

**REGULAR MEETING  
LENOX TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
JANUARY 12, 2026**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

6:30 PM

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Reeder, Gurley, Sutherland, Marino, Rosseel

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Ewles, Saif, White

**RESIDENTS AND GUESTS PRESENT**

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**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Motion: Sutherland Support: Gurley

Motion to approve the Agenda of January 12, 2026 as printed. All Ayes. Motion passes.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion: Gurley Support: Marino

Motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of December 1, 2025. All Ayes. Motion passes.

**5. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Public Announcements at this time.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

J. Rhein, 31370 32 Mile Road, and Macomb Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Committee Member, thanked the Board for their 2025 \$500 pledge to the PDR Committee. He requested that the Board consider a \$500 commitment that would help to support the committee for the coming year. He invited the Board to attend the PDR closing of a property on January 30, 2026 at Richmond Township Hall.

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

All items listed under this Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Township Board and will be enacted by one motion. According to established Township meeting rules, there will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board or public so requests at or prior to the meeting, in which event the chair of the meeting may remove such item(s) from the Consent Agenda for discussion and consideration under Agenda Item No. 8, below. Approval of the Consent Agenda shall be by a majority roll call vote of those present and voting. Under the Consent Agenda are items, a. Public Safety Report, b. EMS Report, c. DPW Report, d. Code Enforcement Report, e. Assessing Department Report, f. Engineer Report, g. Planner Report, h. Library Report, i. Senior Center Report, j. Supervisor's Report, k. Treasurer's Report, l. Orders and Bills, m. Trustees Report, n. Clerk's Report.

Clerk Gurley reported that the bills list contains invoices from November totaling \$828,425.87.

Motion: Gurley Support: Marino

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda and the Orders and Bills in the amount of \$828,425.87.

Roll Call Vote: Gurley- Aye, Marino- Aye, Sutherland- Aye, Reeder- Aye, Rosseel- Aye. Motion passes.

**8. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

## **9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no Unfinished Business to complete at this meeting.

## **10. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. MACOMB COUNTY DRAIN MAINTENANCE MATCH PROGRAM**

Deputy Supervisor Mark Grabow explained that Macomb County has presented a Drain Maintenance Match Program to perform restoration on approximately 49,340 linear feet of several drains in Lenox Township. The total estimated cost for this project is \$130,727.00; Lenox Township would be responsible for \$65,363.50 if approved.

Motion: Reeder Support: Gurley

Motion to approve Macomb County Drain Maintenance Match Program, contributing 50% of the total cost, being \$65,363.50 as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Reeder- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Marino- Aye, Rosseel- Aye, Sutherland- Aye. All Ayes. Motion passes.

Don Brown from the Macomb County Drain Office thanked the Board for their partnership with this project and would answer any questions.

### **b. RICHMOND LENOX EMS STATION #3 GENERATOR REPLACEMENT - FEMA GRANT AWARD**

Public Safety Director Jeff White announced that Richmond Lenox EMS received a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Grant in the amount of \$93,000.00. The grant funds are earmarked to replace the emergency generator at EMS Station #3. The current generator is undersized, 23 years old, and has nearly reached the end of its useful life. The Township Engineer has agreed to assist with the preparation of financial reports and completing compliance issues that go along with getting reimbursed for this equipment; EMS will pay for his services.

Trustee Marino inquired what the EMS would do with the old generator when replaced.

White explained that a decision has not been made at this time; it would be sold by public bid or through an auction service.

Motion: Gurley Support: Sutherland

Motion to approve the acceptance of the FEMA Grant and authorize the required pass through in accordance with the memorandum presented by Richmond Lenox EMS Director Jeff White.

Roll Call Vote: Gurley- Aye, Sutherland- Aye, Reeder- Aye, Marino- Aye, Rosseel- Aye. All Ayes. Motion passes.

### **c. CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM UPDATE**

DPW Superintendent Cam Trombly reported that during the last visit from Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), they indicated that the State Cross Connection Control Policy must be updated. He requested assistance from the Township Engineer Sermed Saif to review the current system and update it to meet State Guidelines. It is estimated that it would take 10 to 15 hours to complete the update. Saif would be paid at the cost of time and materials rate of \$122.00 per hour.

Motion: Sutherland Support: Rosseel

Motion to approve updating the Lenox Township Cross Connection Program, allowing the Township Engineer to assist the DPW Superintendent with developing and updating the current program, utilizing approximately 10-15 hours at the cost of time and materials rate of \$122 per hour.

Roll Call Vote: Sutherland- Aye, Rosseel- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Marino- Aye, Reeder- Aye. All Ayes. Motion passes.

### **d. LIVING WORD FELLOWSHIP CHURCH SIDEWALK WAIVER, 60170 NEW HAVEN ROAD**

Marc Blair, representing Living Word Fellowship Church, requested an extension of the sidewalk variance, as they look to erect an accessory building on the church site. There are no developments presently on either side of the property; requiring a sidewalk would cause a hardship for the church at this time.

Trustee Marino inquired if the church has gone through the Planning Commission process for this modification.

It was stated that the church received Site Plan Approval in the Fall of 2025.

Motion: Reeder Support: Rosseel

Motion to approve the sidewalk waiver for Living Word Fellowship Church at 60170 New Haven Road.

Roll Call Vote: Reeder- Aye, Rosseel- Aye, Marino- Aye, Sutherland- Aye, Gurley- Aye. All Ayes. Motion passes.

**e. TOWNSHIP OFFICE COPIER LEASE PROPOSAL**

Deputy Supervisor Mark Grabow stated that the current copier at the Township Office Building is five and a half years old, past the lease, past the maintenance program, and no longer compliant with Microsoft requirements and updates. Two quotes were gathered for identical Ricoh copiers, with 60 month lease terms from the following:

Applied Innovation	Ricoh IM C4510	\$169.62 per month
Ricoh Company	Ricoh IM C4510	\$123.83 per month

Motion: Sutherland Support: Marino

Motion to approve the quote from Ricoh Company to lease the Ricoh IM C4510 copier for 60 months in the amount of \$123.83 per month.

Roll Call Vote: Reeder- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Rosseel- Aye, Sutherland- Aye, Marino- Aye. All Ayes. Motion passes.

**f. FIRE DEPARTMENT COPIER LEASE PROPOSAL**

Deputy Supervisor Mark Grabow explained the similar lease proposal for the Fire Department. The Public Safety Director Jeff White worked with the Supervisor's Office to gather two quotes as follows:

Applied Innovation	Ricoh IM C2510	\$85.45 per month
Ricoh Company	Ricoh IM C2510	\$85.71 per month

Grabow recommended Ricoh, as the quote is just a few cents difference; it would allow consistency for equipment maintenance.

Motion: Gurley Support: Reeder

Motion to approve the quote from Ricoh Company to lease the Ricoh IM C2510 copier for 60 months at the cost of \$85.71 per month.

Roll Call Vote: Gurley- Aye, Reeder- Aye, Sutherland- Aye, Marino- Aye, Rosseel- Aye. All Ayes. Motion passes.

**g. 2026 MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION (MTA) CONFERENCE REQUEST**

Deputy Supervisor Mark Grabow detailed the 2026 Michigan Township Association (MTA) Conference Request. The MTA Conference would be held April 20, 2026 through Thursday April 23, 2026 at the Grand Traverse Resort near Traverse City. The Early Bird Rate for the conference is \$400.00 each, there is also a variety of additional opportunities for continued education during this time.

Motion: Sutherland Support: Marino

Motion to approve the Board of Trustees Officials to attend the 2026 Michigan Township Association Conference from April 20, 2026 through April 23, 2026, at the early bird rate of \$400 each, lodging and meals would be additional.

Roll Call Vote: Sutherland- Aye, Marino- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Rosseel- Aye, Reeder- Aye. All Ayes. Motion passes.

**h. 2026 MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION CAPITAL CONFERENCE REQUEST**

Supervisor Reeder stated that the Michigan Township Association Capital Conference will be held on March 17, 2026 at the cost of \$100 if registered by February 3, 2026. One hot topic during this conference is going to be Public Act 233 of 2023, that stripped municipalities of their rights regarding large scale utility projects, including wind, solar, and battery storage.

Motion: Rosseel Support: Sutherland

Motion to approve Supervisor Reeder to attend the 2026 Michigan Township Association Capital Conference at the cost of \$100.

Roll Call Vote: Rosseel- Aye, Sutherland- Aye, Marino- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Reeder- Aye. All Ayes. Motion passes.

**i. MICHIGAN CLERK ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE REQUEST**

Clerk Gurley reported that Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks (MAMC) has scheduled its 2026 Clerk's Institute for March 8, 2026 through March 13, 2026. This conference is designed to enhance competency in elections, municipal and general administration, records

management, and statutory compliance. This consists of 40 in-person hours each year for three consecutive years at the cost of \$800.00, with the second and third year cost to be determined.

Motion: Sutherland    Support: Reeder

Motion to approve Clerk Gurley to attend the Michigan Clerk Association Conference 40 hours each year for a consecutive three year commitment, at the cost of \$800.00, with lodging and expenses billed separately. Second and third year costs would be determined closer to the event date.

Roll Call Vote: Sutherland- Aye, Reeder- Aye, Rosseel- Aye, Marino- Aye, Gurley- Aye. All Ayes. Motion passes.

**j. PUBLIC ACT 152 PROPOSAL**

Deputy Supervisor Mark Grabow reported that in speaking with the health insurance representatives, they recommend that the Township pull out of Public Act 152, which is the minimum requirement that the Township is required to pay for the employee health insurance. Currently, in PA 152, the Township pays 80% of the insurance premiums and employees pay 20%. By pulling out of PA 152, the Township would be open to select whatever benefits best suit Lenox and its employees.

Trustee Rosseel inquired what the present insurance carrier recommends in place of this and what the current healthcare coverage is. Grabow stated that the carrier recommends the Township to opt out; the current coverage is 80% Township pays 20% employees pay, Dental and Vision coverage is paid 100% by the employee.

Motion: Sutherland    Support: Reeder

Motion to approve the removal of Public Act 152 from the Township Employee Health Insurance Plan, to allow the Board flexibility to address healthcare options in the future, as recommended by the Township's Insurance Agent.

Roll Call Vote: Sutherland- Aye, Reeder- Aye, Rosseel- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Marino- Aye. All Ayes. Motion passes.

**k. FISCAL YEAR MODIFICATION RESOLUTION**

Deputy Supervisor Mark Grabow stated that with the incorporation of Lenox as a Charter Township, state law requires that the Board of Trustees formally establish the Township's fiscal year by resolution. Charter Townships are limited by statute to operate on one of two fiscal years, January 1 through December 31 or April 1 through March 31. This modification will change the date of the audit; there would have to be a continuation budget passed between July 1 and December 31 if the Board chooses to approve the calendar year option.

Motion: Sutherland    Support: Marino

Motion to approve Resolution 2026-1A, modifying the fiscal year to begin January 1 and end December 31, as necessary to comply with the Charter Township Act.

Roll Call Vote: Sutherland- Aye, Marino- Aye, Reeder- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Rosseel- Aye. All Ayes Motion passes.

**i. 2026 MITEL TELEPHONE SUPPORT RENEWAL**

Deputy Supervisor Mark Grabow detailed the renewal of Mitel Telephone Support, announcing that the Township is connected with all Mitel telephones, each department is now able to interact with another department without dialing out, even if that department is in a different building.

Trustee Marino inquired if support would be needed once the phones are completely installed.

Grabow stated that this renewal is similar to an insurance policy, it is necessary to remain current even though support may not be needed.

Motion: Marino    Support: Sutherland

Motion to approve the expenditure of \$1,399.00 to Centaris for support of the 2026 Mitel Telephone System.

Roll Call Vote: Marino- Aye, Sutherland- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Rosseel- Aye, Reeder- Aye. All Ayes. Motion passes.

**m. SET 2026 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUND PUBLIC HEARING**

Supervisor Anthony Reeder stated that the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Hearing must be set for 2026. The recommendation is that it be held during the February 2, 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting at 6:30 PM.

Motion: Reeder      Support: Gurley

Motion to set the 2026 Community Development Block Grant Fund Public Hearing for Monday, February 2, 2026 beginning at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call Vote: Reeder- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Marino- Aye, Rosseel- Aye, Sutherland- Aye. All Ayes. Motion passes.

#### **11. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

J. Parkinson, Living Word Fellowship Church Member, thanked the Board for their approval of the sidewalk waiver.

J. Hartway, inquired the procedure for the copier maintenance program and the reimbursement procedure for conference meals and room costs.

D. Haag, 3940 County Line, commented on the drain match program, a priority list of drains to be cleaned, and clogged ditches near his home.

#### **12. CALL FROM THE BOARD**

Supervisor Reeder responded resident comments regarding the new copier maintenance program, additional conference expenses, and a Macomb County drain cleaning priority list.

Deputy Supervisor Grabow reported on current costs for Township road ditching, amounting to \$84 per linear foot.

Clerk Michelle Gurley recommended that residents continue to contact Macomb County regarding ditch conditions.

#### **13. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Gurley      Support: Rosseel

Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 7:20 PM. All Ayes. Motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Gurley, Lenox Township Clerk

Carol Swantek, Recording Secretary