



TOWNSHIP OF THORNAPPLE

Eric Schaefer, Supervisor / Laura Bouchard, Treasurer / Cindy Ordway, Clerk
Curt Campbell, Trustee / Ross DeMaagd, Trustee / David Stanton, Trustee / Sandra Rairigh, Trustee

REGULAR MEETING

August 11, 2025, 7:00 PM

Meeting Held at Thornapple Township Hall, 200 E Main St., Middleville, MI 49333

1. INVOCATION

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Roll Call: 5 present 2 absent with notice	Schaefer Bouchard Campbell	Present Present Present	DeMaagd Stanton Rairigh Ordway	Not present Present Present Not Present
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OTHERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Smelker

Guests: 8

4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:

Motion Stated:	Motion by Rairigh to approve agenda as presented.
Motion Supported:	Campbell
Motion Status	Approved by voice vote. 5 ayes and 0 nays.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion Stated:	Motion by Schaefer to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
Motion Supported:	Stanton
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote. 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Roll Call:	Stanton	Yes	Bouchard Campbell	Yes Yes	Rairigh Schaefer	Yes Yes
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6. Communication July 28th, 2025 PC Draft Minutes

-received for information.

7. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT: None**8. COUNTY REPORT:**

Commissioner John Smelker reported the following:

It has been a slow month. The Board heard reports on finances, state trial court funding, drain code and the road commission.

9. RESERVED TIME: Steve Shults with Bloomingdale Communications

Steve Shults presented information on an approved project to build out broadband (fiber) to Thornapple Twp residents. He presented a map showing the area that is approved. They have moved forward with engineering doing staking and fielding. All contracts have been signed and they are ready for USDA to do environmental and historical preservation approvals. They don't expect any archeological issues, but there may be a consideration for the Eastern Mississauga rattlesnake. They will obtain clearance from the Gun Lake Tribe. This USDA project is 7.5 million dollars. They are hoping to do a formal bid process and have it wrapped up to start the project by spring of 2026. Additionally, they are looking at a BEAD project to do additional areas in the township and have re-submitted that application. BEAD stands for Broadband Everywhere Access Deployment - a federal program that was part of the infrastructure act. Michigan was allocated 1.6 billion dollars to expand broadband throughout Michigan. The State will award these projects in approximately 4-6 weeks. Meetings have been held with the Road Commission, the Village Manager, the Property and Public Utilities committee, and several people from Public works. Bloomingdale Communications is a small company and their emphasis is on serving rural folks and affordability. Since 2018 they have invested 48 million dollars in getting rural fiber to homes. They have been in business since 1905 and will be the provider for the service to the township. He expresses his desire to improve this service in this community. They will offer more information to the community when construction begins.

They do not need anything from the township but are here to communicate who they are and present their expected work.

9. Emergency Services Report:

- a. See EMS committee minutes.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None**11. NEW BUSINESS:****A. Agenda Request for Grant Assistance.**

Motion Stated:	Motion by Rairigh to approve VK Civil invoice for \$2500 for assistance in preparing the MI Health grant application.
Motion Supported:	Schaefer

Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays.
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Discussion: This grant is for the engineering portion of developing the trail areas that we purchased.

Roll Call:	Rairigh Bouchard	Yes Yes	Campbell Schaefer	Yes Yes	Stanton	Yes
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13. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Administration (Schaefer, Bouchard, Ordway)

- Our Township Clerk plans to resign to work for another company and will continue to work for the township to keep operations going until she is replaced. The Board is interviewing candidates for Township Clerk.

B. Cemetery (Ordway, DeMaagd, Rairigh)

- No report

C. Middleville DDA Report (Schaefer)

- The music series is going well. Planning is underway for Heritage Day, Sept. 13, 2025, to include a dunk tank and more.

D. Elections (Ordway, Bouchard, Schaefer)

- There will be a November election for Kent ISD.

E. Emergency Services (DeMaagd, Schaefer, Rairigh)

- EMT training is complete. Congrats to Eric Schaefer's daughter who has successfully completed the training.
- A question is raised about additional funding for training paramedics.

F. Finance (Bouchard, Ordway, Rairigh)

- Tax collections are underway.

G. Parks and Recreation Representative (Schaefer)

- A special meeting planned with the three entities - Village, School, and Township is coming up.

H. Personnel and Compensation (Ordway, Campbell, Schaefer)

- Currently doing job interviews for Township Clerk.

I. Property and Public Utilities (Stanton, DeMaagd, Campbell)

- They will meet next week to review quotes for the HVAC system in the emergency services building.

J. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Stanton)

- Mr. Campbell requested a dead deer pick up without success and will call the Road Commission. Road construction is in full swing, and it is noted that detours are time consuming.

K. Duncan Lake Sewer (Campbell, Stanton, Schaefer)

- A Noffke Drive resident has asked why he needs to pay for sewer assessment on the quarterly basis since he goes to Florida for the winter. Mr. Campbell explained that it needs to be paid year around and the resident was understanding.

13. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: None

14. POLL OF MEMBERS:

David Stanton (Trustee) - no comment.

Sandy Rairigh (Trustee) - no comment.

Campbell - happy to see the guests present tonight.

Ross DeMaagd (Trustee) - not present.

Laura Bouchard (Treasurer) - no comment.

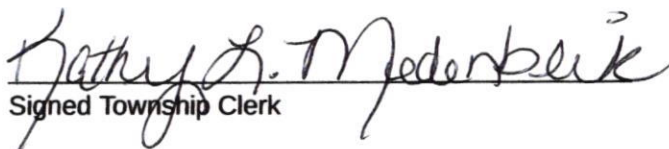
Cindy Ordway (Clerk) - not present.

Eric Schaefer (Supervisor) - Mr. Schaefer shared that a family member of Mr. DeMaagd has an aggressive form of cancer and requested prayers for his family.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

TIME: 7:41 P.M.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Campbell to adjourn at 7:41 P.M.
Motion Supported:	Bouchard
Motion Status	Approved by voice vote. 5 ayes and 0 nays.


Signed Township Clerk

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Dykgraaf, Recording Secretary