

HAYES TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING
July 27th 2026 7:00 PM
HAYES TOWNSHIP HALL
09195 MAJOR DOUGLAS SLOAN RD
CHARLEVOIX, MICHIGAN 49720

The July 27th, 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), William Conklin (Supervisor), Kristin Baranski (Clerk), Doug Kuebler (Trustee), and Julie Collard (Treasurer)

Audience Members signed in: Roy Griffitts.

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

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: NONE.

REVIEWED & APPROVED AGENDA

Ms. Collard made a motion, supported by Ms. Baranski, to approve the agenda as presented.

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

Nays: None Motion Carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Public comment opened at 7:01 pm. No Comments Closed at 7:01 pm

ADOPTION OF BALLOT LANGUAGE FOR PROPOSED FIRE MILLAGE:

The purpose of the meeting is to review and to discuss the proposed ballot language for a Fire Protection Millage. At the July 13 meeting, the Trustees discussed proposing a 0.5-mill levy for a period of three years. If approved by voters, the revenue generated from this millage would be dedicated exclusively to funding the Township's fire protection contract. Establishing a dedicated millage would provide a transparent funding source for these essential public safety services and allow residents to clearly understand the cost of fire protection. Board members reviewed two different resolutions: .5 mills for an estimated total of \$162,001.36 the first year or .4 mills for an estimated total of \$129,601.09. 2026/2027 Charlevoix Township Fire Department contract is for \$110,000. Julie Collard shared with Board Members that .4 mil of a \$100,000 taxable value is approximately \$40.00 a year. In the best interest of Township residents, safety, and services, the Board Members approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 07272026.4

ADOPTING BALLOT LANGUAGE FOR PROPOSED FIRE MILLAGE

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WHEREAS, Townships may provide fire protection services to residents, as authorized by Public Act 33 of 1951, MCL 41.801; and

WHEREAS, Townships may contract and cooperate with other entities to provide fire protection services as authorized by Public Act 33 of 1951, MCL 41.801 and as authorized by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and other laws; and

WHEREAS, the Hayes Township Board of Trustees has participated with another township in the County to provide fire protection services and has funded those fire protection services through the general fund; and

WHEREAS, Hayes Township's share of the cost of providing fire protection services to its residents is increasing to the point that the general fund cannot support those services; and

WHEREAS, Townships may impose and levy ad valorem property taxes to finance lawful public services, such as fire protection, as authorized by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and other laws; and

WHEREAS the Hayes Township Board of Trustees believes that it is in the best interests of the Township to levy 0.4 mills to defray the cost of providing fire protection services to the residents of the Township;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Hayes Township Board of Trustees has decided, through this Resolution, to approve the following millage ballot question language:

Shall Hayes Township impose an increase of up to 0.4 mills (\$0.40) per \$1,000.00 of taxable value in the tax limitation under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution and levy it three years from 2026 through 2028 inclusive, for fire protection services for the Township, which 0.5 Mills increase will raise an estimated \$129,601.09 in the first year that the millage is levied.

Ms. Baranski made a motion, supported by Ms. Collard, to approve resolution 07272026.4 adopting ballot language for proposed fire millage.

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

Nays: None Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Cunningham made a motion, supported by Mr. Kuebler, to adjourn at 7:31 p.m.

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

Nays: None **Motion Carried**

Respectfully Submitted, April Hilton Hayes Township Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary