

# TOWNSHIP OF THORNAPPLE

Eric Schaefer, *Supervisor* / Laura Bouchard, *Treasurer* / Cindy Ordway, *Clerk*  
 Curt Campbell, *Trustee* / Ross DeMaagd, *Trustee* / David Stanton, *Trustee* / Sandra Rairigh, *Trustee*

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 PO Box 459 - 200 E Main St. - Middleville, MI 49333



## REGULAR MEETING

February 10, 2025

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

1. INVOCATION
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	Bouchard: Campbell: DeMaagd: Ordway:	Present Present Present Present	Rairigh: Schaefer: Stanton:	Present Present Present
<b>OTHERS PRESENT:</b>	Bill Richardson, Catherine Getty, Craig Stolsonburg, Jon Smelker, Makenzi Peters, Kevin Smith			

### 4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Ordway -- Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Rairigh
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by voice vote. 7 ayes and 0 nays.

### 5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Stanton -- Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Campbell
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by roll call vote. 7 ayes and 0 nays.

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	Bouchard: Campbell: DeMaagd: Ordway:	Yes Yes Yes Yes	Rairigh: Schaefer: Stanton:	Yes Yes Yes
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**6. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT:** Kevin Smith commented on the Paul Henry trail and requested the Township consider contributing more to bridge repairs. Makenzi Peters commented same.

### 7. COUNTY REPORT:

<b>County Commissioners Catherine Getty and Paul Smelker</b>	Commissioners reported the recreation master plan had been approved, two new members had been appointed to the recreation board, the County Commission passed a resolution for Barry County Transit, made appointments to the Conservation Easement Board, the Area Agency on Aging, as well as the Transportation Board, had a presentation from the United Way with an update regarding VA programs, reappointed Barry County Landbank personnel, appointed two to the VA Board, made an appointment to the road commission board, entered an intergovernmental agreement, dissolved the Barry County Community Correction Advisory Board, passed bylaws for the Material
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	Management Planning Committee, entered agreement with Kalamazoo County regarding household hazardous waste, approved proposal for the Work Program Grant, submitted budget to EGLE, applied for Election Security Grant, approved COA buildings preliminary budget, approved a jail feasibility study, approved sale of Ren Garage, approved extension of Administrator’s contract, released the RFP for opioid settlement funds, contracted with SBC Consulting to help with Treasurer transition, and had a presentation on spongy moths.
<b>Board Response:</b>	Commissioners were thanked for their report.

**8. RESERVED TIME:** - Craig Stolsonburg spoke regarding the Paul Henry Trail Bridge reconstruction project. It was noted it would be approximately 2.3 million to replace the bridges and repave the trail from Middleville to Irving Road. To be considered for grants \$500,000 to \$600,000 must be raised to be considered. Multiple municipalities and organizations are contributing to the project.

**9. EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT:** Chief Richardson reported there were two hundred-thirty-nine calls for service with an outshoot time of approximately one minute and forty seconds. The average response time is seven minutes and three seconds. Twenty-one of the calls required paid on call members and the average per call was 9.9 members. There were three structure fires, and it was noted a great deal of water was needed and pressure was never lost. CPR, first aid, and AED classes will be offered. Residents are encouraged to check the website for additional information.

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**11. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Village Trail Resolution 02-2025:** The Township intends to contribute \$10,000 and will consider more as the budget process continues.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Motion by Schaefer to approve and adopt Resolution 02-2025 (which supports submission of a Michigan National Resources Trust Fund Application for the Paul Henry Trail Bridge Replacement, including the re-surfacing and access enhancement of the portion owned by the Village of Middleville; by the DNR, AND, that Thornapple Township is hereby making a financial commitment to the project in the amount of \$10,000 matching funds, in cash and/or force account.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Campbell
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by roll call vote. 7 ayes and 0 nays.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Stanton:	Yes
	Ordway:	Yes		

**B. Professional Development:** Chief Richardson requests Blue Card Incident Command Training for all full-time employees which is thirty hours of online, tested and accredited training and can be applied towards college credit for those seeking a fire science degree.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Motion by Campbell to approve professional development for a cost not to exceed \$1,540.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Rairigh
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by voice vote. 7 ayes and 0 nays.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Stanton:	Yes
	Ordway:	Yes		

**C. Hiring:** Chief Richardson reported a decrease in the number of personnel and those vacancies need to be filled.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Motion by Rairigh to approve the hiring of two part-time EMTs and four paramedics.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Stanton
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by voice vote. 7 ayes and 0 nays.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Stanton:	Yes
	Ordway:	Yes		

**D. TAPRC Stephanie Skidmore:** The Township needs a representative to the Thornapple Parks and Recreation Commission.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Motion by Rairigh to appoint Stephanie Skidmore as the Thornapple Township representative to the Thornapple Parks and Recreation Commission to fill the position formerly held by Jeff Kenyon (term expiring December 31, 2025).
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	DeMaagd
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by voice vote. 7 ayes and 0 nays.

**E. Personal Property:** Bouchard reported that the Township is responsible for collecting personal property tax that isn't paid within the tax year. There are quite a few delinquent property taxes that were not paid by businesses which have left the area and several have filed for bankruptcy. State law requires the treasurer get approval from every taxing authority to then take them to the Circuit Court to remove them.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Motion by Schaefer to approve the "Statement of Attempt to Collect Delinquent Personal Property Tax" and to sign the "Waiver and Consent" Form.
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<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Campbell
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by roll call vote. 7 ayes and 0 nays.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Stanton:	Yes
	Ordway:	Yes		

**F. Yankee Springs Ambulance Contract:** Yankee Springs Fire Department had been a part of Thornapple Township, but after a disagreement they joined Wayland Fire. It was the original intent that Yankee Springs become a standalone department. This will occur March 1. Yankee Springs has requested to be covered by Township ambulance services. A contract has been created.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Motion by Rairigh to approve the ambulance service contract between Thornapple Township and Yankee Springs Township.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	DeMaagd
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by roll call vote. 7 ayes and 0 nays.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Stanton:	Yes
	Ordway:	Yes		

**12. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. Administration (Schaefer, Bouchard, Ordway):** None

**B. Cemetery (Ordway, DeMaagd, Rairigh):** None

**C. Middleville DDA Report (Schaefer):** Planning for this year’s 13 Riverbank Music Series weekends. The chair resigned.

**D. Elections (Ordway, Bouchard, Schaefer):** None

**E. Emergency Services (DeMaagd, Schaefer, Rairigh):** None

**F. Finance (Bouchard, Ordway, Rairigh)** None

**G. Parks and Recreation Representative (Schaefer):** Noted new chair. Williams and Works is working on the five year recreation plan.

**H. Personnel and Compensation (Ordway, Campbell, Schaefer):** None

**I. Property and Public Utilities (Stanton, DeMaagd, Campbell):** None

**J. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Stanton):** Campbell noted the trail needs to take a backseat to repair of Township roads.

**K. Duncan Lake Sewer (Campbell, Stanton, Schaefer):** \$8,000 has been allocated to map the connection between the collection side and the treatment side of the waste system.

**13. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** Kevin Smith thanked the Board for the contribution to the trail and expressed the willingness of the Village to partner with the Township on many projects/ideas. Makenzi Peters thanked the Township for their contribution, praised EMS services, reminded residents of Rotary spaghetti dinner.

**14. POLL OF MEMBERS:**

**David Stanton (Trustee)** – None.

**Sandy Rairigh (Trustee)** – Thanked Village.

**Ross DeMaagd (Trustee)** – Encouraged those in attendance to “think outside the box”.

**Curt Campbell (Trustee)** – Thanked Village.

**Laura Bouchard (Treasurer)** – Remarked on positive relationships with the Village.


**Cindy Ordway (Clerk)** – Appreciated Village’s attendance.

**Eric Schaefer (Supervisor)** – Thanked Village and acknowledged importance of trail.

**15. ADJOURNMENT:**

**TIME: 7:56 P.M.**

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Campbell – Motion to adjourn.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Stanton
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by voice vote. 7 yes votes.

  
 Cindy Ordway, Township Clerk

Approved 3/10/2025