

HOMESTEAD TOWNSHIP

Regular Board Meeting

May 14, 2025

A REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF Homestead Township was called to order at 6:00 pm by Supervisor Tia Cooley.

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Michael Mead, Tia Cooley, Shannon Purchase and Beverly Holbrook. Kit Wilson excused.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Cooley to approve Agenda as presented. Support: Purchase. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Cooley to approve the Consent Agenda as written. Support: Mead. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bobbi Scott, a resident on Alysworth Road, commented that she received a letter regarding the possible paving of their road and paying for it by a special assessment to road residents. She wanted to have it on record that she opposed this. There were two other residents present, and they also stated they oppose. Cooley explained the process to them, and they were thankful for this explanation.

REPORTS:

ASSESSING: None

ZONING: Marvin sent in a written report. *He has been out doing many junk complaints prior to clean up day. *He has been discussing land use permits with several people on new home projects. *He had two individuals that left him messages that were classified as "spam" and it took him 12 to 13 days to return their call. He apologized to the board if anyone received any negative comments regarding his tardy response. *He has been asked to investigate a couple of issues that have been a yearly issue with people living on state land. Last year he worked with DNR and Deputies and will do so again this year. *He will be out the next few weeks following up on properties that were noticed of "junk" for compliance.

PARKS: Shannon stated that the kayak launch has been installed. *There are only 2 kids' baseball teams this year. *There has been a team playing on the little field from New Covenant Academy *Not sure of a women's league, only have 3 teams so far. Ther will be a men's league

on Tuesdays. *Fees used to be Sponsor at \$200 which was paid to the township. *Derrick Dilas will give us a price for a drinking fountain that will be on the outside of the bathrooms.

*Discussion on water testing, Tia will inquire. Will wait until a fountain is installed. *Shannon said the batting cages and part of a fence need repair. He will call Apple Fence for a quote.

PLATTE RIVER PARK: Mike said HARP is applying for a Rotary grant for the pavilion. This will be a start-to-finish grant of an estimated \$110,000. Several of the HARP board walked through the park area looking for a nature trail site. They found that there is less than 100 feet of wetlands. They will meet with the conservation department for options.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Mike stated that next Monday the 19th is the meeting, and they will be having discussions on any changes that should be made to the Zoning Ordinance. *Time should be getting near to the Public Meeting for the Master Plan. He will ask Kit to look into this.

COMMISSIONER: *Janet Engler was awarded the Dispatcher of the Year Award. *Summer Sheriff Patrol Agreements were approved from Village of Beulah, Lake Twp, and Crystal Beach Cottage's Association. The Village of Honor has not submitted a request yet. At their meeting on Monday, Honor will submit a request. *The BOC authorized the ballot language for a Road Commission bond to be placed on November 2025 General Election Ballot. *There was a special BOC meeting to interview the 3 candidates interested in filling the vacant District 6 commissioner position. David Davis was selected. Jim Clark & Marie Wohadlo also applied. *The BOC's agreed to purchase 20 AED's for the county operations. The 19 AED's that are being replaced will be available for local municipalities and organizations. Please note that these AED's are expired and will need to be refurbished. *Other interesting notes: the Village of Honor: Passed a resolution for a Fire Insurance Withholding, passed a resolution to remove the dark skies initiative – they do plan on revisiting a dark skies initiative, a motion was made to pass their short-term rental ordinance. There was no support.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: 2025 YTD 117 incidents. Started out crazy busy January through March, slowed way down in April. Now starting busy again in May. Note: it is wildfire season so be careful.

Cooley made a motion to accept all reports as presented. Support by Purchase. All ayes, no nays. Motion carried.

Rebecca Hubers made a presentation on Emergency Response and debris management and said that Homestead Twp should be pro-active and find a piece of land where green debris could be taken in case of a storm. Michigan has seen storms this year that townships are now trying to clean up. The Board will discuss this at a slow business meeting.

FINANCE: PAYABLES: The regular monthly bills have been paid on time. Additional payables to be added are: GFL \$129, Spectrum \$297.97, Derrick Dilas \$275, MTA \$200, Papineau \$1320.

Holbrook made a motion to pay all payables including additions, supported by Purchase. Roll call: Mead – yes, Cooley – yes, Purchase – yes, Holbrook – yes. All ayes, no nays. Motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Cooley stated that she will need to move \$1320 to increase the cemetery budget. This is only a line adjustment, no money movement. Tia made this motion, supported by Purchase. Roll call: Cooley – yes, Purchase – yes, Mead – yes, Holbrook – yes. All ayes, no nays. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

LETTER OF INTEREST: Received a letter of interest to fill the Planning Commission and Board of Review openings from Dorene Strang. Cooley made a motion to accept the application and appoint Dorene Strang to both boards, supported by Purchase. All Ayes, no Nays. Motion carried. Welcomed Dorene with a large packet of information for the next Planning meeting.

RAGNAR RACE: Letter presented to the Board. We give them permission to pass through our Township Sept. 19th – 20th.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT: After some discussion, the board asked Cooley to sign the opt-out agreement which is just a formality for the county.

ADS: Mower ad: agreed as written

Building Maintenance: Change the first line to state: A Board member representative will assess repairs and maintenance issues and prepare a request for the maintenance person.

The last paragraph should state: This is a contract position.

Cooley made a motion to put these ads in the paper with those changes, supported by Purchase. All Ayes, no Nays. Motion carried.

3% LATE PENALTY: Holbrook made a motion that a Resolution from 11/7/2007 to impose the 3% late penalty be Revoked/Rescinded with Resolution 05-14-25-01. This 3% tax is placed only on late Sumner tax (after Feb. 14) and those fees are to be sent to the State. This is not a tax that must be imposed on our people, therefore, is not necessary. Supported by Mead. Roll call: Mead – yes, Cooley – yes, Purchase – yes, Holbrook – yes. All ayes, no nays. Motion carried.

PRINTER & SHREDDER QUOTES: Have several printers to look at, unsure on shredder. After discussion it was asked of Tim to find us the best deals in our allotted budget. Printer must be a color copier. Purchase made a motion to set the budget between \$1500 - \$2000 for both, supported by Mead. Roll call: Purchase – yes, Cooley – yes, Mead – yes, Holbrook – yes. All ayes, no nays. Motion carried.

DROP BOX POLICY: Holbrook stated that there must be a Treasurer's drop box policy for tax collection regarding the last day of tax collection that can be made at the Township. This date

will be February 28 (unless a leap year) at 5:00 p.m. At that time, the box will be locked and all payments must be taken to the County Treasurer. This notice will be on our website and will be in the Township letter that is sent with the tax bills. This policy was put as a motion by Holbrook, supported by Mead. All Ayes, no Nays. Motion carried..

OLD BUSINESS:

UP AHEAD PROPOSAL: Board discussion, no action.

EARNED SICK TIME: Tabled

CEMETERY ORDINANCE: Due to the shared duty of the cemeteries by the Clerk, Treasurer and Deputies wording has been changed to Township Officer. Under Purchase Price, Section 4 A: The price of resident plots will be \$100. Non-resident plots were discussed and tabled until further discussion. Under Interment Regulations, Section 7 A: Only two cremated remains per burial site is allowed. Under Ground Maintenance, Section 8 F: All flower arrangements will be removed by September 30th by family or the township will remove. Under Repurchase of Lots Section 10: Township must see proof of purchase. Under Records, Section 11: a death certificate and declaration of veterans status must be furnished to the Township for each interment. These are the changes that have been made at this time. Cooley made the motion to amend Ordinance 3-2007 with the above changes as of May 14, 2025. Support by Purchase. Roll call: Cooley – yes, Purchase – yes, Mead – yes, Holbrook – yes. All ayes, no nays. Motion carried.

PARK AND GROUND MAINTENANCE : Add to Heading: HOMESTEAD RECREATION PARK/PLATTE RIVER PARK AND CEMETERIES Also add this in #3. Take out the line that says Present regular reports to the Township Board. Cooley made a motion to accept the agreement with the above changes and sign, support by Holbrook. All ayes, no nays. Motion carried.

CEMETERY SURVEY – PAPINEAU: This was approved with the payables. Holbrook let the Board know what this charge is for and that Pontom is now ready to finish the final programming work.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: Cooley moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 pm. Supported by Mead. All ayes, no nays. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the draft minutes of the May 14, 2025, Homestead Township Board meeting. Signed herein by the Homestead Township Acting Recording Secretary, Beverly Holbrook on this the 19th day of May, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted:

_____, Beverly Holbrook, Recording Secretary

Adopted on June 11, 2025 as the final minutes of the May regular meeting of the Homestead Township Board.

Respectfully submitted:

Kit Wilson, Clerk