Minutes of the Brookfield Township Board Meeting

Minutes for October 5th, 2026 (unapproved)

The regular meeting of the Brookfield Township board was called to order by Clerk, Tara Miller at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were: Larson, Miller and Orr and Williams. Absent was Spotts and Miller conducted the meeting in his absence.
Also present were: Dawn Sherman, Terry Smyth, Jonah Wilson, Tyler Vance and Frank Holmes.
There was one item of new business regarding the EAJPC to add to the agenda. Orr moved, seconded by Williams to approve the agenda as presented. 4/0 MC

Minutes from the August 3rd, 2026 regular meeting were presented for approval. Miller asked for any additions or corrections, seeing none, Larson moved, seconded by Orr, the minutes were approved as presented. 4/0 MC
Minutes from the August 20th, 2026 Special Meeting which followed the final SAD public hearing, were presented. Miller asked for additions or corrections, seeing none, Larson moved, seconded by Orr, the minutes were approved as presented. 4/0 MC

Treasurer's Report – Larson presented the financials for August - September.
General Fund balance: $116,433.52
Invoices submitted for Trustee approval: #5433 - 5459
General fund expenses: $43,438.53
General fund income: $30,821.12
Tax account balance: $24,129.73
Miller asked for any questions regarding the report, seeing none, the financials were placed on record as presented. 4/0 MC

Larson presented Budget Amendments as follows:
Income: Created 930 Transfers-In - $31,261.20 (funds from closing NLSS Special Assessment account)
101 General Fund
101-800 Bank fees is over by $60.95, and 101-801 Attorney is over by $7,740.36

- Requesting to take $8,950 from 930 Transfers-In to amend 101-800 Bank Fees from $300.00 to $450 and 101-801 Attorney from $1,500 to $8,500.

253 Treasurer
253-752 Supplies is over by $1,242.44

- Requesting to take $1,700 from Transfers In to amend 253-752 Treasurer Supplies from $2,000 to $3,700.

Moved by Orr, seconded by Williams to approve Budget Amendments as presented. 4/0 MC

Larson presented the BS&A proposal, explaining the software we are currently using for property taxes and assessing are **tax.net** and **access.net** are being phased out, and will no longer be upgraded or supported. The county is encouraging all townships and municipalities to move to BS&A Cloud which they use along with several other townships/ municipalities in the county, but it is a much higher cost. She reported support for **.net** is going to decrease within six months and BS&A will eventually stop fixing the bugs. 2029 will be the last date it is available. If the township stays with .net there will be a 15% increase for tax.net and assess.net each year.
Michael VanHal of BS&A presented to the Eaton County Treasurers a discount if each municipality wants to take advantage of signing on to the Cloud.
Number of township/municipalities:

- 1-4 would sign it will be $1,000 discount
- 5-9 a $2,500 discount
- 10 or more, a $5,000 discount

Brookfield currently pays $1,800 annually for .net. The Cloud total annual cost will be $6000 – $7,000.
The one-time upgrade implementation costs normally is $8,500 – $12,000. Depending on how many sign-on the cost could be $3,500 – $7,000.
Decision needs to be made by December 11 and by December 14 the township will know the one-time upgrade implementation cost.
Larson has confirmation from Michael VanHal that Brookfield can request to be invoiced next fiscal year for half of the one-time implementation costs. Then about six months later we will be invoiced the new annual costs and the remaining one-time costs.
Miller moved and seconded by Williams to table the decision until the December board meeting. 4/0 MC

Narrow Lake Sewer System Report -- Miller presented the financials for August - September
NLSS checking balance: $13,373.91
Invoices submitted for Trustee approval: #2707 to 2713 plus 1 ACH.
NLSS income: $13,870.00
NLSS expenses: $12,008.46
NLSS Regular Savings: $23,802.64
She also reported she has started the process of switching to MEC as the air modem at the treatment plant is not working regularly and causing alarms not to work when tanks are dry so it could be a costly problem.
Miller asked for any questions regarding the report, seeing none, Williams moved, seconded by Larson, the NLSS financials were placed on record as presented. 4/0 MC

Limited public comment: None

<u>Reports</u>
EAJPC

- Orr explained they are requesting each township adopt a resolution to impose a 12 month moratorium on data centers while EAJPC evaluates what our zoning should be for them. Moved by Miller, seconded by Williams to approve this request. 4 yeas / 0 nays by roll call vote. MC
- Paul Feeny has agreed to be our Representative on the EAJPC Appeals Board, with Bill Richardson as the Alternate. Moved by Larson, seconded by Williams to approve Feeny and Richardson. 4/0 MC

Eaton Area EMS

- Miller reported from the August meeting the Eaton Area EMS is fully staffed, operating 3 ambulances 24/7 and one ambulance on a 12/7 hour shift from 11 am to 11 pm.
- They paid for the schooling for 2 EMT's that recently graduated and 4 more have joined this fall's program who have started EMT school at LCC, and a high school graduate will be joining the program in the spring. The new EMT's have to sign a two year contract at the completion of their schooling to work for EAEMS for their tuition being covered.
- EAEMS is planning to start a Spectran type transportation service in Eaton County so patients have transportation options to and from medical appointments, dialysis, etc. Sometimes, too often, patients are calling 911 for transportation to important medical appointments. They are hoping to put on 3 vans for this service.
- Regular mutual aid calls have been to Clinton County, Grand Ledge and Jackson County.
- In the second quarter Brookfield Township had 30 EMS calls.
- U_M Sparrow Main is experiencing a staffing shortage, especially impacting their ER so by using the local hospitals for triage is providing better, safer care. Two hour waits of stretchers on the wall in the hallways were reported at the Main Campus.

Rural Fire Association - August 19, 2026 Meeting Update

- Charlotte Fire Department had 1487 runs to date. Charlotte Fire Department Open House will be held October 14, 6-9 p.m.
- Crandall Lake has a severe weather siren and the fire department is trying to find money for one at Narrow Lake.
- The Live BurnTraining Center building will be delivered October 1st . There will be 1st and 2nd floor burn rooms and the appropriations were secured by Representative Witwer.
- Charlotte Fire Department has applied for a grant through the State of Michigan for $50,000 for a new ATV and FEMA for fire hoses for Charlotte, Benton, and Vermontville Fire Departments.
- The Rural Fire Association is still working on seeking an audit firm.
- The Rural Fire Association reviewed Attorney Hannah Stocker's suggested changes to the Third Agreement. The board decided to go with the 2020 Decennial Survey to determine the number of households in each township for FY 2027/28.
- Brookfield Township's percentage is 22.84% (606 households).
- The other change is VIII. Term B.3. change 60 days to one year.

Old Business

Hecate Solar - Miller reported that Hecate's application to the MPSC was denied due to an error made on the application. We have proceeded with intervening as advised by our attorney, Keith Brown. This will get our ordinance requirements in front of the MPSC, and require Hecate to hold a public meeting with-in our township. With the new application, they will need to provide another $30,000 to the three townships. With intervening, we can use the first round of funds for the attorney fees and for the review to be completed by McKenna which will be submitted to the application as part of our case. We will need to sign an agreement with Eaton County to access $15,000 (half) of the $30,000 they received. The agreement should be coming soon. They indicated they wanted their funds used first.

Miller reported all the requirements for the S.A.D were complete.

New Business

Miller reported that Mathew Hannahs from the Eaton County Road Commission asked to attend the meeting to discuss the new millage that will be on November's ballot, but then had a prior meeting he had committed to at Kalamo Township's board meeting. He offered to speak with us at another time or individually or provide information if needed. Mainly to explain it is a new millage but is replacing one that is expiring but at the same millage rate. It cannot be considered a renewal because verbiage of the millage changed so it was broader and allows them to do more and better maintenance on the county's roads. Commissioner Holmes was able to provide more details on the millage.

Commissioner Report - Commissioner Holmes the budget was completed, balanced and passed and went into effect on October 1st. He explained about the two millages that were expiring - a jail millage and the Eaton County Medical Care Facility millage.

Limited public comment - none

Moved by Orr to adjourn, supported by Larson at 8:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Miller, Clerk