

**GANGES TOWNSHIP BOARD  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2026**

Supervisor Hebert called the meeting to order at 7:00pm at the Ganges Township Hall located at the corner of 119<sup>th</sup> Ave and 64<sup>th</sup> St. Board members present by roll call attendance: Hutchins, Reimink, Hebert, Phelps, and Thompson.

Reimink moved, Hutchins seconded, to approve the agenda dated 01/13/2026 as presented. Motion carried.

**Correspondence**

Email received from **Lenny Thibodeaux**, regarding his concern for the new proposed campground.

Email received from **Sue Mackey**, regarding concern about advertised activities at Campit.

**Tony and Marsha Maslanka**, 1811 66<sup>th</sup> St, email received in support of the current Campground and RV Park Moratorium.

**Robert and Jan Firmiss**, email received concerning Proposed RV Park/Campground and support of the moratorium.

**Phil Badra**, Planning Commission, emailed the Zoning Moratorium for campgrounds for the Board approval.

**Public Comments**

**Brad Lubbers**, Allegan County Commissioner, gave a report. County road maps are available. There are 2 versions. One with just the roads and the other includes ORV trails. Parks and Rec plan was renewed, and the County will be applying for a grant to fix the steps at Westside County Park. Outdoor Discovery Center will partner with the County to hold activities at the Parks. The County will be holding a ceremony to honor the late Hamilton Fire Chief David Haverdink at one of their meetings in the future.

Reimink moved, Hebert seconded, to approve the regular meeting minutes of 12/19/2025 with amendments. Motion carried.

Reimink reported the balances as of 12/31/2025 as follows:

General Fund	\$646,030.64
Ambulance Fund	\$28,400.58
Fire Fund	\$597,658.25
First Responders Fund	\$147,658.00
Road Fund	\$226,716.18
CD	\$514,622.07

Hebert moved, Hutchins seconded, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Reimink moved, Hebert seconded, to approve payment of the bills dated 01/13/2026 as presented from the following funds: General Fund- \$36,116.09; Fire Fund- \$15,400.77; First Responder Fund- \$5,763.11; Ambulance Fund-\$7,815.71; Road Fund-\$95,986.96. Motion carried.

### **Committee Reports**

Fire Dept/First Responders-Chief Jager reported that the department finished 2025 with 363 calls which was down from last year.

Hebert moved, Phelps seconded, to approve the quote from MES to purchase Masks for \$2125.00. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to approve the Annual Hose and Ladder Testing Agreement with Firecatt which is a 3-year agreement 2026-2028. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Hutchins seconded, to approve the bid to fix Truck 616 from Kleyn for \$21,914.26. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Phelps seconded, to approve the First Responder application from Mae Miller. Motion carried.

Cemeteries and Parks-Hebert reported for Broe that there was only 1 burial.

Planning Commission- Hutchins reported that the commission met on Dec. 29 to approve the Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance and Impose a Temporary Moratorium on Recreational Vehicle Parks and Campgrounds.

Short Term Rental Committee-Hutchins reported they have been meeting regularly to draft an ordinance to send to the legal team, and then present to the board. The Draft will be published on the website before the Township Board meeting. Discussion was had about whether or not we want to limit where STRs are located possibly limiting them to commercial properties, and when do we want current STR owners to come into compliance.

**Unfinished Business** -None

**New Business**

Hebert moved, seconded by Thompson, to approve Ordinance No. 67- Ordinance to Amend the Ganges Township Zoning Ordinance and Impose a Temporary Moratorium on Recreational Vehicle Parks and Campgrounds. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Hutchins-Y, Reimink-Y, Hebert-Y, Phelps-Y, and Thompson-Y. (5/0)

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to approve the 2026 Poverty Exemption Guidelines. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to approve the renewal proposal from Decker Insurance for 2026. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Thompson seconded, to approve adding Sturgis Bank, Consumers Credit Union, and Lake Michigan Credit Union to the list of 2026 banking institutions. Motion carried.

Reimink moved, Hebert seconded, to approve the Deputy Clerk pay to \$25/hour. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Hutchins seconded, to support the Coastal Forest Planning Project as requested from the Allegan Conservation District. Motion carried.

## **Public Comments**

Marsha Maslanka, 1811 66<sup>th</sup> St, stated concern about Data Centers and whether or not it should be included in the Township Ordinances.

John Mortenson, 7030 Foster Lane, asked if the township had solicited public comments in the drafting process of Short Term Rentals and asked if we were aware of the State of Michigan Supreme Court Decision concerning Short Term Rentals.

Representative from Joey Andrews office touching base to see if we had any budgetary issues.

Kim Mannion, 6611 Deer trail, Casco STR person, permits events without who to contact for permits does Campit have any for events posted. How will be policed. Applaud Twp for STR focus.

Chuck Mannion, 6611 Deer Trail, **asked if there was a mechanism** for when someone is having a party or throwing events, **and would they** be notified that they need to have a permit. **Asked** how is **the** search for **an** enforcement officer for these **events**?

Ed Reimink, 6438 119<sup>th</sup>, PC meeting seems to not be right that we can be on the phone during the meeting. Also, why are comments not responded to. How to find out answer to questions?

Karen Duffin, 6491 118<sup>th</sup>, concerned about nitrates in the ground water and wanted to make people aware.

Brad Lubbers, County Commissioner, offered information on Community Action House to help financially with these concerns.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to adjourn meeting at 7:57 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robin Phelps, Ganges Twp Clerk