

# Holland Charter Township

## Principles of Governance

To maintain the highest standards and traditions of Michigan townships, we embrace these principles to guide our stewardship, deliberations and constituent services as we commit to safeguard our community's health, safety and general welfare.

We pledge to:

- Insist on the highest standards of ethical conduct by all who act on behalf of this township
- Bring credit, honor and dignity to our public offices through collegial board deliberations and diligent, appropriate responses to constituent concerns
- Actively pursue education and knowledge, and embrace best practices
- Treat all persons with dignity, respect and impartiality, without prejudice or discrimination
- Practice openness and transparency in our decisions and actions
- Cooperate in all reasonable ways with other governmental entities and consider the impact our decisions may have outside our township's borders
- Communicate to the public township issues, challenges and successes, and welcome the active involvement of stakeholders to further the township's well-being
- Strive for compliance with all state and federal statutory requirements
- Refuse to participate in any decisions or activities for personal gain, at the expense of the best interests of the township
- Further the understanding of the obligations and responsibilities of American citizenship, democratic government and freedom

These principles we pledge to our township, our state and our country.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Russell Te Slaa, Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave DeYoung, Trustee

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Michael Dalman, Clerk

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Elliott Church, Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vincent Bush, Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gretchen Westerhoff-Molotky, Trustee



**MICHIGAN  
TOWNSHIPS  
ASSOCIATION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Terry Nienhuis, Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Holland Charter Township Trustee Board Conduct Outline

1. Respect all persons in attendance
2. Refrain from interrupting the person given the floor to speak
3. Supervisor will acknowledge each person's turn for the floor
4. Each board person shall actively listen to the person talking (no side discussions).
5. Disagreements need to be constructive and to the point on task. Respect all viewpoints.
6. Criticism should be private at the office or a call for closed session to discuss personnel issues.
7. Citizen comments are limited to 3 minutes and received as information , not debated.
8. Board committee updates should be covered within 3 minutes and any other board member comments or updates within 5 minutes.
9. Consensus is the goal while maintaining consistent standards, but with the willingness to compromise based upon the merits of the issues presented.
10. The Board works to improve the quality of life in the community and encourages business to provide work opportunities for the citizens.