

TOWNSHIP OF THORNAPPLE

*Eric Schaefer, Supervisor / Laura Bouchard, Treasurer / Kathy Medenblik, Clerk
Curt Campbell, Trustee / Ross DeMaagd, Trustee / David Stanton, Trustee / Sandra Rairigh, Trustee*

REGULAR MEETING

March 9, 2026, 7:00 PM

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

Minutes

1. INVOCATION

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Roll Call: Present 7 Absent 0	Schaefer Bouchard Campbell	Present Present Present	DeMaagd Stanton Rairigh Medenblik	Present Present Present Present
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OTHERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Catherine Getty

Guests: 4

4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:

Motion Stated:	Motion by Bouchard to approve the printed agenda with addition of New Business Q - Rate Increase for Mt. Hope and Parmelee Cemeteries.
Motion Supported:	Campbell
Motion Status	Approved by voice vote. 7 ayes and 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion Stated:	Motion by Campbell to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
Motion Supported:	Stanton
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote. 7 ayes and 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	Stanton DeMaagd	Yes Yes	Campbell Rairigh	Yes Yes	Schaefer Bouchard Medenblik	Yes Yes Yes
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6. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT: (Please limit comments to 3 minutes)

None

7. CORRESPONDENCE: None**8. COUNTY REPORT:**

Commissioner Getty reported the following activity:

- Commission On Aging Bylaws have been updated.
- Approved submission of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant.
- BCRC Road Project Funding.
- Approved recommendations for the Opioid Settlement Fund.
- Approved funds for copier replacement.
- Ms. Getty shared information regarding Compassion Homes for hospice patients.
- Allocated funding to shift the COA building driveway on M179 to the west.

Mr. Schaefer thanked the Commissioner.

9. PUBLIC HEARING: Proposed 2026-2027 Township Budget

Public Hearing Open at 7:10.

Public Comment:

Supervisor Schaefer invites questions from the audience.

Patrick Lemon, Thornapple Hills Dr, says he is in attendance to listen and has no questions at this time.

In response to a question about posting the Budget Proposal online, Mr. Schaefer stated that a copy has been available at the township office for one week prior. It cannot be posted online without being approved.

Public Hearing Closed at 7:12.

10. RESERVED TIME: Chief Richardson

None.

11. Emergency Services Report:

- a. Chief's Run Report Summary:
 - 236 Calls for service; out-the-door time was 1 min 1 second.
 - Response time in the township was 11 min. 3 seconds outside of the township. Response time inside the township was 8 min. 2 seconds.
 - 3 structure fires in the last 2 weeks; working closely with Caledonia FD for faster response times.
 - Ongoing discussion on the HVAC system upgrade at the TTES building. Chief Richardson is looking into Public Act 62 of 2012 which allows the state to assist with funding for the project.
 - DOT Inspections are being done and repairs being made.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None**13. NEW BUSINESS:****A. Resolution 02-2026; General Appropriation Resolution for Fiscal Year April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027.**

Background: A resolution to establish a general appropriations act for Thornapple Township; to define the powers and duties of the Thornapple Township officers in relation to the administration of the budget; and to provide remedies for refusal or neglect to comply with the requirements of this resolution.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Schaefer to approve Resolution 02-2026.
Motion Supported:	Bouchard
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	DeMaagd Campbell	Yes Yes	Medenblik Rairigh Schaefer	Yes Yes Yes	Stanton Bouchard	Yes Yes
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B. Resolution 3-2026

Background: A resolution to establish the annual salary for the Thornapple Township Supervisor.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Rairigh to approve Resolution 03-2026.
Motion Supported:	Campbell
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 6 ayes, 1 abstain. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	Campbell Medenblik	Yes Yes	Rairigh Schaefer	Yes Abstain	Stanton Bouchard DeMaagd	Yes Yes Yes
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C. Resolution 04-2026

Background: A resolution to establish the annual salary for the Thornapple Township Treasurer.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Campbell to approve Resolution 04-2026.
Motion Supported:	Rairigh
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 6 ayes, 1 abstain. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	Rairigh Bouchard	Yes Abstain	Campbell DeMaagd	Yes Yes	Medenblik Schaefer Stanton	Yes Yes Yes
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D. Resolution 05-2026

Background: A resolution to establish the annual salary for the Thornapple Township Clerk.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Schaefer to approve Resolution 05-2026.
Motion Supported:	Rairigh
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 6 ayes, 1 abstain. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	Stanton Bouchard Schaefer	Yes Yes Yes	Campbell DeMaagd Medenblik	Yes Yes Abstain	Rairigh	Yes
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E. Planning Commission Appointment.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Schaefer to approve the appointment of Carol Balkon to the Planning Commission.
Motion Supported:	Bouchard
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	Medenblik Stanton Campbell	Yes Yes Yes	DeMaagd Rairigh	Yes Yes	Schaefer Bouchard	Yes Yes
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F. Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Bouchard to approve the appointment of Kim Jachim to the Zoning Board of Appeals.
Motion Supported:	Rairigh
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote:7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	Bouchard Campbell	Yes Yes	DeMaagd Medenblik Rairigh	Yes Yes Yes	Schaefer Stanton	Yes Yes
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G. TTES 2026 - 2027 Pay Scale.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Stanton to approve the proposed 2026-2027 Pay Scale for TTES.
Motion Supported:	Schaefer
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	Campbell Bouchard	Yes Yes	DeMaagd Medenblik Rairigh	Yes Yes Yes	Schaefer Stanton	Yes Yes
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H. Dispatch Contract with Rockford Ambulance

Motion Stated:	Motion by Schaefer to approve the Rockford Ambulance Dispatch contract.
Motion Supported:	Campbell
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	Campbell DeMaagd	Yes Yes	Medenblik Rairigh	Yes Yes	Schaefer Stanton Bouchard	Yes Yes Yes
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I. Stryker Equipment Preventative Maintenance Agreement.

Background: Chief Richardson reports that the contract ran out and preventative maintenance is important for this life-saving equipment.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Bouchard to approve the 3 year Stryker preventative maintenance agreement.
Motion Supported:	Rairigh
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	DeMaagd Medenblik	Yes Yes	Rairigh Schaefer	Yes Yes	Stanton Bouchard Campbell	Yes Yes Yes
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J. iPad and Protective Cover Purchases for TTES.

Background: These will be used with Rockford Dispatch to receive updates and mapping and have the capability to load pre-planned software on the CAD system.

Motion Stated:	Motion by DeMaagd to approve the purchase of 6 iPads and cases with service not to exceed \$3900.00.
Motion Supported:	Campbell
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	Medenblik Rairigh	Yes Yes	Schaefer Stanton	Yes Yes	Bouchard Campbell DeMaagd	Yes Yes Yes
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K. Laptop Computer

Background: Chief Richardson notes that this will be used for inspections.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Rairigh to approve the purchase of a new Laptop for TTES.
Motion Supported:	Campbell

Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.
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Roll Call:	Rairigh Schaefer	Yes Yes	Stanton Bouchard	Yes Yes	Campbell DeMaagd Medenblik	Yes Yes Yes
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L. New Capital Improvement Fund

Background: Ms. Bouchard explained the need for this fund.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Schaefer to approve creation of a new Capital Improvement Fund to reserve funds for future township improvements, land acquisitions and trail improvements. After creation of a new fund, transfer \$65,000 from land acquisitions account to the new Capital Improvement Fund.
Motion Supported:	Stanton
Motion Status	Approved by voice vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

M. Budget Amendment

Motion Stated:	Motion by Bouchard to approve a budget amendment to increase 101-262-740.000 from \$2500 to \$8350.(Office Supplies)
Motion Supported:	Campbell
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	DeMaagd Medenblik Rairigh	Yes Yes Yes	Schaefer Stanton Bouchard	Yes Yes Yes	Campbell	Yes
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N. Ambulance Fee Schedule

This is the recommendation from Medical Management, the TTES billing company.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Rairigh to approve the Updated Fee Schedule for 2026 according to the recommendations brought forth.
Motion Supported:	Stanton
Motion Status	Approved by voice vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

O. Fire Chief Contract 2026-2027

Motion Stated:	Motion by Rairigh to raise the salary for Bill Richardson (Fire Chief) to One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand (\$125,000.00) and 00/100 Dollars
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	and approve Kathy Medenblik (Clerk) and Eric Schaefer (Supervisor) the ability to sign the contract on the township's behalf.
Motion Supported:	Schaefer
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	Bouchard Campbell DeMaagd	Yes Yes Yes	Medenblik Rairigh Schaefer	Yes Yes Yes	Stanton	Yes
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P. Vriesman Korhorn assistance with a Federal trail funding request.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Schaefer to approve VK Civil's request for \$5000 for assistance in preparing a Federal Trail Funding Request.
Motion Supported:	Medenblik
Motion Status	Approved by roll call vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call:	Schaefer DeMaagd	Yes Yes	Campbell Bouchard	Yes Yes	Stanton Medenblik Rairigh	Yes Yes Yes
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Q. Rate Increase for Mt. Hope & Parmelee Cemeteries.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Rairigh to approve cemetery rate increase for open and close fees per attached spreadsheet and approve the recommendation of an escrow account for perpetual foundation care fees of 20% of foundation cost.
Motion Supported:	Campbell
Motion Status	Approved by voice vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

14. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Administration (Schaefer, Bouchard, Medenblik)

- It has been very busy. The Deputy Clerk is doing well.

B. Cemetery (Medenblik, DeMaagd, Rairigh)

- Ms. Medenblik visited the cemetery and reported broken items and damage to headstones. Concern was expressed that it may be vandalism.

C. Middleville DDA Report (Schaefer)

- The planning of events for this summer are coming along. A new person has been hired for the DDA and a new DDA member has been appointed.

D. Elections (Medenblik, Bouchard, Schaefer)

- It is quiet right now. The next election will be the primary in August.

E. Emergency Services (DeMaagd, Schaefer, Rairigh)

- Nothing further.
- F. Finance (Bouchard, Medenblik, Rairigh)
- Nothing.
- G. Parks and Recreation Representative (Schaefer)
- The committee met last week and is determining priorities and reviewing the 5 year rec plan. The Village council will also be asked for their input on priorities. A Master Plan for the parks is also in consideration.
- H. Personnel and Compensation (Medenblik, Campbell, Schaefer)
- Working towards a goal of getting everything intact.
- I. Property and Public Utilities (Stanton, DeMaagd, Campbell)
- Waiting to hear back from Nathan from Matrix on a proposal for HVAC in the TTES building.
- J. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Stanton)
- Nothing.
- K. Duncan Lake Sewer (Campbell, Stanton, Schaefer)
- A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 12.

15. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Pat Lemon, Thornapple Hills Dr. Mr. Lemon said that his wife had a stroke in December of 2025. He commended Chief Richardson for the prompt response and great care she received from the emergency services crew. They did a fantastic job. He thanked the Chief.

16. POLL OF MEMBERS:

- David Stanton (Trustee) - Nothing.
 Sandy Rairigh (Trustee) - Birthday wishes extended to the three (3) March Birthday Trustees.
 Curt Campbell - (Trustee) - Noted that annual committee matters were approved at the Budget Meeting.
 Ross DeMaagd (Trustee) - Nothing.
 Laura Bouchard (Treasurer) - Working on settling the 2025 tax year with the county.
 Kathy Medenblik (Clerk) - Nothing.
 Eric Schaefer (Supervisor) - Noted that the meeting was completed by 8:03 pm.

17. ADJOURNMENT:

TIME: 8:03 P.M.

Motion Stated:	Motion by Campbell to adjourn at 8:03 P.M.
Motion Supported:	Schaefer
Motion Status	Approved by voice vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Signed Township Clerk

Respectfully submitted,
 Diane Dykgraaf, Recording Secretary