

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
REGULAR MEETING TOWNSHIP BOARD **-APPROVED-**
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
517.853.4000, Township Hall Room
THURSDAY, August 7, 2025, 6:00PM

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

ABSENT: Trustee Sundland

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

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Hendrickson called the August 7, 2025, Regular Township Board meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Hendrickson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Clerk Demas called the roll of the Board. Five board members present at 6:01 pm.

Trustee Sundland absent. Trustee Trezise arrived at 6:21 pm.

4. PRESENTATION

A. Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP)

Bob Trezise gave a presentation about LEAP.

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comment at 6:23 pm.

Jeff Kessner, John Weslowsky, Milton Scales, Jim Brandell spoke about Discussion Item 11.B

Cheryl Collins spoke about the August 2025 election.

Michael Inga spoke about FOIA.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comment at 6:41 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Dempsey gave updates on:

- Public survey available for website redesign feedback
- Recognized Township staff and election workers for their efforts regarding the August election

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Treasurer Deschaine and Supervisor Hendrickson thanked Clerk Demas for work regarding the August election.

Clerk Demas and Supervisor Hendrickson thanked election staff for their work regarding the August election.

Trustee Lentz attended the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission meeting.

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Wilson moved to approve the Agenda. Supported by Trustee Lentz.

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 6-0

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Trustee Wilson moved to approve the Consent Agenda excluding item 9.C Minutes from the Closed Session which will have to be reviewed at a later date. Supported by Trustee Trezise.

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 6-0

10. ACTION ITEMS

A. Meridian Mall Parking Lot Resurfacing Agreement

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

Trustee Wilson moved to adopt the parking maintenance agreement and authorize the Township Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement. Supported by Trustee Trezise.

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

Trustee Wilson

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 6-0

B. Eyde Central Park Property

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

Trustee Wilson expressed concerns about the resolution language and proposed an amendment.

Trustee Wilson moved to amend the ending of the “Now Therefore” clause to end at “to change the zoning designations.” Supported by Trustee Lentz.

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 6-0

Trustee Trezise moved to approve the attached resolution referring the proposal for the Eyde Central Park property to the Planning Commission for its recommendation as to whether or not the court orders governing the zoning, permitted uses, and development of parcels 22-202-001, 15-400-031, and 22-203-001 should be amended to replace the current zoning with a new classification. Supported by Treasurer Deschaine.

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 6-0

11. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Ordinance 2025-06 – Rooster Regulation

Director Schmitt outlined ordinance 2025-06.

Board members asked about the logistics of regulating roosters in the Township and expressed support for updating the ordinance.

At 7:20 pm, Supervisor Hendrickson called for a 5-minute recess. At 7:27 pm, the Board reconvened.

B. Community and Senior Center Next Steps

Manager Dempsey gave an overview of the memo.

Board members expressed concern about available spaces for this project and timeline for use of the State of Michigan grant.

Board members expressed support for exploring Option 2.

Board members asked staff to explore options for moving forward with Option 2 and to also look for potential existing spaces.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Hendrickson opened public comments at 8:26 pm.

Steve Vangnozzi and Milton Scales spoke about item 11.B.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed public comments at 8:31 pm.

13. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Clerk Demas thanked voters for participating in the election.

Supervisor Hendrickson added an additional request regarding item 11.B for staff to work with the Senior Center Advisory Board.

Treasurer Deschaine and Trustee Lentz thanked Board Members for discussing item 11.B constructively.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Wilson moved to adjourn. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

VOICE VOTE

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

NAYS: NONE

Motion carried: 6-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm



Scott Hendrickson
Township Supervisor



Angela Demas
Township Clerk