

HASTINGS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
Minutes of the January 14, 2025
Regular Board Meeting

Call to Order: 6:30 pm by Supervisor Jim Partridge

Opening prayer by Clerk David Olson. Reading of obituary of James E. Brown II, former Township Supervisor, by Supervisor J. Partridge and a moment of silence. Pledge to the flag.

Roll Call: Supervisor J. Partridge, Clerk D. Olson, Treasurer J. Phillips. Trustees, D. Eichholz, A. Holtrust, B. Scheck and W. Wetzel.

Also Present: 8 guests

Public Comment

None

Consent Agenda: Motion made by Trustee Wetzel to accept the agenda, seconded by Trustee Holtrust. Motion carried. Consent Agenda items: minutes of the December 10, 2024 regular meeting, Fire report, Library report and 911 report. Supervisor Partridge shared notes of conversation with 911 Director. Motion made by Trustee Holtrust to accept all consent agenda items as presented, seconded by Trustee Wetzel; motion carried.

County Commissioner:

No report; commissioner absent

Previous Business

1. New BIRCH fire truck. Trustee Scheck gave update of search for replacement of pumper truck. Grand Rapids dealership had vehicle ready for immediate delivery. BIRCH able to put \$200,000 down and finance \$400,000 over next three years. Next planned to replace is aerial truck in 2029. No changes required to Township budget. Supervisor Partridge setting up appointment with Mercy ambulance service to discuss projected future and overall plans / updates.
2. Security wall. Supervisor Partridge will be getting bids for security remodeling of Township office. Projected to start after March tax collections. Purpose to increase security and share reception between both Treasurer and Clerk.

New Business:

1. Open library representative position. Reviewed applications and discussed with both candidates. Motion made by Trustee Wetzel to appoint Ellyn Main to open position of Library Board Trustee, seconded by Treasurer Phillips. Motion carried by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.
2. Barry County Road Commission annual report. Presentation by Jake Welch and representatives of the Road Commission. Discussed 5-year plan, road assessments and program.
3. MTA December training report – 4 board members gave comments and insights learned from December 11, 2024 “New Officials Training” in Lansing.

Warrants presented for payment- Motion by Trustee Scheck and seconded by Trustee Wetzel to approve the warrants totaling \$13,870.16. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Dept. Reports:

**Treasurer’s Report: Motion by Trustee Wetzel with second by Trustee Eichholz to accept the Treasurers report as presented. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.

** Clerk’s Report: Communication received from new auditor Siegfried Crandall PC, looking to conduct annual audit sometime in April.

**** Supervisor's Report:**

- Letter from Consumer's Energy regarding progress toward compliance with government mandates of 30% renewable energy by 2035: originally projected to cost \$9 billion, now adjusted to \$140 billion.
- Request authorization to pay for required training / recertification of Board of Review, 3 members plus Supervisor. Motion by Trustee Scheck and second by Trustee Holtrust to approve payment. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.
- Deputy Supervisor: discussion regarding role, legal authorization, intended as needed for double-booking of Supervisor representation

Public Comment

None

Board member comments

Trustee Eichholz, approval of meeting format. Supervisor Partridge mentioned vacancy of one of the two township positions on the 911 Board. Trustee Holtrust, observations of current and projected housing availability / shortfall for county

Adjourn: Motion by Trustee Wetzel, seconded by Trustee Holtrust to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED by voice vote, all ayes.

Meeting adjourned 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
David J. Olson – Clerk

Approved _____ Clerk

Date _____