

**HART AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 12, 2026**

Minutes taken by Susie Gray, Assistant Director

CALL TO ORDER: 5:59 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Nancy Sterk, Todd Metzler, Penny Burillo, Amanda Klotz, Mary Sloan, Director Kathleen Rash, Assistant Director Susie Gray. Absent: Juan Cortes

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Burillo to approve the agenda as amended to add MML Insurance Premium. Support by Metzler. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Bill Kolenda present from Golden Township

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Burillo to approve the minutes of December 8, 2025. Support by Klotz. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: No secretary present. No report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Nothing other than the Director's printed materials.

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYMENTS: Motion by Klotz to approve the bills and payments for December, 2025. Support by Burillo. Motion Carried.

ACCEPT FINANCIAL REPORTS: Motion by Klotz to accept financial reports for December, 2025. Support by Sloan. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Written report presented.

CITY REPORT: Nothing to report.

TOWNSHIP REPORT: No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Golden Township Contract: Motion by Metzler to set a fee of \$6,250 for the remainder of the current fiscal year based on 3 months prorated at an annual \$25,000 amount, with an increase of \$1000 per year beginning

April 1, 2026 through the fiscal year ending March 31, 2029. Support by Burillo. Discussion. Roll call vote: Sloan-no, Metzler-yes, Klotz-no, Burillo-yes, Sterk-no. Motion defeated.

2. Golden Township Contract: Motion by Klotz to offer Golden Township a pro-rated fee of \$4,170 to reinstate services beginning February 1, 2026, and offer a new contract of \$25,000 for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2026 and increasing by \$2,500 each fiscal year through March 31, 2029. Though not articulated in the contract, the board will have the expectation that a millage would be put on the ballot to take effect when the contract expires. Support by Sloan. Roll call vote: Sloan-yes, Metzler-yes, Klotz-yes, Burillo-yes, Sterk-yes. Motion carried.
3. CLOSED Session Director's Evaluation–Motion by Metzler to go into closed session at 6:49 p.m. Support by Sloan. Motion carried.

Return to open session at 7:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Proposed FY26/27 Budget. Discussion.
2. Resolution 2026-1 Budget Hearing: Motion by Burillo to adopt budget resolution. Support by Klotz. Roll-call vote: Sloan-yes, Metzler-yes, Klotz-yes, Burillo-yes, Sterk-yes. Motion carried.
3. Contracted Township Rates: Motion by Burillo to increase per resident rate of Weare, Elbridge, and Crystal Townships by \$1.00 every year indefinitely. Support by Klotz. Roll-call vote: Sloan-yes, Metzler-yes, Klotz-yes, Burillo-yes, Sterk-yes. Motion carried.
4. Board Members' Terms: Penny Burillo and Nancy Sterk will be finishing their terms at the end of March. Burillo is willing to continue, pending reappointment by the city. Sterk indicated she will be stepping down effective March 31, 2026. Director Rash reports that she has been in contact with Kendra Larios-Mendez who was a candidate for the previous Township appointment and who is still very interested. The board, by consensus, appoints Metzler to ask the township board to appoint Larios-Mendez to replace Sterk.
5. Approve MML Insurance Annual Premium: Motion by Burillo to approve the MML Insurance Annual Premium of \$7,080 plus the \$225 Annual Associate Member Fee. Support by Sloan. Roll call vote: Sloan-yes, Metzler-yes, Klotz-yes, Burillo-yes, Sterk-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Klotz to adjourn. Support by Metzler. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Budget Hearing February 9, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. followed by a regular meeting

Approved at meeting on: _____

Secretary

President