

BUDGET WORK SESSION
HOLLAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Thursday, September 4, 2025

The work session began at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisor TeSlaa, Clerk Dalman, Treasurer Bush, and Trustees DeYoung, Nienhuis and Church.

Absent: Trustee Molotky

Also present was Manager Bulthuis and Finance Director Smith

Review of action items for the FY2026 budget include the September 4 work session and conducting a public hearing followed by adoption of the budget and millage rates, both scheduled for the September 18 Board meeting.

Mr. Bulthuis and Mr. Smith presented an overview of the proposed 2026 budget, including revenues, expenditures, and proposed utility system user rates. The 2026 budget is supported by an overall property tax rate of 4.86 mills, which is the same as was levied to provide funding for 2025 operations and services.

Strategic operating and service objectives were reviewed as identified in the overview section of the budget document. The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed budgets for various governmental and enterprise funds, including operating, capital and debt service types of expenditures.

Estimated changes in the primary revenue categories were reviewed. State shared revenues are estimated at \$5,592,000 in 2026 as compared to \$5,613,585 estimated for 2025. Major general government capital improvement projects proposed for 2026 include \$1,054,000 for road improvements; \$925,500 for non-motorized path system improvements and \$477,000 for drain system improvements.

The water and sewer enterprise funds propose \$18.6 million in operating revenues and \$23.7 million in operating expenses. The 2026 budget includes adjustments of 0.4% to the water user charge and 2.8% to the wastewater user charge.

Comments and discussion included the following issues and considerations.

1. The proposed millage rates and the maximum millage rates allowed under Headlee limits.
2. Estimated 2025 and 2026 revenues by major sources and expenditures for the various function types for the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Capital Project Funds, and Enterprise Funds.
3. Public safety staffing levels and expenditures
4. The delivery of township services to the average homeowner at a cost of \$527
5. Utility rates and the upcoming rate study scheduled for 2026

The Board indicated its concurrence with the proposed 2026 budget and the proposed 2025 property tax rate of 4.86 mills. A public hearing will be held on these matters during the September 18 regular Board meeting. Following the public hearing, the Board anticipates action to adopt the 2026 Budget Resolution and to set the 2025 millage rate.

The budget work session adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Bulthuis
Recording Secretary