



DEXTER TOWNSHIP

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LONNIE SCOTT
SUPERVISOR

MICHELLE
STAMBOULELLIS
CLERK

BRADLEY METZ
TREASURER

ALICIA ABBOTT
KAREN NOLTE
LAURA SANDERS
KAREN SIKKENGA
TRUSTEES

Dexter Township Board – Regular Meeting Tuesday March 17, 2026 – 6:00PM

Call To Order

Supervisor Scott called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Optional Pledge Of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Roll Call/Conflict Of Interest Check

Present: Trustee Nolte, Trustee Abbott, Treasurer Metz, Clerk Stamboulellis, Trustee Sanders, Trustee Sikkenga, and Supervisor Scott.

Absent – None

No Board member had a conflict of interest.

Approval Of Agenda

Trustee Abbott requested to remove the regular meeting minutes from the consent agenda and move them to an action item. A supplemental item, a letter of intent, was also added.

Moved by Trustee Nolte, seconded by Trustee Abbott to approve the agenda as amended.

All ayes. Motion carried.

Call For Public Comment

Supervisor Scott opened the floor for public comment.

Township resident Deborah Mielke addressed the board regarding accountability and transparency for elected officials, advocating for monthly reports detailing expenditures, project updates, and performance metrics. She noted that distrust in local government has risen to nearly 50%.

David Lossing from the Huron River Watershed Council presented information about a proposed fertilizer ordinance for the township. The ordinance would prohibit fertilizer use during winter months (November 1 - May 1) and within 50 feet of water bodies to prevent nutrient loading and algae blooms. Similar ordinances have been adopted by Hamburg, Linden, and are being considered by Putnam and Unadilla townships.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda.

Moved by Trustee Sikkenga, seconded by Treasurer Metz.

All Ayes. Motion carried.

Action Items

Approval of Acceptance of Financial Transactions (Check Disbursement & Revenue and Expenditure Report) – Clerk Stamboulellis

The board reviewed the financial transactions presented by Clerk Stamboulellis.

Motion to approve the financial transactions.

Moved by Trustee Sikkenga, seconded by Treasurer Metz.

All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of Budget Amendment FY 2026– Dept. 441 Public Works

This amendment corrects a mislabeled general ledger line in the public works budget, increasing the allocation to ensure adequate funding for remaining bills.

Financial Impact & Community Benefit: The amendment increases the public works budget to \$41,000, funded through existing general fund resources. This one-time correction addresses a labeling error to ensure proper classification of expenses and prevents the need for additional amendments if unexpected bills arise, maintaining operational continuity for essential township services.

Motion to approve Dept. 441 Public Works 2026 Budget Amendment.

Moved by Trustee Sikkenga, seconded by Trustee Abbott.

All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of Clerks Minutes Policy

The policy establishes procedures for using Clerks Minutes software to assist in creating meeting minutes for the Board of Trustees and other township committees. Clerk Stamboulellis emphasized that significant human review and formatting work will still be required after the software generates initial drafts.

Financial Impact & Community Benefit: The policy incorporates \$3,000 annually for Clerks Minutes software, funded from the general fund recording secretary budget line. This recurring expense, combined with reduced recording secretary hours, aims to maintain the total budget at approximately \$4,000 while improving efficiency and accuracy in minute preparation across up to 10 township boards and committees.

Motion to approve the Clerks Minutes software policy for the Township of Dexter.

Moved by Trustee Nolte, seconded by Trustee Abbott.

Roll Call Vote: Yea – Trustee Abbott, Trustee Nolte, Treasurer Metz, Clerk Stamboulellis, Trustee Sanders, Trustee Sikkenga, Supervisor Scott; Nay – None; Absent – None.

All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of FY 2027 General Appropriations Act, Resolution # 26-706

The board discussed two budget options: one with police millage collection and one without. After reviewing tax impact examples showing savings of \$19-\$325 per property annually, the board chose not to levy the police millage for fiscal year 2027, providing tax relief while maintaining adequate police fund reserves.

Financial Impact & Community Benefit: The township will forgo collecting approximately \$791,000 in police millage taxes for one year, providing direct tax relief to residents ranging from \$19 to over \$300 per property annually. This one-time decision is fiscally responsible as the police fund maintains a projected \$1.4 million balance, well above policy requirements, due to lower actual staffing costs and the sheriff's department's new billing structure.

Motion to adopt Resolution 26-706 (version without police millage levy) as amended.

Moved by Trustee Sikkenga, seconded by Trustee Sanders.

Roll Call Vote: Yea – Trustee Abbott, Trustee Nolte, Treasurer Metz, Clerk Stamboulellis, Trustee Sanders, Trustee Sikkenga, Supervisor Scott; Nay – None; Absent – None.

Approval of Staff Salaries & Hourly Wages, Resolution #26-707

The resolution provides a 2.7% CPI increase for all staff positions, with the office administrator receiving a more substantial increase due to new Deputy Supervisor role and additional responsibilities.

Financial Impact & Community Benefit: Staff salary adjustments reflect a 2.7% cost-of-living increase funded through the general fund, representing recurring personnel costs. The increases maintain competitive compensation to retain experienced township staff and ensure continuity of municipal services for residents.

Motion to approve Resolution #26-707

Moved by Trustee Sanders, seconded by Trustee Abbott.

Roll Call Vote: Yea – Trustee Abbott, Trustee Nolte, Treasurer Metz, Clerk Stamboulellis, Trustee Sanders, Trustee Sikkenga, Supervisor Scott; Nay – None; Absent – None.

Approval of Supervisor to Sign Letter of Intent

A time-sensitive letter of intent for state grant funding was required for a farmland preservation project application due Thursday.

Financial Impact & Community Benefit: The letter commits to potential matching funds of up to \$287,500 if state grants are awarded, though final amounts depend on additional federal and Greenbelt grant opportunities. This one-time investment would leverage state funds for permanent farmland preservation, protecting agricultural character and preventing development pressure on rural lands.

Motion to approve the Supervisor signing the State Grant Funding letter of intent.

Moved by Trustee Nolte, seconded by Clerk Stamboulellis.

Roll Call Vote: Yea – Trustee Abbott, Trustee Nolte, Treasurer Metz, Clerk Stamboulellis, Trustee Sanders, Trustee Sikkenga, Supervisor Scott; Nay – None; Absent – None.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees: February 17, 2026

The minutes were corrected to properly attribute a comment about millage increases to Treasurer Metz rather than Trustee Abbott.

Motion to approve the February 17, 2026 meeting minutes as amended.

Moved by Trustee Sikkenga, seconded by Trustee Nolte.

All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

Strategic Plan

Trustee Sikkenga reported that the township has completed its 2026 strategic plan goals of creating a welcome packet for new residents and implementing single-hauler trash collection. She will be following up with board members on items scheduled to begin in 2026.

Q&A: Staff and Dexter Township Committee Reports

Supervisor Scott highlighted concerns about potential Cornman Farms annexation to Dexter City, noting that a developer had proposed 44 housing units. After meeting with ownership, he reported they are exploring multiple options and annexation is not their preferred choice. He also discussed ongoing DAFD interlocal agreement negotiations and emphasized the importance of maintaining the fire service collaboration.

Clerk Stamboulellis announced that 9-day early voting will move from Sylvan Township to Scio Township for better resident accessibility. She also reported the want to be accommodating to residents submitting FOIA requests while implementing new fee structures if additional township resources were necessary.

Trustee Nolte announced that Multi Lakes received a \$580,000 community funding grant for wastewater treatment plant improvements.

Trustee Abbott promoted upcoming coffee chats, including Saturday's session with the Road Commission about downtown Dexter construction impacts.

Q&A: Staff and Dexter Township Committee Reports

- a) Office Administrator Report – Samantha Edwards
- b) Supervisor Report – Supervisor Scott
- c) Clerk Report – Clerk Stamboulellis
- d) Treasurer Report – Treasurer Metz
- e) Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals – Fletcher Reyher, Director of Planning and Zoning
- f) FOSP Board – Clerk Stamboulellis
- g) Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board – Barry Lonik
- h) Huron River Watershed Council – Sue Bade, Dexter Township Representative

- i) Trustee Report – Trustee Nolte
- j) Trustee Report – Trustee Abbott
- k) Trustee Report – Trustee Abbott & Trustee Sanders
- l) WWRA Report – Clerk Stambouellis (supplemental material)
- m) Data & Performance Metrics - Sheriff's department reports were included in supplemental materials.

Second Call for Public Comment

No public comment was offered. During the second call.

Other Issues, Comments and Concerns of Board Members & Staff

Supervisor Scott thanked staff for handling numerous trash service inquiries during the week when information packets were delayed. He confirmed that service packets are now being delivered and digital billing has begun.

Clerk Stambouellis announced progress on film plastic recycling drop-off locations in coordination with WWRA.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Supervisor Scott at 7:43 PM.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, MICHELLE STAMBOULELLIS, THE DULY QUALIFIED CLERK FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF DEXTER, WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FORGOING IS A TRUE AND COMPLETE COPY OF CERTAIN PROCEEDINGS TAKEN BY THE DEXTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT A REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING HELD ON THE 17TH DAY OF MARCH AND THAT THE FORGOING MINUTES ARE THE APPROVED MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD ON THE 17TH, DAY OF MARCH 2026.



MICHELLE STAMBOULELLIS, CLERK, DEXTER TOWNSHIP

“These minutes were initially generated using ClerkMinutes software and subsequently reviewed and edited by the Dexter Township Clerk.”