HASTINGS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
Minutes of the October 13, 2026
Regular Board Meeting

Call to Order: 6:30 pm by Supervisor Jim Partridge, opening with prayer and pledge to the flag.

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

Also Present: 8 guests

Agenda: Motion made by Trustee Scheck, seconded by Trustee Wetzel to accept meeting agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment
None

Consent Agenda
Consent Agenda composed of minutes of the September 8, 2026 regular meeting, Fire report, 911 report, library and Chamber of Commerce reports. Motion made by Trustee Wetzel to accept all consent agenda items as presented, seconded by Clerk Olson; motion carried.

County Commissioner – R. Teunessen
Reported opening of new COA & plans to sell property of former site. Discussed renovation plans at county building.

Unfinished Business
1. Recycling module – Supervisor still hoping to start operations with metal & cardboard before winter.
2. Special Assessment District (SAD) – Supervisor Partridge informed of one appeal to the state tax tribunal regarding the Indian Hills SAD. In communication with legal counsel to consider procedural options and costs of the response process. Road Commission advised the final bill was $350,260.87, which is significantly lower than the original estimated cost.
3. Cemetery mapping – Supervisor Partridge reported that Celebrate Life had begun the mapping process, expected to take three to four weeks.

Close of regular meeting for Leach Lake Public Hearing
Motion by Supervisor Partridge, seconded by Trustee Eichholz, to close the regular meeting at 6:46 pm and open the meeting for the Leach Lake, weed control, SAD. Motion carried. [See separate meeting minutes.]
Motion by Supervisor Partridge to close the SAD meeting at 7:26 pm and reopen the regular meeting, seconded by Trustee Westveer. Motion carried.

Regular Board Meeting reopened

New Business
1. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) contract – Supervisor Partridge gave status of the several townships in dialogue over the future of ambulance service amongst them. There is hope to have a commitment by the next ambulance service meeting scheduled in November. Discussion on options left to the community, should some townships choose to not participate in a renewed agreement with Life EMS. The Supervisor pointed out that, if there was not a commitment by all members, then Hastings Charter could still sustain its operations financially through 2027 but not beyond without a tax millage. Discussion tabled for now.
2. 2027 Salary schedule – Supervisor Partridge presented the salary rates increases for the 2027 calendar year. A 3 % cost of living allowance adjustment was applied to each position, including the

administrative fee to the Treasurer. Motion by Trustee Wetzel to approve the 2027 rates as prepared, seconded by Trustee Scheck. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Warrants presented for payment- Motion by Supervisor Partridge and seconded by Trustee Westveer to approve the warrants totaling $23,766.67 MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Dept. Reports:
**Treasurer's Report: Presented report and reviewed quarterly interest gained. Motion by Trustee Wetzel, seconded by Trustee Scheck to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Treasurer Phillips advised of an upcoming BS&A meeting in the county, regarding the eventual mandatory switch to cloud-based software. Phillips also described the need for a replacement desktop printer for her tax processing. Motion by Supervisor Partridge, seconded by Trustee Westveer to authorize the like-replacement of the Treasurer's laser jet printer, not to exceed $500. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 Ayes, 0 Nays
** Clerk's Report: Reported that 40% of absentee ballots were already returned. Olson explained that state reimbursement of Early Voting payroll was missed due to confusion over process: treasurers are now required to authenticate the expense through a separate MILogin account. Township will have this in place for November general election.
** Supervisor's Report: Attended informative seminar on gravel road management; our township is doing well, based on presentation. Reviewed county blight complaint report. Gave update that the gravel pit on Powell Road was indeed given authorization to continue. Consumers Energy working on power lines and underground in township, North Broadway section. Advised of budget meeting next month, encouraged Board to review accounts.

Public Comment
Ellyn Main, resident, gave observations of Indian Hills subdivision road work: asphalt application was perfect, but the chip sealing left significant clumping on road surface, due to improper functioning of road construction equipment. Mrs. Main asked if there was warranty if this or additional work ends up damaging or failing repair quality. Also asked who determines if final product of road repair is satisfactory. Supervisor encouraged all feedback and inquiry be made directly to the Road Commission.

Board member comments
Trustee Westveer offered clarification on comments previously made regarding legal fees associated with the Indian Hills SAD. Clerk Olson mentioned the library representative position that will become vacant at the end of the current year. Trustee Eichholz discussed handouts on Flock surveillance cameras, including a draft resolution. Some discussion followed, tabling any immediate decision.

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

Meeting adjourned 8:330 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Olson – Clerk

Approved _____ Clerk

Date _____