTIVE PARTS	FLEET REPAIR PARTS FEB 2021	149.85	
	FLEET REPAIR PARTS FEB 2021	364.88	
	FLEET REPAIR PARTS FEB 2021	96.50	
	FLEET REPAIR PARTS FEB 2021	63.15	
	FLEET REPAIR PARTS FEB 2021	231.04	
	FLEET REPAIR PARTS FEB 2021 - CREDIT	(40.00)	
	TOTAL	865.42	
68. SHAHEEN CHEVROLET INC	HEAD LAMP UNIT # 134	224.23	
69. SIR HOME IMPROVEMENTS	OVRPMT FOR PLUMBING PERMIT	5.00	
70. SPARROW OCCUPATIONAL	FEBRUARY 2021 PRE-EMPLOYMENT & FITNESS FOR DUTY PH	246.00	
71. SPARTAN DISTRIBUTORS	TORO GROUNDSMASTER 4100-D	65,773.40	
72. ST MARTHA CONFERENCE OF	REIMBURSEMENT FOR A PORTION OF RENT FOR M.ABBAS	75.00	104635
	REIMB PMT OF RENT	250.00	104677
	REIMB PMT OF RENT	650.00	104676
	TOTAL	975.00	
73. ST THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH	REIMB PMT OF RENT	1,000.00	104678
74. STORY ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION	CANCELLED BUILDING PERMIT-INSUFFICIENT INFO. 80%	60.00	
75. SWAGIT PRODUCTIONS, LLC	VIDEO STREAMING SERVICE HOMTV - FEBRUARY 2021	2,613.75	
76. T MOBILE	SERVICES CHARGES FROM 01/21/21 TO 02/20/21 BACKUP	29.65	
77. TASC	COBRA ADMINISTRATION FEE	308.79	
78. TDS	FC49-5371-17DD TELEPHONE & PRI SERVICE - 02/28/21	1,631.15	
79. TEAM FINANCIAL GROUP	COPIER LEASE MARCH 2021	1,544.15	

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EXP CHECK RUN DATES 03/16/2021 - 03/16/2021
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Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
80. TELEFLEX LLC	IO SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	1,215.50	
81. THE ARTY PARTY STUDIO	MERIDIAN TWP SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF GRANT	5,000.00	104674
82. TODD FRANK	CDL REIMBURSEMENT	72.00	
83. TRI-COUNTY CIT	TRI-CO CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM TRAINING - VALASQU	300.00	
84. UNEMPLOYMENT ISURANCE AGENCY	4TH QUARTER OF 2020	278.17	104675
85. UPPERCUT TREE SERVICE LLC	2021 PATHWAY TREE AND STUMP REMOVAL	2,445.00	
86. US POSTAL SERVICE	RENEWAL OF BULK MAILING PERMIT AND ANNUAL FEES	245.00	
	RENEWAL OF BULK MAILING PERMIT AND ANNUAL FEES	740.00	
	TOTAL	985.00	
87. VARIPRO BENEFIT ADMINISTRATORS	MONTHLY FLEX ADMINISTRATION FEB 2021	153.00	
	MARCH 2021 RETIREE HARTFORD MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTAL	12,780.35	
	TOTAL	12,933.35	
88. VERIZON CONNECT	VERIZON CONNECT VEHICLE DATA UPLINK - MERI07 - 01/	1,359.96	
89. VERIZON WIRELESS	SERVICES FROM 01/24/2021 TO 02/24/2021	3,838.70	
	SERVICES FROM 02/06/2021 TO 02/23/2021	1,438.17	
	TOTAL	5,276.87	
90. VIRGINIA EDERER	OVERPAYMENT PATIENT AMBULANCE FEE	211.42	
91. WASTE MANAGEMENT	CUSTOMER ID# 22-04156-63005 SERVICE PERIOD 03/01/2	259.40	
92. WEST SHORE FIRE INC	SCBA FILL STATION MAINTENANCE/AIR SAMPLES	649.85	
	SCBA PACK PARTS, MASKS, VOICE AMPS REPAIRS	84.97	
	TOTAL	734.82	
93. ZOLL MEDICAL CORP	ZOLL HEART MONITOR SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	1,121.00	
	ZOLL HEART MONITOR SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	223.10	
	ZOLL HEART MONITOR SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	89.46	
	TOTAL	1,433.56	
TOTAL - ALL VENDORS		544,206.24	

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EXP CHECK RUN DATES 03/16/2021 - 03/16/2021
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Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
1. CABRIO PROPERTIES	OVRPMT SEWER/WATER FINAL BILL - LIVERANCE ST	147.23	
2. CARL SCHLEGEL INC	SAND , GRAVEL & TOPSOIL FEB 2021	1,620.00	
3. CITY OF EAST LANSING	SEWER OPERATIONS BILLINGS - MARCH 2021	254,513.75	
4. CORBIN DESIGN	TOWNSHIP ENTRYWAY, WAYFINDING AND LOCATION SIGN DE	188.34	
5. CORRPRO COMPANIES INC	CATHODIC PROTECTION INSPECTION	1,625.00	
6. CUMMINS INC	SIERRA RIDGE GENERATOR REPAIRS	870.53	
	INSP W/2HR LOAD BANK ON TOWAR - FEB 2 2021	582.36	
	TOTAL	<u>1,452.89</u>	
7. DIVERSIFIED NATIONAL TITLE AGENCY	OVRPMT SEWER/WATER FINAL BILL - WOODHILL DRIVE	58.05	
8. FERGUSON WATERWORKS #3386	WATER METERS CUSTOMER #2470 - FEB 2021	24,854.88	
	CREDIT FOR SALES TAX CHARGED ON INV 0122545	(1,406.88)	
	TOTAL	<u>23,448.00</u>	
9. FIRST AMERICAN ADMINISTRATORS	FEBRUARY 2021 EYEMED VISION EXPENSES	287.05	
10. FOB LTD PARTNERSHIP	OVRPMT SEWER/WATER FINAL BILL - JOLLY RD	38.81	
11. HUGH HICKOK	OVRPMT SEWER/WATER FINAL BILL - SHOALS DRIVE	19.29	
12. HYDROCORP	CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROG SERVICES - FEB 2021	2,430.00	
13. INNOVATED ENERGY CONTROLS	2021 STANDBY GENERATOR CONTRACT- SHOAL AND WHITEHI	28,819.12	
14. MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP RETAINAGE	2021 STANDBY GENERATOR CONTRACT- SHOAL AND WHITEHI	3,202.13	
15. NEW ORIENTAL MARKET LLC	DISCHARGE OF PERF GUARANTEE - GRAND RIVER AVE	10,000.00	
16. TITLE RESOURCE AGENCY	OVRPMT SEWER/WATER FINAL BILL - E. SUNWIND DR	245.00	
17. VERIZON WIRELESS	SERVICES FROM 01/24/2021 TO 02/23/2021	406.09	
TOTAL - ALL VENDORS		328,500.75	

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INVOICE APPROVAL BY INVOICE REPORT FOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
EXP CHECK RUN DATES 03/16/2021 - 03/16/2021
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Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
1. DEENA PARKER	OVER PAYMENT OF WINTER PROPERTY TAXES @ 6280 W LAK	1,706.41	13094
2. GHULAM H SUMBAL	OVER PAYMENT OF WINTER PROPERTY TAXES @ 3558 KANSA	1,540.86	13095
3. HASLETT SPIRIT	DOCKET 154-21-0005 2020 TAX YEAR	30.92	
	DOCKET 154-21-0005 2019 TAX YEAR	33.02	
	TOTAL	63.94	
4. JANICE RUHALA	OVER PAYMENT OF WINTER PROPERTY TAXES @ 3915 VAN A	27.00	13096
5. LIBERTY TITLE AGENCY	OVER PAYMENT OF WINTER PROPERTY TAXES @ 6209 E GOL	35.21	13097
6. LINDA ARENS	OVER PAYMENT OF WINTER PROPERTY TAXES @ 2146 LAGOO	257.18	13098
7. MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP BROWNFIELD	BROWNFIELD CAPTURE - ELEVATION BROWNFIELD	2,630.19	13099
	BROWNFIELD CAPTURE -ELEVATION BROWNFIELD	139,142.21	13099
	TOTAL	141,772.40	
8. MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP DDA	2020 WINTER TAX COLLECTION	13,116.29	13100
	2021 SUMMER TAX COLLECTION	277.40	13100
	TOTAL	13,393.69	
9. RAJIV DAS	OVER PAYMENT OF WINTER PROPERTY TAXES @ 3545 AUTUM	10.11	13101
10. THOMAS CARY	OVER PAYMENT OF WINTER PROPERTY TAXES @ 6130 COLUM	147.81	13102
TOTAL - ALL VENDORS		158,954.61	

Credit Card Report 2/25/2021-3/10/2021

Posting Date	Merchant Name	Amount	Name
2021/02/25	MIDWEST POWER EQUIPMENT	\$60.00	LAWRENCE BOBB
2021/02/25	JETS PIZZA - MI-053 - MOT	\$62.98	MICHAEL HAMEL
2021/02/25	PAS*PASSPT ELANSING P	\$1.80	BART CRANE
2021/02/25	VEHICLE ACCESSORIES - LA	\$369.99	TODD FRANK
2021/02/25	BARNUM & TENNY BODY SHOP	\$58.50	TODD FRANK
2021/02/25	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$13.75	DAVID LESTER
2021/02/25	HAMMOND FARMS LANDSCAPE S	\$460.00	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2021/02/25	GRAINGER	\$14.30	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2021/02/25	MIDWEST POWER EQUIPMENT	\$45.97	KENNITH PHINNEY
2021/02/25	WESCO - # 3255	\$158.40	KEITH HEWITT
2021/02/25	ADOBE ACROPRO SUBS	\$15.89	DENISE GREEN
2021/02/25	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$18.98	WILLIAM PRIESE
2021/02/26	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$7.97	LAWRENCE BOBB
2021/02/26	ELECTRICAL TERMINAL SERVI	\$225.68	TODD FRANK
2021/02/26	FORESIGHT GROUP INC	\$140.59	TODD FRANK
2021/02/26	ZOOM.US 888-799-9666	\$23.56	STEPHEN GEBES
2021/02/26	BP#6445282ALL AUTO SERVI	\$566.00	DARLA JACKSON
2021/02/26	AMZN MKTP US*DL8544SQ3	\$489.99	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2021/02/26	AMZN MKTP US*E944K7MY3	\$70.58	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2021/02/26	PAYPAL *MFIS	\$150.00	TAVIS MILLEROV
2021/02/26	ADOBE ACROPRO SUBS	\$14.99	DEREK PERRY
2021/02/26	AMZN MKTP US*SB86L9JC3	\$20.99	MICHELLE PRINZ
2021/02/26	AMAZON.COM*RA7Z45O13	\$59.99	MICHELLE PRINZ
2021/02/26	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$15.48	CATHERINE ADAMS
2021/03/01	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$55.54	LAWRENCE BOBB
2021/03/01	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$5.94	ROBERT STACY
2021/03/01	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$41.08	TYLER KENNEL
2021/03/01	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$8.97	TYLER KENNEL
2021/03/01	PAS*PASSPT LANSING PR	\$1.05	BART CRANE
2021/03/01	PAS*PASSPT LANSING PR	\$0.75	BART CRANE
2021/03/01	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	(\$63.63)	KYLE FOGG
2021/03/01	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$70.57	KYLE FOGG
2021/03/01	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$11.84	KYLE FOGG
2021/03/01	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$32.96	RYAN CAMPBELL
2021/03/01	ID CARDS INSTANTCARD	\$100.00	KRISTI SCHAEING
2021/03/01	AMZN MKTP US*GI23T5IA3	\$36.77	KRISTI SCHAEING
2021/03/01	WESCO - # 3255	\$515.85	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2021/03/01	WPY*2021 WILDFLOWER ASSOC	\$50.00	LUANN MAISNER
2021/03/01	WPY*2021 WILDFLOWER ASSOC	\$50.00	LUANN MAISNER
2021/03/01	WPY*2021 WILDFLOWER ASSOC	\$50.00	LUANN MAISNER
2021/03/01	WPY*2021 WILDFLOWER ASSOC	\$50.00	LUANN MAISNER
2021/03/01	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$122.27	CATHERINE ADAMS
2021/03/02	WMJ COMPANY	\$147.95	WILLIAM PRIESE
2021/03/03	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$201.78	LAWRENCE BOBB
2021/03/03	COMPLETE BATTERY SOURCE	\$35.27	ROBERT STACY
2021/03/03	SEC OF STATE ESERVICES	\$20.29	JIM HANSEN
2021/03/03	HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS	\$351.92	ANDREW MCCREADY
2021/03/03	SEC OF STATE ESERVICES	\$20.29	TODD FRANK
2021/03/03	MTU-CASHIERS OFFICE WEB	\$10.00	YOUNES ISHRAIDI
2021/03/03	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$62.32	DAVID LESTER
2021/03/03	WESCO - # 3255	\$135.00	KEITH HEWITT
2021/03/03	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$23.95	KEITH HEWITT

2021/03/03	AMZN MKTP US*UY9TP6LI3	\$17.99	MICHELLE PRINZ
2021/03/03	AMZN MKTP US*CC4AE6U33	\$30.19	MICHELLE PRINZ
2021/03/03	SOLDANS FEEDS & PET S	\$30.12	CATHERINE ADAMS
2021/03/04	HASLETT TRUE VALUE HARDW	\$29.85	ROBERT STACY
2021/03/04	SCHRAM AUTO TRUCK PARTS	\$235.00	JIM HANSEN
2021/03/04	EJ USA DETROIT	\$298.63	CHAD HOUCK
2021/03/04	COVERT SCOUTING	\$54.99	BART CRANE
2021/03/04	PAS*PASSPT LANSING PR	\$0.67	BART CRANE
2021/03/04	COMCAST	\$317.62	ANDREA SMILEY
2021/03/04	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$16.98	MIKE ELLIS
2021/03/04	KIMBALL MIDWEST PAYEEZY	\$614.87	TODD FRANK
2021/03/04	GRAINGER	\$575.28	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2021/03/04	AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS	\$150.75	DEREK PERRY
2021/03/04	COMPLETE BATTERY SOURCE	\$55.69	WILLIAM PRIESE
2021/03/04	WAL-MART #2866	\$49.97	CATHERINE ADAMS
2021/03/05	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$51.93	LAWRENCE BOBB
2021/03/05	SCHRAM AUTO TRUCK PARTS	(\$235.00)	JIM HANSEN
2021/03/05	SCHRAM AUTO TRUCK PARTS	\$155.00	JIM HANSEN
2021/03/05	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$6.97	CHAD HOUCK
2021/03/05	PAS*PASSPT LANSING PR	\$0.75	BART CRANE
2021/03/05	HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS 157	\$35.92	KYLE FOGG
2021/03/05	REI*LEXISNEXIS EPIC	\$150.00	KRISTI SCHAEING
2021/03/05	AMZN MKTP US*6C5XD68J3	\$29.99	KRISTI SCHAEING
2021/03/05	AMZN MKTP US*GP5VY9P23	\$135.61	KRISTEN COLE
2021/03/05	USPS PO 2569800864	\$26.35	ROBIN FAUST
2021/03/05	ELECTRICAL TERMINAL SERVI	\$189.12	TODD FRANK
2021/03/05	EXOTIC AUTOMATION&SUPPLY	\$136.52	TODD FRANK
2021/03/05	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$119.78	JANE GREENWAY
2021/03/05	ABC APPLIANCE # 9 LANSING	\$650.00	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2021/03/05	GRAINGER	\$715.00	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2021/03/05	WESCO - # 3255	(\$158.40)	KEITH HEWITT
2021/03/05	244 AUTO VALUE EAST LANSI	\$7.59	KEITH HEWITT
2021/03/05	AMAZON.COM*OV85D6XV3 AMZN	\$33.40	MICHELLE PRINZ
2021/03/05	AMZN MKTP US*P59896LS3	\$83.53	MICHELLE PRINZ
2021/03/05	MEIJER # 025	\$11.38	CATHERINE ADAMS
2021/03/08	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$30.87	LAWRENCE BOBB
2021/03/08	WAL-MART #2866	\$57.76	ROBERT STACY
2021/03/08	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$87.44	ROBERT STACY
2021/03/08	SHERWIN WILLIAMS 701339	\$49.36	ROBERT STACY
2021/03/08	HASLETT TRUE VALUE HARDW	\$11.99	JIM HANSEN
2021/03/08	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$4.27	CHAD HOUCK
2021/03/08	PAS*PASSPT LANSING PR	\$1.65	BART CRANE
2021/03/08	FILMFREEWAY.COM	\$525.00	SAMANTHA DIEHL
2021/03/08	MIDWEST POWER EQUIPMENT	\$41.47	WILLIAM RICHARDSON
2021/03/08	IN *JOHNSON, ROBERTS, & A	\$35.00	KRISTI SCHAEING
2021/03/08	OFFICEMAX/OFFICEDEPT#3379	\$80.99	ROBIN FAUST
2021/03/08	IDU*INSIGHT DIRECT	\$127.33	STEPHEN GEBES
2021/03/08	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$16.17	KEITH HEWITT
2021/03/08	SQ *SCS SYSTEMS LLC	\$265.00	CATHERINE ADAMS
2021/03/09	HASLETT TRUE VALUE HARDW	\$59.98	KYLE ROYSTON
2021/03/09	COVERT SCOUTING	\$39.98	BART CRANE
2021/03/09	LANGUAGE LINE	\$8.40	KRISTI SCHAEING
2021/03/09	EGLE OP TRAIN AND CERT	\$95.00	YOUNES ISHRAIDI
2021/03/09	OUTSHINER GRAND RIVER	\$240.00	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2021/03/09	AMAZON.COM*5S4KF2E13	\$420.00	MICHELLE PRINZ

2021/03/09	FORESIGHT GROUP INC	\$67.33	WILLIAM PRIESE
2021/03/10	CATHEY COMPANY	\$3.75	CHAD HOUCK
2021/03/10	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$21.64	KYLE ROYSTON
2021/03/10	PAS*PASSPT LANSING PR	\$0.52	BART CRANE
2021/03/10	OFFICEMAX/OFFICEDEPT#3379	\$148.40	ROBIN FAUST
2021/03/10	MSU PAYMENTS	\$250.00	PETER MENSER
2021/03/10	AMERICAN PLANNING A	\$383.00	PETER MENSER
2021/03/10	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$36.94	KEITH HEWITT
2021/03/10	GALLS	\$334.98	WILLIAM PRIESE
2021/03/10	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$33.46	WILLIAM PRIESE
2021/03/10	SOLDANS FEEDS & PET S	\$6.76	CATHERINE ADAMS

Total	\$13,323.59
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ACH Transactions

Date	Payee	Amount	Purpose
2/25/2021	Nationwide	\$ 4,948.32	Payroll Deductions 02/26/2021
2/26/2021	IRS	\$ 99,411.11	Payroll Taxes 02/26/2021
2/26/2021	Various Financial Instituions	\$ 266,796.77	Payroll Deductions 02/26/2021
2/26/2021	State Income Taxes	\$ 28,322.04	Paryoll Taxes 02/26/2021
2/26/2021	ICMA	\$ 36,612.00	Payroll Deductions 02/26/2021
3/3/2021	Blue Care Network	\$ 80,900.59	Employee Health Insurance
3/5/2021	Health Equity	\$ 20.00	Employee Health Savings Contribution
3/8/2021	Delta Dental	\$ 13,982.49	Employee Dental Insurance
3/9/2021	Invoice Cloud	\$ 2,466.55	Utility Transaction Fee
3/9/2021	Alerus	\$ 2,243.30	Payroll Deductions 02/26/2021
3/9/2021	MERS Purchase	\$ 285,819.57	Employee Retirement
3/10/2021	Blue Care Network	\$ 4,894.09	Employee Health Insurance
Total ACH Payments		<u><u>\$ 826,416.83</u></u>	

Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes

ATTORNEYS AT LAW FSBRLAW.COM
4151 OKEMOS ROAD TEL: 517.381.0100
OKEMOS, MI 48864 USA FAX: 517.381.5051

Frank Walsh, Manager
Meridian Township
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

12-11-11 113-808.000 \$31,814.79
10-1-11 115-228.000 \$15,400.71
\$47,215.50

mmm
3-9-21

STATEMENT

Bill Date	Matter	Inv #	Billed	Paid	Due	Aging
3/02/21	BWL Franchise	57610	3,037.00	0.00	3,037.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	Collective Bargaining	57611	11,693.00 <i>Label</i>	0.00	11,693.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	Duty Disability Matter	57612	780.00 <i>Label</i>	0.00	780.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	EDC Matters	57613	19.00	0.00	19.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	Employment Investigation	57614	22.00	0.00	22.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	Grievances	57615	663.00 <i>Label</i>	0.00	663.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	Marihuana Regulation	57616	12,812.50	0.00	12,812.50	<=30 days
3/02/21	Policy Research & Drafting	57617	4,465.00	0.00	4,465.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	Public Works	57618	1,960.50	0.00	1,960.50	<=30 days
3/02/21	Separation Agreement	57619	491.50 <i>Label</i>	0.00	491.50	<=30 days
3/02/21	CEW Land Management, LLC MTT 20-004496	57620	44.00	0.00	44.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	Denny's of East Lansing MTT 20-001294	57621	809.50	0.00	809.50	<=30 days
3/02/21	Falk (MTT 19-000505) (COA)	57622	880.00	0.00	880.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	Flagstar Bank FSB MTT 20-001692	57623	418.00	0.00	418.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	KJ Endeavors LLC v Meridian Township MTT 20-001625	57624	1,608.50	0.00	1,608.50	<=30 days
3/02/21	LTG Haslett LLC v Meridian Twp (MTT 20-003095)	57625	110.00	0.00	110.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	Okemos Retail Management LLC v Meridian Township MTT 20-001310	57626	576.00	0.00	576.00	<=30 days

3/02/21	Quarre Trust v Meridian Township MTT 20-001339	57627	1,086.00	0.00	1,086.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	Sanlyse, LLC 19-002657	57628	44.00	0.00	44.00	<=30 days
3/02/21	TSFR Burger MTT 20-003507	57629	446.00	0.00	446.00	<=30 days
Totals			<u>\$41,965.50</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$41,965.50</u>	

Balance Due and Owing

\$41,965.50

PLEASE REMIT PAYMENT TO
 FAHEY SCHULTZ BURZYCH RHODES PLC, 4151 OKEMOS ROAD, OKEMOS, MI 48864

Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes

ATTORNEYS AT LAW FSBRLAW.COM
4151 OKEMOS ROAD TEL: 517.381.0100
OKEMOS, MI 48864 USA FAX: 517.381.5051

Frank Walsh, Manager
Meridian Township-Retainer
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

STATEMENT

Bill Date	Matter	Inv #	Billed	Paid	Due	Aging
3/02/21	Community Planning & Development	57630	1,921.61	0.00	1,921.61	<=30 days
3/02/21	Human Resources/Labor	57631	1,773.21 <i>labor</i>	0.00	1,773.21	<=30 days
3/02/21	Manager	57632	559.05	0.00	559.05	<=30 days
3/02/21	Supervisor	57633	996.13	0.00	996.13	<=30 days
Totals			\$5,250.00	\$0.00	\$5,250.00	

Balance Due and Owing \$5,250.00

PLEASE REMIT PAYMENT TO
FAHEY SCHULTZ BURZYCH RHODES PLC, 4151 OKEMOS ROAD, OKEMOS, MI 48864



To: Township Board
From: LuAnn Maisner, CPRP
Director of Parks and Recreation
Date: March 10, 2021
Re: DNR Grant Application
Towner Road Park Improvements

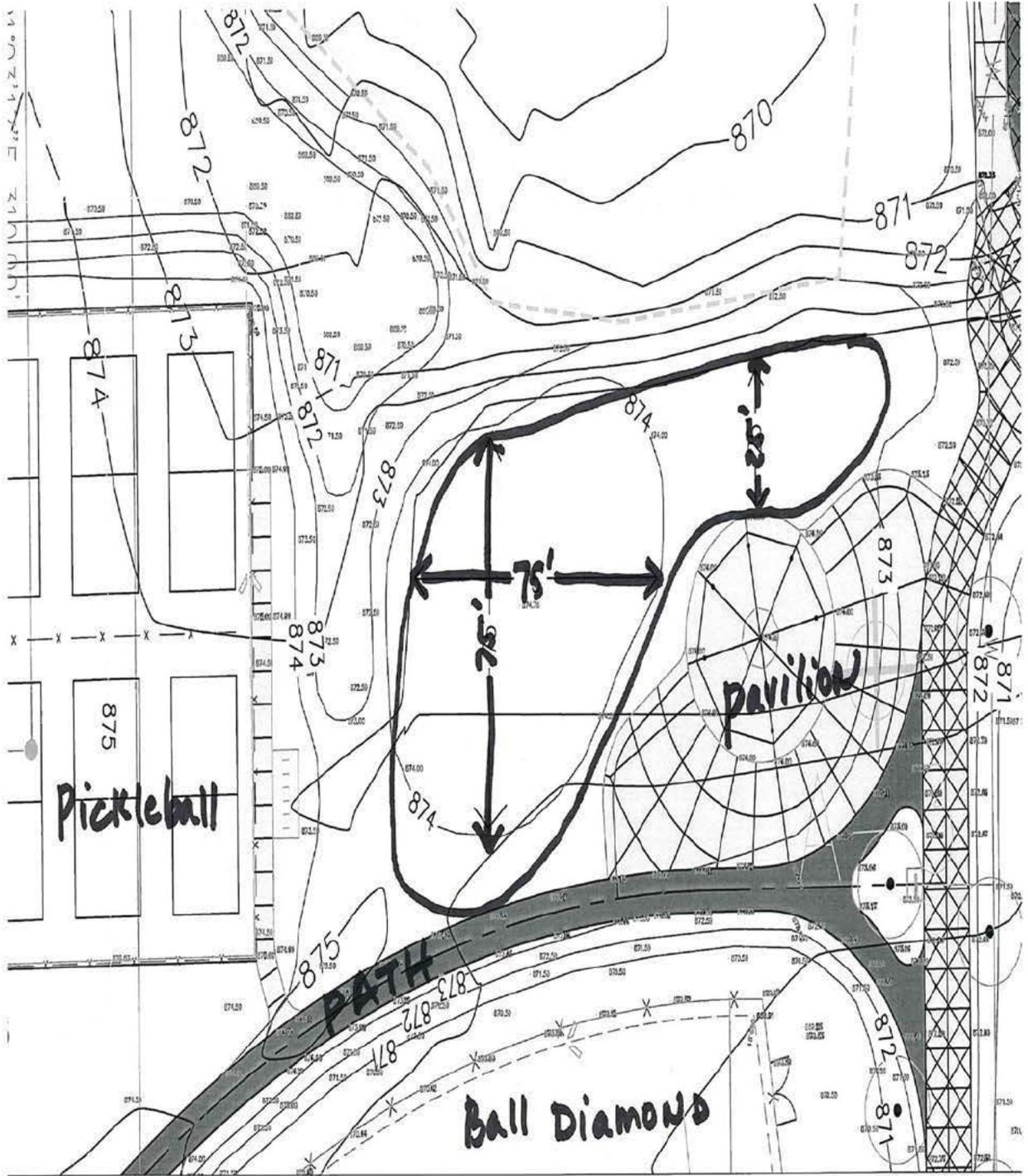
TOWNER ROAD PARK

The Parks and Recreation Department and Park Commission officially opened Towner Road Park in 2018. This 24-acre community park serves the northern portion of the township and contains athletic fields, parking, pickleball courts, a paved pathway, restroom building and a pavilion. The one important feature it lacks is a play area. The proposed project is a multi-generational space for play and fitness for all ages. With the popularity of the adjacent pickleball courts, we felt it important to create an accessible space for persons of all ages to enjoy.

The Park Commission held a public hearing held on March 9, 2021 to accept public comments on the proposed park improvements including. At this meeting, the Commission unanimously voted to pass a resolution to approve the submission of the grant application to the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund for a total project cost of \$350,000. The LWCF requires a 50% local (\$175,000) match that will be funded by the Park Millage.

Motion for Board Consideration:

MOVE TO APPROVE THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND FOR A MULTI-GENERATIONAL EXERCISE/PLAY SPACE IN TOWNER ROAD PARK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$350,000 WITH FIFTY PERCENT OF THE PROJECT COST (\$175,000) FUNDED BY THE PARK MILLAGE.



OWNER ROAD PARK - INTERGENERATIONAL PLAY/EXERCISE AREA

NORTH
 ↑
 1"=30'

**Towner Road Park Play Space
RESOLUTION**

At an electronic meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held on the 16th day of March, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., Local Time.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

The following resolution was offered by Board Member ____ and supported by Board Member _____:

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources accepts grant requests from local units of government to assist in the development and acquisition of recreation properties; and

WHEREAS, it is possible to have up to 50% of the total project cost funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund program; and

WHEREAS, the Park Commission and Township Board are interested leveraging local Park Millage Funds by obtaining supplemental grant funding for park projects whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, Meridian Township has prepared a grant application for submission to the Land and Water Conservation Fund for \$350,000 of improvements to Towner Road Park consisting of a Play Space to improve and expand recreation opportunities and accessibility for visitors of all abilities; and

WHEREAS, this project is identified and supported in the 2017-2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan adopted by the Meridian Township Board and Park Commission, and is on file with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, the grant request is outlined and justified in the 2021-2027 Capital Improvements Program adopted by the Township Board and Park Commission; and

WHEREAS, this grant request was open to public review on March 9, 2021 and approved for submission by the Park Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PARK COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, as follows:

To support submission of a grant application to the Land and Water Conservation Fund for development of a Play Space in Towner Road Park with a total project cost of \$350,000. The fifty (50%) percent local match of \$175,000 will be funded by the Park Millage, with the remaining fifty (50%) percent (\$175,000) funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant.

ADOPTED:
YEAS:

NAYS: None

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Township Board, Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and a complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 16th of March, 2021.

Deborah Guthrie, Township Clerk



9.E

To: Board Members
From: Deborah Guthrie, Township Clerk
Date: March 11, 2021
Re: Regular Board Meeting Date Change Due to Special Election

The Okemos Public Schools has scheduled a Special Election for Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

I am requesting the Township Board move their regular board meeting from Tuesday, May 4, 2021 to Thursday, May 6, 2021 to allow for the Okemos Public Schools Special Election.

Motion for the Township Board Consideration:

MOVE TO AMEND THE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE BY RESCHEDULING
THE MAY 4, 2021 TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING TO THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021
AT 6 PM.



To: Township Board

From: Mark Kieselbach, Community Planning & Development Director

Date: March 11, 2021

Re: 6503 Park Lake Road Open Space Easement

The Township Board discussed the local open space easement between David and Joan Johnson and the Township at its meeting on March 2, 2021. The Johnson's have proposed the easement to run 90 years. Prior to the expiration of the term of the easement the property owner upon written request can renew the easement. The property owner is entitled to automatic renewal if the property owner has complied with the requirements of the local open space easement agreement. The Township Board may terminate the easement agreement prior to the termination date if the Board determines the development of the property is in the public interest and with the agreement of the property owner. The property owner may also request the easement agreement be terminated by filing an application provided by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development with the Township. The Township must follow the same procedures to terminate the easement agreement as was used to approve the easement agreement. The subject property may be sold during the term of the easement. If sold to another party whose name does not appear on the signed easement, the seller must obtain a signed statement from the purchaser which declares the purchaser will honor all conditions and restrictions contained in the easement and assume responsibilities for all payback and/or penalty provisions provided by law.

The local open space easement application was reviewed by the Ingham Conservation District and the City of East Lansing. Both reviewing entities had no objection or concerns with the local open space easement.

Township Board Options

The Township Board may approve or deny the local open space easement. The Board must make a decision on the application by its meeting on March 16, 2021 to meet 45 days required under the Act. A resolution to approve the local open space easement has been provided for the Board's consideration.

- **Move to adopt the resolution approving the local open space easement between David and Joan Johnson (NJ Halmich Sod Nurseries, Inc.) and the Charter Township of Meridian for the property located at 6503 Park Lake Road and the Township prepare an easement consistent with the terms, conditions and restrictions authorized by Part 361 of Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994 (Sections 324.36101 to 324.36116 of Michigan Compiled Laws annotated).**

**Open Space Easement (6503 Park Lake Road)
Township Board (March 16, 2021)
Page 2**

Attachments:

1. Resolution.
2. Market Value.
3. Email from Ingham Conservation District.
4. Letter from City of East Lansing Planning Commission.

G:\Community Planning & Development\Planning\FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION PROGRAM\2021\2021.3.16 TB12A MEMO.docx

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE
LOCAL OPEN SPACE EASEMENT**

**David and Joan Johnson
NJ Halmich Sod Nurseries, Inc.
6503 Park Lake Road**

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held virtually using the Zoom web conferencing application, in said Township on the 16th day of March 2021, at 6:00 p.m., Local Time.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

The following resolution was offered by _____
and supported by _____.

WHEREAS, David and Joan Johnson (NJ Halmich Sod Nurseries, Inc.) 6503 Park Lake Road submitted an application for a local open space easement, Part 361 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board reviewed and discussed the application at its meeting on March 2, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Township notified Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, Ingham Conservation District and the City of East Lansing upon receipt of the application. The Ingham Conservation District and the City of East Lansing had no concerns or objections regarding the application; and

WHEREAS, more than half of the approximate 57 acre subject site is wetland and floodplain and the preservation of open space will conserve natural resources and scenic resources; and

WHEREAS, no structure may be built on the land or no improvements to the land may be made unless approved by the Township Board while the subject site is enrolled in the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby approves the local open space easement agreement between David and Joan Johnson (NJ Halmich Sod Nurseries, Inc.) and the Charter Township of Meridian for approximately 57 acres located at 6503 Park Lake Road.

**Resolution to Approve
Local Open Space Easement (David and Joan Johnson)
Page 2**

ADOPTED: YEAS: _____

NAYS: _____

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

) ss

COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 16th day of March, 2021.

Deborah Guthrie
Township Clerk

Mark Kieselbach

From: David Lee
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2021 4:11 PM
To: Mark Kieselbach
Subject: RE: Halmich Sod Nurseries

Mark:

As of December 31, 2020, I estimate the market value of the parcel as follows: Parcel 33-02-02-05-101-002, \$647,000. The parcel's land has been valued at \$154,950, roughly \$3,000 per acre (52.2 acres) and there are several structures on the parcel which comprise most of the parcel's value.

In my opinion, the market value of the parcel exclusive of the development rights is the same as stated above. The parcel has been and is currently being valued for what it is at present – a large isolated parcel lying primarily within a flood plain with some dwelling and other structures situated on it. Due to its isolation, topography, and configuration, there is not any significant development pressure on this parcel which would drive its value up; the parcel has been assessed accordingly. In my view, the development rights have no value at this time.

By way of comparison, the adjacent former Walnut Hills golf course parcel has been the subject of development talks for several years as you are aware. It is 190 acres and I have valued that parcel at \$1,653,800 (market value) as of December 31, 2020. That works out to about \$8,700 per acre. If the subject parcel had better topography, a different configuration, etc. and was subject to development pressures, its value would be much higher. Also, by way of comparison, the Clinton County Equalization Department (this parcel borders Clinton County to the north) used \$4,500 per acre for farmland in DeWitt and Bath Townships in its equalization studies for 2021.

If you have any questions or if you would like to talk further about any of this, please let me know.

Thanks.

Dave



A Prime Community

David C. Lee
Assessor
dlee@meridian.mi.us
W 517.853.4404 | C 517.420.7546
5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864
meridian.mi.us

From: Mark Kieselbach <Kieselbach@meridian.mi.us>
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 11:02 AM
To: David Lee <dlee@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Halmich Sod Nurseries

Dave,
Attached is a PA 116 application for property #05-101-002.
Mark

Mark Kieselbach

From: Michelle Beloskur <michelle.beloskur@macd.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 02, 2021 11:14 AM
To: Mark Kieselbach
Subject: Open Space Application Review

The Ingham Conservation District Board of Directors has reviewed the Local Open Space Easement application submitted for 6503 Park Lake Road. The application was deemed complete and Board members were familiar with the property in question. There were no additional comments or concerns.

--
*Michelle Beloskur, Executive Director
Ingham Conservation District
www.inghamconservation.com
517-676-2290 ext 3*



CITY OF EAST LANSING
The Home of Michigan State University

March 1, 2021

RECEIVED

MAR 03 2021

Ms. Deborah Guthrie, Clerk
Charter Township of Meridian
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

RE: 6503 Park Lake Road (Local Open Space Easement – PA-116)

Dear Ms. Guthrie:

At its February 24, 2021 meeting, with seven (7) members present, the East Lansing Planning Commission reviewed the local open space easement (PA-116) application for the property located at 6503 Park Lake Road.

Although there were basic questions, the East Lansing Planning Commission expresses no objections or concerns regarding the proposal.

If you should have any questions or need additional information regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me at (517) 319-6861.

Sincerely,

CITY OF EAST LANSING

David E. Haywood, AICP
Planning & Zoning Administrator

cc: Mark Kieselbach, Director of Community Planning & Development ✓
Jennifer Shuster, East Lansing City Clerk

410 Abbot Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

(517) 337-1731
Fax (517) 337-1559
www.cityofeastlansing.com



12. B

To: Board Members
From: Dan Opsommer, Township Trustee
Date: March 12, 2021
Re: Resolution Recognizing April 2021 as Autism Awareness Month in Meridian Township

A resolution to join with the international community, the United States, and the state of Michigan in recognizing April of 2021 as Autism Awareness Month.

Autism is the fastest-growing developmental disability in the United States. In 2020, the CDC reported that approximately 1 in 54 children in the United States is diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD), according to 2016 data. Boys are four times more likely to be diagnosed with autism than girls.

Autism knows no racial, ethnic, social boundaries, family income, lifestyle, or educational levels, and can affect any family and any child.

In recognizing April of 2021 as Autism Awareness Month, we help support ongoing research across the world and help raise awareness of the ASD to help create a more welcoming community.

A motion is prepared for Board consideration:

MOVE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2021 AS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH IN MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP.

Attachment:

1. Resolution Recognizing April 2021 as Autism Awareness Month in Meridian Township

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2021 AS AUTISM AWARENESS
MONTH IN MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP**

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held virtually during the COVID-19 global pandemic, (517) 853-4000, on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

The following resolution was offered by _____
and supported by _____.

A resolution recognizing April 2021 as Autism Awareness Month in Meridian Township.

WHEREAS, Autism refers to a range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech, and nonverbal communication, as well as by unique strengths and differences. In 2013, the American Psychiatric Association merged four previously distinct diagnoses into one umbrella diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD). These included autistic disorder, childhood disintegrative disorder, pervasive developmental disorder-not otherwise specified (PDD-NOS) and Asperger syndrome. It is the result of a neurological disorder that affects the normal functioning of the brain that is believed to be caused by genetic and environmental factors; and

WHEREAS, Families living with autism face unique challenges and frequently experience significant financial costs for specialized education and support services. The uniqueness of each individual with autism makes the experience of living with autism different for each family; and

WHEREAS, Autism is a lifelong condition and the necessary support and treatment changes as people on the spectrum move through major life phases. Their quality of life depends not only upon the foundation that is provided in childhood, but on ongoing supports that are specific to the educational, medical, social, recreational, family, and employment needs of the individual; and

WHEREAS, Autism knows no racial, ethnic, social boundaries, family income, lifestyle, or educational levels, and can affect any family and any child; and

WHEREAS, Autism is the fastest-growing developmental disability in the United States; and

WHEREAS, In 2020, the CDC reported that approximately 1 in 54 children in the United States is diagnosed with ASD, according to 2016 data. Research also shows that boys are four times more likely to be diagnosed with autism than girls; and



To: Board Members
From: Ronald J. Styka, Township Supervisor
Date: March 12, 2021
Re: Capital Area District Library Appointment

Sandra Drake's term on the Capital Area District Library (CADL) Board will expire on April 15, 2021. Ms. Drake has expressed interest in continuing as a member of the CADL Board.

I am recommending we reappoint Ms. Drake as the Meridian Township representative on the CADL Board.

The following motion is proposed for Board consideration:

MOVE TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF SANDRA DRAKE TO THE CAPITAL AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY FOR A TERM ENDING 4/15/2023.



To: Board Members
From: Ronald J. Styka, Township Supervisor
Date: March 12, 2021
Re: Environmental Commission Appointments

The Environmental Commission (EC) currently has two vacancies.

There are three applications, & the EC recommended all three for the two openings. After reviewing the applications, I recommend the appointments of Kendra Grasseschi and Anna Colby.

Ms. Grasseschi is a Clinical Social Worker and Ms. Colby is a Senior Research Associate at Public Policy Associates.

The following motions are proposed for Board consideration:

MOVE TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF ANNA COLBY TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION FOR A TERM ENDING 12/31/2022.

MOVE TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF KENDRA GRASSESCHI TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION FOR A TERM ENDING 12/31/2021.

Attachment:

1. Applications for Public Service

Submitter DB ID 13177
IP Address 2600:1702:3eco:7000:11fc:db78:doa:ad50
Submission Recorded On 02/15/2021 9:43 AM
Time to Take the Survey 22 minutes, 23 secs.

Page 1



Public Service Application Form

I am interested in service on one or more of the following public bodies as checked below:

***Special conditions restrict eligibility for appointment**

1.

Environmental Commission

Land Preservation Advisory Board

2. **Occupation:**

Clinical Social Worker

3. **Indicate areas not included above which may warrant special attention or study that are of interest to you:**

Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion

Environmental Protection, Advocacy, and Education

Wetland Protection, Advocacy, and Education

Land Preservation

4. **Describe education, experience or training which will assist you if appointed:**

I am a Clinical Social Worker with 25 years of experience providing counseling, consultation, and advocacy services to a diverse clientele. I am a strong advocate for social justice. My skills and interests can continue to be an asset to the Environmental Commission as a Commissioner.

In my work and in my personal life, I problem solve issues of racism, inequity, inequality, poverty, homophobia, xenophobia, and various disabilities. I have worked with the very poor to those of privilege. I grew up poor, experienced adversity, and use that experience to help others. I have an invisible disability, which better informs my work, especially as issues related to the environment effect my disability. Additionally, I am a licensed foster parent, thus understand how disadvantage and trauma and effects our community in unseen ways. My vast experience is a benefit to the community, as I help address goals of diversity, equality and inclusion.

As a Meridian township resident, I have been actively involved with problem solving environmental issues. Particularly wetland advocacy, education, and protection. This work is evident by...

- "Protecting our Wetlands" presentation to the Environmental Commission on 11/4/20
- Integral in making others aware that over 25% of the township is wetlands
- Researching and educating others on local, state and federal wetland regulations
- Problem solving issues in regard to the wetlands
- Conceptualized and helped author the wetland brochure
- Helping to identify communication and responsibility gaps between township commissions regarding the wetlands
- Founding member of the Green Neighbor Network and gave an introductory kickoff speech
- Being referred to as "Wetland Expert" by Trustee Wisinski at the February 2021 Environmental Commission meeting

In a very short period of time, my education, advocacy, and action has helped to make positive change in the Meridian Township Community in regard to the wetlands.

As much as I love the wetlands, they are not even my favorite part of nature and the environment! However I had to become the advocate for them. My advocacy resulted in others being more informed about what we need to do to protect them. My actions show my commitment to protecting the environment. I have turned problems into problem solving and solutions.

I hope to continue to do that in a more formal way on the Environmental Commission. I can offer the Environmental Commission a unique perspective and thought process. I look forward to the opportunity to meet with you and discuss how I can further serve the Commission and Meridian Township community.

5. Contact Information:

Name: Kendra Thelen Grasseschi

Occupation: Clinical Social Worker

Place of Employment: Kendra Thelen, MSW, LSMW, ACSW **Home Address:** ██████████ Okemos, MI 48864

Phone (days): ██████████

Phone (evenings): ██████████

Date: 02/15/21

Email: ██████████

6. Attach Resume

Resume is attached [Kendra Thelen Grasseschi Resume.pdf](#)

7. Attach Cover Letter

Cover Letter is attached [Kendra Thelen Grasseschi cover letter.pdf](#)

February 15, 2021

Dear Meridian Township Trustees and Commissioners:

I am a Clinical Social Worker with 25 years of experience providing counseling, consultation, and advocacy services to a diverse clientele. I am a strong advocate for social and environmental justice. My skills can continue to be an asset to the Environmental Commission in a more formal way.

In my work and in my personal life, I problem solve issues of racism, inequity, inequality, poverty, homophobia, xenophobia, and various disabilities. I have worked with the very poor to those of privilege. I grew up poor, experienced adversity, and have used that experience to help others. I have an invisible disability, which better informs my work, especially as issues related to the environment affect my disability. Additionally I am a licensed foster parent, thus understand how disadvantage and trauma affect our community in unseen ways. My vast experience is a benefit to the community, especially in addressing goals of diversity, equality, and inclusion.

As a Meridian township resident, I have been actively involved with problem solving environmental issues. Particularly wetland advocacy, education, and protection. This work is evident by...

- “Protecting our Wetlands” presentation to the Environmental Commission on 11/4/20
- Integral in making others aware that over 25% of the township is wetlands
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- Founding member of the Green Neighbor Network and gave an introductory kickoff speech
- Referred to as “Wetland Expert” by Trustee Wisisnski at the February 2021 Environmental Commission meeting

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As much as I love the wetlands, they are not even my favorite part of nature and the environment! However I had to become the advocate for them. My advocacy resulted in others being more informed about what we need to do to protect them. My actions show my commitment to protecting the environment. I have turned problems into problem solving and solutions.

I hope to continue to do that in a more formal way on the Environmental Commission. I can offer the Environmental Commission a unique perspective and thought process. I look forward to the opportunity to meet with you and discuss how I can further serve the Commission and Meridian Township community.

Thank you,

Kendra Thelen Grasseschi, MSW, LMSW, ACSW

Kendra Thelen Grasseschi, MSW, LMSW, ACSW

[REDACTED] . Okemos, MI 48864
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

EDUCATION:

8/94 – 5/96 **Masters of Social Work**, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
Major: **Clinical Social Work**, GPA: 3.7

8/90 – 5/94 **Bachelor of Science**, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI
Majors: **Psychology** and **Family Studies**
GPA: Psychology 3.5, Family Studies 3.8

EXPERIENCE:

- 10/04-Present **Clinical Social Worker/Psychotherapist**, Kendra Thelen, LMSW, East Lansing, MI. Provide psychotherapy, consultation and advocacy services to a diverse clientele. Diagnose and clinically treat mental health conditions including those struggling with anxiety, depression, trauma, medical issues, disabilities, abuse, and self-esteem issues. Advocate and problem solve issues of social injustice (racism, poverty, inequality, and inequity) along with environmental injustices (living situation, occupational, educational, community) on a Clinical and Macro level. Teamwork with medical providers, school systems, and other professionals to help achieve positive client outcomes.
- 8/03 – 9/04 **Contractual Therapist**, Lyon Counseling Associates, P.C., East Lansing, MI. Provided psychotherapy counseling to children, adolescents, college students, adults, and families.
- 6/00 – 8/03 **Administrator/Academic Advisor**, Counseling Services Department, Lansing Community College. Provided crisis counseling and academic advising to disadvantaged college students in the Women's Resource Center and within Counseling Services. Led educational support groups building self-esteem.
- 11/00 – 7/03 **Contractual Therapist**, Community Care Clinic, C.E.I. Community Mental Health, Lansing, MI. Provided counseling to disadvantaged children, adolescents, adults, and families.
- 6/98 – 6/00 **Wraparound Resource Coordinator**, Ingham Interagency Family Preservation Initiative, C.E.I. Community Mental Health, Lansing, MI. Coordinated and managed community treatment teams of professionals from CMH, juvenile courts, DHS (protective services & foster care). Led teams to wrap helpful services around disadvantaged families for better client outcomes. Managed team budgets. Provided supervision and training of staff.
- 7/96 – 7/99 **Mental Health Therapist**, Family Guidance Services, C.E.I. Community Mental Health, Lansing, MI. Provided intensive crisis counseling and case management services to for actively suicidal children, adolescents, and their families to avoid psychiatric hospitalization. Led and facilitated treatment teams with medical professionals, courts, DHS, & collateral agencies. Provided supervision and training of staff.

- 10/98 & 4/99 **Guest Speaker**, Lansing Community College. Lectured on family preservation services. Lectured on students acquiring empathy, feedback, and limit-setting skills along with avoiding power struggles.
- 8/95 – 5/96 **Mental Health Therapist Intern**, Family Guidance Services, C.E.I Community mental Health, Lansing, MI. Provided crisis counseling and case management services to children, adolescents, college students, adults, couples, and families. Coordinated services with collateral agencies.
- 12/95 – 7/96 **Case Manager**, Crossroads, Gateway Community Services, Lansing, MI. Provided crisis counseling, case management and educational services to homeless youths and their families.
- 8/95 – 12/95 **Direct Care Staff**, Crossroads, Gateway Community Services, Lansing, MI. Utilized feedback, empathy and limit-setting skills with youths in a transitional living program. Instructed clients in acquiring independent living skills and study skills.
- 12/94 – 7/96 **Family Support Worker**, Family Guidance Services, C.E.I. Community Mental Health, Lansing, MI. Provided respite services to families. Modeled and taught social skills to children. Facilitated and managed summer camp for emotionally impaired children.
- 3/95 – 7/96 **Tutor**, Catholic Social Services, Lansing, MI. Provided academic support and taught study and independent living skills to an emotionally impaired foster care adolescent.
- 9/94 – 5/95 **School Social Work Intern**, Waverly Community Schools, Lansing, MI. Provided individual therapy, play therapy, parent education and consultation. Co-facilitated social skill building and therapy groups. Performed classroom observations and assisted with behavioral programming.
- 6/95 – 8/95 **Direct Care Staff**, Green Meadows, Lansing, MI. Provided care to chronically mentally ill older adults. Followed behavior treatment plans and assisted with independent living skills.
- 6/94 - 12/94 **Residential Technician**, C.E.I. Community Mental Health, Lansing, MI. Utilized empathy, feedback and limit-setting skills in providing treatment of chronically mentally ill adults. Assisted residents in acquiring independent and community living skills.
- 5/93 – 5/94 **Volunteer and Fill-in Overnight Supervisor**, Women's Aid Service, Mt. Pleasant, MI. Provided crisis-call counseling, shelter supervision, and individual counseling to victims/survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

Michigan Licensed Master Social Worker, Clinical and Macro Practice, Registration, #6801-071327.

National Association of Social Workers, 11/97 – Present.

Submitter DB ID 13190
 IP Address 2606:5580:310:7fd4:f9d:6086:1c51:a216
 Submission Recorded On 02/24/2021 8:31 AM
 Time to Take the Survey 11 minutes, 58 secs.

Page 1



Public Service Application Form

I am interested in service on one or more of the following public bodies as checked below:

*Special conditions restrict eligibility for appointment

1.

Communications Commission*

Community Resources Commission

Environmental Commission

Land Preservation Advisory Board

Park Commission (Elected/Appointed)

Planning Commission

Township Board (Elected/Appointed)

Transportation Commission*

2. **Occupation:**

Senior research associate

3. **Indicate areas not included above which may warrant special attention or study that are of interest to you:**

In addition to areas indicated above, I am particularly interested in food systems and food security. In the face of COVID-19, the importance of a resilient local food system and the frailties of our current national food system have become even more apparent as supply chains have been disrupted, food insecurity has skyrocketed, and outbreaks have occurred in processing facilities. Identifying the local food system's strengths and weaknesses and strategies for creating a more resilient food system in the face of disaster/crises may warrant special attention or a study.

4. **Describe education, experience or training which will assist you if appointed:**

I have a decade of experience in public policy development and analysis. I have experience in food systems, healthy communities, immigration, educator workforce development, and criminal justice.

My key skills and areas of expertise include policy development, communications, research and evaluation, community engagement, and facilitation.

I am personally an avid cyclist, hiker, walker, and public transportation user. I am therefore interested in commissions relevant to protecting outdoor space and creating walkable communities.

I have a Master of Public Policy and a Master of Geographic Information Science and Technology from the University of Southern California. I have a Bachelor of Art in graphic design. I have a commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion and have received training on implicit bias.

5. Contact Information:

Name: Anna Fischer Colby **Occupation:** Senior research associate

Place of Employment: Public Policy Associates **Home Address:** [REDACTED]

Phone (days): [REDACTED] **Phone (evenings):** Not answered

Date: 2/24/2021 **Email:** [REDACTED]

6. Attach Resume

Resume is attached [Colby_resume_12_2020_v2.pdf](#)

7. Attach Cover Letter

Cover Letter is attached [Colby_Cover_TownshipCommission.pdf](#)



Dear Ron Styka,

I am writing to express my interest in serving on a Meridian Township commission. I have a decade of experience in public policy development and analysis. I have experience in food systems, healthy communities, immigration, education, workforce development, and criminal justice.

My key skills and areas of expertise include:

- **Policy Development and communications.** I was a key member of a small team that developed the state policy and led the campaign that increased access to nutritious food for over 650,000 children.
- **Research and evaluation.** I help my clients define success and measure their performance. I have authored reports, policy briefs, and peer-reviewed journal articles.
- **Engagement and facilitation.** I have convened focus groups, facilitated community listening sessions, and led working group meetings.

I am personally an avid cyclist, hiker, walker, and public transportation user. I am therefore interested in the transportation commission and others relevant to improving outdoor space and walkable communities.

I have a commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. Improving equity and access to social services has been a unifying theme in my professional pursuits. I strive to identify and interrupt bias and use an equity lens in my work and life.

I look forward to an opportunity to contribute my skills and expertise to a township commission. I hope to hear from you soon!

Kind regards,

Anna Colby, M.S., M.P.P.

CONTACT

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[linkedin.com/in/annajfischer](https://www.linkedin.com/in/annajfischer)



ANNA FISCHER COLBY

OVERVIEW

I am a policy professional with a decade of experience working with nonprofit organizations to research, develop, pass, and implement policies. I have expertise in food systems and anti-hunger policy.

EDUCATION

University of Southern California

MASTER OF SCIENCE, GIS & Technology | 2014

MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY | 2012

Maryville University of Saint Louis

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS | 2008

RECENT PUBLICATION

“Promoting Effective Communication with Limited English Proficient Families,” *The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 2019.

OTHER EXPERIENCES

Co-founder, Price Women and Allies graduate student group | 2011

Editor, USC Price student-run academic journal | 2011

Site Manager, youth summer program, Rising Sun Energy | 2010

Site Director, school-aged child-care, YMCA of Greater St. Louis | 2010

English Teacher, UN Development Programme, Chile | 2009

CONTACT

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[linkedin.com/in/annaifischer](https://www.linkedin.com/in/annaifischer)

EXPERIENCE

Public Policy Associates

SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE | Mar 2018 - present

- Led Food Is Medicine project to conduct Medicaid policy analysis and develop recommendations to enhance collaboration between food banks and the health care sector
- Managed project to conduct needs assessment, develop racial equity plan, and provide equity training for a state criminal justice system
- Developed implementation plan for a food club/pantry based on input from community members and organizations

California Food Policy Advocates

NUTRITION POLICY ADVOCATE | Apr 2015 – Jan 2018

- Key member of team that developed the policy and led the campaign to pass CA SB-138 that increased food access for 650,000 children
- Developed best practices that were adopted by federally assisted meal program providers for reaching low-income immigrant families
- Led research and published report that resulted in increased media attention about summer hunger

Tomás Rivera Policy Institute

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR | Jul 2014 – Mar 2015

- Conducted GIS analysis and developed maps used by the California DMV to implement CA AB-60, *Drivers Licenses for All*.
- Delivered research and report used for criminal justice advocacy

PROJECT COORDINATOR | May 2012 – Jun 2014

RESEARCH ASSISTANT | May 2011 – May 2012

KEY SKILLS

- Program Evaluation
- Data Analysis
- Qualitative Methods
- Policy Research & Analysis
- Policy Advocacy
- Communications



To: Board Members
From: Ronald J. Styka, Township Supervisor and Dan Opsommer, Township Trustee
Date: March 16, 2021
Re: Resolution calling on the Michigan Legislature to appropriate all federal COVID-19 relief funding without undue burden on school districts

The Michigan Legislature has held \$5.6 billion in federal COVID-19 relief funding hostage for over two months now. This funding was signed into law by President Trump in December of last year with broad bipartisan support in the United States Senate and Congress.

This includes funding our hospitals' and county health departments' need to establish more vaccination sites in order to create the capacity to get shots in arms and end the pandemic.

Public health experts and medical professionals have been very clear – vaccinating 70-90 percent of our population is the only way to end the pandemic and return to normal. As we continue to increase production of the vaccine, it won't mean anything if our health departments and hospitals are not able to administer the doses.

After two months of threats not to appropriate the funds, Legislative Republicans finally passed legislation on March 4 that withheld over two-thirds of the funds and upended over half a year of work that our school communities have put into establishing plans in accordance with legislation passed by the Legislature in August of last year.

As a result of the reckless and ill-timed actions of the Legislature, the Okemos school community in particular has been forced to establish and implement an entirely new community-based learning plan prior to March 22 or risk losing \$1.6 million in federal funding they need to implement procedures to safely resume some in-person learning opportunities.

This resolution was prepared to support our school communities and call on the Michigan Legislature to appropriate all federal COVID-19 relief funding without undue burden on school districts.

A motion is prepared for the Board's consideration:

MOVE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITIES AND CALL ON THE MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE TO APPROPRIATE ALL FEDERAL COVID-19 RELIEF FUNDING WITHOUT UNDUE BURDEN ON SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Attachment:

1. Resolution calling on the Michigan Legislature to appropriate all federal COVID-19 relief funding without undue burden on school districts.

**RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE TO APPROPRIATE ALL
FEDERAL COVID-19 RELIEF FUNDING WITHOUT UNDUE BURDEN ON SCHOOL
DISTRICTS**

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held virtually during the COVID-19 global pandemic, (517) 853-4000, on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

The following resolution was offered by _____

and supported by _____.

**A resolution calling on the Michigan Legislature to appropriate all federal
COVID-19 relief funding without undue burden on school districts.**

WHEREAS, It has been an incredibly difficult year for everyone. Our lives have been upended and we have lost over 532,000 of our fellow Americans to COVID-19. More than the nearly 507,000 lives we lost during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the War in Afghanistan, and the Iraq War combined; and

WHEREAS, With the vaccines in place, we are finally in control of how quickly we get beyond the pandemic and have some sense of normalcy; and

WHEREAS, The Michigan Legislature has held \$5.6 billion in federal COVID-19 relief funding hostage for over two months now. This funding was signed into law by President Trump in December of last year with broad bipartisan support in the United States Senate and Congress; and

WHEREAS, This includes funding our hospitals' and county health departments' need to establish more vaccination sites, like the MSU Pavilion, in order to create the capacity to get shots in arms and end the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Public health experts and medical professionals have been very clear – vaccinating 70-90 percent of our population is the only way to end the pandemic and return to normal. As we continue to increase production of the vaccine, it won't mean anything if our health departments and hospitals are not able to administer the doses; and

WHEREAS, After two months of threats not to appropriate the funds, Legislative Republicans finally passed legislation that withheld over two-thirds of the funds and upended over half a year of work our school communities have devoted to establishing learning plans in accordance with legislation passed by the Legislature in August of last year; and

WHEREAS, The legislation holds 67 percent of the vaccine funding hostage at a time when residents are anxiously awaiting the opportunity to be vaccinated. If the Legislature cannot come together to end the pandemic with such an easy choice before it, what hope is there for bipartisanship in the future; and

WHEREAS, The legislation also holds 67 percent of the rent, mortgage, and utility assistance hostage, and 71 percent of the food assistance. This comes as many families don't know how they're going to stay in their home and provide food for their family; and

WHEREAS, The bills also hold 64 percent of the funding for testing, lab expansion, and contract tracing hostage. Resources we need to keep the curve flattened by quickly identifying and mitigating the spread of the virus and new variants; and

WHEREAS, HB 4048 withholds nearly half of the funding our school districts need to implement their reopening plans; and

WHEREAS, For over 6 months, school districts across Michigan have engaged in a very thoughtful and deliberative process to develop community-based learning plans in accordance with legislation the Legislature passed in August of last year; and

WHEREAS, In passing HB 4048 on March 4, the Legislature completely changed the rules on our school communities at the last second, upending over half a year of work the East Lansing, Haslett, Okemos, and Williamston school communities have devoted to establish their reopening plans; and

WHEREAS, The Michigan Senate amended HB 4048 on March 2 and inserted a provision requiring school districts to begin offering 20 or more hours of in-person learning by March 22 or risk losing the funding they need to implement their plans; and

WHEREAS, HB 4048 took effect on March 9, giving our school districts only 7 business days to comply with this provision; and

WHEREAS, This arbitrary deadline has forced the Okemos school community to establish an entirely new community-based learning plan in a matter of days or risk losing \$1.6 million in federal funding due to the reckless and ill-timed actions of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Many questions linger regarding this vague March 22 provision that was placed in the bill on March 2. For instance, the bill does not grant exceptions to allow school districts to retain their funding if a district experiences spread of COVID-19 and is not able to offer 20 or more hours of in-person learning due to efforts taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Legislative Republicans are jeopardizing the light at the end of the tunnel by playing politics with the federal COVID-19 relief funding that is essential to mitigating spread of the virus and variants, supporting those in need, getting our children back to school safely, and ending the pandemic; and



To: Board Members
From: Ronald J. Styka, Township Supervisor
Date: March 16, 2021
Re: Resolution honoring the life, public service, and enduring legacy of the Honorable Frank J. Kelley, Michigan's 50th Attorney General

The Honorable Frank J. Kelley was appointed as Michigan 50th attorney general in 1961 by Governor John Swainson to fill a vacancy when then-Attorney General Paul Adams was appointed to the Michigan Supreme Court.

Attorney General Kelley went on to redefine the role of the Office of Attorney General over the course of a generation. Mr. Kelly's 37 years serving as Michigan's attorney general from 1962 to 1999 made him both the youngest (at 36 years old) and oldest (at 74 years old) attorney general in Michigan's history. This earned Attorney General Kelley the distinguished nickname as the "Eternal General".

Attorney General Kelley refocused the office on serving the public interest by establishing the first consumer protection, environmental, and criminal fraud divisions in a state attorney general office. Attorney General Kelley also championed civil rights issues and was instrumental in the passage of Michigan's Open Meetings and Freedom of Information Acts.

The Honorable Frank J. Kelley left an indelible legacy that will be remembered for countless generations.

A motion is prepared for the Board's consideration:

MOVE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE, PUBLIC SERVICE, AND ENDURING LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE FRANK J. KELLEY, MICHIGAN'S 50TH ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Attachment:

1. Resolution honoring the life, public service, and enduring legacy of the Honorable Frank J. Kelley, Michigan's 50th Attorney General.

**RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE, PUBLIC SERVICE, AND ENDURING LEGACY OF THE
HONORABLE FRANK J. KELLEY, MICHIGAN'S 50TH ATTORNEY GENERAL**

December 31, 1924 – March 5, 2021

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held virtually during the COVID-19 global pandemic, (517) 853-4000, on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

The following resolution was offered by _____

and supported by _____.

**A resolution honoring the life, public service, and enduring legacy of the
Honorable Frank J. Kelley, Michigan's 50th Attorney General.**

LET IT BE KNOWN, That it is with deep appreciation for the lasting impact he left on his family, community, state, and nation that we offer this resolution as an expression of our most sincere gratitude and thankfulness to Frank J. Kelley and his family. We wish to take this moment to offer our sentiments of commemoration, paying tribute to the Honorable Frank J. Kelley's prosperous life and enduring legacy; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Frank J. Kelley was born in Detroit, Michigan on December 31, 1924. His father was a small business owner and Democratic political appointee who inspired his son to pursue a career in public service; and

WHEREAS, As a young man, Mr. Kelley worked as a merchant seaman on car and train ferries that crossed between Mackinaw City and St. Ignace prior to the construction of the Mackinac Bridge; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley went on to earn his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Detroit before moving to Alpena, Michigan where he opened his own law practice. Mr. Kelley went on to receive an appointment as the attorney for the City of Alpena; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley was appointed as Michigan 50th attorney general in 1961 by Governor John Swainson to fill a vacancy when then-Attorney General Paul Adams was appointed to the Michigan Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley was elected and re-elected by an overwhelming majority of the voters of Michigan to the position of Attorney General in 1962, 1964, 1966, 1970, 1974, 1978, 1982, 1986, 1990, and 1994; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley went on to redefine the role of the Office of Attorney General over the course of a generation. Prior to Attorney General Kelley's appointment, the office had largely been a revolving door as past attorney generals had used the office as a steppingstone to other endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelly's 37 years serving as Michigan's attorney general from 1962 to 1999 made him both the youngest (at 36 years old) and oldest (at 74 years old) attorney general in the state's history and made him the longest serving state attorney general in the nation. This earned Mr. Kelley the distinguished nickname as the "Eternal General"; and

WHEREAS, Attorney General Kelley refocused the office on serving the public interest by establishing the first consumer protection, environmental, and criminal fraud divisions in a state attorney general office. Mr. Kelley also championed civil rights issues and was instrumental in the passage of Michigan's Open Meetings and Freedom of Information Acts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley never forgot that he was the "people's lawyer." He was known for standing up for the little guy much to the consternation of the executives of utilities, insurance companies, companies that polluted and retailers. He believed in shining a light on government and played a major role in helping to pass into law the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley prided himself on being able to represent the people in a bi-partisan manner, working well with the five governors that he served with, regardless of their political party affiliation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley was the only Michigan attorney general to be elected president of the National Association of Attorneys General. He was cited by his peers in all 50 states as being the attorney general who most furthered the cause of justice in the United States. The Association honored him by naming their award for outstanding service the Kelley-Wyman award; and

WHEREAS, Attorney General Kelley was a lead litigator and instrumental in the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement, which 46 of the nation's 50 attorney generals worked on. The landmark settlement resulted in most states receiving large multi-year payments to compensate for the public costs of treating tobacco-related illnesses. These settlement funds continue to help the state of Michigan fund the treatment of tobacco-related illnesses; and

WHEREAS, during his time in office Mr. Kelley hired, trained, and mentored hundreds of lawyers dedicated to public service and to representing the People of the State of Michigan, many of whom went on to hold office as local elected officials, mayors, judges, state legislators, U.S. congressmen, a U.S. Senator and a governor of the State of Michigan, James J. Blanchard; and

WHEREAS, Michigan's "Eternal General" was elected to the office 10 times before term limits were approved by Michigan voters. With one term remaining under the newly established term limits, Attorney General Kelley chose not to seek re-election in 1998 as he wanted to leave office on his own terms; and

WHEREAS, after his departure from the Office of Attorney General, Mr. Kelley founded Kelley Cawthorne, a prominent government relations firm in Lansing, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, Governor John Engler appointed Mr. Kelley to a seat on the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, which controls 80 percent of the island. In 2007, Governor Jennifer



To: Meridian Township Board Members

**From: Amber Clark
Neighborhoods & Economic Development Director**

**Derek N. Perry, Deputy Township Manager
Director of Public Works & Engineering**

Date: March 9, 2021

RE: 2021 Citizen Survey

Meridian Township board conducts a citizen survey every three years to better engage with residents on programs and services offered by the Township. Meridian Township selected the National Research Center (NRC) of Boulder, Colorado to conduct these surveys, with the last survey completed in 2018. The cost of the survey was just under \$15,000 and included the traditional three part mailing to 1,600 residents. There was an option for the 1600 selected residents to take the survey online, through the use of a special coupon code sent by mail.

It is our recommendation to submit a Request for Proposal (RFP) to receive additional quotations from expert organizations that can assist us with the creation, implementation and analysis of the community survey. The board previously received quotations from Michigan State University Institute for Public Policy and Social Research and Cobalt Community Research that met the initial proposal requirements, and conformed to the previous National Resource Center's surveys. A comparison of the three is highlighted below:

	Sample Size	Margin of Error
National Resource Center	1600	+/- 5%
Cobalt Community Research	1500	+/- 5%
MSU IPPSR	8000	+/- 5%

We are confident that both MSU IPPSR and Cobalt Community Research can provide a high quality, scientifically valid survey for our needs. If the Township Board is interested in other survey elements, such a as a larger sample size or modifying the margin of error we recommend proceeding with a full RFP to collect that additional information for an equitable review.

Attachments:
Meridian Township 2021 Community Survey RFP
Cobalt Community Research City of Ferndale Reference
MSU IPPSR City of Ann Arbor Reference



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
Request for Proposal
COMMUNITY SURVEY

OWNER: Charter Township of Meridian Economic
Development Department
5151 Marsh Road Okemos, MI 48864

CONTACT PERSON: Amber Clark, Neighborhoods & Economic Development
Director

CONTACT PHONE: 517.853.4568,
E-mail: clark@meridian.mi.us

PROJECT NAME: Meridian Township Community Survey
Charter Township of Meridian Michigan

BIDS DUE: Friday, March __, 2021___3pm

BID SUBMISSION: bids@meridian.mi.us

The Charter Township of Meridian, Economic Development Department is issuing this request for proposal (RFP) for a COMMUNITY SURVEY to be created, implemented and analyzed for our community by an organization experienced in providing expert analysis of survey results. Our survey will be directed to the residents of Meridian Township and the consultant will assist Township staff in the creation of an unbiased survey to better develop our community. The consultant will summarize the findings of the survey and present that as a final report to Meridian Township officials. **Proposals will be received at the Meridian Township Clerks Office, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864, up until 3:00pm on Friday, March __, 2021.**

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Charter Township of Meridian conducts a Citizen Survey every three years to receive input from the general public on programs and services we offer in our community. In past years the Township has utilized National Resource Center (NRC) as the organization to conduct the survey. In 2021 the Meridian Township Board approved to find an alternative organization to provide our community with an unbiased and accurate survey. Meridian Township is requesting assistance with the creation, implementation and analysis of the community survey to be completed by May 2021.

DESIRED ELEMENTS OF THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:

- Mail in survey for validity of resident input
- Conducted as soon as Township Board gives approval
- Sample size of registered voters at 1% margin of error
- Sample size of registered voters at 5% margin of error
- Analysis provided with comparisons across the nation
- Cost of the survey at less than \$15,000 (should the estimated amount be over \$15,000 this will not disqualify the bidder)

CONTENT OF PROPOSALS:

- Information regarding the firm

- References (4) of comparable projects
- Estimated timeline of the project
- Expertise related to surveying a community about Marijuana
- Examples of survey's completed by the organization with questions and results review included
- Include information related to additional Fees/surcharges
- Why Meridian Township should choose your organization for our survey
- How does your organization ensures valid responses on mail in surveys
- How does your organization ensures valid responses on online surveys

JUDGING OF PROPOSALS:

The Township will judge proposals received based on professional qualifications and experience, completeness of proposal, quality of product, references, and total bid cost. The Township reserves the right to reject all bids, waive informalities or irregularities and accept the bid that it determines to be in the best interest of its residents, which may not necessarily be the lowest bid.

About Meridian Township:

Meridian Township is home to over 43,000 residents east of East Lansing, in the Northeast corner of Ingham County. Nestled off the bustling Lansing metro area, our community is ranked as #1 Best place to Live in Michigan, by Niche and Newsweek Magazine with the top ranked school district, 1,500 acres of Township and County Parks, home of Lake Lansing Park, prime neighborhoods supported by growing educated families. Residents partake in the modest cost of living and access to great amenities, this is why we call Meridian Township, "A Prime community!"

Scope of Work:

The selected consulting agency will:

- Assist staff with finding the accurate number of residents to sample to create a 1% margin of error and associated costs
- Assist staff with finding the accurate number of residents to sample to create a 5% margin of error and associated costs
- Work with Meridian Township staff to create a survey that delivers the questions in an unbiased manner as possible.
- Conduct citizen survey
- Analysis results of survey
- Report to Meridian Township staff on the findings of the survey

Topics of interest the survey will cover:

Recreational Marijuana
 Deer Cull Program
 Neighborhoods Program and Engagement
 Parks Programs and Services
 Police & Fire Programs and Services
 Pathway Program/Improvements
 Water and Sewer Services
 Community Planning and Development
 Broadband/Internet in the Township
 Road Improvements
 Village of Okemos
 Haslett Village Square
 Municipal Facilities
 Communications and Engagement

Survey Report:

The selected consulting agency will provide Meridian Township with:

- 12 bound copies and an electronic copy in (Word, Excel and PDF) of the final report including but not limited to:
 - Executive Summary
 - Survey Background
 - Copy of Survey Instrument
 - Profile of Respondents
 - Overview of the Survey
 - Content description and summary of each survey topic/question
 - Statistical analysis of survey results including graphs, raw data and any other information beneficial to the report
- The consulting agency will also provide a detailed presentation to Township Board/Meridian Township Staff



**COMMUNITY SURVEY RFP
Meridian Township Economic
Development Department**

Organization Name: _____

Contact: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Fax: _____

Please provide the following information in your bid:

- Completed bid documents
- Example copy of survey questions
- Recommended sample size for 1% margin of error for a community of 43,000
- Recommended sample size for 5% margin of error for a community of 43,000
- 3-4 References of similar projects completed
- Timeline of when Survey results will be complete
- Additional fees/surcharge
- Estimated cost of mail in survey

Proposal Deadline: 3:00 pm on Friday, March ____, 2021

**Send Bids to: Meridian Township Clerk's Office
Community Survey Bid
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864**

Email is also acceptable at bids@meridian.mi.us, but please send a follow-up email to confirm receipt to: Amber Clark at Clark@meridian.mi.us 517-853-4568.

From: [Kyle Pollet](#)
To: [Amber Clark](#)
Subject: Ferndale Cobalt Survey
Date: Thursday, March 11, 2021 9:24:57 AM

Hi Amber,

Thanks for reaching out about our satisfaction with Cobalt Community Survey.

Here are our results from the survey so you can see what their product looks like for yourself:

<https://www.cobaltcommunityresearch.org/ferndale.html>

For the services received, I believe we paid about \$12,000. I would say we have a high satisfaction rate with their results and service. William from Cobalt made himself available throughout the process and he really impressed me after we asked him to present the results at 4 different community meetings after the survey ended.

We have been working to utilize the results; in our case, the high desire for parks improvements has justified continued discretionary spending throughout the unknowns of Covid.

I'd also recommend looking into FlashVote as an option: <https://www.flashvote.com/> I recently learned of them through an Alliance for Innovation conference. Their price point is supposedly much lower for a more pinpointed survey.

I am happy to answer any other questions on Cobalt you may have. I wish you luck in getting the info you need to continue your work for Meridian.

Best,

Kyle Pollet
Assistant City Manager
City of Ferndale
248-546-2360
kpillet@ferndalemi.gov

From: [Wondrash, Lisa](#)
To: [Amber Clark](#)
Subject: RE: MSU IPPSR Survey
Reference Thursday,
Date: March 11, 2021
4:37:38 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Amber:

The City of Ann Arbor engaged with MSU IPPSR several times to conduct our deer management survey. They were excellent to work with and always delivered the final product on time and exactly as outlined within our contract meeting all expectations. I highly recommend them. I believe the contract was less than \$20K but would need some time to research the exact amount. Let me know if that's necessary and I can try to get to that next week. Let me know if you have any other questions. Happy to assist!

Lisa Wondrash

Communications Director | City of Ann Arbor | 301 E. Huron St. • Ann Arbor • MI • 48107
734.794.6152 (O) | Lwondrash@a2gov.org | www.a2gov.org | www.facebook.com/thecityofannarbor | <http://twitter.com/a2gov> | <https://nextdoor.com/qov/cityofannarbor>

13. B

Entity/Organization	Recommendation	Type/Use	Address	Notes
Autism Centers of Michigan	Opsommer	Medical	2549 Jolly Rd #380, Okemos, MI 48864	Medical facility to provide children and young adults with ABA therapy. Opened since February of 2018 when we last added locations.
Lansing Urgent Care - Haslett	Opsommer	Medical	16945 Marsh Rd, Haslett, MI 48840	Urgent Care facilities are essential. We expanded to an adjacent medical facility in February of 2018, but missed this adjacent facility.
Gilden Woods Early Care and Preschool - Haslett	Opsommer	Daycare	16955 Marsh Rd, Haslett, MI 48840	Daycare is an essential service and this daycare is just beyond our Township border.
Monticello's Market & Butcher Block	Opsommer	Grocery	16912 Marsh Rd, Haslett, MI 48840	We included Costco and Bath Meijer in February of 2018. Grocery stores are essential. This grocer should have been included back in February of 2018 to be fair to all grocers on or near our Township border. The Bath Township Meijer is far further from our Township border.
Hope Network Neuro Rehabilitation – East	Opsommer	Medical	2775 E Lansing Dr, East Lansing, MI 48823	One of only two Neuro Rehabilitation centers in the region.