TOWNSHIP OF THORNAPPLE

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

REGULAR MEETING

May 11, 2026, 7:00 PM

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

1. INVOCATION

The meeting began with a moment of silence for Trustee Curt Campbell.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Roll Call: Present 6 Absent 0	Schaefer Bouchard DeMaagd	Present Present Present	Stanton Rairigh Medenblik	Present Present Present

OTHERS PRESENT:
Commissioners Catherine Getty and Jon Smelker, Chief Bill Richardson, Steve Baldry from the Village of Middleville.
Other Guests: 5

4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:

Motion Stated:	**Motion by Bouchard to approve the printed agenda as presented.**
Motion Supported:	Stanton
Motion Status	**Approved** by voice vote. 6 ayes and 0 nays. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion Stated:	**Motion by Rairigh to approve the Consent Agenda as amended to include the last page of the Draft Minutes of the April 13, 2026 meeting.**
Motion Supported:	Bouchard
Motion Status	**Approved** by roll call vote. 6 ayes and 0 nays. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Roll Call:	Stanton DeMaagd	Yes Yes	Rairigh Schaefer	Yes Yes	Bouchard Medenblik	Yes Yes

6. APRIL CLERK'S REPORT: The AP Invoice Approval will be sent to the Board members.

7. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT: (Please limit comments to 3 minutes)

- None

8. CORRESPONDENCE: None

9. COUNTY REPORT:

Commissioner Getty acknowledged Trustee Campbell. She worked with him for many years and stated that he was always thoughtful and fair and open to looking at things.

Commissioners Getty and Smelker reported the following activity:

- Approved MDOT permits for the relocated drive for the COA Building Project.
- Approved 2026 Barry County Equalization Values (report on the website).
- Approved several policies within the County Administration (ex. travel policies, etc).
- Remonumentation and re-appointment of surveyors.
- Contracted for another Household Hazardous Waste Dropoff at the 84th Street location in Byron Center. They are working out the specifics.
- Approved an expenditure for repair of lake level on Crystal Lake.
- Our 911 Director is stepping down from Barry County Central Dispatch and Deputy Director, Katlin Hall, will serve as Interim Director.

Mr. Schaefer thanked the Commissioners for their report.

10. RESERVED TIME: Steve Baldry, Village of Middleville

1. **Steve Baldry, Village of Middleville**
   Steve acknowledged Trustee Curt Campbell and his service to the community.
   The Village has contracted services with SME, an environmental consulting team, to study Brownfield Redevelopment opportunities and Tax Incentive Financing (TIF) for a proposed new development behind the high school. On June 9 the Village Board will meet with SME. The Thornapple Township Board is invited to attend this meeting at 5:30 pm. The public is also invited to this meeting.

11. Emergency Services Report:

a. Chief's Run Report Summary:

- Last month was slower. There were 3 paid-on-call responses, out-the-door time was 43 seconds (goal is 40 seconds).
- Response time in the township and village was 7 min. 18 seconds; outside of the township was 10 min. 44 seconds.
- 1 structure fire in the last month, they had water on the fire within one minute of arrival, the crews did an amazing job. 7 motor vehicle accidents.
- Update on the HVAC - Matrix gave rough numbers for secondary backup heating through heat pumps, and the material cost was over $200,000. That is too much for the budget. They will stay with the current system set up. The final numbers may be ready for a vote by the next meeting, but realistically by July. The grant program for heating and cooling will not be pursued because of charged interest.
- ISO rating for fire departments. Evaluation for the ISO (Insurance Standard Organization) rating is in progress and the Chief anticipates finishing the evaluation by fall. This ISO rating is used by insurance companies to set rates for commercial properties and some homes. Chief Richardson has worked on improving training, personnel, and equipment to reduce (improve) our score.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

13. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Agenda Request: Office Closing
Background: Requesting approval to temporarily close the township hall office at Noon on May 19, 2026, to allow staff to attend the memorial service for Curtis Campbell, Thornapple Township Trustee. This closure will ensure respectful observance and support for those affected.

Motion Stated:	**Motion by Schaefer to approve this township office closure at noon on May 19, 2026, to allow staff to attend the Celebration of Life for Curt Campbell.**
Motion Supported:	Rairigh
Motion Status	**Approved** by roll call vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Roll Call:	DeMaagd Medenblik	Yes Yes	Rairigh Schaefer	Yes Yes	Stanton Bouchard	Yes Yes

B. Hiring Policy

Motion Stated:	**Motion by Rairigh to approve this change to the Hiring Policy to allow the appropriate committee to review candidates for non-elected positions and offer the position to whomever they believe is the best candidate and set wages within budgeted amounts.**
Motion Supported:	Schaefer
Motion Status	**Approved** by voice vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. **MOTION CARRIED.**

C. TTES Request: New POC firefighter and part-time EMT-firefighter
This request is withdrawn in lieu of the previous decision in B. Hiring Policy.

D. Parking Lot Replacement.
Background: The TTES parking lots have met their life expectancy. Both parking lots (upper and lower) need to be completely replaced.

Motion Stated:	**Motion by Schaefer to approve the parking lot replacement not to exceed $66,000.**
Motion Supported:	Stanton
Motion Status	**Approved** by roll call vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Roll Call:	Rairigh Bouchard	Yes Yes	DeMaagd Medenblik	Yes Yes	Schaefer Stanton	Yes Yes

14. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Administration (Schaefer, Bouchard, Medenblik)
- The office is in need of an office administrator and will start interviewing shortly.

B. Cemetery (Medenblik, DeMaagd, Rairigh)
- Most of the flags are up. The high school kids came to volunteer and did an excellent job. The clean up is done.

C. Middleville DDA Report (Schaefer)
- The Brian Appel Memorial Bike Rodeo event is May 16, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. Bikes, helmets, and water bottles will be given away. The Rotary Club will sell hotdogs and sodas.
- Heritage Day is July 11, 2026.

D. Elections (Medenblik, Bouchard, Schaefer)
- Preparing for the August Primary election.

E. Emergency Services (DeMaagd, Schaefer, Rairigh)
- No report.

F. Finance (Bouchard, Medenblik, Rairigh)
- No report.

G. Parks and Recreation Representative (Schaefer)
- Catherine Getty reports that the committee met on April 15 and reviewed what the priorities are for park planning projects for the upcoming year. New attention will be given to the Sheridan Park Plan. A second area of interest is in improving access to the river in front of the fire barn. A third area is a new project that includes looking at Spring Park and what improvements could be made.

H. Personnel and Compensation (Medenblik, Schaefer)
- No report.

I. Property and Public Utilities (Stanton, DeMaagd)
- Nothing more than what the chief shared.

J. Roads and Highways (DeMaagd, Stanton)
- We went on a road tour with the Barry County Road Commission and they shared some of their upcoming plans. There was a little flooding.

K. Duncan Lake Sewer (Stanton, Schaefer)
- Important spots will be marked with GIS. Treatment and discharge being done.

15. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

None.

16. POLL OF MEMBERS:

David Stanton (Trustee) - Thoughts and prayers for Curt Campbell's family.
Sandy Rairigh (Trustee) - We will miss Curt Campbell.
Ross DeMaagd (Trustee) - Raised a question about Memorial Day activities and whether we can plan a fly over. Karen Nicholson (or Rich Jenkins) would be the person to check with.
Laura Bouchard (Treasurer) - Curt will be missed on the Board. We have 30 days remaining to find a replacement, so if anyone knows of a person who would be interested, call the office. It is also posted in several places.
Kathy Medenblik (Clerk) - Curt Campbell will be missed.
Eric Schaefer (Supervisor) - Curt's Celebration of Life is May 19, from 1-4 pm. He will be missed on the Board.

17. ADJOURNMENT: TIME: 7:54 P.M.

Motion Stated:	**Motion by Bouchard to adjourn at 7:54 P.M.**

Motion Supported:	Schaefer
Motion Status	**Approved** by voice vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Signed Township Clerk

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Dykgraaf, Recording Secretary