

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
IRA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JUNE 2, 2025**

The Ira Township Board of Trustees met in the boardroom of the Ira Township Hall on June 2, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Board members present: James Endres Jr., Thomas Eder, Thomas Lauer, Stella Ruhlman and Jean Corbat

Also present: Christine Anderson, Township Attorney

MINUTES:

T. Lauer moved to approve the minutes of the 5/5/25 regular meeting, as amended, to correct the spelling of Imagine Lawn Care, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

T. Lauer moved to approve the Agenda, as amended to add Clerical Union Wage Review, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

CORRESPONDENCE:

Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan

SEMCO Energy

Acknowledged and filed

OLD BUSINESS:

Township Camera Systems

S. Ruhlman moved to amend the prior motion for the Fire Department quote, and revise the amount approved for the contracts with Michigan Security Systems LLC, to a total amount of \$24,454.00, which is an increase of \$800.00, for Camera and Security Systems for the Fire Department, Township Hall, DPW Building, Water Building and Pump House, supported by T. Lauer.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS:

Water's Edge Dock and Hoist RE: Water Works Park Kayak Launch

T. Lauer moved to accept the request of the Parks & Recreation Director and approve a payment to Water's Edge Dock and Hoist, in the amount of \$27,512.58, which represents a 50% deposit for the Water Works Park Kayak Launch, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Michigan Township Association (MTA) Annual Dues

J. Endres Jr. moved to allocate \$6,612.00 for the 2025-26 Michigan Township Association Dues, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Zoning Ordinance Amendment RE: Hobby Farms

T. Lauer moved to authorize the Township Planner to proceed with review and amendment of the Township's Zoning Ordinance RE: Hobby Farms, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Clay Police - May 2025 Additional Charges

T. Eder moved to approve the additional monthly charge of \$1,445.00 for the month of May 2025 from the Clay Township Police Department, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Extension of Agreement for Police Services with Clay Township Police Department

T. Lauer moved to authorize the Supervisor to negotiate and execute on behalf of the Township a one-year extension, from 7/1/2025 to 6/30/2026, by amendment of the current Agreement for Police Services between the Township of Ira and the Township of Clay, as presented, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

C.L.E.M.I.S. Records Management

S. Ruhlman moved to authorize a one-time allocation of \$40,000.00 to Clay Township Police Department, to assist with the cost to contract with C.L.E.M.I.S. (Courts and Law Enforcement Management Information Systems), for its services for Police Department Records Management, supported by T. Lauer.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

24-Hour Police Protection Ballot Question

S. Ruhlman moved to proceed with placing 24-Hour Police Protection Ballot Question on the November 4, 2025 General Election, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Privacy Policy and Terms of Service Contract RE: Website

T. Lauer moved to approve the invoice from Monster-Mobile Marketing, in the amount of \$219.00, for a \$100.00 set-up fee and \$119.00 annual maintenance fee, for website policies and terms management, after clarification of the costs, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

2025 Local Millage Distribution Request

S. Ruhlman moved to approve the 2025 Request for Local Millage Distribution to the St. Clair County Parks & Recreation Commission and authorize the Supervisor to sign the application on behalf of the Township, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

St. Clair County Road Commission Agreement RE: Arnold Road Ditching

T. Lauer moved to approve the Agreement with the St. Clair County Road Commission for Arnold Road Ditching, as presented, on the southside of Arnold Road starting approximately 1,000 feet East of 9071 Arnold for approximately 2,120 feet, in the amount of \$16,646.00, and authorize the Supervisor to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Township, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Breakroom Furniture for Fire Department

T. Eder moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and approve the quote from Amazon, in the amount of \$189.00, for breakroom furniture, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

New Front Tires for Squad-1 Firetruck

T. Lauer moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and approve the quote from Gordie's Auto & Tire, in the amount of \$702.86, for two (2) new front tires for Squad-1 Firetruck, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Chain Saw and Backpack Blower for Fire Department

S. Ruhlman moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and approve the quote from Zimmer's Sales and Service, in the amount of \$798.98, for a new Chain Saw and Case and Backpack Blower, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Bay-Rama Parade
T. Lauer moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief to authorize use of one (1) staffed Fire Apparatus to participate in the annual Bay-Rama Parade to be held on June 22, 2025, supported by S. Ruhlman.
All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Firefighter Resignation
S. Ruhlman moved to accept the resignation letter from Sean Frontiera effective May 23, 2025, supported by T. Eder.
All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Part-time Firefighter
T. Lauer moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and appoint Joseph Romanelli to an open part-time position, supported by T. Eder.
All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Paid-On-Call Firefighter
S. Ruhlman moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and appoint Mathew Hobson to a paid-on-call firefighter position, supported by T. Eder.
All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Fire Hydrant Purchase
T. Lauer moved to accept the recommendation of the DPS Superintendent and approve a quote from Core & Main, in the amount of \$6,749.94, to purchase two (2) new Fire Hydrants, supported by S. Ruhlman.
All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Lift Station Pump Controls
J. Endres Jr. moved to accept the recommendation of the DPS Superintendent and approve a quote from Kennedy Industries, in the amount of \$4,000.00, for onsite removal and installation of new Pump Controller at the Church Road lift station, supported by T. Eder.
All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Sewer Pump Church Road Station
T. Eder moved to accept the recommendation of the DPS Superintendent and approve a quote from Kennedy Industries, in the amount of \$10,641.00, for a new Sewer Pump for the Church Road lift station, supported by S. Ruhlman.
All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

New Computers
S. Ruhlman moved to accept the recommendation of the Financial Clerk and approve a quote from Hi-Tech, in the amount of \$4,657.00, for new computers and additional memory, supported by T. Eder.
All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Budget Revision 24/25 #6

Budget Revision 24/25 #6			6/2
General Fund			meeting
Revenues			
101-000-476	Building Permits	25,000	
101-000-584	Grants - Parks & Recreation	28,000	new grant
101-000-646	Miscellaneous Charges	8,000	
Expenditures			
Executive Activities			
101-173-900	Printing/Publishing	1,000	
Building			
101-265-920	Electric	500	
Police			
101-301-818.102	Contractual Services - Liquor Inspection	3,167	increase in fees received

Clerk:

- Thank you to Cindy Babisz and Tom Eder for all their work with the Replace Grief with Awe Ceremony held on May 24th;
- Preliminary Audit to being June 16, 17, and 18th;
- St. Clair County Clerks' Association meeting is scheduled for June 12th; Clerk and Deputy Clerk plan to attend;
- Township Budget meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Treasurer:

- Bank balances and interest income provided;
- Water / Sewer Adjustments
- Memorial Day ceremony was very nice;

Trustee Eder:

- Thank you, Cindy, for all your work in putting together The Replace Grief with Awe Ceremony;

Trustee Ruhlman:

- Update on discussions with Dave LaDuke; expect broadband installation to be done in September 2025;

DISBURSEMENTS:

S. Ruhlman moved to pay the following disbursements, totaling \$360,896.08, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Reg	
Fund 101 General Government	\$123,983.88
Fund 206 Fire Fund	\$17,996.07
Fund 592 Water / Sewer Fund	\$115,469.38
ACH	
Fund 101 General Government	\$508.10
Fund 206 Fire Fund	\$1,954.42
Fund 592 Water / Sewer Fund	\$406.75
Tax Account	\$89,209.94
Trust and Agency	\$11,367.54

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CLOSED SESSION:

At 8:16 p.m. J. Endres Jr. moved, with support from T. Eder, that a Closed Session be called for the purpose of:

A. Consulting with legal counsel regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with pending litigation being *M. L. Chartier, Inc., a Michigan corporation and M. Todd Enterprises, L.L.C., a Michigan limited liability company v Ira Township*, St. Clair County Circuit Court Case No. 2024-001292-CE, pursuant to MCL 15.268(e).

B. Consider the purchase of real property up to the time an option to purchase that real property is obtained, pursuant to MCL 15.268 (d)

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: James Endres Jr., Thomas Eder, Thomas Lauer, Stella Ruhlman and Jean Corbat

Nays: None **MOTION CARRIED**

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:

At 8:37 p.m. T. Eder moved that the Board return to Open Session, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Litigation Settlement

J. Endres Jr. moved to approve the Consent Judgment, as presented, in the case of *M. L. Chartier, Inc., a Michigan corporation and M. Todd Enterprises, L.L.C., a Michigan limited liability company v Ira Township*, St. Clair County Circuit Court Case No. 2024-001292-CE, supported by S. Ruhlman.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: James Endres Jr., Thomas Eder, Thomas Lauer, Stella Ruhlman and Jean Corbat

Nays: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Potential Property Purchase

S. Ruhlman moved to approve a potential property purchase, as presented, for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00, and authorize the Supervisor to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the Township, supported by T. Lauer.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Clerical Union Wage Review

T. Lauer moved to authorize the Supervisor to contact the Union Representative at Local 324 for clerical staff wage review, as presented, and negotiate a Letter of Understanding, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discuss T. Lauer moved, with the support of T. Eder, to close the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Corbat, Clerk