

Watson Township Board Meeting  
1895 118<sup>th</sup> Ave. Allegan, MI 49010  
February 5, 2026

**CALL TO ORDER: 7:00p.m.**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**AGENDA:**

Supervisor Travis made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Trustee Harris seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

**MINUTES:**

Trustee Harris made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Trustee Yearous seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

**BILLS:**

Trustee Harris made a motion to approve to pay the bills in the amount of \$9,526.52, Treasurer Davis seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Trustee Harris made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented, Clerk Baker seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

**REPORTS:**

a) **PLANNING COMMISSION:**

NO Meeting due to weather

b) **FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Fire Board approved budget

c) **WAYLAND AREA EMS:**

Budget approval discussed employee incentives such as retirement for full-time employees as a means to help recruit and maintain employees. Ambulance 952 is repaired.

d) **SEXTON:**

Mr. Holshoe informed the board that a resident would like to purchase a block of 20 plots in Hicks Cemetery. We will need to measure and layout the unmarked section along with getting the new area on paper.

e) **LIBRARIES:**

Hopkins library has many activities scheduled for this month. Information is on their website and social media.

f) **COUNTY COMMISSIONER:**

Commissioner Dugan reported on January 22, 2026, meeting Human Resources Director Vicki Hersberg was honored for her sixteen years of service as she retires. Commissioner Dugan was reappointed to the mental health board. More information may be found on their website.

**g) CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

Reported that we currently have eight open cases in the township

**h) JANUARY BUDGET:**

Miscellaneous expense items need to be moved to proper accounts. This report is available online on the Watson township website.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Open at 7:22p.m. Jim Slais talked to the board about his run for 57<sup>th</sup> district court judge. Supervisor Travis has decided not to run for the position and is endorsing Mr. Slais.

Closed: 7:25p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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

The board will discuss a donation in the spring after more information is given.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**a) REAPPOINT JACK EVERLAND AND BRAD STALKER TO THE BOARD OF REVIEW**

Supervisor Travis made a motion to reappoint Jack Everland and Brad Stalker to the Board of review, Trustee Harris seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**b) APPOINT BRADY COLE TO THE BOARD OF REVIEW:**

Supervisor Travis made a motion to appoint Brady Cole to the Board of review, seconded by Treasurer Davis, all in favor, motion carried.

**c) 2026 POVERTY EXEMPTION GUIDELINES:**

Treasurer Davis made a motion to approve the 2026 Poverty Exemption Guidelines, Trustee Yearous seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

**d) PARK COMMITTEE APPOINTS:**

Supervisor Travis made a motion to appoint John Caras, Jim Davis, and Joe Yearous to the park committee, Trustee Harris seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**e) VETERAN MEMORIAL:**

The Park Committee designed the monument honoring all five branches of service. It was determined that concrete would be the best solution due to the cost of granite. Dillon Cole is a local resident who has agreed to make the monument. The estimated amount is \$18,000 which is in the current veteran's fund. Supervisor Travis made a motion to approve the monument as designed and to approve Dillon Cole to build it. Trustee Harris seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed.

**f) DUST CONTROL BID:**

Southwest Michigan Dust Control was the only bid. Three applications for a total of \$62,000. Trustee Harris made a motion to approve Southwest Michigan Dust Control for a potential amount of \$62,000, Treasurer Davis seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**g) CONFIRM DATE FOR WORKSHOP AND BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING:**

Notice will be in the paper for March 31, 2026, at 7p.m.

**h) ROAD MILLEAGE:**

This is a renewal of the mileage and not an increase. Supervisor made a motion to put the question to the voters to renew the road mileage. Trustee Harris seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed.

**i) ELECTION COMPUTER:**

The township has a May 5, 2026, election. The current computer is unable to be upgraded. Supervisor Travis made a motion to approve the purchase of a computer for no more than \$1500 Clerk Baker seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed.

**BOARD ROUNDTABLE:**

Clerk Baker discussed that there will be a May 5, 2026, election for the Hopkins public school mileage. If anyone is interested in working on the election, they can contact the clerk.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Supervisor Travis made a motion to adjourn, Trustee Harris seconded, all in favor, motion passed. Adjournment 7:58p.m.

Mary Ann Baker

Watson Township Clerk