DRAFT

THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
Thursday, October 29, 2026

CALL TO ORDER
The Special Meeting of the Three Oaks Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Phil Smith at 6:45 PM at the Three Oaks Township Hall, 6810 US Hwy 12, Three Oaks, MI 49128.

ROLL CALL
- **Present:** Supervisor Phil Smith, Clerk Marcie Miles, Treasurer Kathy Osburn, Trustee Chris Mitchell, Trustee John Swanstrom.
- **Absent:** None.
- A quorum of the Board of Trustees was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
Motion by Clerk Miles, supported by Trustee Swanstrom, to approve the Special Meeting Agenda as presented.
Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS (PRE-HEARING ACTION)
Clerk Miles introduced Resolution No. 2026-32, a Resolution of Intent to Property Tax Levy Increase and Establishing Public Hearing Date, setting the proposed maximum operating millage rate increase at 1.3198 mills (a 29.78% operating revenue increase) for statutory public notice purposes.
Moved by Clerk Miles, supported by Supervisor Smith.
- **Roll Call Vote:**
  - Supervisor Phil Smith: Yes
  - Clerk Marcie Miles: Yes
  - Treasurer Kathy Osburn: Yes
  - Trustee Chris Mitchell: Yes
  - Trustee John Swanstrom: Yes
- Motion carried unanimously (5-0). Resolution No. 2026-32 declared adopted.

RECESS FOR PUBLIC HEARING PREPARATION
Motion by Trustee Mitchell, supported by Clerk Miles, to recess the special meeting to prepare for the statutory public hearing. Time of recess was 6:53 PM.
Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2026 PROPERTY TAX LEVY INCREASE
Supervisor Smith officially reconvened the session and opened the statutory Truth in Taxation Public Hearing at exactly 7:00 PM.

- **Public Comment & Discussion:** The Supervisor opened the floor to public comment. A high volume of discussion took place from the public regarding how the specific numbers in the published notice were calculated. The Assessor and the Clerk presented data and explained the "Truth in Taxation" calculation mechanics to the best of their ability. Following their explanation, the public appeared satisfied with the clarification.
- **Communications:** The Clerk noted that zero written letters or emails were submitted regarding the proposed tax levy.
- **Adjournment of Hearing:** Motion by Trustee Mitchell, supported by Clerk Miles, to close the public hearing at 7:42 PM.
  Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

RECONVENE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING BUSINESS

Supervisor Smith immediately reconvened the business portion of the Special Board Meeting at 7:42 PM.

ACTION ITEMS (POST-HEARING VOTES)

Motion by Clerk Miles, supported by Trustee Mitchell, to formally ratify, confirm, and approve the property tax millage rates as previously submitted to Berrien County on Department of Treasury Form L-4029, authorizing a final collective levy of **5.7223 mills** (comprising the general operations millage and all voter-approved special millages), and to retroactively validate the physical signatures of the Supervisor and Clerk executed on said form.

- **Roll Call Vote:**
  - Supervisor Phil Smith: Yes
  - Clerk Marcie Miles: Yes
  - Treasurer Kathy Osburn: Yes
  - Trustee Chris Mitchell: Yes
  - Trustee John Swanstrom: Yes
- *Motion carried unanimously (5-0).*

BOARD COMMENTS / GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Supervisor Smith, supported by Clerk Miles, to adjourn the Special Board Meeting.

Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcie Miles, Three Oaks Township Clerk