Kearney Township Regular Board Meeting
4820 Aero Park Drive, Bellaire, MI 49615
(231) 533-5719

Minutes

September 14, 2026

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Niepoth, Murray, Valuet, Hagood and Comben.

Conflict of Interest: None.

Motion by Murray, supported by Valuet, to approve the agenda, as presented, carried.

Motion by Comben, supported by Murray, to approve the August 10th Board meeting minutes, as presented, carried.

Motion by Hagood, supported by Murray, to approve payment of the bills, as presented, in the amount of $18,710.73, carried.

Public Comment: None.

Old Business:

Michigan PAR Plan Assessment recommendation: Board discussed recommendation for Background Checks. No action was taken.

Asset List: Clerk advised that the new television information will be added to the list and suggested that this item did not need to be included on future agendas.

Attorney review of draft Utility Scale Solar Energy and Utility Scale BESS ordinance: The attorney review was forwarded to the Planning Commission for its consideration. Peter Wendling is the new attorney contact from the Bauckham Thall firm. Board discussed the possibility of meeting with the PC Board and Wendling at the Board's November meeting to discuss the redraft of the Zoning Ordinance including the two Boards' comments, concerns and questions from prior joint meetings.

ZBA board opening: Inquiries received. No action was taken.

L-4029 approval: Motion by Murray, supported by Valuet, to approve the L-4029, as presented, carried.

Zoning Ordinance amendment in Centennial Hills: Motion by Valuet, supported by Comben, to adopt Ordinance No. 09-14-2026, carried. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Comben, Hagood, Valuet, Murray and Niepoth. No – None. Absent – None.

New Business:

Increase Clerk and Treasurer Credit Card spending limit: Prior resolution and proposed changes reviewed by Board. Motion by Murray, supported by Comben, to approve Resolution No. 09-14-2026 establishing a new credit card limit, carried.

Change November 9, 2026 meeting to November 4, 2026: Motion by Comben, supported by Murray, to move the November 9th meeting to November 4th, at the same time, carried.

Zoning Training session at Banks Township for ZBA and Planning Commission members: Motion by Murray, supported by Valuet, to approve the expenditure for the joint Planning Commission and ZBA training in Banks Township, and the date is to be determined, carried.

Snow plow bid for 2026-2027 season: The price of snow plowing is the same as last year. The only change is a fuel surcharge if fuel prices go up. Motion by Hagood, supported by Murray, to hire Kevin Giar, as in previous years, to take care of snow plowing of the parking lot, carried.

Lake Bellaire access tree removal bid: Motion by Murray, supported by Valuet, to approve the estimate from Northern Tree and Transplanting & Landscape for removal and chipping of the willow, carried.

Public Comment: Information shared on a meeting held by the Carter Foundation in Antrim County. On September 30th the group is sponsoring an election information session to be held at the County building at 6:30 p.m.

County Commissioner updated the Board on County business.

Officer Reports:

Treasurer: Today was the last day to pay summer tax bill.

Clerk: Reported on Clerk Roundtable meeting; shared summary of early voting numbers and costs for Antrim County townships in August and plan to share with Representatives and Senator; contacted the Shredding company about coming to the Township; reminder regarding mileage reimbursements for training; FOIA's received; and contacted Township employees to encourage direct deposit.

Trustee Comben: Question regarding email received on a proposed data center working group.

Trustee Murray: Question regarding MTA regional meeting on October 13.

Supervisor: Provided information on the proposed data center working group.

Motion by Comben, supported by Valuet, to adjourn meeting at 8:08 p.m., carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Michelle D. Valuet, Clerk