

HASTINGS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
Minutes of the May 13, 2025
Regular Board Meeting

Call to Order: 6:30 pm by Supervisor Jim Partridge
Opening prayer by Trustee Eichholz and 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: 1 guest

Public Comment
None

Consent Agenda: Motion made by Trustee Holtrust to accept meeting agenda, seconded by Trustee Wetzel. Motion carried. Consent Agenda items: minutes of the April 8, 2025 regular meeting, Fire report and Library report. Motion made by Trustee Wetzel to accept all consent agenda items as presented, seconded by Trustee Eichholz; motion carried. Supervisor Partridge added that Fire Chief working to meet training standards and progress on smoke detector installations. Also noted possible cost increases, due to 49% increase in emergency calls.

County Commissioner Report
Commissioner Teunessen absent

New Business

1. Liability Insurance: Insurance Rep David Bellingar from Hartleb Agency present on behalf of EMC liability insurance renewal. Representative explained coverages, changes and recommendations. Supervisor Partridge moved to accept the renewal as proposed by Hartleb Agency representative, seconded by Trustee Wetzel. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.
2. 2025 Tax Rate: Review of MI Dept of Treasury report, as received from County. Report shows allocation of funds to the Township from tax levy, how those funds are reduced by code law, and what the maximum percentage the Township is allowed to receive. Motion made by Supervisor Partridge, seconded by Trustee Scheck, to accept the maximum allowable amount for operating and library funds. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Unfinished Business

1. Cemetery Day: Trustee Eichholz led review of work day / Spring clean-up in cemetery. Discussion on installing section number signs and additional rules signs and repair of brick work at entrance.
2. Ambulance Service: Supervisor Partridge reported current status of Mercy ambulance service with various municipalities in county and of cross-training of firefighters to EMT certification. BIRCH considering purchase of back-up ambulance to meet changing demands for emergency services. Motion by Trustee Holtrust, seconded by Trustee Wetzel to pledge an equal contribution as the rest of the association toward ambulance, contingent on other townships participating. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.
3. Roads: Supervisor Partridge commented on contrasts of township paved roads that do and do not have the side lines painted on them. Consideration to have more with the lines, for safety and wear. Supervisor also proposed increasing gravel application to all township unimproved roads. Following discussion, motion made by Trustee Wetzel, seconded by Clerk Olson, to increase road budget by \$10,000 per year for the next three years. MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Warrants presented for payment- Motion by Supervisor Partridge and seconded by Trustee Scheck to approve the warrants totaling \$32,548.87 MOTION CARRIED by roll call vote – 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Dept. Reports:

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

** Clerk's Report: Feedback from other townships on how they dispensed of furniture no longer needed. From Earned Sick Time (EST) webinars, will be creating a policy for the one employee affected by the new law. Found out from Election Source that contract on voting machines is between equipment sellers and the state.

** Supervisor's Report: Applied for recycling grant, but was denied. Township resident gave possible contact lead on recycling company.

Public Comment

None

Board member comments

Trustee Eichholz appreciated Board research being done. Trustee Scheck affirmed EMC insurance renewal and service. Treasurer Phillips announced newsletter to be going out and requested ideas by June 1. Trustee Holtrust announced upcoming events.

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

Meeting adjourned 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
David J. Olson – Clerk

Approved _____ Clerk

Date _____