Georgette Peterson, Supervisor
Susan Wilson, Clerk
Jeff Douglas, Treasurer

Rob Zantello, Trustee
Ted Swanson, Trustee

ARLINGTON TOWNSHIP
VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 15, 2026

Georgette Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Ted Swanson, Jeff Douglas, Susan Wilson, Georgette Peterson and guest, Attorney Scott Graham. Trustee Rob Zantello was absent.

**Motion to approve the agenda made by Ted Swanson seconded by Jeff Douglas. Changes to the Agenda: Add Closed Session to discuss pending litigation at the end. Add The TeamLogic IT bid for replacement equipment, Add auditor's bids to replace Rehmann's. Add MAMC Membership reimbursement. All in favor. Motion Carried.**

REPORTS

Supervisor's Report - MSHDA GRANT has gone through for low income-based residential homes. We have a third-party administrator, which is Market One who will hold an information session.

Marijuana Coordinator's Report

Clerk's Report

**Motion by Susan Wilson to approve the consent agenda reports. Support by Georgette Peterson. All in favor. Motion Carried.**

**Motion by Susan Wilson to approve the March 18, 2026, Board Minutes. Support by Ted Swanson . All in favor. Motion Carried.**

Budget approval fees.

Jeff Douglas - New zoning fees based on building costs were approved, but Zoning Administrator, Ryan Laylin, suggested the fees were too high. Different percentages were presented. Will continue discussion with Ryan Laylin. Tabled until next meeting.

Reports:

Law Enforcement: Deputy Holly Daniel – 55 calls in March. Addressed 3 blight properties. Explained the blight process. Work in America (AFL-CIO affiliate) will be in

neighborhoods contacting residents to join their charter. Stolen cars are on the uptake. Don't leave your car running while unattended, don't leave your car unlocked with the keys inside.

Fire Departments:

ABB: Derek Bacock: 55 calls total, 15 calls in Arlington. Ordered two new AED's @ $1,600 each. Engine is back after rehab. CPR classes are now available. Two cadets in Fire Academy will graduate on April 23rd. Derek's 20-year anniversary from ABB hire date.

Lawrence: Derek Babcock – Eleven calls in Arlington. Ten of those calls on 48th Avenue.

Social Services: Jeanie Babcock – Newsletters have gone out. July 25th Gala $25.00
Many services and resources are available. Lending closet has medical equipment available. Left Newsletters for residents. Many trips for Seniors.

Commissioner's Report: No Report

Road Commissioner's Report: No Report
Georgette reported that there is still no bid on 40th Avenue. Jeff explained the culvert has washed out between 52nd Street and CR 215. Road is impassable.

Treasurers Report: Run check for Snider Services - $6,491.
Motion to pay Snider Services: Support by:

**Motion by Ted Swanson to accept TeamLogic IT to replace leased equipment from The Tech of SW MI for $2,895. Support by: Georgette Peterson. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Georgette Peterson to accept Bainbridge's bid for auditing for one year. Support by Susan Wilson. Discussion: Rehmann, who is our auditing firm, has cut back on their services and gave us three recommendations for a new auditing firm. Bainbridge & Co. in Grand Rapids is most responsive. One year contract.**
**Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Ted Swanson to pay monthly bills. Support by Jeff Douglas. Treasury report is on the website. General Fund: $22,525. Marijuana Fund: $8,535.05. for a total of: $31,060.76. All in favor. Motion Carried.**

**Motion by Georgette Peterson to cover the annal membership fee of $100.00 for the township clerk for 2026-2027. Support by Jeff Douglas. Access to training videos and information. Roll call vote: All in favor. motion carried.**

Planning Commission Report: April 1, 2026, meeting. The Master Plan was tabled. The

SWMPC's latest version has many grammatical errors and incorrect sentence Structure. Historical locations and events were not included. Peggy Douglas, the Office Manager, has started corrections instead of relying on SWMPC. Approval was tabled.

PC meetings are now scheduled for Thursdays to ensure that the Zoning Administrator, Ryan Laylin, can participate.

Meetings were also rescheduled for every other month as the current schedule of every month was no longer necessary.

**Motion was made by Georgette Peterson to pay for a Planning Commission workshop for the Planning Commission members (4) and the Zoning Administrator (1) to attend the Primer Workshop on May 6th in Lawrence. Cost or $100 per person for a total of $500. Support by Susan Wilson. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion Carried.**

There is free Planning Commission training online through MTA.

Reviewed section 9 and 10 of the Zoning Ordinances. Questions and comments were sent to McKenna. McKenna will attend the May 14, 2026, Board Meeting. Two more sections will be reviewed before the meeting.

Public Comment on any agenda item (3-minute time limit)

Annie Davidson Funke: Regarding cemetery prices and space. No cemetery ordinance.

Pantea: Regarding marijuana fees. Amount charged. Attorney Scott Graham explained.

Willie Rhinehart: Regarding zoning fees, building permit fees, assessing fees. Attorney Scott Graham explained.

New Business:

Cemetery plot fees vs. reserved plots.

Motion by Georgette Peterson to set up a reservation type plan for people who wish to purchase but cannot pay the entire amount for a cemetery plot at one time. Reservation time would be limited. Support by Ted Swanson.
Motion by Jeff Douglas to table until a contract can be provided by Attorney Scott Graham. Support by Georgette Peterson. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Zoning forms.

Not quite ready yet pending meeting with Zoning Administrator, Ryan Laylin. Tabled.

Trustee position.

Georgette Peterson made a motion to accept Rob Zantello's resignation as Trustee effective April 30, 2026. Support by Ted Swanson. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Georgette Peterson made a motion to nominate Mat Kuzma for Trustee beginning May 1, 2026. Support by Ted Swanson. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Matt gave introduction.

Transfer Station: Ted Swanson

Still looking for person to work. TS will be closed until an attendant is hired.

Working with Conservation District regarding grant requirements. Must be open twenty hours a month.

Supplies needed: Metal leaf rake, metal landscaping rake, push broom, angle broom, dust pan, outside trash can, flat shovel, inside trash can 30" magnetic sweeper. Total of $211.57 at Menards. Weed control with Roundup mix.

Jail crew will clear the fence area.

Already approved last year.

Motion by Susan Wilson to adjourn to closed session at 8:03 p.m. Support by Georgette Peterson. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Meeting reopened.

Motion by Ted Swanson to approve mediation payment of $10,000 to Tom McNeal for his services. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Motion by Georgette Peterson to adjourn the meeting. Support by Ted Swanson. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Wilson, Clerk