

FILLMORE TOWNSHIP

ESTABLISHED 1849

ALLEGAN COUNTY

FILLMORE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

June 10, 2025, 7PM

1. Call to Order.

Supervisor John Yonker called the meeting to order, opened with prayer and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call.

Members Present: John Yonker, Elaine Mokma and Leah Folkert, Chuck Schaap and Bob Yonker

Members Absent: None.

3. Late Agenda Items.

a. Hamilton Fire Board – June 26, 2025 replacement member appointment.

4. Graafschap Fire Department.

Fire Chief Doug DenBleyker submitted the following report;

a. A total of 82 calls for May 2025. There were 20 medical/rescue calls and 1 fire call for Fillmore Township. 2 medical/rescue calls to other agencies and 4 assists from another agency.

5. Hamilton Fire Department.

a. The May 2025 report was taken for information.

6. Overisel Fire Department.

a. The May 2025 report wasn't available.

7. Fillmore/Overisel Deputy.

Officer Wei Chen submitted the following report;

a. There were 103 calls for May 2025, 62 calls for Fillmore Township and 41 for Overisel Township.

8. Allegan County Commissioner.

Commissioner Craig VanBeek was present and submitted a written report.

9. Fillmore Township Hall Property.

a. Replacement of HVAC system.

A Motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Bob Yonker to accept the bid as submitted by Northern Heating to replace both furnaces and 1 AC unit along with the water heater in the Township Hall.

PASSED 5-0.

b. Tree trimming & Removal.

3 bids were received for tree trimming and removal.

A Motion was brought by Elaine Mokma and 2nd by Leah Folkert to accept the bid from Axman Enterprises, Inc. for a total of \$5,500.00

PASSED 5-0.

10. November 4, 2025 Election

The Township has 2 millages that need to be renewed, those being Fire & 1st Response & Water/Sewer.

The Township will also place a new millage on the ballot to fund the cost of Herrick District Library.

Should this millage not be passed, Fillmore Township residents will have limited use of the library. The Board will look further into a dollar amount and years to levy.

The Millage Proposals for all the above will be finalized at the July 8, 2025, Board meeting.

11. Public Participation.

a. Fillmore Township residents were present with concerns regarding a 5G cell tower for parcel # 0306-022-027-00.

The following residents spoke;

1. Evie Geurink – disapprove of cell tower and brought health concern documentation. She also wondered if this area of the Township is a dead zone? Evie also stated she couldn't find any evidence that the notice was published in the Holland Sentinel.
2. Wondered if the ZBA meeting was held the day after the holiday so people would miss it?
3. Sherri Wind – stated that Laketown Township is an option and feels they would like to have a cell tower. She also wondered if this is allowed, what else will follow. She wondered about changes coming from the Board regarding notifications to residents.

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4. Tom Chappell – wondered 5G vs radio waves – the differences? He wondered if a petition could be brought to the Township for an Ordinance for the health & safety of the residents.
5. Jenn Graham – also wondered about 5G vs radio waves and the truth in studies.
6. Jane Slagh – wonders if the Township cares about their residents.
7. Duane Zuverink – questions the 300 ft notification guidelines and what is the length of the process. He also wonders if the Planning Commission would have decided differently had residents shown up for the meeting.
8. Emma VanOss – has been ill since moving in the Township, Drs are asking if she lives near power lines or cell towers. She wonders the effects of multiple cell towers also wondering a timeline and would a transition be made from 5G to 6G when it becomes available.
9. Anne Geurink – wondered if there was zoning for a tower and what can residents do to oppose a cell tower.
10. Aaron Kamphuis – Can the tower decision be tabled?
11. Alicia Kortering – feels it's the Township's responsibility to explore negatives effects of this project.
12. Tiffany Huyser -feels mailings need to look more official.
13. Ken Timmerman – wonders if there is a 30-day reversal period.
14. Vern Prins – wonders if the meetings could be live streamed.
15. Andrew Geurink – wonders about the Township sending out a monthly email of information to area residents.

Many residents felt they didn't receive notification in the mail or had thrown it out due to not recognizing the return address or had laid it aside or thrown it out thinking it was junk mail.

16. Tret Geurink – strongly encouraged the residents to attend the monthly Board meetings to be informed of issues and things happening in the Township.

Chuck Schaap, Trustee for Fillmore Township explained the process of the building and zoning ordinances of the Township. If a request fits the ordinance and the Township refuses the request, then what happens??

Risking a possible law suit.

He strongly encouraged the residents to attend Board meetings and look at the Township website. Meeting minutes are posted on the website.

John Yonker, Supervisor for Fillmore Township stated in the future the Township office will again be sending out notices of site plans and zoning issues instead of using P.C.I.

12. **Fillmore Township Board of Trustees Minutes – May 13, 2025.**

Upon review of the May 13, 2025, minutes as presented;

A Motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Bob Yonker to approve these minutes as presented with the following correction, Item 14b – date corrected to June 2, 2025.

PASSED 5-0.

A Motion was brought by Elaine Mokma and 2nd by Bob Yonker to return to the table Item 14b of the above minutes.

PASSED 5-0.

A Motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Bob Yonker to approve the decision of the Planning Commission at their May 5, 2025 meeting and deny the rezoning change request of Jeff Genzink from C-1 to MIC for parcel 0306-029-003-41.

PASSED 5-0.

13. **Fillmore Township Planning Commission meeting June 2, 2025.**

The Fillmore Township Planning Commission met on June 2, 2025, Chuck Schaap member of the Planning Commission read those minutes of that quarterly meeting.

- a. Wording to be added for clarification to the Public Hearing for Aaron Kamphuis to recommended items from the Planning Commission to the Board of Trustees for clarification #4 – raised sidewalk or cement parking bumpers.

A Motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Leah Folkert to approve the recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve the Site Plan of Aaron Kamphuis and Matt Potts including a landscape plan that meets Fillmore Township Zoning Code.

PASSED 5-0.

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- b. A Motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Elaine Mokma to approve the Site Plan for the Oak & Elm Events Facility with the 2-preconstruction changes as recommended by the Planning Commission.
PASSED 5-0.

14. Fillmore Township Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes May 27, 2025

The minutes of that meeting were received for information.

15. Supervisor Updates.

- a. Fillmore Township roads – 140th Ave/48th St culvert needs replacing. The Allegan County Road Commission has sent a work order requesting this to be done in timing with the repaving of that road. Cost of that culvert to be approximately \$40,000.

A Motion was brought by Bob Yonker and 2nd by Chuck Schaap to approve the culvert replacement.
PASSED 5-0.

16. Late Agenda.

As per the Interlocal Agreement for Hamilton Fire Department, if a Board member is unable to attend, another is to be appointed to assume those responsibilities for that meeting.

Due to Board member Bob Yonker being unable to attend the upcoming June 26, 2025 meeting;

A Motion was brought by Bob Yonker and 2nd by Elaine Mokma to appoint Chuck Schaap to assume the responsibilities of Bob Yonker for the Hamilton Fire Department Fire Board meeting on June 26, 2025 at 7pm.

PASSED 5-0.

Clerk to inform Ron Jones of the appointment.

17. Treasurer's Report

General Fund

Balance on Hand May 1, 2025	\$170,735.68
Receipts	\$ 42,732.55
Disbursements	\$153,088.35
Balance on Hand May 31, 2025	\$ 60,379.88

CD's

General Fund	\$2,225,837.09
Total General Fund	\$2,286,216.97

Utility Fund

Balance on May 1, 2025	\$ 82,454.93
Receipts	\$ 795.53
Disbursements	\$ 3,374.65
Balance on Hand May 31, 2025	\$ 80,488.73

CD's

Utility Fund	\$0.00
Total Utility Fund	\$ 80,488.73

18. Monthly Bills

Upon review of the bills as presented;

A Motion was received from Leah Folkert and 2nd by Bob Yonker to approve the bills as presented, those bills being Payroll, General Fund, Utility Fund.

PASSED 5-0.

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19. Meeting Adjourned.

There being no other business presented to the Board;

A Motion was brought by Leah Folkert and 2nd by Elaine Mokma to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm.

PASSED 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine Mokma, Clerk

Fillmore Township

I, Elaine Mokma, Township Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of the meeting adopted by the Fillmore Township at a regular meeting of the Fillmore Township Board of Trustees on June 10, 2025 at 7:00 pm, which was held in accordance with the Open Meetings Act of the State of Michigan

Signed _____ Date _____