

2026 Draft Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Homestead Township Board

July 8, 2026

Call to Order: Supervisor Cooley called to order @ 6:00 pm

Pledge: Recited

Roll Call: Clerk: Kit Wilson, Absent; Present, Supervisor: Tia Cooley, Present, Treasurer: Bev Holbrook, Present, Trustee: Mike Mead, Present, Trustee: Shannon Purchase, Present

Approval of Meeting Agenda: Motion made to approve agenda as amended to add Survey and Fleis & Vabderbrink Engineering, Inc. to new business. Remove Northern Auto, Insurance CIP Plan.

Moved by: Cooley

Supported by: Purchase

All Ayes, No Nays, Motion Carried

Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion made to accept as presented.

Moved by: Cooley

Supported by: Holbrook

All Ayes, No Nays, Motion Carried

Presentations: None

Public Comment: (Individuals – 3 mins Groups – 15 mins) None offered.

Reports:

Assessing (Gunnar Brow): No report

Zoning (Marv Radtke): Written report

Parks (Shannon Purchase): Baseball fields are looking good. 3 osprey babies in the nest.

Large piece of "deck" near the bank by the dock. Not sure where it came from. Checked with HARP on maintenance agreement and they should be mowing. The grass. Question on where we stand on the dugouts? Approval was given; Shannon will check on a timeline. Motion to approve \$5,00.00 for the new road; gravel and shaping

Motion by: Cooley

Supported by: Holbrook

All Ayes, No Nays, Motion Carried

Cemeteries; Champion Hill- stumps are almost all out. Next up will be the road. Discussion on how the board would like the road to look. Rough estimate of \$3,500 for gravel and possibly 6-8 hours for labor. Homestead Cemetery addition has not been mowed. It was not part of the contract. Shannon will do the first mowing and it will be looked into to have someone continue.

Park Committee (Bev Holbrook): Engineer was at the meeting. Submitted contract to get started on the project (see new business). Some suggestions;

1. Getting a QR Code sign for donations.
2. Rotary charities pre application meeting. There are approximately \$15,000.00 grant funds with the funds being rolled out at \$5,000.00/month.
3. Haufbrau owners may also donate. They are very supportive of parks.
4. DNR grant funds may be available. Engineering firm would help with application.

A resolution would be needed to apply for any grant monies.

Planning Commission (Mike Mead): Regular meeting was canceled. Special meeting held to adopt a resolution on Data Centers. Question was asked about updating the Zoning Ordinance? Mike will check with Marvin. Handicap kayak launch. Question was asked if it should remain or be removed? HARP is not happy with it. The design is not the best, it has a very high step to get to the platform. The DNR will not allow any more encroachment so any alterations will probably not be allowed. Question was asked about the two piers by the blueberry patch. Are they just for fishing? Yes, they are. Discussion only on putting in a bike path and a "station" for small repairs.

County Commissioner (Tim Markey): Annual report for Centra Wellness received. Board was informed that Chip Johnson will be retiring at the end of September. Jamie McNabb gave a report. Question on data center? Ordinance approved at June meeting. Encouraged the board to stay ahead of the issue and he would like to attend future meetings with the Planning Commission.

Fire Dept (Tim Markey): 197 runs as of June 8. He will have quotes for new AED for the next meeting. The old AED will be given to the Township.

Clerk No report.

Treasurer (Bev Holbrook): Had a meeting at the Honor Bank to discuss switching account to get a better interest rate. This would cover ALL Township funds up to \$100,000.00.

To authorize the Treasurer to approve the change.

Motion by: Holbrook

Supported by: Cooley

Ayes; all

To authorize the Treasurer to approve the change.

Approve the reports as presented:

Motion by: Cooley

Supported by: Purchase

All Ayes

Finance:

Payables approved as presented

Budget Amendments: None

New Business:

Parking Due to the construction of the new Road Commission building parking is going to be an issue. The next hall rental will be mid- August. Also, on election day there may be a need for someone to be outside direction traffic. Tia would like to see lines painted for parking spaces. Tim asked if signage could be placed saying " Fire Dept/Township business only"? Two trees would need to be cut; Shannon will get estimates. Parking lot needs to be expanded and marked. Question was asked about the contract with the county for the recycling site: Tia will check as to the expiration date.

Resignation letter Letter received from Kit Wilson. Acceptance of letter will be tabled until the August meeting. Cathy Brown is willing to take on the position.

Anna will continue to serve as the Deputy Clerk. Motion to approve Cathy Brown as the Deputy, Deputy Clerk. She will no longer serve as Deputy Treasurer.

Motion by: Cooley

Supported by: Holbrook

All ayes

Discussion on wages for Anna due to her additional work load.

Motion by: Cooley

Supported by: Purchase

To increase the hourly wage to \$30.00 and to pay her for doing the payables (which the Clerk was getting paid to do)

Roll call vote: Ayes Holbrook, Purchase, Mead, Cooley Nays: none

Election Tia would like the hours that Av ballots will be available. Anna will get her the information. All permanent ballots were mailed out on July 3.

Increase Credit card limit Request to increase the limit on the Township credit card from \$2,500.00 to \$5,000.00.

Motionby: Cooley

Supported by: Purchase

Roll call vote: Ayes; Purchase, Mead, Cooley, Holbrook Nays; none

Survey Due to the activity on the at the house behind the Township Hall, most of the parking lot belongs to that property. Quit claimed to the Township. Marvin had some different information. Too many conflicting reports. A survey will be needed. Tim suggested that the architect will need a survey for the fire building and he can request that they add that to the project as a separate line item.

Motion by: Cooley

Supported by: Purchase

To approve funds up to \$500.00 for a survey

Ayes; Purchase, Holbrook, Cooley, Mead

Nays: none

Old Business:

Ropes at both cemetery flag poles are missing. The Homestead cemetery flag pole can be lowered to replace the rope. The Champion Hill cemetery will need a cherry picker to get to the top. Purchase will contact the Road Commission to see if they can help. Anna will check with the Clerk at Lake Township to see who was used to replace the pulley at the top of the flag pole there.

Par Plan grant application. Back up cameras for the Fire Dept. A resolution will be needed from the Board to apply for the grant.

Eclipse Quote tabled

Fleis & Vanderbrink Engineers contract call for \$9,200 for work on getting the park designed. No money will be paid up front. They will bill monthly according to the work that they do.

Motion by; Cooley

Supported by: Purchase

To approve the contract pending Rotary Grant funds and sign. We would like to know if we get reimbursed if we pay Fleis & Vanderbrink prior to the grant.

Roll call vote; Ayes; Purchase, Holbrook, Cooley, Mead.

Public Comment: None offered.

Adjournment: 7:32 pm

Respectfully



Anna Grobe

Deputy Clerk

