

**Bowne Township
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Bowne Township Historic Hall
Monday, February 23, 2026, 7:00 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: RANDY WILCOX – SUPERVISOR
KAREN HENDRICK – CLERK
BONNIE LENT-DAVIS – TREASURER
DAVID FUSS – TRUSTEE
ROBERT FLYNN – TRUSTEE

OTHERS PRESENT: ANDY VANDERZIEL – Fire Chief
JAYSON BUSSA – Alto Meadows
JOE SWANSON – Wingeier Ave
KATIE WHEELER – Alden Nash
BRUCE MEEKHOF – 84th Street
KIM CULBERTSON – Wingeier Ave

Call to Order:

The Regular Board Meeting of the Bowne Township Board was called to order on February 23, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Bowne Township Historical Hall, 8240 Alden Nash Ave SE, Alto 49302

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Member Flynn to approve the agenda. Supported by Member Hendrick.
Motion Carried

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Member Flynn to approve, as amended, the minutes of January 26, 2026, Regular Board Meeting and the Special Meeting held February 5, 2026. Supported by Member Fuss. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion by Member Flynn to approve the February Treasurer's Report. Supported by Member Fuss. Motion Carried.

Approval of Bills:

Motion by Member Flynn to pay the monthly bills due and payable. Supported by Member Fuss. Motion Carried.

Motion by Member Flynn to pay Gabridge \$9,900 for the 2024/25 Fiscal Year Audit. Supported by Member Hendrick. Motion Carried.

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Bowne Township Fire Department: Chief Vander Ziel reported the department ran 300 calls total for 2025 and 27 during the month of January 2026. There were 21 automotive mutual aid calls, representing the highest number recorded to date. The department conducted search and rescue training at the fire station and completed an EMS class in Caledonia.

Freeport Fire Department Report:

Freeport Fire Department made a total of 9 calls in the month of January. Freeport did not respond to any call in Bowne. The new tanker was delivered. Freeport Fire was awarded the Volunteer Fire Capacity Grant from the Michigan DNR. They will be purchasing two sets of structural fire gear. Freeport Fire will be holding a pancake breakfast fundraiser on Saturday, March 21 from 8-11 AM.

Building Report:

PCI of Michigan did not issue any building permits during the month of January.

Old Business:

A Motion by Member Lent-Davis to acknowledge the zoning agreement signed by Jeff Wheeler, on behalf of the winery and to approve **Resolution 2026-03**. Supported by Member Flynn. Resolution 2026-03 States the Bowne Township Board recommends that the Michigan Liquor Control Commission consider this application for approval of an on-premises tasting room permit only, authorizing Clerk Hendrick to sign the MLCC Application. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Fuss, Flynn, Wilcox, Hendrick, Lent-Davis. Nays: None. Absent: None. Resolution Passed.

New Business:

Resolution 2026-01 – Poverty Exemption Resolution Motion by Member Flynn. Supported by Member Fuss, that the Supervisor, Assessor, and Board of Review follow the adopted policy and federal guidelines when granting or denying an exemption as stated in Resolution 2026-01. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Fuss, Flynn, Wilcox, Hendrick, Lent-Davis. Nays: None. Absent: None. Resolution Passed.

Resolution 2026-02 – Motion by Member Lent-Davis to approve the addition of Michigan Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities Systems as an approved investment option. Supported by Member Flynn. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Fuss, Flynn, Wilcox, Hendrick, Lent-Davis. Nays: None. Absent: None. Resolution Passed.

Motion by Member Hendrick to discuss/draft an Ordinance to impose a temporary moratorium regarding new or expanded data centers for one year with the option to extend. Supported by Member Flynn. Motion Carried.

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Motion by Member Flynn to appoint Cheryl Poll to the Board of Review for 2026. Supported by Member Hendrick. Motion Carried.

Motion by Member Flynn to use the 2026 Cola increase of 2.8% to support wage increases for the Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and Assessor. Supported by Member Fuss. Motion Carried.

Motion by Member Flynn to increase mileage reimbursement to the Federal Mileage Rate of 75.2 cents per mile. Supported by Member Hendrick. Motion Carried.

Motion by Member Hendrick to table the discussion of consulting services of Maner Costerisan. Supported by Member Flynn. Motion Carried.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence.

Board Member Comments:

Member Flynn commented on the need to receive board packets and meeting information earlier to allow adequate time for review prior to meetings.

Member Lent-Davis noted that the Historical Society has been included in the township budget and the deputy township clerk and deputy township treasurer are paid \$20 per hour.

Public Comment

One Public Comment was received.

Adjournment

Motion by Member Flynn to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. Supported by Member Hendrick. Motion Carried.



Respectfully submitted,
Karen Hendrick
Township Clerk