

Watson Township Board Meeting  
1895 118<sup>th</sup> Ave. Allegan, MI 49010  
January 8, 2026

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:59 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Michelle Harris, Joe Yearous, Tera Davis, Kevin Travis, and Mary Ann Baker

**AGENDA:**

Supervisor Travis made a motion to move the sexton's report to before the public comment, Trustee Harris supported the agenda as amended, all in favor, motion carried.

**MINUTES:**

Trustee Yearous made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, Trustee Harris second, all in favor, motion passed.

**BILLS:**

Trustee Harris made a motion to approve the bills as presented in the amount of \$134,458.28 Treasurer Davis second, all in favor, motion passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

No report

**SEXTON:**

Bob reported that all the flags have been removed from the cemeteries, he had many that were badly damaged due to weather.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Opened at 7:04 p.m. Closed at 7:04 p.m.

**REPORTS:**

a) **PLANNING COMMISSION:**

They discussed garage sales, frequencies and length. Data centers as a future item. At the next meeting, they will have a decision about a special use permit for an accessory building.

b) **ROAD COMMISSION:**

24<sup>th</sup> St. will be paved from 114<sup>th</sup> Ave. to M89 this year. The cost is shared among four townships. The new 21 cent gas tax will go directly to road funding verses the now removed 6% sales tax that didn't fund just roads but gave townships revenue sharing. It should be a tradeoff.

c) **ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT:**

Six open cases and one closed case.

d) **LIBRARIES-HOPKINS/MARTIN**

No report

**e) COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

Commissioner Dugan reported that at their organizational meeting Scott Beltman was elected chair and Craig Van Beck vice chair. They approved Brownfield amendment to be in line with the new State regulations. He said the county will be giving the township \$50,000 for revenue sharing.

**f) FIRE UPDATE:**

Martin Fire Department reported on calls for the year. They have two candidates that are currently in training. They also have two more new hires for next year. The assistant fire chief has stepped down after 27 years of service.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**a) HOPKINS DDA-BLUE AND WHITE PARK PLAYGROUND**

No information, will table until next meeting

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**a) RE-APPOINTMENTS-PLANNING COMMISSION**

Supervisor Travis made a motion to reappoint Brady Cole to the planning commission for a three-year term, Trustee Harris seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Travis made a motion to reappoint Tylor Shurkamp to the planning commission for a three-year term, Trustee Harris second, all in favor, motion passed.

**b) HAFD WATSON SUBSIDY:**

The formula is based on calls, SEV and population, Watson is second in the district in all values, making our subsidy \$80,609.70. This is an increase of approximately \$5,000. Supervisor Travis made a motion to approve the Watson fire subsidy of \$80,609.70, Treasurer Davis second, all in favor, motion passed.

**c) 26-26 EV MUNICIPALITY AGREEMENT:**

Clerk Baker made a motion to approve the resolution agreement for election services between Monterey, Hopkins and Watson Township in Allegan County, MI. Trustee Harris second, all in favor, motion carried.

**d) GRAVEL RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The road commission recommends gravel for 114<sup>th</sup> Ave. to 21<sup>st</sup> St. 1.5 miles estimated cost \$38,000. 22<sup>nd</sup> St. to 112<sup>th</sup> Ave. to 114<sup>th</sup> Ave. 1-mile estimated cost \$25,000.

Supervisor Travis made a motion to approve these road recommendations, Trustee Yearous, all in favor, motion carried.

**e) ORDER AND INSTALL CAMERA FOR BALLOT BOX**

Supervisor Travis made a motion to purchase and install a camera for the ballot box not to exceed \$600, Trustee Harris second, all in favor, motion passed.

**f) AMENDMENTS:**

Supervisor Travis made a motion to amend the budget as presented, Trustee Harris seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

**BOARD ROUND TABLE:**

Discussion to possibly review Z.B.A. fees as the current fee does not cover the cost of publishing.

Supervisor Travis announced that he is running for the 57<sup>th</sup> District court judge position.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Supervisor Travis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Trustee Yearous seconded, all in favor, motion passed. Adjournment 7:50 p.m.

Mary Ann Baker

Watson Township Clerk