

HASTINGS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
Minutes of the November 11, 2025
Regular Board Meeting

Call to Order: 6:31 pm by Supervisor Jim Partridge, and Trustee Scheck led opening prayer and pledge to the flag.

Roll Call: Supervisor James Partridge, Clerk David Olson, Treasurer Jenee Phillips, Trustees Don Eichholz, Bruce Scheck and William Wetzel. Trustee Amber Holtrust absent.

Also Present: 1 guest

Public Comment

None

Agendas: Supervisor Partridge removed review of City property transfer fund from agenda for sake of budget meeting; table until next month. Motion made by Trustee Eichholz and seconded by Trustee Scheck to accept meeting agenda as adjusted. Motion carried. Consent Agenda composed of minutes of the October 14, 2025 regular meeting, Fire report, 911 report, Library reports and BC Medical Control Authority. Motion made by Trustee Wetzel to accept all consent agenda items as presented, seconded by Trustee Scheck; motion carried.

County Commissioner – R. Teunessen

Reported various updates: COA building progress, Barry-Eaton Health Dept., jail study with rescheduled public comment meeting. 2026 County budget passed, but employee contract negotiations still ongoing. Lastly, reported of Deputy Administrator retiring and replacement found.

Unfinished Business

1. Parking Lot – Murray's Asphalt on schedule for repairs and repainting in June. Price quote already given will be honored, but Murray's will conduct a new inspection in May, to consider if conditions have changed.
2. Recycling module – still ongoing search for means of transporting metals to local recycler.

New Business

1. Barry County Road Commission (BCRC) – Supervisor Partridge shared dates that the Commission is hoping to have townships reserve for meeting at BCRC facilities, for annual updates / meet-and-greet. Also, Township would look to inviting representative to speak at February 2026 regular Board meeting.
2. December dinner before meeting – Board members will share potluck meal at 5:30 PM, before the next regular monthly meeting.

Closing of regular meeting for Budget Hearing

Motion by Trustee Wetzel to close the regular meeting at 6:54 pm, seconded by Trustee Eichholz; motion carried. Motion by Supervisor Partridge to open the 2026 Budget Meeting, seconded by Clerk Olson; motion carried.

Budget Meeting

Supervisor Partridge presented the 2026 preliminary budgets for the General Fund revenues and expenditures, and for the Special Assessment Funds for review. Discussion on major changes in fire and ambulance costs, in legislation on state revenue sharing and 2026 election-related costs. The budget forecasts an operating deficit of \$35,000 for the year of 2026. The inevitability of a future millage request, in order to maintain current Fire / EMS, was discussed. The proposed budget will be presented for final approval at the December meeting. Motion by Trustee Wetzel to close the Budget Hearing at 7:32 pm and reopen the regular meeting, seconded by Trustee Eichholz; motion carried.

Regular Board Meeting reopened

Warrants presented for payment- Motion by Trustee Scheck and seconded by Trustee Wetzel to approve the warrants totaling \$23,608.51 MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Dept. Reports:

**Treasurer's Report: Motion by Trustee Wetzel, seconded by Trustee Eichholz to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 6 ayes, 0 nays.

** Clerk's Report: November school millage election ran smoothly for the township. Proposed adjustment to 2025 Budget for Highway Repair account, from \$28,000.00 to \$87,873.00. Per the representative Siegfried and Crandall, the retained financial auditor, the township has the ability to change the reporting of the road repair fund from a 5 year tracking to actual annual tracking. The proposed adjustment would set the township record correctly for the current year, allowing for actual annual expenditures going forward. Trustee Wetzel seconded the proposed motion. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 6 ayes, 0 nays.

** Supervisor's Report: Commented on Open Complaints report of code enforcement issues being addressed and resolved. Commented on changes of state addressing high speed internet goals and projections. Discussed upcoming township newsletter and ideas for input.

Public Comment

None

Board member comments

Trustee Eichholz discussed recent correspondence from Barry County Chamber & Economic Development Alliance – article regarding solicitations from townships. Trustee Scheck commented on recent fire statistics and reporting system, in conjunction with Life EMS.

Adjourn: Motion by Trustee Wetzel, seconded by Trustee Scheck. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
David J. Olson – Clerk

Approved _____ Clerk

Date _____