

**HOPE TOWNSHIP BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 16, 2026**

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Doug Peck at the Hope Township Hall, 5463 S. M-43 Hwy, Hastings, MI 49058.

Members Present: Deborah Jackson, Doug Peck, Junior Homister

Members Absent: Arlene Tonkin & Chris Lapins

Others Present: Perry Shepard, Ken Chandler, Mary Beth Adyniec, Alan Swank, Lisa Shockley-Curtis.

Public Comment: Comment was made.

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda by Homister, seconded by Jackson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Budget Public Hearing:

Supervisor Peck opened the Budget Public Hearing at 6:32 p.m.

- A. Public comment pertaining to the budget: No comments were made.
- B. Supervisor Peck closed the Budget Public Hearing at 6:33 p.m.
Motion by Jackson, second by Homister to approve the proposed 2026-2027 budget.
Roll call vote: Yes: Jackson, Peck, Homister; No: None; Absent: Tonkin, Lapins
All in favor. Motion carried.
- C. Supervisor Peck opened the Regular Board Meeting at 6:34 p.m.

Delton Fire Report: Perry Shepard gave report.

County Commission Report: No report.

Cemetery Report: No report.

Groundskeeper Report – Steve Case: No report.

Zoning Officer Report – Don Dekema: No report.

Consent Agenda: *All matters listed under item 6, Consent Agenda, are considered routine by the board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is required, it will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.*

- a. Approval of February 9, 2026, minutes & March 4, 2026, special meeting minutes

- b. Reports received: Building permits; Revenue/Expenditure report; Treasurer report; Sewer minutes; Library minutes.
- c. Approval of Bills and signatures of Board Members: Deborah Jackson

Motion to approve consent agenda by Homister, second by Peck.

Roll call vote: Yes: Jackson, Peck, Homister, No: None: Absent: Tonkin, Lapins

All in favor. Motion carried.

Reports/Board Comments:

Supervisor: See New Business (O).

Treasurer: No report.

Clerk: No report.

Trustee(s): No report.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

New Business

A. Resolution 2026-2 Depositories for Hope Township public monies as follows:

RESOLUTION 2026-2

A Resolution regarding depositories for Hope Township public monies.

WHEREAS, all depositories used by the Township must be approved by the Township Board in accordance with MCL 41.77.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Hope Township Treasurer is authorized to deposit Township money in the following financial institutions:

Commercial Bank
Eaton Community Bank
Fifth Third Bank
Highpoint Community Bank
Huntington Bank
Lake Trust Credit Union
Thornapple Valley Community Credit Union
Union Bank
United Bank

Board member Jackson moved adoption of this resolution, supported by member Peck.

Roll Call vote: Yeas: Homister, Peck, Jackson

Nays: None

Absent: Lapins, Tonkin.

Resolution declared adopted.

B. Resolution 2026-3 Designate Primary Bank Depository as follows:

**HOPE TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION 2026-3
RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE PRIMARY BANK DEPOSITORY**

The Hope Township Board of Trustees hereby designates Highpoint Community Bank (formerly Hastings City Bank) as its primary bank depository for FY 2026-2027 and Highpoint Community Bank as depository for Current Tax Fund, Huntington Bank as depository for the Construction Fund and Guernsey Lake Sewer Fund, until or unless the Township Treasurer makes a different recommendation to the Board. The Township Board of Trustees further gives the Treasurer the latitude to invest all excess funds in any instrument permitted by Michigan State Law in accordance with Township Resolution 2026-3, Treasurer to keep Township Board informed of such investments through Quarterly Investments Report in accordance with Public Act 213 of 2007, which amended PA 20 of 1943.

Board member Jackson moved adoption of this resolution, supported by Homister.

Roll Call vote: Yeas: Peck, Jackson, Homister

Nays: None

Absent: Lapins, Tonkin.

Resolution declared Adopted.

C. Resolution 2026-4 Treasurer's Tax Motions as follows:

**HOPE TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION 2026-4
2026 TREASURER'S TAX MOTIONS**

A Resolution approving the 2026 Hope Township Treasurer's Tax Motions

WHEREAS, the Hope Township Treasurer's Annual Tax Motions must be approved by the Township Board;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Hope Township Board authorizes:

1. Summer and winter tax bills to be prepared and printed using BS&A software programs.
2. Imposing one (1%) percent administration fee from July 1, 2026, through February 28, 2027, in accordance with Hope Township Resolution 2010-3.
3. Waiving three (3%) percent collection fee from February 15, 2026, through February 28, 2027.
4. Waiving neither fees nor interest for real or personal property taxes remaining due on March 1, 2027.
5. Treasurer to deposit all collected tax monies in the "Hope Township Current Tax Fund," a noninterest-bearing checking account at Highpoint Community Bank.
6. Acceptance of payment by Financial Transaction Device in accordance with Hope Township Resolution 2007-7.
7. Acceptance of partial payments in any amount; treasurer to determine how partial payments will be "spread" if not specified by the taxpayer.
8. All overpayments of five (\$5.00) dollars or less not to be refunded unless requested by taxpayer.
9. Treasurer to purchase first-class postage through the township postage meter, paper, and envelopes necessary for printing and mailing tax bills and receipts for payment.
10. In accordance with Hope Township Resolution 2003-5, replacement for a returned check to be made by cash or money order only and a returned-check charge up to twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars may be imposed.
11. Treasurer may require prepayment of five (\$5.00) dollars plus one (\$1.00) dollar each for requested, replacement of previously furnished tax bills to lending institutions.
12. Waiving any charge to township taxpayers for copies of their bills or receipts.

Board Member Jackson moved adoption of this resolution, supported by Peck.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Homister, Jackson, Peck

Nays: None

Absent: Lapins, Tonkin

Resolution declared adopted.

D. Resolution 2026-5 Township Board Meeting schedule 2026-27 fiscal year

Board member Peck moved adoption of this resolution, supported by member Homister.

Roll call vote: Yes: Jackson, Homister, Peck; No: None; Absent: Tonkin, Lapins
All in favor. Motion carried.

E. Resolution 2026-6 General Appropriations Act

Board member Jackson moved adoption of this resolution, supported by member Homister.

Roll call vote: Yes: Peck, Jackson, Homister No: None; Absent: Tonkin, Lapins
All in favor. Motion carried.

F. Library Grant 2026-27 \$62,130

Motion to approve the library grant for \$62,130 by Jackson, seconded by Homister.

Roll call vote: Yes: Peck, Homister, Jackson; No: None; Absent: Tonkin, Lapins
All in favor. Motion carried.

G. Payment of bills through fiscal year end March 31, 2026

Motion to approve the payments by Homister, seconded by Jackson.

All in favor. Motion carried.

H. Cemetery contract (unchanged) Garrett Lennon for April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027.

Motion to approve the contract by Peck, seconded by Homister.

All in favor. Motion carried.

I. Groundskeeper contract with Steve Case for April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027.

A 3% wage increase was requested by Case. Following discussion, the board agreed to a 1.5% wage increase.

Motion to approve the contract and wage increase by Peck, seconded by Homister.

Roll call vote: Yes: Jackson, Peck, Homister; No: None; Absent: Tonkin, Lapins

All in favor. Motion carried.

J. Copier Lease Adams Remco \$295.76/month.

Motion to approve the lease by Jackson, seconded by Peck.

All in favor. Motion carried.

K. Board Appointments: Zoning Board of Appeals (Member Jennifer Saviano and Alternate Member Cathy Weir) term ending 3/31/2029.

Motion to approve the appointments by Jackson, seconded by Homister.

All in favor. Motion carried.

L. Board Appointments: Planning Commission (Junior Homister, Larry Heslinga, Drew Chapple) term ending 3/31/2029.

Motion to approve the appointments by Peck, seconded by Homister.

All in favor. Motion carried.

M. Library Board – Betty Tobias- term ending 3/31/2030.

Motion to approve the re-appointment by Jackson, seconded by Homister.

All in favor. Motion carried.

N. Sewer Board – Doug Peck- term ending 3/31/2030.

Motion to approve the re-appointment by Jackson, seconded by Homister.

All in favor. Motion carried.

O. Resolution to set up Special Assessment District for Woodland Dr paving project as follows:

WOODLAND DRIVE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO MAKE THE IMPROVEMENT AND DESIGNATE THE SPECIAL
ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

WHEREAS, certain owners of property having frontage upon Woodland Drive within the Township have filed petitions with the Township Board requesting the creation of a special assessment district for the purpose of removing and repaving all of the road surfaces for Woodland Drive located in the Hinewood Plat; and

WHEREAS, the Township Clerk has certified that the petitions have been signed by the record owners of land constituting more than 50% of the total frontage within the proposed special assessment district as described in the petitions; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board has received preliminary plans and cost estimates for the proposed project, has reviewed the same, and such plans and estimates are on file with the Township Clerk; and

WHEREAS, at this time the Township Board believes it is appropriate to proceed with the special assessment process pertaining to the requested project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that pursuant to 1954 PA 188 (MCL 41.721, et seq.) the Township Board hereby tentatively declares its intent to proceed with the Woodland Drive road improvement special assessment project pursuant to the preliminary plans and cost estimates within the requested special assessment district as more particularly described below:

Address:

Parcel:

6847 Woodland Dr	07-130-002-00
6524 Woodland Dr	07-130-032-00
6851 Woodland Dr	07-130-003-00
6852 Woodland Dr	07-130-015-00
6853 Woodland Dr	07-130-004-00
6853 Woodland Dr	07-130-013-10
6857 Woodland Dr	07-130-006-00
6857 Woodland Dr	07-130-020-00
6859 Woodland Dr	07-130-007-00
6861 Woodland Dr	07-130-008-00
6861 Woodland Dr	07-130-018-00
6863 Woodland Dr	07-130-009-00
6863 Woodland Dr	07-130-013-00
6867 Woodland Dr	07-130-010-00
6868 Woodland Dr	07-130-001-16
6871 Woodland Dr	07-130-011-00
6875 Woodland Dr	07-130-012-00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Board tentatively designates the special assessment district against which the cost of the project is to be assessed as the Woodland Drive Road Improvement Special Assessment District, which shall include the lands and premises described above.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a hearing on any objections to the petitions, to the improvement plans, the estimate of costs, and to the Special Assessment District established for the assessment of the cost of such improvement, shall be held on Monday, April 13, 2026, commencing at 6:30 p.m. in conjunction with a regular meeting of the Township Board at the Township Hall, located at 5463 S M-43 Hwy, Hastings MI 49058.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk be instructed to give the proper notice of such hearing by mailing and publication in accordance with applicable law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all Resolutions and parts of Resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this Resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Homister, Peck, Jackson

Nay: None

Absent: Tonkin, Lapins

Supervisor Peck declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted.

Additional Public Comment: No comment.

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m. Motion to close by Homister, second by Jackson.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Deborah Jackson
Deborah Jackson
Hope Township Clerk

Doug Peck
Doug Peck
Hope Township Supervisor

Date: April 13, 2026

Status (circle one) Tentative Minutes Approved Minutes