Chair
Cass Creech
Vice Chair
Drew Crosby
Treasurer
Suzanne LaFrance
Secretary
Lawrence Johnson

YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP
— WHERE YOUR FUTURE GROWS —
Park Commission

Commissioners
Edward Burnett
Gigi Jones
Ashley Agdorny Sanders

Ypsilanti Township Park Commission

Regular Meeting

Date: Monday, November 16th, 2026

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Location

1st Board Room
Ypsilanti Township Tilden R. Stumbo Civic Center
7200 S. Huron River Dr
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

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REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

MONDAY, November. 16th. 2026
6:30 P.M.

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Determination of Quorum

IV. Approval of Agenda

V. Approval of Minutes from the October 5th, 2026 Regular Meeting

VI. Citizens Participation

VII. Reports

A. Staff Reports

B. Commissioner Report

VIII. Unfinished Business

IX. New Business

X. Announcements

XI. Recommendations to the Township Board

XII. Adjournment

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Amended September 14th Meeting Minutes

Date: 09/14/2026

Call to Order Time: 6:31 pm

Roll Call

Burnett	P
Creech	P
Crosby	A
Johnson	P
LaFrance	P
Sanders	P
Jones	A

Determination of Quorum **Y**

Approval of Agenda **Amended N Motion:** LaFrance **Second:** Sanders **Passed**

Approval of Minutes **Amended Y Motion:** Sanders **Second:** LaFrance **Passed**
Motion to amend by striking under New Business the last sentence starting with "?"

Motion by Johnson, second by LaFrance, motion passed

Citizens Participation

Name: Dominick Figarra
Comments: There has been a camper parked at Hewen's Creek Park (Hines reports it has been tagged by the sheriff's department and is now gone)

Name: Craig Combs
Comments: Inquiring about the bench on Bridge road discussed in the last meeting. Asking about the Status of South Hydro Park as regards the 'data center' and access to South Hydro. Complaint about e-bikes in both N. Bay park on the path down to and near the lakfront and at N. Hydro Park.

Name: Maria Stuckey
Comments: Also asking about the status of South Hydro Park as regards the 'data center'

Staff Reports

Hines: The annual Trunk or treat event will be held 10/25 at the community center on E. Clark Rd.

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Jazz Fest has wrapped up. Looking into the need for lights for future events as some areas were dark.
Rowing events have experienced growing interest. Need to deal with boat lanes being put up on the lake. Row Fest will skip 2027.
Looking to push larger events past 2027 season on order to finish event application development.
Fairway Hills Park: Adding a rain garden off Hewett Rd to deal with standing water.
Working with \the state and county for rain garden grants at Ford Lake and Ford Heritage parks.
North Bay Park: Grant applications being reviewed and improved for resubmission.
Also looking into walkable communities grants for trails at North Bay.
Storm damage in parks is being assessed. The township will be doing another brush pick up to clear in neighborhoods.

Commissioner Reports
Burnett - None
Creech - None
Crosby - N/A
Johnson - None
LaFrance - None
Sanders - None
Jones - N/A

Unfinished Business
None

New Business
Motion to approve 2027 meeting dates (as detailed in meeting packet) Motion by Johnson, Second by LaFrance, Motion passed.

Motion by LaFrance - Public comment may be limited to three minutes per topic per person at the discretion of the chair. Second by Sanders. Motion passes.

Announcements
None

Recommendations to the Township Board
None

Adjournment **Time:** 7pm **Motion:** LaFrance **Second:** Burnett **passed**

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Proposed October 5th Meeting Minutes

Date: 10/05/2026

Call to Order Time: 6:30 pm

Roll Call

Burnett	P
Creech	P
Crosby	A
Johnson	P
LaFrance	A
Sanders	P
Jones	P

Determination of Quorum Y

Approval of Agenda Amended N Motion: Jones **Second: B**urnett **Passed**

Approval of Minutes Tabled till Nov. meeting Motion: Johnson **Second:** Sanders **Passed**

Citizens Participation

Name: Craig Combs
Comments: See attached
Motion to include attached comments by Jones, seconded by Burnett, Passed.

Name: Jesse Flint
Comments: Asked about timeline and length of gas main project in North Hydro Park and South Hydro Park. (Project has already exceeded original timeline and will require closing of Bridge Road to complete boring for gas line under bridge and North Hydro roads.) Ask about closed bathrooms in North Hydro Park. (Have been reopened at time or meeting) Ask about use of e-bikes in township parks. (Policy for e-bikes is already being worked on)

Staff Reports

Hines: Trunk or treat event scheduled for 10/25 at the Clark Road Community Center.
North Bay Park – Three grants pending for 2027 to work on boardwalk and approches. Scores for grants look promising.
End of 2026 parks season is approaching. Parks and bathrooms will be closed for season in stages as events and weather allows.

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Work on the new Washtenaw County community center is in progress to the west of the golf course on Clark Road.

Commissioner Reports
Burnett - None
Creech - None
Crosby - N/A
Johnson - None
LaFrance - N/A
Sanders - None
Jones - None

Unfinished Business
None

New Business
A: North Bay Park – Grant for pavilion and bathrooms $617,0000 (67,000 for engineering, rest for build). Site engineering has started, build scheduled for 2027. Discussion of location for structures., color schemes, building styles, inclusion fo bathrooms in pavilion structure, and need to clear trees around structure.
B: Clubview Park – 20' by 30' pavilion and separate bathrooms scheduled for fall of 2026. Discussion of lcolor schemes and building styles.
C: Loonfeather Park – Dock needs full replacement including piles. Discussion fo styles and location as relates to cost. Construction hoped for in 2027. Will research grant options.
D: Motion to move November meeting from 11/9 to 11/16, Moved by Sanders, seconded by Jones, Passed

Announcements
None

Recommendations to the Township Board
None

Adjournment **Time:** 7:59 **Motion:** Sanders **Second:** Burnett **Passed**

Mr. Combs - Ypsilanti Twp Park Commission Comments - Oct 5th

1. **First, to address Commissioner LaFrance.** Your response last month to my August comments seems eerily reminiscent of the lady with the growling dog in North Hydro Park whom I referenced who became aggressive toward me simply for reminding her that there is a leash law in this township. At first, she only responded by sarcastically saying, "Oh, really?" But, a few minutes later, she had become visibly enraged and went on to verbally assault and physically threaten me. This account was not easy for me to share publicly, but I felt it necessary to relate how it had impacted me, since there was no park surveillance video to record this hate crime. Likewise, five weeks after my comments, you chose to label me as "offensive" and "disrespectful," which I was not. Had I been, I would've been gaveled out of order. My mother sitting next to me wasn't offended. You also claimed that I spoke for 40 minutes in August, which was a blatant lie. My comments timed out at ten minutes. This illustrates an elitist disdain for the very public who elected you to serve their interests. And, although you expressed no offense at the August meeting, you grumbled last month how yours is a "volunteer" position, as if this diminishes the responsibilities your elected office requires. I would bet that board members *do* receive a stipend for their time spent at meetings. But, the record is pretty clear that, most months, your meetings last no longer than an hour, although officially scheduled for two hours. So, if elected office or public service generally are a burden for you, or you are easily offended by honest and direct public comments, perhaps you should abstain from seeking re-election. The last thing our township needs or deserves is another elected official looking to pad their resumé or for their office to serve as a mere stepping-stone toward future self-aggrandizement. My comments actually led to a handful of actionable items, some of which were unknown to even John Hines at the time.

2. **To the young lady on the Board** who was sipping her colored drink and rolling her eyes as I was discussing being nearly run over by two girls on electric bikes in North Bay Park and requesting feedback on local data centers, etc, you should be ashamed of yourself. Giving informed and interested residents the stink-eye during public debate is really not a good look.

3. **For the Board in general**, judging from the historically low attendance at your meetings, and the speed with which you choose to plow through your monthly agenda, I think it's safe to say the Township needs *more* public discourse, not less. And yet, the actions of this committee at the tail end of last month's meeting have put the first chink in the armor of division between this commission and the public at large. A very sad outcome, indeed. Eventually, you may recognize the caustic effect of limiting residents' access to their elected officials, and the resentment that comes from their issues and concerns being ignored or left unaddressed. Restricting public comments to 3 minutes will certainly impose a chilling effect on the public discourse vis-à-vis this committee. Ms. LaFrance, if that was your intended goal in pushing through your motion at the last minute—without any discussion, debate, or a single voice of dissent—well, Kudos to you. You get a gold star from your superiors and/or those who may have put you up to this last-minute stunt before adjourning in September.

***

That concludes my three minutes of remarks, per your motion passed last month. However, it has come to my attention via tonight's meeting packet, that there is no mention of Ms. LaFrance's remarks toward me in last month's minutes, nor of the motion that was unanimously passed at the end of last month's meeting limiting the time for public comments. Would someone care to comment on that, please?

And, I request my written comments be added to the minutes of this meeting for the sake of the public record.

Craig Combs
Resident - Ypsilanti Twp/West Willow