

**HOWARD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PROPOSED AGENDA
July 21, 2026, 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge to the Flag
3. Roll Call of Board Members
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes of June 16, 2026, Regular Board Meeting
6. Approve Financial Report
7. Approval of Bills
8. Departmental Reports
 - A. Commissioners' Reports
 - B. Building Department
 - C. Fire Department
 - D. Sheriff Department
 - E. SMCAS Ambulance
 - F. Parks Department

INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

The Treasurers Office will be closed on Election Day and on Thursday's starting July 28th

PUBLIC COMMENT ABOUT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

VOTE Ordinance 237 Data Center Moratorium

CONCERNS OF CITIZENS

ADJOURNMENT

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF HOWARD

COUNTY OF CASS, STATE OF MICHIGAN

ORDINANCE NO. 237

ADOPTED:

EFFECTIVE: Upon publication after adoption

**AN ORDINANCE TO ENACT A NON-ZONING TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON
DATA CENTERS AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS**

An Ordinance to protect the public health, safety, and welfare by establishing regulations relating to a temporary moratorium on considering applications for Data Centers and Battery Energy Storage Systems (“BESS”) to protect the public health, safety of the Charter Township of Howard while the Township completes a study of the Ordinances and regulations pertaining thereto and considers possible subsequent revisions to current Ordinances pertaining thereto; to allow for an extension of the temporary moratorium; to provide for severability; to repeal all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict therewith; and to provide an effective date.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF HOWARD

COUNTY OF CASS, STATE OF MICHIGAN

ORDAINS:

**SECTION I
FINDINGS**

In accordance with Public Act 1945 PA 246, MCL 41.181 *et seq.*, as amended, the Charter Township of Howard Board of Trustees has determined the following:

1. The Township Board determines that the approval of Data Centers and BESS and may result in or produce negative impacts on permitted land uses and development and may harm the public health, safety and general welfare of property owners and residents of the Township.
2. The Township Board has a fiduciary duty to the Township and its constituents to protect the public health, safety, and general welfare concerns about the impacts of Data Centers and BESS on the residents and property owners within its territorial boundaries.
3. The Township has a legitimate public purpose in assessing the regulation of the establishment and use of Data Centers and BESS within the Township to ensure that Data Centers and BESS do not interfere with other land uses, or have substantial negative impacts on the environment, public, health and safety.

4. The Township Board finds that adopting a temporary moratorium is reasonable and necessary for, among other reasons, the following reasons:
 - A. Michigan courts have recognized that a moratorium is a common and legitimate tool to preserve the status quo while formulating a development strategy.
 - B. The Township Board desires to review and study the public health, safety, and welfare concerns regarding Data Centers and BESS, and any Township regulations that may impact and/or regulate such projects.
 - C. The adoption of a temporary moratorium will allow the Township Board adequate time to study and possibly implement revisions to the Township's Ordinances and regulations, including attention to and consideration of citizen input and involvement, public debate, and full consideration of all issues and points of view.
5. The Township Board accordingly determines that it is desirable and in the public interest for the reasons set forth above that the Township Board adopt a temporary moratorium on the acceptance and/or processing of any applications for Data Centers and BESS.

SECTION II

MORATORIUM/TERM OF MORATORIUM

The Township Board adopts a temporary moratorium on the acceptance and/or processing of any applications for a Data Center and BESS. The temporary moratorium is in effect one (1) year from the effective date of this Ordinance, or until the effective date of any amended or new Township Ordinances or regulations addressing Data Centers and/or BESS are effective, whichever date occurs first.

SECTION III

EXTENSION OF MORATORIUM

Before this moratorium expires, the Township Board may extend the moratorium by resolution as appropriate to allow sufficient time to complete amendments or additions to its Ordinances and regulations.

SECTION IV

SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any clause, sentence, word, section or provision is hereafter declared void or unenforceable for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect the remainder of such Ordinance which shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION V
REPEAL

All Ordinance or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION VI
EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take immediate effect upon publication, after adoption.

Adopted: _____

Township Supervisor, Bill Kasprzak

Township Clerk, Sheri Wozniak

Publication date _____

Effective date _____