

Holly Township  
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting  
Minutes of March 18, 2026

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CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Kullis called the Regular Meeting of the Holly Township Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 pm located at the Holly Township Offices (Upstairs), 102 Civic Drive, Holly, Michigan 48442.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
ROLL CALL

Members Present:

George Kullis, Karin Winchester, Jennifer Ryan, Derek Burton, Ryan Matson, Michael McCanney and Richard Kinnamon

Members Absent: None.      Others Present: None.

AGENDA APPROVAL

- **Motion by Clerk Winchester to approve the agenda. Supported by Trustee Burton. A voice vote was taken. All present voted yes. The motion carried 7/0.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes – March 18, 2026.
2. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes – April 1, 2026.
3. Approval of Financial Statement – March 2026.
4. Approval of Bills for Payment – April 2026.
5. Receipt of Routine Reports:
  - A. N.O.C.F.A. Meeting Minutes – No March Meeting.
  - B. Planning Commission Minutes – March 11, 2026.
  - C. Building Permits – March 2026.
  - D. Treasurer’s Annual and Quarterly Report – March 31, 2026.
6. Communications:
  - A. Holly Area Youth Assistance 2025 Report.

- **Motion by Trustee Kinnamon to approve the Consent Agenda. Supported by Clerk Winchester. A roll call vote was taken. All present voted yes. The motion carried 7/0.**

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

REPORTS:

TRUSTEES

- Trustee Kinnamon reported that the Holly Area Chamber of Commerce held a well-attended business expo on Saturday — the first such event since the 1980s — featuring 21 businesses and organizations, food vendors, and activities for children. He also noted that the Ortonville division would be hosting an economic forecast breakfast the following morning at the

Brandon Township Library, featuring a presentation by University of Michigan-Flint economics professor Christopher Douglas. Trustee Kinnamon noted that the professor had recently revised all of his slides to account for changing economic conditions, including fluctuating gas prices and ongoing global conflicts.

- Trustee McCanney had no report but noting that the commission has been developing strong cohesion as a team, which he found encouraging given the volume of work. He also reminded residents that vintage baseball is returning to Holly, now in its fifth year, with the first game expected in June. He noted the program has grown to attract leagues from Pennsylvania and Ohio.
- Trustee Matson reported that he attended the previous evening's village board meeting, where a consultant presented progress on the village's proposed village-to-city conversion. Key figures cited in the presentation included a projected 43% increase in population through the annexation of approximately 2,600 township residents, and an 85% increase in taxable value which the consultant characterized as potentially the largest village-to-city conversion on record. Trustee

Matson expressed the hope that the board would reach a consensus to direct administrative staff to contact the township attorney regarding the preparation of a statement for residents within the proposed annexation boundary, so they are informed that the township is actively monitoring and responding to the village's plans.

- Clerk Winchester reported that the previously discussed Dixie Highway rezoning matter will not be returning to the township, as the property owner has elected to sell the parcel to a neighboring landowner.

#### TREASURER

- Treasurer Ryan commented on the village's annexation presentation, noting that in November she had conducted an extensive analysis of taxable values for parcels surrounding the village and found that even a broad annexation scenario would yield only approximately a 50% increase in taxable value, well short of the 85% figure cited by the village's consultant. She indicated uncertainty about what additional territory the village may be contemplating. Brief discussion followed among board members regarding the potential uncapping of the Headlee Amendment millage rate in the event of annexation.

#### SUPERVISOR

Supervisor Kullis offered several reports:

**North Holly Road Flooding:** Supervisor Kullis reported that the township experienced significant flooding on North Holly Road following approximately four and a half inches of rain in 24 hours. He explained that the flooding is caused by a failed underground farm drain that historically carried water to Schwartz Creek — the drain is crushed, deteriorated, and no longer operable. Because it runs through private property, the county will not intervene and the private landowner has declined to replace it. Supervisor Kullis outlined the one substantive remedy available: formally petitioning the Water Resources Commission to create a drain district. He

noted that such a process was investigated approximately six years ago and was estimated to cost around \$50,000 in engineering and study costs, and that the prior board was not inclined to pursue it given the infrequency of flooding events. He explained that the delayed response in pumping water from the road was due to the time required to obtain a permit from EGLE and assemble the necessary equipment, including silt fencing and filtration hoses. He further noted that the road remained closed even after visible water receded because the road bed had become fully saturated and the shoulders required stabilization by the Oakland County Road Commission. Supervisor Kullis offered to reach out to the Water Resources Commission and arrange a presentation to the board, and asked trustees whether they wished to pursue that option. Trustee Matson expressed support for receiving a presentation, noting the increasing frequency of severe weather events.

**Quick Road Incident:** Supervisor Kullis reported a road safety incident on Quick Road, where road improvement work was underway and during the work, a motorist drove around a road grader at speed, struck the road commission employee Gary with a vehicle mirror, and continued through. Kullis was parked behind the road commission truck. The State Police responded and determined partial fault on both sides because there were no safety lights on the stopped vehicles. Supervisor Kullis noted that as a result of this incident, he intends to outfit the township's new truck with flashing lights and ensure proper safety equipment is in place for road-related work activities.

**Township Property Tree Removal:** Supervisor Kullis reported that two deteriorated trees near the front of the new township property were removed. One tree, despite being split to the ground and fully rotted through, had been held upright by a third tree that had fused to it. Additionally, a large Civil War-era tree in the adjacent cemetery measuring 57 to 60 inches across at the base was removed after a major limb fell and the remaining limbs were found to be positioned directly over headstones, with rot extending nearly to the base.

**Village Social Media Incident:** Supervisor Kullis addressed a recent Facebook post by a resident in which the village manager's claim was that the Township Supervisor had refused to provide tax information for a village budget workshop was shared publicly. Supervisor Kullis clarified that the claim was inaccurate, and that he had attended the village board meeting to address the matter directly on the record. He expressed a desire for improved communication between the two entities.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### 1. 2026-2027 Holly Township Parks Proposed Budget.

Parks Manager Mary Blanchard presented the proposed fiscal year 2026-2027 budget on behalf of the Holly Township Parks and Recreation Commission. She was joined by Commissioners Cindy Earl, James Wright, and Commission Chairperson Jane Bias DiSessa.

The proposed budget for fiscal year 2026-2027 totals \$258,900, representing a 5.29% increase over the prior year's adopted budget of \$245,900, driven primarily by a 6.25% increase in property tax revenues. She outlined key budget allocations that include:

- \$30,000 for road improvements at Sorensen Park
- \$25,000 for park repairs, including a new roof for the Nature Center, repainting of the Sorensen Park pavilion, and new grills at the beach
- \$10,000 for a new lawnmower for the township beach
- \$33,000 in additional salary funding to establish two new part-time positions — a Digital Communications Coordinator and a Building Maintenance/Beach Staff person — to offset the loss of three positions previously funded through the Michigan Works program

Trustee Matson asked whether the Digital Communications Coordinator position would assist with streaming and posting notices for park meetings. Manager Blanchard confirmed that the role would support website development and digital communications and noted that a vendor for website services had already been selected at the commission's most recent meeting.

Treasurer Ryan requested that future budget submissions include prior-year actuals to allow for trend analysis.

Clerk Winchester identified that the required Truth in Budgeting public notice had not been published in a newspaper as required by law, noting that Parks posting at three physical locations does not satisfy the publication requirement. It was determined that the township's own budget hearing in May could incorporate the park budget, and that both budgets would be formally adopted in June.

Supervisor Kullis raised a concern regarding line item 805, Legal Fees, noting that \$7,000 had been budgeted the prior year with no expenditure recorded, despite the commission continuing to execute contracts without legal review. He noted that the current year's budget included only \$3,000 for legal fees and expressed concern that funds budgeted for legal review were consistently going unused, leaving the commission exposed in the event of a legal dispute.

The Board Took No Action.

## 2. Mental Health Month – Proposed Resolution 2026-07.

- **Motion by Trustee Kinnamon to approve Mental Health Month – Proposed Resolution 2026-07. Supported by Trustee Burton. A roll call vote was taken. All present voted yes. The motion carried 7/0.**

## 3. Budget Workshop.

Supervisor Kullis introduced the township's proposed budget overview. Treasurer Ryan highlighting areas of the budget and noted transfers of fund balance and allocations for the new township hall.

Trustee Matson observed that most budget figures appear consistent with prior-year projections and noted the value of the Treasurer's trend analysis. He renewed a request, previously raised during the NOCFA budget review, for the development of a long-term capital improvement plan for fire services. Supervisor Kullis acknowledged the concern and confirmed that the NOCFA

Board and Chief are actively working on a capital improvement plan, with progress currently slowed due to union contract negotiations.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Lauve 200 N. Saginaw, Holly, MI 48442.

Mary Blanchard 3444 Old Creek, Holly, MI 48442 addressed the Board.

Randy Finkbeiner, NOCFA addressed the Board.

ADJOURNMENT – Supervisor Kullis adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

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Karin Winchester, Clerk