

Watertown Township
2630 South Sandusky Road
Sandusky, MI 48471

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 3, 2026 – 7:05 p.m.

The meeting was held at the Watertown Township Hall

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Supervisor Dick Henderson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call was taken.

PRESENT: Hacker, Henderson, Radloff, Ross, Coats

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Diaz, Cole

GUESTS: Pat Krumenaker, Matt Cole, Bill Parrish, Lyne Stauffer, Jeff Renaudin, Rick Pangburn, Mike & Chris Papp, Diane and Don Ferguson.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Henderson requested approval of the January 6, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes correction and February 3, 2026 Public & Regular Board Minutes.

1. Minutes from Sewer Public Hearing February 3, 2026

Motion by Radloff, supported by Hacker, to approve the Tuesday, February 3, 2026 Public Hearing Meeting minutes as presented. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

2. Minutes from Regular Board Meeting February 3, 2026

Motion by Hacker, supported by Radloff, to approve the Tuesday, February 3, 2026 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

3. Make a correction on the January 6, 2026 minutes

Motion by Radloff, supported by Hacker, to approve the Tuesday, January 6, 2026 Regular Meeting minutes with the amendment changing the ending check number on the Treasurer's Report from 18222 to 18223. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Hacker requested that:

- Address budget be removed.

Motion by Hacker, supported by Henderson, to accept the agenda as amended. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ross presented the correspondence.

1. Doug Sweet – Notification to Landowners adjacent to the Watertown State & Lynch Drain Maintenance Project.
 2. Doug Sweet – 2026 Estimate for Township Drains at Large Assessment. Ross distributed a copy of this correspondence to all board members. Total quote amount is \$13,720.28.
 3. Lt. Ron Edington – Sanilac County Sheriff’s Office – Update to hourly and mileage rates on Appendix A. The contract for 2026 began January 1, 2026. The contract sets the hourly rate to \$71.95 and the holiday rate is \$119.96 per hour. The mileage rate is set to \$0.725 per mile.
 4. Sanilac County Equalization – 2026 Agreement for Database Management/Printing Services for Summer and Winter of 2026 billing rates. Diaz commented that the Township does not currently utilize this service. The notice was provided to inform the Township that, should these services be used in the future, the billing rates for the summer and winter of 2026 have increased.
 5. Sandusky Fire Fighters Association Soup Supper Friday, March 6, 2026, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
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PUBLIC OFFICIALS

- No Report
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TREASURER’S REPORT

Approval of Checks Issued

Coats requested Board approval for monthly payments totaling \$39,139.26, covering check numbers 18250 through 18283.

Motion by Radloff, supported by Hacker, to accept the monthly payments as presented. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

CLERK’S REPORT

Approval of Current Claims

Ross requested approval of current claims.

Motion by Radloff, supported by Henderson, to approve the current claims as presented. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

1. Sanilac County MTA Meeting Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at Liberty Lanes. Cindy Dodge from LOR Consulting is speaking on long and short term goals
 - Ross reported that the Board is invited to this meeting

CEMETERY REPORT

Ross presented the February 2026 Cemetery Report

- No burials
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ZONING REPORT

Hacker presented the monthly Zoning Report

1. Revamp the Schedule of Fees:
He reviewed a proposed Schedule of Fees. Discussion was held.

Motion by Radloff, supported by Henderson, to approve the Schedule of Fees as amended. All present voted yes by roll call vote. Motion carried.

- He received one Land Split Application that has to be reviewed for drains and tax charges. A portion of the property will remain residential and a portion will be split for agricultural use.
- He completed the Zoning Administrator Class.
- He updated the Board on the status of the Solar Project. He requested the Board's approval to send the Solar Project plan information he has received to Spaulding DeDecker Engineering & Survey Firm for review.

Motion by Henderson, supported by Radloff, to approve sending the solar project information to Spaulding DeDecker Engineering & Survey Firm for review. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

- He presented a Zoning Application and Escrow Fee for the Board's consideration. The Board will review the information and address the issue at the April 2026 regular Board Meeting.

Motion by Henderson, supported by Radloff, to approve the Zoning Report as presented. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

WEBSITE REPORT

Ross reported on behalf of Website Administrator Becky Cambridge. Cambridge:

- Posted proposed and approved meeting minutes as required.
- Posted Board of Review meeting notices
- Posted the 2026 Public Budget Hearing notice
- Archived agendas and minutes as necessary

Motion by Radloff, supported by Hacker, to approve the Website Report as presented. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

TAX ASSESSOR REPORT

Diaz reported the following:

- She requested a correction to the Tuesday, February 3, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes under the Treasurer's Report. The Board of Review meeting time should read Tuesday, March 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., rather than Tuesday, March 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Motion by Henderson, supported by Hacker, to approve the correction to the February 3, 2026 meeting minutes as requested. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

- Notices for the Board of Review meetings, to be held on Monday, March 9, 2026, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Tuesday, March 10, 2026, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., were sent out.

SEWER REPORT

Henderson reported:

- The new sewer rates approved at the regular February 3, 2026 Board Meeting will start with the March, April, May 2026 quarterly billing. He recommended, if possible, that the Operating/Maintenance and Capital Improvement portions of the accounting be kept separately. Also, everyone that is connected to the sewer system receives a ready-to-serve charge. Discussion was held
- Coats questioned the non-compliance charge on the 2024-2025 Worker's Comp Audit invoice. Ross will contact the company for an explanation.

NEW BUSINESS

Sewer and Electrical Work at the Lift Station

Henderson reported that Scott Kenny is working to get prices on cement and electrical work at the Lift Station. ARPA funds will be used. The goal is to get the work done during the summer of 2026

Lift Station Pump Installation – Motion to Use ARPA Funds

Henderson reported that Boddy Construction Company will install the pumps at the Lift Station at a cost of \$8,500. ARPA funds may be used for this project.

Motion by Radloff, supported by Henderson, to approve use of Boddy Construction Company to install Lift Station pumps using ARPA funds, as presented. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Data Center Moratorium

Radloff reported that the Planning Commission recommends that the Township puts a moratorium on for five years or until an ordinance is written for it. Discussion was held. This matter will be revisited at the April 2026 regular Board Meeting.

Anti-Blight Ordinance

Henderson reported receiving the ordinance from the Township Attorney. Upon adoption, it must be published in a local newspaper. Discussion was held.

Motion by Henderson, supported by Hacker, to adopt the Anti-Blight Ordinance as presented. All members present voted yes by roll call vote. Motion carried.

The Ordinance will be numbered 2026-3.

Free Dump Day

Radloff is calling waste removal companies for dumpster rates. Saturday, May 30, 2026 is the same Saturday as previous years. Discussion was held.

Motion by Radloff, supported by Henderson, to hold the Spring Free Dump Day on Saturday, May 30, 2026. All members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Team One Account

Henderson reported that he and Hacker met with a representative from Team One Credit Union regarding the EGLE grant funds. If the township is approved to receive the grant, they would like the funds to be deposited into a separate account at Team One Credit Union to ensure clearer tracking of income and expenses. Because Team One Credit Union does not offer a two-signature check process, Henderson recommended that no checks be issued from this account without prior Board approval. Discussion was held. This issue will be revisited at the April 2026 regular Board Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Ethics Policy

Henderson asked whether all board members had an opportunity to review the proposed policy and recommended that the Board adopt the proposed Ethics Policy.

Motion by Henderson, supported by Radloff, to adopt the Ethics Policy as presented. All members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Sylvan Drive House

Henderson believes this issue will be resolved with the newly adopted Anti-Blight Policy.

EGLE Grant Progress – Ideas for Projects

1. Walking Trail
2. Pavilion
3. Mausoleum in Cemetery
4. Culvert on Applegate Rd
5. Reconditioned Cemetery and Hall Blacktop
6. Extend Hall Parking Lot
7. Paint Railing in Front of the Hall
8. Furnace
9. Water Heater

Discussion was held on this item. Additional project suggestions included blacktopping roads, installation of pickleball courts and restroom facilities near the proposed walking trail.

Brine Contract With Wilkinson

Henderson reported that the discrepancy in mileage between the first brining of the year and the second and third applications, discussed at the February 3, 2026 Regular Board Meeting, is due to approximately eight or nine miles of border roads shared with adjoining townships. Brining costs are shared between townships on these roads.

Hacker distributed a Township Salary Schedule for the Board's annual review. This issue will be revisited at the April 2026 regular Board Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- A Township resident asked whether the MTA Principles of Governance, accepted at the February 3, 2026 meeting, and the newly adopted ordinance will be posted on the Township website. The resident also asked about the holiday hourly rate for the Sheriff's Department Ordinance Officer and requested an explanation of the duties he performs for the Township.
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ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Radloff, supported by Hacker, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

The next regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Ross
Township Clerk