

Isabella County Board of Commissioners

September 1 & 15

Commission on Aging: Approved a \$154,860 bid to update the building management system and HVAC controls at the facility, replacing components dating back to the building's 2008 construction as well as later enhancements.

Park fees: Approved camping reservation fee increases effective October 3, 2026, for nightly camping, cabins, and extended stays at Deerfield Nature Park, Coldwater Lake Family Park, and Herrick Recreation Area.

Stevenson Lake assessment: Approved a total assessment of \$95,000 over five years for the Stevenson Lake-Lake Level Special Assessment District in Vernon Township. The County Drain Commissioner is authorized to maintain normal water levels at Stevenson Lake.

Senior services: Approved the Region VII Area Agency on Aging FY2027–2029 contract for services provided in partnership with the Commission on Aging. The Agency provides financial support for in-home direct care, case coordination and support, caregiver training, and congregate and home-delivered meals.

Senior nutrition sites: Approved Commission on Aging FY2027–2029 Nutrition Site Agreements for congregate meal sites at Shepherd United Methodist Church (\$150 per month), Fremont Township-Winn Community Building (\$300 per month), Rosebush Presbyterian Church (\$100 per month), and Sherman Township-Weidman (\$250 per month).

Sheriff's vehicle: Approved the purchase of a replacement patrol vehicle for the Sheriff's Office for \$40,507, funded by insurance proceeds from the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority and the sale of surplus Sheriff's Office vehicles.

MSU Extension renewal: Approved the FY2027 Agreement for Michigan State University Extension Services at a cost of \$178,724. The organization delivers educational programs in agriculture and agribusiness, children and youth development, including 4-H, health and nutrition, and community, food and environment.

MMDC contract: Approved a three-year agreement with Middle Michigan Development Corporation to provide economic development services at an annual cost of \$45,580 for calendar years 2027 through 2029.

Register of Deeds fees: Approved new subscription rates for the Vanguard cloud-based search engine utilized by the office. Beginning January 1, 2027, the fees will be \$150 per month or \$1,500 per year for the service, which caters primarily to international and out-of-state customers.

Mt. Pleasant City Commission

September 14 & 28

Affordable housing proposal approved: Selected Spire Development Inc. and the Mt. Pleasant Housing Commission as co-developers for Mill Street Landing, a 50-unit affordable housing project at 410 Mill Street, 200 Walnut Street, and 208 Walnut Street. The developers plan to apply for low-income housing tax credits through the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. Commissioners approved a Municipal Services Agreement and a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) ordinance for the project. The latter replaces standard property taxes with a fee based on rental income. If constructed, the project is forecast to generate \$20,420 for the city in its first year. This revenue will come from a 4% municipal services fee and a 4% PILOT fee that is shared among all taxing jurisdictions, with both fees ongoing.

Nelson Park improvements: Authorized staff to terminate its contract with TBD Construction Services for the mill and overlay project. The \$64,626 contract was awarded in February 2026, but the company failed to meet its obligations. No payments were issued to TBD, and the city will redirect the funds to the bond provider, Granite Re, Inc., or to a completion contractor.

Water Resource Recovery Facility: Awarded a slide gate actuator retrofit bid to System Specialties Company for \$30,850. The project will replace manual gate controls with automated ones, allowing rapid management of water levels and flow speeds during heavy rains. Additionally, the Commission

approved a one-year service agreement with Hach Company to handle maintenance, repairs, technical support, and calibration of specialized equipment for \$44,897.

Cross-connection control: Approved a four-year contract renewal with HydroCorp to manage the city's commercial water safety program for \$43,192. Since 2020, the company has overseen inspections at business and industrial properties to prevent non-potable liquids from accidentally backflowing into the public water supply.

City restroom supplies: Discussed developing an ordinance to provide free feminine hygiene products in city restrooms and directed staff to estimate the cost and explore policy options for consideration.

Mt. Pleasant Planning Commission

September 3

Mill Street Landing: Approved a site plan for the multi-family housing development that features three buildings on 1.07 acres near the intersection of Mill and Walnut streets. The complex will include 30 one-bedroom units, 16 two-bedroom units, and 4 three-bedroom units. Rents will be scaled to household income levels.

For More Information

Isabella County Board of Commissioners: Frank Engler, Chair, 989-300-4501, fengler@isabellacounty.org

Mt. Pleasant City Commission: Boomer Wingard, Mayor, bwingard@mt-pleasant.org

Mt. Pleasant Planning Commission: Manuela Powidayko, 989-779-5346, mpowidayko@mt-pleasant.org

Mt. Pleasant Public Schools Board of Education: Wiline Pangle, President, wpangle@mp.edzone.net

Union Township Board of Trustees: Bryan Mielke, Supervisor, 989-772-4600, bmielke@uniontownshipmi.com

Correction & Clarification

The September summary indicated that 21 acres at the southwest corner of Broomfield and Crawford roads was approved for a private school. To clarify, the land was rezoned as a Civic Zone. While a private school has been proposed, no site plan has yet been reviewed or approved by the Planning Commission.

Mt. Pleasant Public Schools Board of Education

September 21

Compulsory attendance: Approved a policy designating the following as excused absences: documented medical issues, pre-notified college or career visits, serious family illness or death, court or legal matters, religious observances, and other situations with administrative approval.

Union Township Board of Trustees

September 9 & 23

FY2027 Budget proposal: Received budget recommendations from the Township Manager. While the Township operating millage remains at 1 mill, the proposed budget includes a 4% increase in sewer rates and a 4.5% increase in water rates. For the General Fund, the ending fund balance is projected at \$7.1 million, with state grants and contributions comprising 41% of revenue. Before final adoption, the Board will hold a public hearing, slated for October 28.

Election Day closure: Reached consensus to close the Township Hall to routine public business on Tuesday, November 3. The facility will remain open for in-person voting.



LWV Mt. Pleasant