

**HASTINGS CHARTER TOWNSHIP**  
**Minutes of the May 12, 2026**  
**Regular Board Meeting**

**Call to Order:** 6:30 pm by Supervisor Jim Partridge and Treasurer Phillips led a moment of silence, followed by the pledge to the flag.

**Roll Call:** Supervisor J. Partridge (Board Chair), Clerk D. Olson, Treasurer J. Phillips, Trustees D. Eichholz, B. Scheck, B. Westveer and W. Wetzel.

**Also Present:** 1 guest

**Meeting Agenda:** Supervisor Partridge asked that the meeting agenda be accepted with the exception that the Hartleb insurance presentation be moved to the place of the County Commissioner Report, as Bob Tuenessen was absent. Trustee Eichholz so moved and Trustee Westveer seconded; motion carried.

**Public Comment**

None

**Consent Agenda:**

Consent Agenda composed of minutes of the April 14, 2026 regular meeting, emergency services reports and Library reports. Motion made by Trustee Wetzel to accept all consent agenda items as presented, seconded by Trustee Westveer; motion carried.

**New Business**

1. Insurance presentation – David Bellingar presented the renewal of the township insurance policy, by EMC Insurance Group, through Ted Hartleb Agency. Various coverages were listed and described. Discussion on optional Cyber security coverage. The township will complete an application toward cyber coverage and Hartleb will render an estimate for that addition to be considered at a future date. Supervisor Partridge moved to continue coverage through Hartleb for another year; seconded by Trustee Scheck. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**Unfinished Business**

1. Recycling module – Supervisor Partridge expecting to hear back in July on submitted grant application
2. Cemetery Clean-up – Trustee Eichholz gave details of time and objectives for the 5/16/26 event.
3. Cemetery Mapping – Trustee Eichholz presented three proposals given to the township for digital mapping services of the cemetery. Discussion followed regarding the proposals by Celebrate Life Co., CemSites and Lazarus Cemetery Mapping Inc., as well as a quote from Overhead Media for one-time drone photography. Motion by Trustee Wetzel, seconded by Trustee Eichholz to approve the proposal by Celebrate Life, in the amount of \$2,150.00, along with the drone service of Overhead Media, in the amount of \$780.00. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 6 ayes, 0 nays, Treasurer Phillips abstained.

**New Business (continued)**

2. Assessor contract – a copy of the Agreement for Assessing Services, submitted by Appraisals Plus Group, LLC was distributed to Board members, reviewed and discussed. Agreement proposed to continue services for the period of August 1, 2026 through July 31, 2028, at a rate of \$2,075.00 per month. Previous agreement was set at \$1,925.00 per month. Trustee Scheck moved to renew the services as proposed; motion seconded by Treasurer Phillips. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.
3. Indian Hills assessment district update – Supervisor Partridge presented the Board with 38 signed petitions received thus far of the total 51 distributed to residents of the Indian Hills subdivision.

That number comprehends 72.8% of total road frontage to be serviced by the Special Assessment District (SAD). The Supervisor also shared the total cost estimate that was given by the Road Commission for the work to be done. Discussion followed on the general steps of the process of approvals, meetings, publications and resolutions. Supervisor Partridge moved that the necessary resolutions be prepared and sent to the Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes law firm for legal review and input. Additionally, the Supervisor moved that the residents be mailed the necessary notices, that 2 meetings be scheduled and their notices be published in the local newspaper, in order to hear, review, amend and approve the SAD. The first meeting would be scheduled for Tuesday June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 PM. Motion seconded by Trustee Scheck. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.

4. Cemetery entrance gate repair – Trustee Eichholz advised the board of two quotes given, Cabral Construction and Boonstra, respectively, for addressing the eroding status of the cemetery’s front archway brick work. He is still soliciting quotes, as the two given were very different in solution and cost.
5. Surf Internet / Metro Act – Clerk Olson presented the request and application by Surf Air Wireless, LLC, dba Surf Internet, made May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to receive “access to and ongoing use of public ways” for telecommunication services, as allowed and regulated under the METRO Act (2002 PA 48 MCL Sect. 484.3101 through 484.3120). Areas affected were shown on maps provided by Surf Internet, and included the subdivision of Indian Hills Drive, a section of Star School Road and Terry Lane. The Clerk submitted to the Board a draft resolution to authorize requested access and ongoing use. Discussion followed. Trustee Westveer advised that the Indian Hills subdivision and the Road Commission also be informed and kept current on Surf Internet’s plans, as it may affect the SAD project. Trustee Wetzel moved, with a second by Trustee Westveer, to adopt the draft as Resolution 2026-01. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.
6. Printer Replacement – Supervisor Partridge presented quotes submitted by D.L. Gallivan, Ricoh USA and Noordyk Business Equipment, for the replacement of the current township printer / copier and maintenance service thereof. Following review and discussion, Treasurer Phillips moved that the Ricoh bid be accepted in the amount of \$1,319.00, with a 60-month fixed copy rate of \$0.01 per copy. Trustee Scheck seconded. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.
7. Township computer replacements – Supervisor Partridge advised of the need for replacement computers for the Clerk and Treasurer. Discussion ensued regarding various recommended manufacturer specifications, a not-to-exceed amount of \$3,500 and to see what MiDEAL membership might offer. Tabled for this meeting.
8. Cemetery drone photography – addressed as part of Cemetery Mapping. See above.
9. Tax Rate Request – Supervisor Partridge presented the Board with the 2026 Tax Rate Request form sent from the County. Following discussion, Trustee Wetzel moved that the Board accept the full allowable rate of .6800 toward Operating Costs and 1.4822 toward Library costs. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**Warrants presented for payment** - Motion by Trustee Eichholz and seconded by Trustee Westveer to approve the warrants totaling \$22,321.84 MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.

#### **Department Reports:**

- Treasurer’s Report: Motion by Trustee Eichholz, seconded by Trustee Wetzel to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.
- Clerk’s Report: Reviewed the actual revenues and expenditures to the budget thus far: all categories within expected range, except contracted fire services. Recommended that the budget be increased \$1,000 to cover the increased invoice from BIRCH fire association this year. Trustee Wetzel moved to increase said account, seconded by Supervisor Partridge. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.
- Supervisor’s Report: Reviewed the monthly complaint report and mentioned upcoming Joint Planning Commission meeting

**Public Comment**

None

**Board Member Comments**

Trustee Eichholz – attended Rutland public comment meeting on the matter of a Meijer store to be built in that township.

Trustee Scheck commented on emergency service calls and explained the ISO audit being conducted on the Fire Department.

Trustee Westveer – reminded of the Barry County Chamber offer for municipalities to participate in their local investment program and that the matter could go on next month’s agenda

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

Meeting adjourned 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
David J. Olson – Clerk

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk

Date \_\_\_\_\_.