

Rutland Charter Township

Special Regular Board Meeting

June 24, 2026 / 7PM

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Mayack at 7pm. Moment of Silence. Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call Members Present:

Sandy Greenfield, Marti Mayack, Robin Hawthorne, Brenda Bellmore, Jason Watson, Sandy James, Gene Hall

Others Present:

Bob Teunessen, James Hatfield, Sue Bender, Dave Beckwith, 3 other members of the public did not sign in, Nickie Haight

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Bellmore, seconded by Watson, to approve the June 24, 2026 RCT Board Meeting Agenda. All ayes. Motion passes.

Guests: None

Open Comments: None

Consent Agenda: None

Supervisor:

Supervisor Mayack says he went to a Supervisors meeting and learned about house bills and state regulations that will try to take over some control from local governments. He says Hall will cover some items in his report. Septic systems are one that is specifically upsetting. Commissioner Bob Teunessen says residents will not be able to afford the inspections and fines that would come from the new state regulations. Greenfield asks what triggered the state to want these changes. Teunessen says there are supposedly levels of fecal matter that get into the water. Especially when lake properties and drain fields flood. So the state wants raised systems. Teunessen says commissioners have passed a resolution to stop this from happening and they will get it to all local governments in the area to sign and submit to the state. Commissioners are wondering what will happen when people do not have anywhere to live and they are losing their homes due to those new regulations. He says there is a Republican run house and they have all said they will not support the proposed new regulations.

Clerk:

Clerk Hawthorne shares that AV Ballots went out today and accuracy testing is Monday at 11am.

Treasurer:

Treasurer Greenfield says tax bills go out July 1st.

Trustees:

Trustee Watson wants to add to the July agenda a discussion about RCT creating its own infrastructure in the MUD. Hawthorne says they have done studies in the past that proved the cost, which needs to include ongoing maintenance and staffing, is astronomical. Mayack says

there are options to look at for infrastructure funding coming down the road. Hawthorne says there are no grants or help available because RCT is too close to an existing waste water plant. Greenfield says if the water treatment plant would just give us a water and sewer agreement, without taking our land, RCT might be able to create their own infrastructure. Mayack agrees. Watson asks for copies of the past studies; he says once Meijer is here, the MUD will never be the same.

Trustee Hall goes over his report which includes the house and state bills that seek to take over many zoning regulations from local governments. Trustee James supports keeping those decisions at the local level. He is asking that RCT board members and residents become more involved with voicing our opposition. He would like to form a committee of local city, county, and township members led by RCT.

Trustee Hall brings up that the last several votes by this board pertaining to the Meijer property have been split 4-3. He says this board is normally on the same page and being split like that is proof that board members are making choices that they believe are right for the residents of RCT. He is proud to be a part of this board.

Trustee Bellmore points out that the board members are from different walks of life and speak with different groups of residents. She also suggests having some representatives and candidates that are running for office come speak at RCT meetings. They are willing to listen. Mayack will reach out to make that happen.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Joint Ordinance to amend Zoning Map of the Hastings-Rutland Joint Planning Commission

Board members discuss the MUD and LI on the RCT map and the JPC map. This amendment just transfers zoning authority to the JPC. Hall saw an article that said RCT is rezoning the proposed Meijer property for Meijer. He wants it to be clear that they are not rezoning anything.

Motion by Hall, seconded by James, to accept the recommendation from the Joint Planning Commission and to accept Ordinance #2026-202 for first reading.

Roll Call Vote: Hall - Yes, James - Yes, Greenfield - No, Mayack - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - No, Watson - No. Motion passes 4-3.

Open Comments:

Dave Beckwith arrives late and asks if this is the meeting that the township is joining everything together with the city for the Meijer property. Supervisor Mayack says that has mostly already happened and this is just some housekeeping.

Adjournment:

Motion by Hall, seconded by Watson to adjourn at 7:20pm. All ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Nickie Haight, Recording Secretary