

AGENDA
HAYES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 13, 2026 7:00pm

Hayes Township Hall

9195 Major Douglas Sloan Road

Charlevoix, Michigan 49720

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88001640434?pwd=QkdkY3AzN1dmKzZpajZQNEkwMkZ5dz09>

Meeting ID: 880 0164 0434

Passcode: 251468

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
4. Review and Approval of Agenda
5. Public Comment
6. Approval of Meeting Minutes: March 9, 2026 BOT Regular Meeting
7. Treasurers Report
8. Clerks Report: Approval of Warrants
9. Reports: County Commissioner, Zoning Administrator, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Parks and Recreation, Trustee's, and Supervisor Reports.

NEW BUSINESS

10. Hayes Township Principles of Governance (MTA)
11. Planning Commission Re-Appointment Carey Cuddeback (3 year term expiring 11.15.2028)
12. Update on Zoning Ordinance Draft
13. Firework Ordinance
14. Hayes Township Park/Camp Seagull Pump House Proposals
15. Hayes Township Policies/Procedures assignments

OLD BUSINESS

16. 2026 Hayes Township Road Projects- Bids expected for May meeting
17. Public Comment
18. Board of Trustee Comment

ADJOURN MEETING

Public Comment at Meetings of the Hayes Township Board of Trustees

The Hayes Township Board of Trustees values public input and offers two opportunities for the public to comment at its meetings, once near the beginning and once near the end. This affords the Board of Trustees the opportunity to hear your views and remarks. If you speak, you should not expect to engage the Board of Trustee members or any staff in discussion or debate.

Board of Trustee members will not respond to comments made during the Public Comment unless it becomes necessary to ask a clarifying questions, correct a factual error, or to provide specific factual information.

Questions about Township matters are best directed to individual Board members or Township staff (Planner, Zoning Administrator, or Assessor) between meetings. Contact information is available on the township website at: hayestownshipmi.gov.

The availability of public comment is recognized by the Michigan Open Meetings Act. The Act provides that rules may be adopted for orderly comment from the public. To that end, the following rules have been established by the Board of Trustees:

1. A person wishing to speak will indicate on the sign in sheet that they would like to be called on at Public Comment. All persons in attendance in person will be called on first. Zoom attendees can indicate they would like to speak by raising their hand icon.
2. The person will begin by stating their name, spelling it out if requested.
3. The person addresses the Chairperson, or other person chairing the meeting, on behalf of the entire Board of Trustees. Public comment is NOT to be addressed to individual Board of Trustee members, to any township staff present, or to other members of the audience.
4. There is a three (3) minute time allotment for each speaker. The time limit may be extended by the Chairperson or majority of the Board of Trustee members present. A speaker may speak only once at each Public Comment. There is no provision for another audience member to 'donate' their three (3) minutes to another speaker.
5. A speaker will be out of order if the speaker disrupts the meeting, speaks longer than the allotted time, uses vulgarities or makes a personal attack on a Board of Trustee member or Township employee that is unrelated to the performance of that person's duties.
6. If a speaker is called out of order, that speaker will not be able to speak again at the same meeting except by special leave of the Board of Trustees
7. The Chairperson, or other person chairing the meeting, will have the discretion to permit members to speak at times other than the times reserved for Public Comment.

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
March 9th 2026 7:00 PM
HAYES TOWNSHIP HALL
09195 MAJOR DOUGLAS SLOAN RD
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The March 9th, 2026, meeting of the Hayes Township Board was called to order by Supervisor William Conklin at 7:00 pm.
Board members present were Matt Cunningham (Trustee), Julie Collard (Treasurer), William Conklin (Supervisor), and Kristin Baranski (Clerk)
Excused: Doug Kuebler (Trustee)
Audience Members signed in: Roy Griffiths, Diane Conklin, Diane McMahon, Jim McMahon, Darcy Phelps, Catherine Phelps, Katherine Simon, David Zipp, LuAnne Kozma, Ellis Boal, Jim Rudolph, Rex Greenslade, David Kemme, Betty Henne, Carol Umlor, Sherry Baker – McCary, Donald Gregory, Barb Wilson, Mel Czechowski, Shelly VanWart, Ruth Augustine, Sheri McWhirter (MI Live), CT Martin, Laura Ford, Tim Boyko, Debbie Luhrs, and Ford Luhrs.

CALL TO ORDER Supervisor William Conklin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: NONE.

REVIEWED & APPROVED AGENDA

Add item #16 ZBA Recording Secretary for Appeal Cases Scheduled for March 18th 2026

Add Item #17 Township Attorney Possible Conflict with ZBA

Mr. Cunningham made a motion, supported by Ms. Baranski to approve the agenda as amended.

Yays: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, Kristin Baranski, and William Conklin.

Nays: None Motion Carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Public comment opened at 7:03 pm.

- Drainage issues in Michigan Shores, concern for using chip and seal on the roads at Nine Mile Point, Township Attorney potential conflict of interest with ZBA Cases Scheduled for March 18th 2026, Township Attorney cost in recent lawsuit regarding ZBA Appeal Cases, Proposed Resolution to amend the previous resolution for the Data Center Moratorium, Holtec International, Data Center Work Group Planning Commission Representative potential Conflict of Interest, and 2026 Hayes Township Road Projects.

Closed at 7:23 pm

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APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 9TH 2026 BOT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. Cunningham made a motion, supported by Ms. Collard to approve the February 9th, 2026, Board of Trustees regular meeting minutes as corrected.

Yeas: Julie Collard, William Conklin, Matt Cunningham, and Kristin Baranski

Nays: None **Motion Carried**

TREASURERS REPORT

Ms. Collard presented a written report reporting all Hayes Township account balances.

CLERKS REPORT: APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Ms. Baranski made a motion, supported by Mr. Cunningham to amend the 25/26 budget as discussed. Budget Amendments report attached. A roll call was taken.

Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.

Nays: None **Motion Carried**

Clerk, Kristin Baranski, presented the warrants in the amount of \$37,224.75

Ms. Baranski made a motion, supported by Ms. Collard to approve Township warrants out of the General Fund in the amount of \$37,224.75. A roll call was taken.

Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.

Nays: None **Motion Carried**

Ms. Baranski made a motion, supported by Ms. Collard to approve the installment payment for the EMS building loan in the amount of \$10,248.13. The total installment payment will be offset 100% by the LCEMSA monthly lease payment. A roll call was taken.

Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.

Nays: None **Motion Carried**

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT

Bob Jess was not present.

PARKS AND REC. REPORT Ms. Collard presented the Parks and Rec. report.

The next regular Parks and Rec meeting is scheduled for April 6th, 2026 at 4:00pm at Hayes Township Hall.

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PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr. Cunningham presented the Planning Commission Report. The next regular Planning Commission meeting is March 17th, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

ZBA will hold a public hearing meeting at 6pm on March 18th, 2026 to hear a public hearing date to hear two appeal cases.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

April Hilton presented a Zoning Administrator report.

SUPERVISOR REPORT:

William Conklin presented a supervisor report.

Mr. Conklin made a motion, supported by Ms. Baranski to allow the Short Term Rental Work group up to seven members.

Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.

Nays: None **Motion Carried**

NEW BUSINESS

COUNTY EQUALIZATION RESOLUTION 03092026A:

**RESOLUTION TO SHARE ASSESSING AND TAX INFORMATION WITH THE
COUNTY TO BE USED IN NEW PROPERTY INFORMATION AND PARCEL MAP
WEBSITE**

WHEREAS, On October 8, 2025, the Charlevoix County Board of Commissions accepted an agreement submitted by Pivot Point Partners, LLC, to create a parcel information

and mapping website (the "database") for the County, in an effort for the County to provide additional transparency and access to public information; and,

WHEREAS, the database will include an online GIS property viewer, and provide public access to information concerning a property including, but not limited to, the property's real estate information, sales history, property taxes, and include a GIS property viewer; and,

WHEREAS, the County desires for the software to be as comprehensive as possible to

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provide the public the most complete and up-to-date records possible; and,
WHEREAS, the County has requested that the . Township, through the Township
Assessor and Township Treasurer, share relevant assessing and tax information to be
compiled

into the database; and,

WHEREAS, the Township recognizes that in order for the County's software to have
accurate information concerning Township properties the County requires property
assessment

and tax information from the Township; and,

WHEREAS, the Township finds it in the best interest of its residents to share assessing
and tax information with the County for use in the database.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

- The Township hereby directs the Township Assessor and Township
Treasurer to work with the Charlevoix County Equalization Department and
Charlevoix County Treasurer Department to provide assessment and tax
information for properties m
Township.

- All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with this
Resolution are hereby repealed.

- The Township shall, to the fullest extent permitted by law, fully
indemnify and hold the County, and its officials, officers, boards, committees,
commissions, agents and employees harmless from and against any and all
expenses, losses, claims, demands, lawsuits, actions, liability and judgments
for damages arising out or related to data sharing permitted by this
Resolution.

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Motion was made by Ms. Baranski, seconded by Mr. Conklin,

to adopt the foregoing Resolution.

Upon roll call vote the following voted "aye": Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard,
William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.

Upon roll call vote the following voted "nay":

The Supervisor declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted.

**RESOLUTION 03092026B TO AMEND RESOLUTION 20920226A (EXTEND DATA CENTER
MORATORIUM TO 12 MONTHS:**

**RESOLUTION 03092026B, TO AMEND RESOLUTION 2092026A, IMPOSING A TEMPORARY
MORATORIUM ON APPROVAL OF DATA CENTERS**

WHEREAS, on February 9, 2026, the Hayes Township Board of Trustees
approved Resolution 2092026A, titled "RESOLUTION 2092026A, TO IMPOSE A
TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON APPROVAL OF DATE CENTERS"; and

WHEREAS, said Resolution imposed a 180-day moratorium on the acceptance
of any application or consideration or approval by the Township Board,
Planning Commission, or other Township entity, official, or agent, for data
centers under the Zoning Ordinance or any other applicable section of the
Hayes Township ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board of Trustees has determined that the Township
will likely need more that 180 days to consider appropriate changes to the
ordinances of the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board of Trustees would like to change the tittle of
the resolution to make it clear that the resolution pertains to more than just
the approval of any applications; and

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WHEREAS, to date, there has been and is no application for a data center in Hayes Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board of Trustees would like to add a provision allowing a property owner to present to the Township Board of Trustees an argument that the moratorium has deprived their property of all viable economic use and seek relief from the moratorium,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

- The title of Resolution 2092026A shall be amended to "RESOLUTION 2092026A, TO IMPOSE A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE ACCEPTANCE AND/OR CONSIDERATION OF ANY APPLICATION FOR DATA CENTERS".

- Paragraph 1 of the resolution shall be amended to read:

For a period commencing on the date of this resolution and terminating three hundred sixty (360) days from the date of this resolution, and except as otherwise provided herein, and unless terminated earlier by subsequent Ordinance or Resolution, there shall be no consideration or action taken by the Township Board, Planning Commission, or other Township entity, official, or agent, on applications for data centers under the Zoning Ordinance or any other applicable section of the Hayes Township ordinances. •

- The following provision shall be added as Paragraph 5 to the Resolution:

During the effective period of the moratorium, a property owner shall entitled to a hearing for the purpose of attempting to demonstrate to the Township Board that the temporary moratorium established by this Resolution will result in the preclusion of any viable economic use of their property or otherwise violates applicable provisions of state or federal law. The hearing shall be conducted on an expedited basis before the Township Board. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Township

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Board shall make findings and Conclusions with respect to whether the owner has demonstrated that all viable economic use of the property has been precluded by the temporary moratorium adopted in this Resolution, and whether this Resolution is unconstitutional on its face or as applied to the petitioner's case. If it is found and demonstrated that the moratorium has the effect of precluding all viable economic use of the property, or that it violates state or federal law, the Township Board shall grant relief from the moratorium to the degree necessary to cure the contravention.

- All other provisions of Resolution 2092026A remain unchanged.

Motion was made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Ms. Baranski,

to adopt the foregoing Resolution.

Upon roll call vote the following voted "aye": Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.

Upon roll call vote the following voted "nay": NONE

The Supervisor declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted.

LCEMS AMENDED BY-LAWS:

Mr. Conklin made a motion, supported by Ms. Collard to adopt the amended LCEMS By-Laws as well as allow Norwood Township to join as an Incorporated Member of the Authority. A roll call was taken.

Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.

Nays: None Motion Carried

SET HAYES TOWNSHIP ELECTION COMMISSION MEETING (APRIL 8TH 2026 AT 9:30AM)
AND PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST (APRIL 8TH 2026 AT 10:30AM) FOR MAY 5TH 2026 SPECIAL
ELECTION:

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212 Ms. Baranski made a motion, supported by Ms. Collard to set the Election Commission
213 Meeting for April 8th 2026 at 9:30 am followed by the Public Accuracy test at 10:30 am.
214 Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.
215 Nays: None Motion Carried
216

217 **2026 SPRING CLEAN UP:**

218 Ms. Baranski made a motion, supported by Mr. Conklin to accept the bid from GFL in the
219 amount of \$44950.00 for the 2026 Curd Side Spring Clean Up which will take place on June
220 27th 2026 at 6am. A roll call was taken.
221 Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.
222 Nays: None Motion Carried
223

224 **HAYES TOWNSHIP HALL RENTAL REFUND REQUEST:**

225 Ms. Baranski made a motion, supported by Mr. Cunningham to allow Hayes Township
226 hosted events and Resident Funeral services free of the \$100 hall rental charge. Any other
227 events not hosted by the Township will be charged the \$100 Hall Rental Fee.
228 Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.
229 Nays: None Motion Carried
230

231 With the previous motion the Board of Trustee denies the Hayes Township Hall Rental
232 Refund Request from Jim Rudolph for \$100 rental fee.
233

234 **ZBA RECORDING SECRETARY FOR APPEAL CASES SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 18th 2026:**

235 Mr. Cunningham made a motion, supported by Ms. Collard to hire Jennifer Eads as the ZBA
236 Recording Secretary for the two Appeal Cases Scheduled for March 18th 2026.
237 Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.
238 Nays: None Motion Carried
239

240 **TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY POSSIBLE CONFLICT WITH ZBA:**

241 Mr. Conklin made a motion, supported by Ms. Baranski based on rule 1.7a and 1.7b of the
242 Attorney rules and conducts procedures there is not a conflict of interest for Todd Millar the
243 Township Attorney for the two Appeal Cases Scheduled for March 18th 2026.
244 Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.

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245 Nays: None **Motion Carried**

246

247 **OLD BUSINESS**

248 **2026 HAYES TOWNSHIP ROAD PROJECTS:**

249 Ms. Baranski made a motion, supported by Ms. Collard to table this agenda item until the
250 April 13th 2026 Board of Trustees meeting when Trustee Doug Kuebler is present.

251 Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.

252 Nays: None **Motion Carried**

253

254 **ROBERTS RULES AND PROCEDURE:**

255 Mr. Conklin made a motion, supported by Mr. Cunningham to table this agenda item.

256 Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.

257 Nays: None **Motion Carried**

258

259 **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Public comments opened at 9:22 pm.

260 Comments included:

- 261 - Concerns using Chip and Seal for roads, Avoiding Conflicts of Interest, Appeal Cases
262 scheduled for March 18th 2026, Training to the ZBA from Todd Millar in January 2026,
263 Work Group for Data Center ordinance, Roberts rules of Order as a guide, and Drain
264 problems on Nine Mile Point.

265 Public comments closed at 9:34 pm.

266

267 **BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMENT:**

268 Reminder Board of Review will be meeting Tuesday March 10th 3pm to 9 pm and Wednesday
269 March 11th 9am to 3pm.

270

271 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Cunningham made a motion, supported by Mr. Conklin, to adjourn at
272 9:24 p.m.

273 Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, and Kristin Baranski.

274 Nays: None **Motion Carried**

275

276 Respectfully Submitted,

277 April Hilton Hayes Township Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary

April 2026 Treasurer Report

(As of April 8, 2026)

Charlevoix State Bank

1. General Fund-\$840,239.33

(\$630,239.33 available, \$210,000 Recommended Reserve)

2. Tax Account-\$30,319.78 *(restricted Treasury Funds)*

3. Township Warrant Checking-\$27,777.90

Horizon

4. Hayes Township Road Fund-\$265,424.12 *(restricted funds)*



Zoning Administrator Report

April 2026

Zoning Administrator work in progress report for the month of March includes the following:

- Variance application for 6995 Birdland Drive approved at ZBA meeting on July 23rd 2025 at 7:00 pm. Applicant will submit Site Plan for the Shoreland Protection strip from the Stream and Lake Charlevoix after the first of the year.
- ZBA will be held a public hearing on March 18th 2026 at 7pm to hear appeal cases 022526A and 022526B for property ID 15-007-112-030-10. Applicant withdrew application for case #022526B contingent on BOT granting a full refund of application fee.
- Communicating with landowner regarding violation for a non permitted patio on Oyster Bay Drive. Sent Zoning permit application and section 3.14 of the Hayes Township Zoning Ordinance to landowner.
- Received Variance request application for 7125 Nine Mile Point Dr. Zoning Board of Appeals approved variance request on November 19th 2025. Shoreline restoration plan was approved by Planning Commission on November 18th 2025. Waiting for Zoning Application from applicant.
- Variance request application for 7720 Indian Trails Dr, ZBA approved Variance request at the October 8th 2025 meeting. Received and reviewing Zoning Application from applicant.
- Zoning permit application for a Demo and rebuild of existing home on Quarterline road. Shoreline Review Committee conducted inspection and advised applicant to work with Tip of the Mitt to create shoreland restoration plan. Shoreline plan from applicant will be submitted after the new year.
- Inspected and trying to contact landowner, last communication with landowner stated he was not well on Villa Road for Violation of Nuisance Ordinance and a non-compliance complaint. Reached out to the VA and Tribe for additional support.
- Application for a new single family dwelling unit on Murray Road. Waiting for additional information from landowner.



- Spoke with Holtec Representative, sign permitted to Holtec on 4/23/2025 was placed incorrectly, they are contacting MDOT for a survey showing the width of the ROW for that part of US31. Sign will be move when weather permits.
- Met with Landowner regarding complaint of a Shoreline violation on Peaceful Valley Road, they will be submitting a Shoreline Restoration plan.
- Spoke with representative from Sign Unlimited regarding sign ordinance regulations for Charlevoix Pool.
- Sent letters out to all waterfront property owners who received a Zoning Permit contingent on Shoreline Restoration plan last year requesting update on improvements.
- Received and reviewing zoning application for an accessory building on 8240 Susan Shores Dr.
- Sent out violation notices regarding the signs located within the setback on US 31.
- Received and reviewing Zoning permit application for a new single family residence on Deer path Drive. Stop Work Order has been issued on this project, until shoreline protection strip is restored. Property has also been cited for wetland violation.

1. FEMA has reimbursed Hayes Township for \$16,500.00 of our out-of-pocket cost of \$21,500.00 (75% reimbursement) for the ice storm clean-up (April-July 2025). The Charlevoix County Community Foundation issued Hayes Township a grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 towards the total costs (\$31,500.00) of the ice storm clean-up. Thank you to C3F and to all who graciously donated their time to help others.
2. The Short-Term Rental Advisory Committee held its first meeting on April 6, 2026 at the Township Hall. The next meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2026 at 6:30pm. Residents are welcome to attend or may send me an email outlining your thoughts. The STR Committee members are: **CT Martin, Dave Kemme, Mandie McKay, Matt Berg, Jim McMahon, John Haan** and myself. Thank you for being willing to donate your time for the Township's benefit.
3. The Data Center Work Group has been formed to investigate, review, study and consider recommending a Data Center Ordinance or not. The members will study whether certain provisions in a proposed Ordinance will be able to protect the environment and our residents; and whether other conditions will minimize any negative impact on our electrical power grid and our natural resources. The Work Group members are: **Roy Griffiths, Julie Collard, Joe McHugh, Mary Jo Smith** and **Brandon Vigliarolo**. Alternate: **Henry Zielinski**. Thank you for donating your time and effort for this undertaking.
4. **Spring Cleanup** (household items, mattresses, appliances, old swing sets and swimming pools, etc) will take place on **June 20, 2026**. The Board decided that door-to-door pick-up (no more than 2 cubic yards which is the size of the bed of a pickup truck) by GFL trucks will commence at 7:00am.
5. The Planning Commission has been working diligently on a new draft of our Zoning Ordinance for almost a year. We are anticipating that there will be Town Hall meetings in June and July for public discussions.
6. The Hayes Township Zoning Board of Appeals decided on March 18, 2026 that the Zoning Permit for a storage building at the corner of Pincherry and Townline Road was issued consistent with and according to the provisions of the Hayes Township Zoning Ordinance.
7. The work to widen the "foot-trail" to 6 feet with woodchips will be completed by mid-May at the south-end of Maple Grove Road.

Let's be aware and respectful of our neighbors' legal right to enjoy peace and quiet while at home or in their home. Unreasonable interference of another's peace and quiet, by anyone, opens the door for the necessity of government involvement in our individual liberties.

Hayes Township

Principles of Governance

To maintain the highest standards and traditions of Michigan townships, we embrace these principles to guide our stewardship, deliberations and constituent services as we commit to safeguard our community's health, safety and general welfare.

We pledge to:

- Insist on the highest standards of ethical conduct by all who act on behalf of this township
- Bring credit, honor and dignity to our public offices through collegial board deliberations and diligent, appropriate responses to constituent concerns
- Actively pursue education and knowledge, and embrace best practices
- Treat all persons with dignity, respect and impartiality, without prejudice or discrimination
- Practice openness and transparency in our decisions and actions
- Cooperate in all reasonable ways with other governmental entities and consider the impact our decisions may have outside our township's borders
- Communicate to the public township issues, challenges and successes, and welcome the active involvement of stakeholders to further the township's well-being
- Strive for compliance with all state and federal statutory requirements
- Refuse to participate in any decisions or activities for personal gain, at the expense of the best interests of the township
- Further the understanding of the obligations and responsibilities of American citizenship, democratic government and freedom

These principles we pledge to our township, our state and our country.

William Conklin, Supervisor

Julie Collard, Treasurer

Kristin Baranski, Clerk

Doug Kuebler, Trustee

Matt Cunningham, Trustee

Date





Dear Township Board:

The Michigan Townships Association is again encouraging every township board to deliberate on and adopt the enclosed Principles of Governance. MTA members throughout the state have enthusiastically embraced these Principles as their own code of conduct, and the MTA Board of Directors urges you to reaffirm, or adopt for the first time, these Principles of Governance as an official policy of your township board.

Our objective in promulgating Principles of Governance for our members is straightforward: Township boards can be much more efficient and effective when there is a high degree of trust among board members, and between the board and those whom they are elected to serve. Township boards earn trust by demonstrating their commitment to effectively solving problems and conducting their business in a manner consistent with their community's expectations and values—and then faithfully delivering on those commitments.

The MTA Board affirms in our mission and values statements that township government embodies efficient, effective, economical, ethical and accountable local government in Michigan. The Principles of Governance embody these core values, and can guide board members toward consistent actions and deeds that reflect well on the township and on themselves. The MTA Board strongly believes that a township board that publicly adopts and adheres to these Principles will enjoy strong public support and be better positioned to achieve great things on behalf of its residents.

As a key part of our collective commitment to fostering efficient and effective township government that has earned the public's trust, the MTA Board invites your board to affirm and practice the enclosed Principles of Governance through formal ratification at a board meeting. By signing this certificate, board members denote their personal pledges to adhere to the Principles. Following board action, we encourage you to frame and proudly post the document in a prominent place for all to see.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kevin Beeson", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Kevin Beeson
2025 MTA President

ADDRESSING RUMORS REGARDING DATA CENTER

The Hayes Township Board of Trustees and the Hayes Township Planning Commission are aware that claims have been circulating on social media that a data center proposal will be considered by Hayes Township. We also have heard concerns that Hayes Township is adopting ordinance language to allow or facilitate data centers. Please note the following facts:

1. No application for a data center land use has been received by nor has there been any discussion concerning a plan for a data center involving any Hayes Township personnel.
2. As of this date, no site plan, proposal, or inquiry regarding a possible data center has been discussed or received by any Hayes Township personnel.
3. Over the next 9 months, our Data Center Work Group will undertake its thorough investigation, review, study and research regarding possible provisions and conditions to be contained within a Data Center Ordinance.
 - Currently the Hayes Township Zoning Ordinance does not include provisions to regulate data centers.
 - State law prohibits exclusionary zoning – meaning the Township cannot use the Zoning Ordinance to exclude a certain type of land use. Therefore, it is not possible to simply reject any data center proposal or adopt an ordinance that would ban data centers entirely.
 - Hayes Township is not reacting to any request for a data center; rather, we are working responsibly to get ahead of any request:
 - a. We passed a resolution for a one-year moratorium in March;
 - b. We formed a Data Center Work Group before receiving any application/request for a land use, involving a data center;
 - c. Our Data Center Work Group will be investigating strategies, reviewing case law, researching legal analyses and other ordinances to determine how to appropriately regulate the possible uses within the confines of legal precedent and how to protect the environment and our natural resources, while safeguarding the health, safety, and welfare of the township residents.

William M. Conklin

William M. Conklin, Supervisor
Hayes Township
Charlevoix County
April 13, 2026



April Hilton <deputyclerkhayes@gmail.com>

Fwd: To BOT concerning ZBA hearing

1 message

clerk hayestownshipmi <clerkhayestownshipmi@gmail.com>
To: "deputyclerkhayes@gmail.com" <deputyclerkhayes@gmail.com>

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 11:35 AM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Carol Umlor <umlorcarol4@gmail.com>
Date: April 9, 2026 at 11:07:51 AM EDT
To: Baranski Kristin <clerk@hayestownshipmi.gov>
Subject: To BOT concerning ZBA hearing

I was quite disappointed with the treatment our representative received from the ZBA board. I was under the impression that they are supposed to act as judges of any issues brought in front of them.

A person giving a presentation should be allowed to at least finish a sentence without interruption. I believe ZBA is only supposed to ask questions to clarify an issue. Instead a personal attack was made on our representative. She lives miles away, in a totally different situation.

Guess what I'm trying to say is it was unprofessional. It felt like we were in front of a hostile group. All Hayes residents deserve equal treatment regardless of the size of our bank accounts. That's not happening anymore.