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Supervisor Jason Negri **Clerk** Mike Dolan **Treasurer** Jennifer Daniels **Trustees** Chuck Menzies, Patricia Hughes, Nick Miller, Joanna Hardesty

TOWNSHIP BOARD WORK-STUDY SESSION

Tuesday, December 02, 2025 at 12:30 PM
Hamburg Township Hall Board Room

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- [1.](#) APPM - Social Media
- [2.](#) APPM - FOIA
- [3.](#) APPM - Ordinances
- [4.](#) APPM - Township Cable Channel
- [5.](#) Fireworks ordinance REVISED
6. Building Upgrades

CURRENT BUSINESS

7. Building and Grounds Staffing

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

HAMBURG TOWNSHIP

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL

6.0.—**PUBLIC INFORMATION**~~Public Information~~

6.1.—**Public Contact**

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

6.1(a) Courtesy - The primary goal of the Township is to serve the public. All staff and employees will respond to requests for Township information from members of the public with courtesy and efficiency. All officials and employees shall communicate with the public in a friendly, courteous and efficient manner at all times.

All visitors to the Township hall shall be greeted in a friendly, helpful manner. ~~The receptionist shall be under the day to day supervision of the Township Clerk, who shall ensure that the public's needs are being met.~~

~~Phone calls to the Township shall be answered, "Good Morning/Good Afternoon, Hamburg Township, this is _____ speaking, how may I help you?"~~

Department heads shall make every effort to see visitors who need their assistance. When workload or other commitments do not allow for an immediate meeting, the visitor will be asked to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

6.1(b) Complaints and Problems - All citizen complaints and problems will be directed to the appropriate office or official.

Complaints or other concerns received from a citizen shall be received with courtesy. The official or employee will make every effort to resolve a complaint or problem, within the official's or employee's scope of authority. Department heads will be notified of all complaints.

The Township Supervisor and Clerk shall be notified in writing of any citizen complaint. The notice shall include the name and address of the citizen, the nature of the complaint, and how the complaint was resolved. The Supervisor or Clerk may make a subsequent inquiry with the citizen to ensure the issue was resolved to the citizen's satisfaction.

6.2.—**Public Information Officer**

The Supervisor and the Clerk shall be the public information officers for the Township and shall be responsible for public information associated with their departments of responsibility. The Treasurer is responsible for supervising the preparation of the Township newsletter. Public service announcements and media releases on Township government events and responding to inquiries from the media or referring contact to other appropriate Township officials shall be jointly coordinated by the Supervisor and the Clerk.

Township employees will refer all public information announcements to the Supervisor and the Clerk prior to releasing them to the public or the media.

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6.3—Public Notices

Updated by Board of Trustees

xx/xx/xx

6.3(a) Meeting Notices - The Township Clerk shall be responsible for posting all regular, special and rescheduled Board meetings in conformance with the Open Meetings Act and other State laws. Departments Heads shall be responsible for posting ~~of special~~ meetings related to their department.

6.3(b) Public Notices - The Township Clerk shall be responsible for delegation and/or assistance, or publishing and mailing all public notices required by State law, including but not limited to:

- ~~1. Board of Review meetings~~ 1. Board of Review meetings
2. Budget Public Hearings
- ~~3. Planning Commission Public Hearings~~ 3. Planning Commission Public Hearings
- ~~4. Zoning Board of Appeals Hearings~~ 4. Zoning Board of Appeals Hearings
5. Special Assessment District Hearings
6. Election Notices
7. Master Plan Adoption and Amendments Public Hearings
8. Truth-in-Taxation Notice
9. Board Meeting Minutes Synopsis
10. Request for Proposals

~~Department Heads shall submit all public notices for publishing to the Clerk &/or Deputy Clerk. Departments Heads shall be responsible for posting of special meetings related to their department.~~

6.4—Freedom of Information Act Requests

Updated by Board of Trustees X-X-XX

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

Pursuant to P.A. 1976 No. 442, as amended, and MCL 15.231, as amended (Freedom of Information Act – FOIA) Hamburg Township provides access to all Township public documents except those or portions of those exempt from release under FOIA. The policies and procedures herein are intended to implement the requirements of FOIA and the release of documents that exist at the time any requests for them are made.

All requests for copies of public documents or to review public documents must be in writing with the exception of the following:

1. Copies of assessment/tax records by the property owner of his/her own property.
2. Copies of assessment/tax records that are reasonable and readily available at the time of the request.
3. Copies of all current meeting agendas.

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4. Copies of all current minutes.

All written requests shall describe the public record or records requested sufficiently to enable the FOIA Coordinator to find said public record.

A written request made by facsimile submitted through the FOIA Portal, electronic mail, or other electronic transmission, is not logged as received by the FOIA Coordinator until one (1) business day after the electronic transmission is made. For a request to be considered a sufficient writing to satisfy the FOIA, it must contain the following:

1. The name, address and contact information (i.e. phone number, email address) of the requester.
2. A statement indicating that the requester will pay the costs allowable under the FOIA, or documentation that the requester is receiving public assistance or other facts showing inability to pay due to indigence.

Generally, oral requests for documents do not constitute a request under FOIA. However, if a citizen making an oral request is disabled, either temporarily or permanently, so that he/she is unable to make the request in writing, special accommodations must be made. It is the duty of the department receiving the request to write out the request for the citizen as an accommodation under American Disability Act (ADA). Once written, the request should be processed as a formal request under FOIA.

6.4(a) FOIA Coordinators - The Township Board shall appoint a FOIA Coordinator. The FOIA Coordinator may designate another individual(s) to act on his or her behalf in accepting and processing requests for the public body's public records, and in approving a denial pursuant to FOIA.

6.4(b) Processing - Often times a request for documents under FOIA will be received by the specific department. The request must be immediately turned over to the FOIA Coordinator for processing. The FOIA Coordinator in turn will request and receive from the appropriate departments, the requested documents together with a memorandum regarding the request, listing the staff time involved in retrieving and redacting the documents. The FOIA Coordinator shall review the departmental response for both compliance with the Township policy and consistency with the Township's response to similar requests. Any required changes shall be immediately discussed with the responding department or, if appropriate, the Township Attorney. The responding department shall immediately make any changes directed by the Coordinator and provide the Coordinator with revised documents as may be necessary.

The department will provide the requested records to the FOIA Coordinator no later than four (4) days from receipt of the request. If this is not possible, the department shall notify

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the FOIA Coordinator immediately. The Coordinator will contact the requesting party and notify them of a 10-day extension of time to respond, if appropriate.

If a department cannot provide a requested record because it does not exist, the FOIA Coordinator will be notified in writing immediately. If a record does not exist in the form requested, or if it is exempt under FOIA, the Coordinator will send a notice of denial, which contains the required appeal information (see Section 6.4(d)).

In the event the request is to view public documents, a monitor (Township staff person designated by the FOIA Coordinator) will be assigned. The requestor shall be notified of the scheduled day and time for the inspection.

6.4(c).—Payment of Costs - The requester will be invoiced by the FOIA Coordinator for actual costs in filling the request. These costs are contained in the Administrative Fee Schedule. ~~(insert hyperlink)~~

Except as provided below, no fee shall be charged for searching, examining, reviewing, and deleting and separating exempt from non-exempt material unless failure to charge a fee would result in unreasonable high costs to the public body because of the nature of the request in the particular instance, such as, by way of example, cases requiring advice from legal counsel, additional staffing or other direct expenses not in the ordinary course of business. (If a FOIA request is made for an easily identified document consisting of a few standard size pages, labor for the search, examination, and making deletions under the FOIA would generally not present a case of unreasonably high costs to a public body. In such a case, the Legislature has directed that no charge be imposed. If a request for "any and all" documents as to a particular subject, requires a search of many boxes of records, including review for exempt material which must be or may be deleted (per Section 13 of the FOIA), and if that search, examination, and review involves numerous hours of labor, charges may be imposed to avoid the unreasonably high cost arising from the nature of that particular request.)

In any case where the estimated actual cost to Hamburg Township of responding to a request for a copy of a public record exceeds \$50.00, a good faith deposit equal to ½ of the estimated cost of such response shall be required prior to completing the request. The FOIA Coordinator shall be responsible for collecting the computed costs prior to the release of the requested documents.

A copy of a public record shall be furnished, without charge for the first \$20.00 of the fee for each request, to an individual who submits an affidavit that he or she is then receiving public assistance, or if not receiving public assistance, stating facts showing inability to pay the cost because of indigency.

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If an individual has an outstanding FOIA bill, the information shall be turned over to the Accounting Department for collections proceedings. The Township cannot refuse to comply with subsequent FOIA requests due to an outstanding invoice.

The Township Board may waive some or all of the costs as may be in the public interest because furnishing copies of the document(s) would be considered as primarily befitting the general public.

6.4(d) Response - The initial response may be either grant or deny the requested documents or extend the time for response up to ten (10) business days. The response either granting or denying access in whole or in part to the requested documents must contain the following:

1. An invoice containing a detailed breakdown and backup of the charges to process the request.
2. Transmittal indicating where the requester may pick up the released documents and pay the appropriate costs. This transmittal shall also include the following statement: *"The Township does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy of the information provided. Rather, it provides the documents only to comply in good faith with the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, and not for any other purpose."*
3. If any aspect of the response is less than a full granting of the request, the final paragraph **MUST** be inserted exactly as follows:

"If you receive written notice that your request has been denied, in whole or in part, under Section 10 of the Freedom of Information Act, you may, at your option, either 1) submit to the Hamburg Township Clerk a written appeal that specifically states the word "appeal" and identifies the reason(s) for reversal for the disclosure denial; or 2) file a lawsuit in the circuit court to compel Hamburg Township's disclosure of the record. If, after judicial review, the circuit court determines that the Township has not complied with the Act, you may be awarded reasonable attorney's fees and damages as specified under the Act".

4. Material identified as exempt shall be forwarded to the requestor accompanied by a transmittal letter indicating the specific reasons why any material is not being disclosed together with the right to appeal or seek judicial review.

~~5. Redactions~~

6.4(e) Appeals - Under the Act, the requesting person has the option of pursuing an appeal to the Hamburg Township Board or proceeding to circuit court. If the requesting person wants to appeal to the Township Board, the requester must submit a written appeal that specifically states the word "appeal" and identifies the reason or reasons for reversal of the denial. The Township Board is not considered to have received a written appeal until the first regularly scheduled meeting following submission of the appeal. Within ten days after receiving the written appeal, the Township Board must do one of the following:

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1. Reverse the disclosure denial;
2. Issue a written notice to the requesting person upholding the disclosure denial;
3. Reverse the disclosure denial in part and issue a written notice to the requesting person upholding the disclosure denial in part; or
4. Under unusual circumstances, issue a notice extending for not more than 10 business days the period during which the Township Board will respond to the written appeal. The Township Board is prohibited from issuing more than one extension for any particular appeal.

6.4(f) Document Storage - FOIA Documents ~~to be~~ released by the Coordinator shall be held for one year plus one day. If the requester fails to pay the amount due the Township, or fails to pick up the documents, the documents may be recycled, destroyed, or returned to the appropriate department.

6.4(g) Record Keeping - The FOIA Coordinator shall maintain a chronological file of all FOIA requests processed by him/her together with a copy of the document provided, response letter, and invoice. These files must be maintained for a period of one year and one day from the date of response.

6.5 — Incoming Mail

~~xx/xx/xx Updated by Board of Trustees X-X-XX~~

- Updated by Board of Trustees

1. All mail addressed to the Township is considered Township mail. Employees cannot expect to use the Township P.O. Box or its physical address as a personal mail service.
2. All mail clearly and properly addressed to a specific individual or department will be distributed unopened ~~with the envelope date stamped to their respective mailbox~~. The mail recipient will assume full responsibility for forwarding all invoices and documents (or copies) scheduled for retention to the appropriate departments mailbox in a timely fashion.
3. All mail with addressee not clearly specified will be opened to determine proper distribution with the following exceptions:
 - a. All mail addressed to the Police Department will be distributed unopened.
 - b. All mail addressed to the Library, ~~with the exception of bank statements~~, will be distributed unopened. ~~The Treasurer's Office will retain the original and forward a duplicate copy of the statement to the Library.~~
 - c. Mail from the Assessor's Office returned by the USPS as undeliverable will be distributed unopened.
 - d. Mail addressed to a specific individual marked "Personal and Confidential" will be distributed unopened.

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- e. All mail marked "Invoice" or other indication of request for payment will be delivered to ~~Accounts Payables~~ the Accounting Department.
- f. Any questions or concerns regarding the receipt and processing of incoming Township mail shall be addressed with the Clerk's Office in a timely fashion in order to expedite resolution.
- g. The Clerk's Office reserves the right to open and inspect any suspicious mail with a Township address that it deems necessary.
- h. All mail will be processed and distributed on a daily basis.

6.6.—Outgoing Mail

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

~~Updated by Board of Trustees X-X-XX~~

All outgoing mail must be stamped/metered and deposited in the outgoing mail box located next to the postage machine by 4:00 PM, M-~~F~~ **Th.** for same day Post Office drop off unless special arrangements are made with the Clerk's office.

6.7.—Confidential Information

Officials and employees shall not release any information to the media which would be a violation of a citizen's or a member of general public right to privacy.

6.8 Social Media Policy

Updated by Board of Trustees 8-4-22

Purpose: Hamburg Township supports the use of social media technology to enhance communication, collaboration, and exchange of information to further the goals of the Township where appropriate. This policy establishes policies and procedures for social media covering all Township employees, Township Board members, and/or Committee members. This policy may evolve as new technologies and social media offerings change, or are adopted.

6.8(a) Definitions

Content: Words, Video, Audio, or any combination of these things, which are used to relay a message to the public through Social Media Networks.

Social Media Networks: Examples of this are Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Cable Channel, Website, etc.

Social Media Specialist(s): Staff member and/or Township Board or Committee member who has been granted authority by the Social Media Director to perform the duties outlined in this policy as relates to social media for their particular category.

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Social Media Director: Township Official, or designee, who has been granted authority by the Township Board of Trustees to oversee, or perform, all social media activities of the Social Media Specialist, and approve content for the category they have been assigned. They work with the Township Clerk for all press releases no matter the category of content.

Emergency Management Director: Township Official, or staff member, as listed in the Emergency Management Plan Resolution, who is authorized to direct staff to post on any platform, for purposes of relaying timely information to the public in an emergency situation.

Social Media Activities: Include, but are not limited to: Social Media Posts, Advertising, Township Newsletter, Local Newspaper Articles, Cable Channel Programming, Printed Media, Public speaking engagements and/or presentations.

Technology Director: Head of the IT Department, or designee, who maintains a list of approved social media networks and sites for official use. Has final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue, or at the direction of the Township Board.

Township Clerk: Maintains all record of public comment, backups, and is main point of contact for all Press releases.

6.8(b) (a) Responsibilities

The Social Media Specialist will:

Develop and distribute social media posts on assigned mediums, such as Facebook, X, Instagram, and/or the Township website or cable channel.

Assist Clerk in developing press releases, newsletter articles, printed materials, presentations, etc.

Ensure all social media sites and channels are kept current.

Have authority to respond to comments for all posts.

Informational questions that can be easily responded to.

Sensitive questions/comments, or that the specialist is not comfortable responding to, will be referred to the assigned Social Media Director for suggested response, if any. The Director may in turn refer to the Technology Director for final action.

Monitors sites daily and responds to comments in a polite and respectful tone.

Ensures that all content is appropriate, professional, and consistent with Township Policy and branding.

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Ability to make comments via their own devices after hours as authorized/approved by their Department Head and the Social Media Director.

Stay current with social media networks, and have the ability to measure performance metrics.

Have a familiarity with the ads platform for each medium, if any (useful).

Keep the Social Media Director informed of the used social media sites and activities.

Provide available reports, or copies of posts/comments, as requested through F.O.I.A. or by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

The Social Media Director(s) will:

Approve the Social Media Activity plans for their category, as well as the addition of any new platforms, with approval from the Technology Director.

Oversees and Is responsible for content posted by the Social Media Specialist(s).

Authorizes Advertising Budgets, if any, for media campaigns and boosted posts.

Designate a Social Media Specialist and back-up responsible for overseeing the category's social media activities, policy compliance, and responding to comments completely, accurately and in a timely manner.

Designate appropriate usage levels including identifying what social media accounts individuals are approved to use, as well as defining roles.

Monitor Google Information Panels and ensure accurate information is reflected and post responses to comments as needed.

The Technology Director will:

Have final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue.

Maintain a list of approved social media networks, passwords, registered email addresses, and list of authorized site users for the purpose of emergency management.

Provide training opportunities to staff on best practices and provide samples of acceptable content.

Work with the Emergency Management Director to draft and distribute content in an emergency situation.

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Ensure all social media sites have the correct security settings with the assistance of Social Media Specialist and their assigned Director.

6.8(e) (b) Procedures

While the content for each Department within the Township varies, the overall theme, tone, and professionalism must be carried through. Examples of typical posts, as well as ones used for media blasts/promotions, will be by the Social Media Director. The Technology Director and each Social Media Director will ensure that the staff member given the responsibility for the public face of the Department is:

Familiar with the content allowed based on applicable Federal and state laws, ordinances, regulations, and Township policies. This includes but is not limited to laws regarding personally identifiable information, copyright, records retention, First Amendment, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), The Privacy Act, and employment related laws.

Is responsible and equipped to carry-out social media activity in accordance with the current Township Social Policy.

Departments who choose to utilize social media for things other than typical posts, such as media blasts/promotions, shall:

Submit a Social Media Action Plan to their assigned Social Media Manager, for public events/advertising, that identifies the department's mission, goals, objectives, audiences, and measures of success.

Request, and have approved, a "not to exceed" budget for their efforts. Advertising and boosted posts can be successful in reaching beyond organic reach, and can target specific demographics for things such as: completing surveys, public meeting announcements, important safety related posts.

May approve the distribution/advertising through a vendor hired for specific purposes such as planning, engineering, etc. The social media plan would be developed by the vendor/contractor and submitted to the Social Media Director and Technology Director for approval.

6.8(d) (c) Authorized Use

Hamburg Township respects the right of any employee to engage in online social networking using the Internet, other technology, and social media networks during their personal time. This includes instant messages, text, video, photos, and audio. While we respect the employee's right of self-expression, in order to protect the Township's interests and ensure employees focus on their job duties, employees must adhere to the following guidelines:

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Employees may not engage in such activities during work time, or at any time with Township equipment or property, without Social Media Director's approval, or within the confines of the expected duties of Social Media Specialist.

Information published on social media networks that has to do with any aspect of work must comply with all confidentiality requirements, HIPAA, and Township Policies. Information related to persons receiving services from the Township must not be disclosed. Privacy rights of fellow employees and Township Board members must be respected.

Township Departments or employees may not create a social networking site or service to conduct Township business without a Social Media Action Plan and approval from the Social Media Director assigned to their category, with review by the Technology Director.

If the employee mentions the Township while engaging in social networking and also expresses a view or opinion regarding the Township's actions, the person must specifically note that the statement is his/her personal view or opinion and not the view or opinion of the Township. This standard disclaimer does not by itself exempt supervisors, managers, coordinators, and the Township Board from special responsibility when using personal social networks.

By virtue of your position as a Hamburg Township Employee, you are held to a higher standard than general members of the public, and your online activities should reflect professionalism.

Users must immediately report violations of this policy to their manager or supervisor, as well to the Human Resources Director.

All managers and supervisors are responsible for enforcing this policy. Employees who violate this policy are subject to discipline up to and including termination from employment, professional discipline, or criminal prosecution, in accordance with the Hamburg Township Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual.

6.8(e) (d) Approved Social Media Networks, Cable Channels, Websites

Departments shall only utilize Township approved social media networks for hosting official Township social media sites. A list will be maintained by the Technology Director, and made available to the Social Media Director(s). Networks may vary for use depending on the category of content.

Social Media Action Plans, for anything other than approved daily use, will be reviewed and approved by the Social Media Director and Technology Director prior to public release.

Social media sites that are created on behalf of any Township Department that are not approved by the Technology Director and Social Media Director, will be in violation of this

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policy. Employees who violate this policy are subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.

For each approved social media network, usage guidelines will be relayed by the Social Media Director.

The Social Media Specialist is responsible for the creation of Hamburg Township's social media sites, at the direction of their Social Media Director and/or the Technology Director.

Social media sites will be created using official Township email accounts, or other approved email such as Gmail, on file with the Technology Director.

Passwords will be created and maintained by the Social Media Specialist, with copies on file with the Technology Director, and will conform to password requirements. Passwords shall be promptly reset when authorized access is removed.

Social Media Directors shall notify the Technology Director immediately in the case of termination for any employee with authorized use of any social media networks used by the Township.

6.8(f) (e) Authenticity Establishment & Site Content

Hamburg Township's social media sites shall be created and maintained with identifiable characteristics of an official Township site. Both creation and maintenance of sites, and the content there in, shall comply with procedures as outlined in the Social Media Handbook. Wherever possible, links should direct users back to the Township's official website for more information, forms, documents, or online services. Social Media should not serve as a duplication of efforts, but as a way to further the goals and mission of the Township.

A list of undesirable content and/or words posted by external and authorized users will be provided to the Social Media Specialist who may remove them at their discretion, and/or by the direction of the Social Media Director, as outlined in the Social Media handbook. This includes, but is not limited to, removal of public comments using profanity and/or inappropriate images.

All Township content will be informational and non-partisan in nature. Resident and visitor comments on posts, including the request to remove inappropriate, insensitive, or misleading information, will be responded to in a timely manner.

6.8(g) (f) Security Compromise

If a compromise is identified on any official Township social media site, the managing Social Media Director and the Technology Director, must be notified immediately. The Social Media Specialist will change appropriate passwords immediately to isolate the incident, and archive compromising content as outlined in the Social Media Handbook.

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The Technology Director has final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue, or at the direction of the Township Board.

6.8(h)-(g) Record of Updates

This policy will evolve as new technologies and social media sites change

Note from Deby: It is possible that some of this could go into the Handbook I am suggesting we develop. It should be up to the board to decide what should be included in Administrative policy, and what could include a reference.

Purpose:

Hamburg Township supports the use of social media technology to enhance communication, collaboration, and information exchange to further the goals of the Township where appropriate. This policy establishes policies and procedures for social media covering all Township employees, Township Board members, and/or Committee members. This policy may evolve as new technologies and social media offerings change.

Definitions:

Content: Words, Video, Audio, or any combination of these things, which are used to relay a message to the public through Social Media Networks.

Social Media Networks: Examples of this are Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Cable Channel, Website, etc.

Social Media Specialist(s): Staff member and/or Township Board or Committee member who has been granted authority by the Social Media Director to perform the duties as outlined in this policy as relates social media activities for their particular category.

Social Media Director: Township Official, or designee, who has been granted authority by the Township Board of Trustees to oversee all social media activities of the Social Media Specialist, and approve content for the category they have been assigned. They work with the Township Clerk for all press releases no matter the category of content.

Emergency Management Director: Township Official, or staff member, as listed in the Emergency Management Plan Resolution, who is authorized to direct staff to post on any platform, for purposes of relaying timely information to the public in an emergency situation.

Social Media Activities: Include, but are not limited to: Social Media Posts, Advertising, Township Newsletter, Local Newspaper Articles, Cable Channel Programming, Printed Media, Public speaking engagements and/or presentations.

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Technology Director: Head of the IT Department, or designee, who maintains a list of approved social media networks and sites for official use. Has final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue, or at the direction of the Township Board.

Township Clerk: Maintains all record of public comment, backups, and is main point of contact for all Press releases.

Responsibilities

The Social Media Specialist will:

- Develop and distribute social media posts on assigned mediums, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and/or the Township website or cable channel.
- Assist Clerk in developing press releases, newsletter articles, printed materials, presentations, etc.
- Ensure all social media sites and channels are kept current.
- Have authority to respond to comments for all posts.
 - Informational questions that can be easily responded to.
 - Sensitive questions/comments will be referred to the assigned Social Media Director for suggested response, if any.
 - Monitors sites daily and responds to comments in a polite and respectful tone.
 - Ensures that all content is appropriate, professional, and consistent with Township Policy.
 - Ability to make comments via their own devices after hours. (Handbook will need to address this, or not allow — up to you)
- Stay current with social media networks, and have the ability to measure performance metrics.
- Have a working knowledge of the ads platform for each medium, if any (useful).
- Keep the Social Media Director informed of the used social media sites and activities.
- Provide available reports, or copies of posts/comments, as requested through F.O.I.A.
- Monitor Google Information Panels and ensure accurate information is reflected and post responses to comments as needed.

The Social Media Director(s) will:

- Approve the Social Media Activity plans for their category, as well as the addition of any new platforms, with approval from the Technology Director.
- Oversees and Is responsible for content posted by the Social Media Specialist(s).
- Authorizes Advertising Budgets, if any, for media campaigns and boosted posts.

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- Designate a Social Media Specialist and back-up responsible for overseeing the category's social media activities, policy compliance, and responding to comments completely, accurately and in a timely manner.
- Designate appropriate usage levels including identifying what social media accounts individuals are approved to use, as well as defining roles, which is further defined in the Township Social Media Handbook.

The Technology Director will:

- Have final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue.
- Maintain a list of approved social media networks, passwords, registered email addresses, and list of authorized site users for the purpose of emergency management.
- Provide training opportunities to staff on best practices and provide samples of acceptable content.
- Work with the Emergency Management Director to draft and distribute content in an emergency situation.
- Ensure all social media sites have the correct security settings with the assistance of each Social Media Specialist and their assigned Director.

Procedures

While the content for each Department within the Township varies, the overall theme, tone, and professionalism must be carried through. Examples of typical posts, as well as ones used for media blasts/promotions, will be provided in the Township Social Media Handbook. The Technology Director and each Social Media Director will ensure that the staff member given the responsibility for the public face of the Department is:

- Familiar with the content allowed based on applicable Federal and state laws, ordinances, regulations, and Township policies. This includes but is not limited to laws regarding personally identifiable information, copyright, records retention, First Amendment, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), The Privacy Act, and employment related laws.
- Is responsible and equipped to carry out social media activity in accordance with the Township Social Media Handbook (This will need to be developed and agreed upon by Department Heads and IT).

Departments who choose to utilize social media for things other than typical posts, such as media blasts/promotions, shall:

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- ~~Submit a Social Media Action Plan to their assigned Social Media Manager, as outlined in the Social Media Handbook, for public events/advertising, that identifies the department's mission, goals, objectives, audiences, and measures of success.~~
- ~~Request, and have approved, a "not to exceed" budget for their efforts. Advertising and boosted posts can be successful in reaching beyond organic reach, and can target specific demographics for things such as: completing surveys, public meeting announcements, and important safety related posts.~~
- ~~May approve the distribution/advertising through a vendor hired for specific purposes such as planning, engineering, etc. The social media plan would be developed by the vendor/contractor and submitted to the Social Media Director and Technology Director for approval.~~

Authorized Use

~~Hamburg Township respects the right of any employee to engage in online social networking using the Internet, other technology, and social media networks during their personal time. This includes instant messages, text, video, photos, and audio. While we respect the employee's right of self-expression, in order to protect the Township's interests and ensure employees focus on their job duties, employees must adhere to the following guidelines:~~

- ~~Employees may not engage in such activities during work time, or at any time with Township equipment or property, without Social Media Director's approval, or within the confines of the expected duties of Social Media Specialist.~~
- ~~Information published on social media networks that has to do with any aspect of work must comply with all confidentiality requirements, HIPAA, and Township Policies. Information related to persons receiving services from the Township must not be disclosed. Privacy rights of fellow employees and Township Board members must be respected.~~
- ~~Township Departments or employees may not create a social networking site or service to conduct Township business without a Social Media Action Plan and approval from the Social Media Director assigned to their category, with review by the Technology Director.~~
- ~~If the employee mentions the Township while engaging in social networking and also expresses a view or opinion regarding the Township's actions, the person must specifically note that the statement is his/her personal view or opinion and not the view or opinion of the Township. This standard disclaimer does not by itself exempt program supervisors, managers, coordinators, and the Township Board from special responsibility when using personal social networks.~~
- ~~By virtue of your position as a Hamburg Township Employee, you are held to a higher standard than general members of the public, and your online activities should reflect professionalism.~~

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- ~~Users must immediately report violations of this policy to their program manager or supervisor, as well to the Human Resources Director.~~
- ~~All program managers and supervisors are responsible for enforcing this policy.~~
- ~~Employees who violate this policy are subject to discipline up to and including termination from employment, professional discipline, or criminal prosecution, in accordance with the Hamburg Township Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual.~~

~~Approved Social Media Networks, Cable Channels, Websites~~

~~Departments shall only utilize Township approved social media networks for hosting official Township social media sites. A list will be maintained by the Technology Director, and made available to the Social Media Director(s). Networks may vary for use depending on the category of content.~~

- ~~Social Media Action Plans, for anything other than approved daily use, will be reviewed and approved by the Social Media Director and Technology Director prior to public release.~~
- ~~Social media sites that are created on behalf of any Township Department that are not approved by the Technology Director and Social Media Director, will be in violation of this policy. Employees who violate this policy are subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. (or could reference another section of the Admin Policy)~~
- ~~For each approved social media network, usage guidelines will be outlined in the Hamburg Social Media Handbook.~~
- ~~The Social Media Specialist is responsible for the creation of Hamburg Township's social media sites, at the direction of their Social Media Director and/or the Technology Director.~~
 - ~~Social media sites will be created using official Township email accounts, or other approved email such as Gmail, on file with the Technology Director.~~
 - ~~Passwords will be created and maintained by the Social Media Specialist, with copies on file with the Technology Director, and will conform to password requirements. Passwords shall be promptly reset when authorized access is removed.~~
 - ~~Social Media Directors shall notify the Technology Director immediately in the case of termination for any employee with authorized use of any social media networks used by the Township.~~

~~Authenticity Establishment & Site Content~~

~~Hamburg Township's social media sites shall be created and maintained with identifiable characteristics of an official Township site. Both creation and maintenance of sites, and the content there in, shall comply with procedures as outlined in the Social Media Handbook. Wherever possible, links should direct users back to the Township's official website for more information, forms, documents, or online services. Social Media should~~

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~~not serve as a duplication of efforts, but as a way to further the goals and mission of the Township.~~

~~A list of undesirable content and/or words posted by external and authorized users will be provided to the Social Media Specialist who may remove them at their discretion, and/or by the direction of the Social Media Director, as outlined in the Social Media handbook. This includes, but is not limited to, removal of public comments using profanity and/or inappropriate images.~~

~~Security Compromise~~

~~If a compromise is identified on any official Township social media site, the managing Social Media Director and the Technology Director, must be notified immediately. The Social Media Specialist will change appropriate passwords immediately to isolate the incident, and archive compromising content as outlined in the Social Media Handbook.~~

~~The Technology Director has final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue, or at the direction of the Township Board.~~

~~Record of Updates~~

~~This policy will evolve as new technologies and social media sites change. Please refer to the Social Media Handbook for the latest changes.~~

6.9 Governmental Access Cable Television Channel Capacity Policy

6.9(a) Introduction

As part of its administration of its cable franchise authority, the Township of Hamburg is hereby establishing guidelines for the use of channel capacity on the cable system dedicated by the Cable Franchise Grantee for governmental purposes. All regulations shall be governed by applicable regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

This policy may be included in the Municode version of Hamburg Township Ordinances if so designated and directed by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

6.9(b) Background

Under the Cable Franchise Agreement, the Cable Franchise Grantee is required to supply channel capacity for access to its cable system for governmental access purposes.

At the time of the adoption of this policy, video access is provided over one channel, Channel 191. Its broadcast signal is being carried over the Charter Spectrum Cable TV Network. The Technical Services Department of Hamburg Township maintains and operates Channel 191 under the direction of the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

These access guidelines establish rules, procedures and requirements to determine eligibility to program the capacity and the acceptability of programming material for governmental

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access, and otherwise set forth operating policies by which the Township will make use of governmental access capacity.

6.9(c) Purpose

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

—The purpose of governmental and community cable TV access hereunder is to provide to Hamburg Township Board, commissions, committees, departments and community organizations an outlet for governmental and community information ~~and programming, and also additional educational and public information video programming~~ and announcements.

6.9(c)(1) Eligible Governmental and Community Entities

- A. **Access to Channel Capacity:** Upon application to the Township, governmental access information or programming may be inserted over the cable system's governmental access channel capacity by an eligible governmental or community entity.
- B. **Eligible Entities:** The term "eligible entity" means the following:
 - i. Township Board of Trustees
 - ii. Executive personnel and administrative personnel of the Township of Hamburg
 - iii. The Boards, commissions, committees and departments of Hamburg Township
 - iv. The Hamburg Police Department;
 - v. The Hamburg Fire Department;
 - vi. Executive personnel and administrative personnel of Livingston County; and the State of Michigan; and
 - vii. Other entities as may be allowed by the Township Board of Trustees.

Governmental access is intended both for in-service use by and between eligible government entities and community groups and as a public service to the citizens of Hamburg.

6.9(c)(2) Responsibilities of the Technical Services Department

~~A.~~ *Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx*

~~B.~~ A. Responsible for coordinating the operation of Channel 191 pursuant to the direction of the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees. The Director of Technical Services shall designate staff responsibilities for maintenance and operation of Channel 191's station, equipment and programming.

~~C.~~ B. Provide the Township with advice concerning governmental issues that are relevant to Hamburg and the development and procurement of information, information services and programming responsive to those issues.

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- ~~D.C. _____ Shall regularly consult with eligible governmental entities to identify relevant governmental issues.~~
- ~~E.D. _____ May seek comment from members of the Hamburg community or Township legal counsel, or approved industry consultants for further input on relevant issues and information, information services and programming responsive to those issues.~~
- F.E. _____ Shall be the primary interface with the cable television franchisee for the purpose of scheduling franchisee-provided resources and facilities for the production and cablecast of governmental access programming. All franchise agreements shall be approved by the Township Board of Trustees and executed by the appropriate Township elected officials.
- G.F. _____ Shall be responsible for collecting programming information and materials from eligible governmental and community entities. The Township Board of Trustees has ultimate authority with respect to programming and material transmitted over the governmental access capacity.
- H.G. _____ Shall assist in and coordinate the production of governmental access programming both onsite and offsite for such entities as they may require, subject to available facilities, funds and personnel.
- ~~I.H. _____ Develop, produce, and distribute a program schedule to community media, Township staff and others upon request.~~
- J.I. _____ Shall review and approve all material or programming cablecast on governmental access capacity pursuant to policy set by the Township Board.
- K.J. _____ Shall be responsible for reviewing accessibility options for the deaf and hard of hearing community as such technologies may become available. The Township Board of Trustees shall have final approval for any contracts required to provide such services.
- L.K. _____ Shall be responsible for the physical and daily operation of the governmental access channel capacity.
- M.L. _____ Chain of Command: The Technical Services Department shall report first to the Township Supervisor, then to the Township Board of Trustees.

6.9(c)(3) Programming

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

A. Programming Focus

Programming shall be primarily focused in four main areas:

- government programming;
- community programming;
- educational and community interest programming;
- public service programming;

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All programming shall be of special interest and benefit to the residents of the Township of Hamburg, and shall promote and further the goals and objectives of the Hamburg Township Board for Hamburg Township. All applicable FCC regulations shall govern.

B. Programming Types

Automated News Services Programming	Modules provided under agreements with Leightronics, Inc. and/or other suppliers as approved by the Township Board of Trustees.
Live	Live coverage may be provided, subject to the preemption for any material that does not comply with these guidelines.
Remote	Utilizing remote video production facilities for on-location tape-delayed cablecasts.
Video Delayed	Events or presentations may be recorded for cablecast at a later time. Recordings of live cablecasts may be replayed.
Locally Produced Programs	Original programs that are governmental and community programming may be produced by eligible entities, including production and production assistance by Technical Services staff or others on behalf of such eligible entities. Any copyrights to locally produced programming shall belong to the eligible entity producing such program. If such eligible entity is not organized and authorized to own such a copyright, the copyright shall belong to the Township or the County or the State with direct jurisdiction over the eligible entity.
External Programs	Governmental, community and educational programming may be acquired or borrowed by eligible entities for access. The eligible entity shall be responsible for securing all copyright authorizations required for externally produced programs and shall provide a written copy of such authorizations upon application to Technical Services staff to air such programming.
Alphanumeric Message Board	A governmental and community bulletin board may be maintained to display messages of local interest in Hamburg

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	Township and Livingston County, Michigan and a community calendar.
Data	Computer applications may be integrated over the access capacity as technology permits.

~~C. Program Log~~

~~A daily log will be maintained of all programming cablecast that day by Technical Services staff. A Program Guide may be placed on Channel 191 and/or the Township's web site. Notices regarding scheduling for certain broadcasts including "Meet the Candidates" forums may be placed on the Township's web site.~~

D. Township Control

Hamburg Township reserves the right to control all programming, including all non-profit advertising, which is broadcast over the channels. No for-profit advertising is permitted due to cable TV franchise limitations. The right of control is a broad right, including, but not limited to, control over any and all content (video, audio, graphics, text), length of programming, broadcast schedule times, methods of production and broadcasting, copyright of materials generated by Hamburg Township and any related fees, production costs, broadcasting costs and/or equipment costs.

E. Political Programming

No "political programming" shall be accepted for governmental access except as may be approved by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

i. Definition of "Political programming"

a. That programming which, if inserted on the governmental or community access channel capacity, would constitute a use by a legally qualified candidate or his or her supporters (authorized or unauthorized) that would give rise to requirements by a cable operator, if such programming were to have been inserted on a cable channel subject to the cable operator's control, to provide equal opportunities and quasi-equal opportunities to other such candidates for the same office or their supporters (authorized or unauthorized) under Federal Communications Board CFCC") cable television regulations, e.g., 47 C.F.R. §76.3(q) and §76.205 et seq., and related FCC policies, rules and doctrines, including the "personal attack rule."

b. "Meet the Candidate" and other issues-related forums held prior to elections may be allowed as approved by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees even though they may be considered "political" programming.

ii. Definition of "Non-Political Programming"

For these guidelines, the following are considered news events and are not "political programming:"

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- a. Meetings of and hearings before the Hamburg Township Board and Hamburg Township Planning Commission, Hamburg Zoning Board of Appeals; and any other Hamburg Township government committees and departments.
- b. Meetings of and hearings held by Livingston and Washtenaw County departments affecting Hamburg Township residents and property owners.
- c. Meetings of and hearings held by State of Michigan departments such as the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (MEGLE), Michigan State Police (MSP)/Emergency Management, etc.
- d. Meetings held by Federal regional government agencies such as FEMA/NFIP, USACE, and USGS for issues involving Hamburg Township residents and property owners.

iii. Right of Refusal

Hamburg Township reserves the right to refuse cable broadcasting of programs which may contain any of the following:

Unauthorized use of copyrighted material.
Violation of the State and Federal law regarding obscenity. No programming shall be accepted for governmental access if it contains obscene material, sexually explicit conduct or material soliciting or promoting unlawful conduct under Section 10(c) of the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992 ("Cable Act") as implemented by regulations of the FCC.
Advertising of a "lottery" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1304 and FCC regulation 47 C.F.R. § 213.
Unlawful invasion of privacy.
Material which is libelous, slanderous or defamatory.
Material which violates local, state or federal laws.
Any other material deemed inappropriate by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

F. Preview of Programming

Any programming submitted by an eligible governmental entity for access shall be previewed by the Technical Services staff, or Township elected officials for acceptance. Such programming may be edited to conform to these guidelines, or the programming may be rejected. If concerns develop, the matter shall be referred to the Township Board for review.

G. Alphanumeric Bulletin Board

Messages programmed into the "Bulletin Board" shall be edited to provide clarity and to provide maximum use of the memory bank currently available. Message content generally will not be edited, but will not be inserted if inconsistent with these guidelines

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H. Handling of Program Materials

i. Return of Refused Programming

Any programming submitted by an eligible entity for cable TV channel access that is not accepted will be returned.

ii. Program Retainage

Programming accepted for governmental access will be retained, including recordings of live programming, for the duration of the scheduled run of the programming, including repeat exhibitions, and for any such period of time as may be applicable under the Township's policies for programming return, receipt and record retention.

iii. Program Copying

a. Subject to copyright and licensing considerations, programming shall be available to the public for copying one week after the last scheduled run. All requests for copies shall be made pursuant to FOIA requirements.

b. The cost for copies of programming shall be set by the Township Clerk according to the Township Schedule of Fees under FOIA.

c. Programming generated by entities other than Hamburg Township shall be obtained directly from that entity and not from Hamburg Township.

6.9(c)(4) Programming Schedules

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

A. Day to Day Management

~~i. Daily Schedule~~

~~Technical Services staff are responsible for scheduling.~~ The day-to-day management of schedules shall be through the Technical Services office.

~~ii. Program Schedule~~

~~The program schedule, once publicized, generally will not be deviated from or added to except in the event of an emergency, as a result of technical difficulties or unavailability of the scheduled programming.~~

~~B. Scheduling priorities and guidelines~~

PRIORITY LEVEL	GUIDELINES

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Level 1	Announcements concerning emergencies affecting health or safety or exigent circumstances may preempt at any time; weather bulletins; civil defense bulletins, etc.
Level 2	Special and regular meetings and hearings of the Township Board, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and other related boards and committees; election notices; election precinct workers' meetings notices; meetings of Livingston County of interest to Hamburg residents; requests for service workers; notices
Level 3	Other public meetings and public hearings; In-service use of government access channel capacity; Information programming, news, public interest; community activities (festivals and special events; senior citizens; parks and recreation programming, etc.);
Level 4	Educational programming; public safety programming; environmental programming; community access programming, adoptable pets from Livingston County Animal Control Shelter
Level 5	Database programming; internet generated programming; repeats of public meetings and hearings for time diversity; alphanumeric bulletin board messages

~~C. Live Programming Scheduling~~

~~i. Programming of live scripts or concepts for such live programming must be submitted at least two (2) weeks in advance of the intended cablecast date to allow for scheduling, preparation, production, if any, and evaluation for consistency with these guidelines.~~

~~ii. Emergency programming is not subject to this requirement.~~

~~iii. All scripts shall be submitted to the Technical Services Department and a Production Proposal completed.~~

~~D. Community Bulletin Board Notices~~

~~"Bulletin Board" messages must be submitted to the Technical Services Department at least 72 hours prior to the intended insertion date except for special public announcements (such as emergency closings).~~

~~E. Scheduling Conflicts~~

~~i. It is the Township's policy to cablecast all programming submitted by an eligible entity, subject to the priorities and guidelines herein. Scheduling requirements may, from~~

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~~time to time, preclude available cablecast time for all such programming for its intended cablecast date.~~

~~ii. Technical Services staff shall use reasonable efforts to accommodate such programming and entity and to resolve potential scheduling conflicts.~~

~~F. Right of Scheduling Reservation—Hamburg Township reserves the right to schedule the time in which a program will be cablecast.~~

~~G. Viewer Discretion Notification—Programs which may not be suitable for viewing by children, or contain material which may be offensive to sensitive viewers, will carry the standard disclaimer at the head of the program:~~

~~"The following program contains material which may be offensive to some viewers and may be inappropriate for viewing by children. Viewer discretion is advised."~~

6.9(c)(5) Support for Access Programming - Underwriting

A. Franchise Fees

Channel 191 is presently maintained via franchise fees generated by cable TV subscribers to the Charter/Spectrum Cable TV Network in Hamburg Township as budgeted for pursuant to allocation by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

B. Underwriting Contributions

Individuals or organizations that provide contributions to the Township or to a municipal instrumentality of the Township that is exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code to support governmental and community access or specific programming of a public interest may be identified by name and, if a business or organization, the display of their business or organization logo and tagline, consistent with Section 399B of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and FCC regulations (47 C.F.R. § 73.503(d)) and policies and guidelines governing the noncommercial, educational broadcast services with respect to so-called "underwriting announcements."

B. Underwriting Disclosures

The names, addresses and phone numbers of individuals and/or organizations providing funding for production of programming must be disclosed to the Technical Services Department and the same noted on the Production Proposal.

C. Underwriting Credits

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i. Credit may appear at the beginning and/or end of the program identifying the underwriter. The display should be no longer than 10 seconds and the word "sponsor" cannot be used.

ii. The credit may include the words "This program made possible in part by _____" followed by the underwriter's name or logo. Such underwriting announcements or acknowledgments shall be for identification purposes only and shall not promote the contributor's products, services or company. Such announcements may not contain comparative or qualitative descriptions, price information, calls to action or inducements to buy, sell, rent or lease.

D. Underwriting Payments

All underwriting contribution funds shall be submitted to and paid to the Hamburg Township Treasurer with receipts provided for same.

6.9(c)(6) Video Products

A. Video Copies

i. Subject to copyright licensing requirements and FOIA requirements, copies of any available Township of Hamburg programs, including Township Board meetings, shall be provided to authorized Township employees or departments for official use only, free of charge, upon request.

ii. Copies of Township Board and other public meetings shall be provided to any citizen at cost (to include administrative and overhead) in accordance with the provisions of Schedule of Fees and Charges as set by the Technical Services Department in accordance with FOIA requirements.

iii. Simulcasting: Township meetings shall be simulcast via Livestream/Vimeo services software platform online and/or via Channel 191 on the Charter/Spectrum Cable TV network.

iv. Archiving/Video-On-Demand: Video recordings will be posted and made available to the public free of charge on the Livestream/Vimeo or other similar video-on-demand internet viewing service.

B. Videotape review

Video recordings will be posted and made available to the public free of charge on the Livestream/Vimeo or other similar video-on-demand internet viewing service. FOIA requests for video recordings transcribed to physical media such as DVDs or flash drives shall be directed in writing to the Hamburg Township Clerk.

C. Archives

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- i. It is the policy of the Township to maintain video tape archives of meetings of and hearings before the Township Board of Trustees, the Hamburg Planning Commission (when the Planning Commission proceedings are recorded), and the Hamburg Township Zoning Board of Appeals pursuant to Township record retention policy as administered by the Hamburg Township Clerk.
- ii. Recording and record retention policies for all other meetings of and hearings before other eligible entities shall be arranged by such entity in a manner acceptable to the Township Clerk, who is the designated Keeper of the Records for Hamburg Township.
- iii. All recording and record retention policies shall be handled pursuant to current FOIA regulations. Video recordings will be posted and made available to the public free of charge on the Livestream/Vimeo or other similar video-on-demand internet viewing service.

6.9(c)(7) Legal

A. Copyright and Trademark/Service Mark

i. Copyright Clearance

All programming accepted for governmental access cable broadcasting shall be cleared for copyright.

ii. Copyright Use Authorization

The eligible entity submitting the programming must have obtained and provided to the Technical Services Department a specific authorization from the copyright holder of the programming authorizing the "Township of Hamburg" to perform, edit and make ephemeral recordings of the work consistent with these guidelines.

iii. Personal Release

In the case of live programming or recorded programming produced for access hereunder that is not a public proceeding, permission or releases must be obtained from persons depicted therein to use their likenesses, including printed, recorded and photographed material. Written evidence of permission shall be submitted to the Technical Services Department at the time of submission of the programming request by the entity on the Production Proposal.

iv. Trademark Clearance

Any trademark or service mark, depicted or audible, in any programming accepted for governmental access shall be cleared in the same manner as for copyright.

B. Errors and Omissions

i. Warrant to Township

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Eligible entities shall represent and warrant to the Township that they have all necessary copyright, trademark, service mark and likeness (i.e., invasion of privacy) permissions and authorizations for the Township to cablecast the submitted programming consistent with these guidelines and that such information or programming is not libelous, slanderous or defamatory and is otherwise consistent with these guidelines.

ii. Indemnification of Township

Such eligible entities shall indemnify and defend the Township against damages and loss, including reasonable attorney's fees, for any claims arising out of such representations and warranties. Such indemnification shall also extend to the cable operator to the extent it is not exempt from liability under the Cable Act or other applicable law. A copy of the certificate of copyright authorization is to be attached as part of the Production Proposal.

iii. Broadcasters' Liability Insurance

The Township may obtain appropriate "broadcasters' liability" insurance, in which case it may name such eligible entities as additional insureds and assess such entities, pro-rata, the premium amount of any such insurance.

iv. Township as Named Insured

Alternatively, any such eligible entity that has or obtains such insurance shall name the Township as an additional insured with respect to governmental access programming cablecast pursuant to these guidelines.

6.9(c)(8) Amendment and Repeal

The Hamburg Township Board of Trustees may from time to time amend or repeal these guidelines as it deems fit.

6.10 Tax and Assessment Information Policy

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

~~—Updated by Board of Trustees X-X-XX~~

Hamburg Township office hours are Monday through ~~Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.~~ **Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**—During these hours Assessing records are available for public inspection, unless an after hours' time is mutually agreed by Hamburg township staff and the individual requesting the records.

Residents, banks, mortgage companies and other entities requesting information regarding tax amounts, special assessment payment amounts, property record cards, valuation sheets, all available sale records, and maps can receive this information verbally and without cost on up to five parcels. ~~within a 24 hour period. Tax records may be unavailable during~~

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~~tax collection periods, as determined by the Treasury department. Restrictions shall be posted on the Township website and in the Township hall.~~

The public does not have unrestricted access to township offices, records or facilities. A person may be required to inspect records at a specific counter or table in the view of Township staff.

Records or files cannot be removed from the Township Offices.

Township officials assisting with the inspection of public records must inform any person inspecting records that only pencils, and no pens or ink may be used to take notes.

Special assessment payoff amounts will be provided in writing via ~~fax~~, ~~or~~ mail or e-mail. ~~No payoff amounts will be issued over the phone.~~

Individuals, corporations or entities requesting the following information on more than five (5) parcels (with the exception of special assessment payoff amount) must be done in writing.

- Tax Amounts for Specific Years
- Paid Status of Taxes
- Determination of Special Assessment Status
- Amounts of Annual Special Assessment Payments
- Assessing Information

May be required to do the following:

- ~~Submit all Requests in Writing~~
- Receive all Responses in Writing Via Fax and Mail
- Pay a fee as established by the Township FOIA policy for each parcel on which information is requested. The fee is payable at the time of the request by check, money order, or cash.

(Adopted 5/27/97 – Amended 11/24/98 -Amended 2/3/15)

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6.0.—**PUBLIC INFORMATION**~~public Information~~

6.1.—**Public Contact**

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

6.1(a) Courtesy - The primary goal of the Township is to serve the public. All staff and employees will respond to requests for Township information from members of the public with courtesy and efficiency. All officials and employees shall communicate with the public in a friendly, courteous and efficient manner at all times.

All visitors to the Township hall shall be greeted in a friendly, helpful manner. ~~The receptionist shall be under the day to day supervision of the Township Clerk, who shall ensure that the public's needs are being met.~~

~~Phone calls to the Township shall be answered, "Good Morning/Good Afternoon, Hamburg Township, this is _____ speaking, how may I help you?"~~

Department heads shall make every effort to see visitors who need their assistance. When workload or other commitments do not allow for an immediate meeting, the visitor will be asked to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

6.1(b) Complaints and Problems - All citizen complaints and problems will be directed to the appropriate office or official.

Complaints or other concerns received from a citizen shall be received with courtesy. The official or employee will make every effort to resolve a complaint or problem, within the official's or employee's scope of authority. Department heads will be notified of all complaints.

The Township Supervisor and Clerk shall be notified in writing of any citizen complaint. The notice shall include the name and address of the citizen, the nature of the complaint, and how the complaint was resolved. The Supervisor or Clerk may make a subsequent inquiry with the citizen to ensure the issue was resolved to the citizen's satisfaction.

6.2.—**Public Information Officer**

The Supervisor and the Clerk shall be the public information officers for the Township and shall be responsible for public information associated with their departments of responsibility. The Treasurer is responsible for supervising the preparation of the Township newsletter. Public service announcements and media releases on Township government events and responding to inquiries from the media or referring contact to other appropriate Township officials shall be jointly coordinated by the Supervisor and the Clerk.

Township employees will refer all public information announcements to the Supervisor and the Clerk prior to releasing them to the public or the media.

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6.3—Public Notices

Updated by Board of Trustees

xx/xx/xx

6.3(a) Meeting Notices - The Township Clerk shall be responsible for posting all regular, special and rescheduled Board meetings in conformance with the Open Meetings Act and other State laws. Departments Heads shall be responsible for posting ~~of special~~ meetings related to their department.

6.3(b) Public Notices - The Township Clerk shall be responsible for delegation and/or assistance, or publishing and mailing all public notices required by State law, including but not limited to:

- ~~1. Board of Review meetings~~ 1. Board of Review meetings
2. Budget Public Hearings
- ~~3. Planning Commission Public Hearings~~ 3. Planning Commission Public Hearings
- ~~4. Zoning Board of Appeals Hearings~~ 4. Zoning Board of Appeals Hearings
5. Special Assessment District Hearings
6. Election Notices
7. Master Plan Adoption and Amendments Public Hearings
8. Truth-in-Taxation Notice
9. Board Meeting Minutes Synopsis
10. Request for Proposals

~~Department Heads shall submit all public notices for publishing to the Clerk &/or Deputy Clerk. Departments Heads shall be responsible for posting of special meetings related to their department.~~

6.4—Freedom of Information Act Requests

Updated by Board of Trustees X-X-XX

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

Pursuant to P.A. 1976 No. 442, as amended, and MCL 15.231, as amended (Freedom of Information Act – FOIA) Hamburg Township provides access to all Township public documents except those or portions of those exempt from release under FOIA. The policies and procedures herein are intended to implement the requirements of FOIA and the release of documents that exist at the time any requests for them are made.

All requests for copies of public documents or to review public documents must be in writing with the exception of the following:

1. Copies of assessment/tax records by the property owner of his/her own property.
2. Copies of assessment/tax records that are reasonable and readily available at the time of the request.
3. Copies of all current meeting agendas.

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4. Copies of all current minutes.

All written requests shall describe the public record or records requested sufficiently to enable the FOIA Coordinator to find said public record.

A written request made by facsimile submitted through the FOIA Portal, electronic mail, or other electronic transmission, is not logged as received by the FOIA Coordinator until one (1) business day after the electronic transmission is made. For a request to be considered a sufficient writing to satisfy the FOIA, it must contain the following:

1. The name, address and contact information (i.e. phone number, email address) of the requester.
2. A statement indicating that the requester will pay the costs allowable under the FOIA, or documentation that the requester is receiving public assistance or other facts showing inability to pay due to indigence.

Generally, oral requests for documents do not constitute a request under FOIA. However, if a citizen making an oral request is disabled, either temporarily or permanently, so that he/she is unable to make the request in writing, special accommodations must be made. It is the duty of the department receiving the request to write out the request for the citizen as an accommodation under American Disability Act (ADA). Once written, the request should be processed as a formal request under FOIA.

6.4(a) FOIA Coordinators - The Township Board shall appoint a FOIA Coordinator. The FOIA Coordinator may designate another individual(s) to act on his or her behalf in accepting and processing requests for the public body's public records, and in approving a denial pursuant to FOIA.

6.4(b) Processing - Often times a request for documents under FOIA will be received by the specific department. The request must be immediately turned over to the FOIA Coordinator for processing. The FOIA Coordinator in turn will request and receive from the appropriate departments, the requested documents together with a memorandum regarding the request, listing the staff time involved in retrieving and redacting the documents. The FOIA Coordinator shall review the departmental response for both compliance with the Township policy and consistency with the Township's response to similar requests. Any required changes shall be immediately discussed with the responding department or, if appropriate, the Township Attorney. The responding department shall immediately make any changes directed by the Coordinator and provide the Coordinator with revised documents as may be necessary.

The department will provide the requested records to the FOIA Coordinator no later than four (4) days from receipt of the request. If this is not possible, the department shall notify

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the FOIA Coordinator immediately. The Coordinator will contact the requesting party and notify them of a 10-day extension of time to respond, if appropriate.

If a department cannot provide a requested record because it does not exist, the FOIA Coordinator will be notified in writing immediately. If a record does not exist in the form requested, or if it is exempt under FOIA, the Coordinator will send a notice of denial, which contains the required appeal information (see Section 6.4(d)).

In the event the request is to view public documents, a monitor (Township staff person designated by the FOIA Coordinator) will be assigned. The requestor shall be notified of the scheduled day and time for the inspection.

6.4(c).—Payment of Costs - The requester will be invoiced by the FOIA Coordinator for actual costs in filling the request. These costs are contained in the Administrative Fee Schedule. ~~(insert hyperlink)~~

Except as provided below, no fee shall be charged for searching, examining, reviewing, and deleting and separating exempt from non-exempt material unless failure to charge a fee would result in unreasonable high costs to the public body because of the nature of the request in the particular instance, such as, by way of example, cases requiring advice from legal counsel, additional staffing or other direct expenses not in the ordinary course of business. (If a FOIA request is made for an easily identified document consisting of a few standard size pages, labor for the search, examination, and making deletions under the FOIA would generally not present a case of unreasonably high costs to a public body. In such a case, the Legislature has directed that no charge be imposed. If a request for "any and all" documents as to a particular subject, requires a search of many boxes of records, including review for exempt material which must be or may be deleted (per Section 13 of the FOIA), and if that search, examination, and review involves numerous hours of labor, charges may be imposed to avoid the unreasonably high cost arising from the nature of that particular request.)

In any case where the estimated actual cost to Hamburg Township of responding to a request for a copy of a public record exceeds \$50.00, a good faith deposit equal to ½ of the estimated cost of such response shall be required prior to completing the request. The FOIA Coordinator shall be responsible for collecting the computed costs prior to the release of the requested documents.

A copy of a public record shall be furnished, without charge for the first \$20.00 of the fee for each request, to an individual who submits an affidavit that he or she is then receiving public assistance, or if not receiving public assistance, stating facts showing inability to pay the cost because of indigency.

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If an individual has an outstanding FOIA bill, the information shall be turned over to the Accounting Department for collections proceedings. The Township cannot refuse to comply with subsequent FOIA requests due to an outstanding invoice.

The Township Board may waive some or all of the costs as may be in the public interest because furnishing copies of the document(s) would be considered as primarily befitting the general public.

6.4(d) Response - The initial response may be either grant or deny the requested documents or extend the time for response up to ten (10) business days. The response either granting or denying access in whole or in part to the requested documents must contain the following:

1. An invoice containing a detailed breakdown and backup of the charges to process the request.
2. Transmittal indicating where the requester may pick up the released documents and pay the appropriate costs. This transmittal shall also include the following statement: *"The Township does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy of the information provided. Rather, it provides the documents only to comply in good faith with the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, and not for any other purpose."*
3. If any aspect of the response is less than a full granting of the request, the final paragraph **MUST** be inserted exactly as follows:

"If you receive written notice that your request has been denied, in whole or in part, under Section 10 of the Freedom of Information Act, you may, at your option, either 1) submit to the Hamburg Township Clerk a written appeal that specifically states the word "appeal" and identifies the reason(s) for reversal for the disclosure denial; or 2) file a lawsuit in the circuit court to compel Hamburg Township's disclosure of the record. If, after judicial review, the circuit court determines that the Township has not complied with the Act, you may be awarded reasonable attorney's fees and damages as specified under the Act".

4. Material identified as exempt shall be forwarded to the requestor accompanied by a transmittal letter indicating the specific reasons why any material is not being disclosed together with the right to appeal or seek judicial review.

~~5. Redactions~~

6.4(e) Appeals - Under the Act, the requesting person has the option of pursuing an appeal to the Hamburg Township Board or proceeding to circuit court. If the requesting person wants to appeal to the Township Board, the requester must submit a written appeal that specifically states the word "appeal" and identifies the reason or reasons for reversal of the denial. The Township Board is not considered to have received a written appeal until the first regularly scheduled meeting following submission of the appeal. Within ten days after receiving the written appeal, the Township Board must do one of the following:

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1. Reverse the disclosure denial;
2. Issue a written notice to the requesting person upholding the disclosure denial;
3. Reverse the disclosure denial in part and issue a written notice to the requesting person upholding the disclosure denial in part; or
4. Under unusual circumstances, issue a notice extending for not more than 10 business days the period during which the Township Board will respond to the written appeal. The Township Board is prohibited from issuing more than one extension for any particular appeal.

6.4(f) Document Storage - FOIA Documents ~~to be~~ released by the Coordinator shall be held for one year plus one day. If the requester fails to pay the amount due the Township, or fails to pick up the documents, the documents may be recycled, destroyed, or returned to the appropriate department.

6.4(g) Record Keeping - The FOIA Coordinator shall maintain a chronological file of all FOIA requests processed by him/her together with a copy of the document provided, response letter, and invoice. These files must be maintained for a period of one year and one day from the date of response.

6.5 — Incoming Mail

~~xx/xx/xx Updated by Board of Trustees X-X-XX~~

- Updated by Board of Trustees

1. All mail addressed to the Township is considered Township mail. Employees cannot expect to use the Township P.O. Box or its physical address as a personal mail service.
2. All mail clearly and properly addressed to a specific individual or department will be distributed unopened ~~with the envelope date stamped to their respective mailbox~~. The mail recipient will assume full responsibility for forwarding all invoices and documents (or copies) scheduled for retention to the appropriate departments mailbox in a timely fashion.
3. All mail with addressee not clearly specified will be opened to determine proper distribution with the following exceptions:
 - a. All mail addressed to the Police Department will be distributed unopened.
 - b. All mail addressed to the Library, ~~with the exception of bank statements~~, will be distributed unopened. ~~The Treasurer's Office will retain the original and forward a duplicate copy of the statement to the Library.~~
 - c. Mail from the Assessor's Office returned by the USPS as undeliverable will be distributed unopened.
 - d. Mail addressed to a specific individual marked "Personal and Confidential" will be distributed unopened.

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- e. All mail marked "Invoice" or other indication of request for payment will be delivered to ~~Accounts Payables~~ the Accounting Department.
- f. Any questions or concerns regarding the receipt and processing of incoming Township mail shall be addressed with the Clerk's Office in a timely fashion in order to expedite resolution.
- g. The Clerk's Office reserves the right to open and inspect any suspicious mail with a Township address that it deems necessary.
- h. All mail will be processed and distributed on a daily basis.

6.6.—Outgoing Mail

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

~~Updated by Board of Trustees X-X-XX~~

All outgoing mail must be stamped/metered and deposited in the outgoing mail box located next to the postage machine by 4:00 PM, M-~~F~~ **Th.** for same day Post Office drop off unless special arrangements are made with the Clerk's office.

6.7.—Confidential Information

Officials and employees shall not release any information to the media which would be a violation of a citizen's or a member of general public right to privacy.

6.8 Social Media Policy

Updated by Board of Trustees 8-4-22

Purpose: Hamburg Township supports the use of social media technology to enhance communication, collaboration, and exchange of information to further the goals of the Township where appropriate. This policy establishes policies and procedures for social media covering all Township employees, Township Board members, and/or Committee members. This policy may evolve as new technologies and social media offerings change, or are adopted.

6.8(a) Definitions

Content: Words, Video, Audio, or any combination of these things, which are used to relay a message to the public through Social Media Networks.

Social Media Networks: Examples of this are Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Cable Channel, Website, etc.

Social Media Specialist(s): Staff member and/or Township Board or Committee member who has been granted authority by the Social Media Director to perform the duties outlined in this policy as relates to social media for their particular category.

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Social Media Director: Township Official, or designee, who has been granted authority by the Township Board of Trustees to oversee, or perform, all social media activities of the Social Media Specialist, and approve content for the category they have been assigned. They work with the Township Clerk for all press releases no matter the category of content.

Emergency Management Director: Township Official, or staff member, as listed in the Emergency Management Plan Resolution, who is authorized to direct staff to post on any platform, for purposes of relaying timely information to the public in an emergency situation.

Social Media Activities: Include, but are not limited to: Social Media Posts, Advertising, Township Newsletter, Local Newspaper Articles, Cable Channel Programming, Printed Media, Public speaking engagements and/or presentations.

Technology Director: Head of the IT Department, or designee, who maintains a list of approved social media networks and sites for official use. Has final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue, or at the direction of the Township Board.

Township Clerk: Maintains all record of public comment, backups, and is main point of contact for all Press releases.

6.8(b) (a) Responsibilities

The Social Media Specialist will:

Develop and distribute social media posts on assigned mediums, such as Facebook, X, Instagram, and/or the Township website or cable channel.

Assist Clerk in developing press releases, newsletter articles, printed materials, presentations, etc.

Ensure all social media sites and channels are kept current.

Have authority to respond to comments for all posts.

Informational questions that can be easily responded to.

Sensitive questions/comments, or that the specialist is not comfortable responding to, will be referred to the assigned Social Media Director for suggested response, if any. The Director may in turn refer to the Technology Director for final action.

Monitors sites daily and responds to comments in a polite and respectful tone.

Ensures that all content is appropriate, professional, and consistent with Township Policy and branding.

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Ability to make comments via their own devices after hours as authorized/approved by their Department Head and the Social Media Director.

Stay current with social media networks, and have the ability to measure performance metrics.

Have a familiarity with the ads platform for each medium, if any (useful).

Keep the Social Media Director informed of the used social media sites and activities.

Provide available reports, or copies of posts/comments, as requested through F.O.I.A. or by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

The Social Media Director(s) will:

Approve the Social Media Activity plans for their category, as well as the addition of any new platforms, with approval from the Technology Director.

Oversees and Is responsible for content posted by the Social Media Specialist(s).

Authorizes Advertising Budgets, if any, for media campaigns and boosted posts.

Designate a Social Media Specialist and back-up responsible for overseeing the category's social media activities, policy compliance, and responding to comments completely, accurately and in a timely manner.

Designate appropriate usage levels including identifying what social media accounts individuals are approved to use, as well as defining roles.

Monitor Google Information Panels and ensure accurate information is reflected and post responses to comments as needed.

The Technology Director will:

Have final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue.

Maintain a list of approved social media networks, passwords, registered email addresses, and list of authorized site users for the purpose of emergency management.

Provide training opportunities to staff on best practices and provide samples of acceptable content.

Work with the Emergency Management Director to draft and distribute content in an emergency situation.

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Ensure all social media sites have the correct security settings with the assistance of Social Media Specialist and their assigned Director.

6.8(e) (b) Procedures

While the content for each Department within the Township varies, the overall theme, tone, and professionalism must be carried through. Examples of typical posts, as well as ones used for media blasts/promotions, will be by the Social Media Director. The Technology Director and each Social Media Director will ensure that the staff member given the responsibility for the public face of the Department is:

Familiar with the content allowed based on applicable Federal and state laws, ordinances, regulations, and Township policies. This includes but is not limited to laws regarding personally identifiable information, copyright, records retention, First Amendment, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), The Privacy Act, and employment related laws.

Is responsible and equipped to carry-out social media activity in accordance with the current Township Social Policy.

Departments who choose to utilize social media for things other than typical posts, such as media blasts/promotions, shall:

Submit a Social Media Action Plan to their assigned Social Media Manager, for public events/advertising, that identifies the department's mission, goals, objectives, audiences, and measures of success.

Request, and have approved, a "not to exceed" budget for their efforts. Advertising and boosted posts can be successful in reaching beyond organic reach, and can target specific demographics for things such as: completing surveys, public meeting announcements, important safety related posts.

May approve the distribution/advertising through a vendor hired for specific purposes such as planning, engineering, etc. The social media plan would be developed by the vendor/contractor and submitted to the Social Media Director and Technology Director for approval.

6.8(d) (c) Authorized Use

Hamburg Township respects the right of any employee to engage in online social networking using the Internet, other technology, and social media networks during their personal time. This includes instant messages, text, video, photos, and audio. While we respect the employee's right of self-expression, in order to protect the Township's interests and ensure employees focus on their job duties, employees must adhere to the following guidelines:

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Employees may not engage in such activities during work time, or at any time with Township equipment or property, without Social Media Director's approval, or within the confines of the expected duties of Social Media Specialist.

Information published on social media networks that has to do with any aspect of work must comply with all confidentiality requirements, HIPAA, and Township Policies. Information related to persons receiving services from the Township must not be disclosed. Privacy rights of fellow employees and Township Board members must be respected.

Township Departments or employees may not create a social networking site or service to conduct Township business without a Social Media Action Plan and approval from the Social Media Director assigned to their category, with review by the Technology Director.

If the employee mentions the Township while engaging in social networking and also expresses a view or opinion regarding the Township's actions, the person must specifically note that the statement is his/her personal view or opinion and not the view or opinion of the Township. This standard disclaimer does not by itself exempt supervisors, managers, coordinators, and the Township Board from special responsibility when using personal social networks.

By virtue of your position as a Hamburg Township Employee, you are held to a higher standard than general members of the public, and your online activities should reflect professionalism.

Users must immediately report violations of this policy to their manager or supervisor, as well to the Human Resources Director.

All managers and supervisors are responsible for enforcing this policy. Employees who violate this policy are subject to discipline up to and including termination from employment, professional discipline, or criminal prosecution, in accordance with the Hamburg Township Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual.

6.8(e) (d) Approved Social Media Networks, Cable Channels, Websites

Departments shall only utilize Township approved social media networks for hosting official Township social media sites. A list will be maintained by the Technology Director, and made available to the Social Media Director(s). Networks may vary for use depending on the category of content.

Social Media Action Plans, for anything other than approved daily use, will be reviewed and approved by the Social Media Director and Technology Director prior to public release.

Social media sites that are created on behalf of any Township Department that are not approved by the Technology Director and Social Media Director, will be in violation of this

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policy. Employees who violate this policy are subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.

For each approved social media network, usage guidelines will be relayed by the Social Media Director.

The Social Media Specialist is responsible for the creation of Hamburg Township's social media sites, at the direction of their Social Media Director and/or the Technology Director.

Social media sites will be created using official Township email accounts, or other approved email such as Gmail, on file with the Technology Director.

Passwords will be created and maintained by the Social Media Specialist, with copies on file with the Technology Director, and will conform to password requirements. Passwords shall be promptly reset when authorized access is removed.

Social Media Directors shall notify the Technology Director immediately in the case of termination for any employee with authorized use of any social media networks used by the Township.

6.8(f) (e) Authenticity Establishment & Site Content

Hamburg Township's social media sites shall be created and maintained with identifiable characteristics of an official Township site. Both creation and maintenance of sites, and the content there in, shall comply with procedures as outlined in the Social Media Handbook. Wherever possible, links should direct users back to the Township's official website for more information, forms, documents, or online services. Social Media should not serve as a duplication of efforts, but as a way to further the goals and mission of the Township.

A list of undesirable content and/or words posted by external and authorized users will be provided to the Social Media Specialist who may remove them at their discretion, and/or by the direction of the Social Media Director, as outlined in the Social Media handbook. This includes, but is not limited to, removal of public comments using profanity and/or inappropriate images.

All Township content will be informational and non-partisan in nature. Resident and visitor comments on posts, including the request to remove inappropriate, insensitive, or misleading information, will be responded to in a timely manner.

6.8(g) (f) Security Compromise

If a compromise is identified on any official Township social media site, the managing Social Media Director and the Technology Director, must be notified immediately. The Social Media Specialist will change appropriate passwords immediately to isolate the incident, and archive compromising content as outlined in the Social Media Handbook.

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The Technology Director has final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue, or at the direction of the Township Board.

6.8(h)-(g) Record of Updates

This policy will evolve as new technologies and social media sites change

Note from Deby: It is possible that some of this could go into the Handbook I am suggesting we develop. It should be up to the board to decide what should be included in Administrative policy, and what could include a reference.

Purpose:

Hamburg Township supports the use of social media technology to enhance communication, collaboration, and information exchange to further the goals of the Township where appropriate. This policy establishes policies and procedures for social media covering all Township employees, Township Board members, and/or Committee members. This policy may evolve as new technologies and social media offerings change.

Definitions:

~~Content:~~ Words, Video, Audio, or any combination of these things, which are used to relay a message to the public through Social Media Networks.

~~Social Media Networks:~~ Examples of this are Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Cable Channel, Website, etc.

~~Social Media Specialist(s):~~ Staff member and/or Township Board or Committee member who has been granted authority by the Social Media Director to perform the duties as outlined in this policy as relates social media activities for their particular category.

~~Social Media Director:~~ Township Official, or designee, who has been granted authority by the Township Board of Trustees to oversee all social media activities of the Social Media Specialist, and approve content for the category they have been assigned. They work with the Township Clerk for all press releases no matter the category of content.

~~Emergency Management Director:~~ Township Official, or staff member, as listed in the Emergency Management Plan Resolution, who is authorized to direct staff to post on any platform, for purposes of relaying timely information to the public in an emergency situation.

~~Social Media Activities:~~ Include, but are not limited to: Social Media Posts, Advertising, Township Newsletter, Local Newspaper Articles, Cable Channel Programming, Printed Media, Public speaking engagements and/or presentations.

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Technology Director: Head of the IT Department, or designee, who maintains a list of approved social media networks and sites for official use. Has final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue, or at the direction of the Township Board.

Township Clerk: Maintains all record of public comment, backups, and is main point of contact for all Press releases.

Responsibilities

The Social Media Specialist will:

- Develop and distribute social media posts on assigned mediums, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and/or the Township website or cable channel.
- Assist Clerk in developing press releases, newsletter articles, printed materials, presentations, etc.
- Ensure all social media sites and channels are kept current.
- Have authority to respond to comments for all posts.
 - Informational questions that can be easily responded to.
 - Sensitive questions/comments will be referred to the assigned Social Media Director for suggested response, if any.
 - Monitors sites daily and responds to comments in a polite and respectful tone.
 - Ensures that all content is appropriate, professional, and consistent with Township Policy.
 - Ability to make comments via their own devices after hours. (Handbook will need to address this, or not allow — up to you)
- Stay current with social media networks, and have the ability to measure performance metrics.
- Have a working knowledge of the ads platform for each medium, if any (useful).
- Keep the Social Media Director informed of the used social media sites and activities.
- Provide available reports, or copies of posts/comments, as requested through F.O.I.A.
- Monitor Google Information Panels and ensure accurate information is reflected and post responses to comments as needed.

The Social Media Director(s) will:

- Approve the Social Media Activity plans for their category, as well as the addition of any new platforms, with approval from the Technology Director.
- Oversees and Is responsible for content posted by the Social Media Specialist(s).
- Authorizes Advertising Budgets, if any, for media campaigns and boosted posts.

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- ~~Designate a Social Media Specialist and back-up responsible for overseeing the category's social media activities, policy compliance, and responding to comments completely, accurately and in a timely manner.~~
- ~~Designate appropriate usage levels including identifying what social media accounts individuals are approved to use, as well as defining roles, which is further defined in the Township Social Media Handbook.~~

The Technology Director will:

- ~~Have final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue.~~
- ~~Maintain a list of approved social media networks, passwords, registered email addresses, and list of authorized site users for the purpose of emergency management.~~
- ~~Provide training opportunities to staff on best practices and provide samples of acceptable content.~~
- ~~Work with the Emergency Management Director to draft and distribute content in an emergency situation.~~
- ~~Ensure all social media sites have the correct security settings with the assistance of each Social Media Specialist and their assigned Director.~~

Procedures

~~While the content for each Department within the Township varies, the overall theme, tone, and professionalism must be carried through. Examples of typical posts, as well as ones used for media blasts/promotions, will be provided in the Township Social Media Handbook. The Technology Director and each Social Media Director will ensure that the staff member given the responsibility for the public face of the Department is:~~

- ~~Familiar with the content allowed based on applicable Federal and state laws, ordinances, regulations, and Township policies. This includes but is not limited to laws regarding personally identifiable information, copyright, records retention, First Amendment, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), The Privacy Act, and employment related laws.~~
- ~~Is responsible and equipped to carry out social media activity in accordance with the Township Social Media Handbook (This will need to be developed and agreed upon by Department Heads and IT).~~

~~Departments who choose to utilize social media for things other than typical posts, such as media blasts/promotions, shall:~~

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- ~~Submit a Social Media Action Plan to their assigned Social Media Manager, as outlined in the Social Media Handbook, for public events/advertising, that identifies the department's mission, goals, objectives, audiences, and measures of success.~~
- ~~Request, and have approved, a "not to exceed" budget for their efforts. Advertising and boosted posts can be successful in reaching beyond organic reach, and can target specific demographics for things such as: completing surveys, public meeting announcements, and important safety related posts.~~
- ~~May approve the distribution/advertising through a vendor hired for specific purposes such as planning, engineering, etc. The social media plan would be developed by the vendor/contractor and submitted to the Social Media Director and Technology Director for approval.~~

Authorized Use

~~Hamburg Township respects the right of any employee to engage in online social networking using the Internet, other technology, and social media networks during their personal time. This includes instant messages, text, video, photos, and audio. While we respect the employee's right of self-expression, in order to protect the Township's interests and ensure employees focus on their job duties, employees must adhere to the following guidelines:~~

- ~~Employees may not engage in such activities during work time, or at any time with Township equipment or property, without Social Media Director's approval, or within the confines of the expected duties of Social Media Specialist.~~
- ~~Information published on social media networks that has to do with any aspect of work must comply with all confidentiality requirements, HIPAA, and Township Policies. Information related to persons receiving services from the Township must not be disclosed. Privacy rights of fellow employees and Township Board members must be respected.~~
- ~~Township Departments or employees may not create a social networking site or service to conduct Township business without a Social Media Action Plan and approval from the Social Media Director assigned to their category, with review by the Technology Director.~~
- ~~If the employee mentions the Township while engaging in social networking and also expresses a view or opinion regarding the Township's actions, the person must specifically note that the statement is his/her personal view or opinion and not the view or opinion of the Township. This standard disclaimer does not by itself exempt program supervisors, managers, coordinators, and the Township Board from special responsibility when using personal social networks.~~
- ~~By virtue of your position as a Hamburg Township Employee, you are held to a higher standard than general members of the public, and your online activities should reflect professionalism.~~

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- ~~Users must immediately report violations of this policy to their program manager or supervisor, as well to the Human Resources Director.~~
- ~~All program managers and supervisors are responsible for enforcing this policy.~~
- ~~Employees who violate this policy are subject to discipline up to and including termination from employment, professional discipline, or criminal prosecution, in accordance with the Hamburg Township Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual.~~

~~Approved Social Media Networks, Cable Channels, Websites~~

~~Departments shall only utilize Township approved social media networks for hosting official Township social media sites. A list will be maintained by the Technology Director, and made available to the Social Media Director(s). Networks may vary for use depending on the category of content.~~

- ~~Social Media Action Plans, for anything other than approved daily use, will be reviewed and approved by the Social Media Director and Technology Director prior to public release.~~
- ~~Social media sites that are created on behalf of any Township Department that are not approved by the Technology Director and Social Media Director, will be in violation of this policy. Employees who violate this policy are subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. (or could reference another section of the Admin Policy)~~
- ~~For each approved social media network, usage guidelines will be outlined in the Hamburg Social Media Handbook.~~
- ~~The Social Media Specialist is responsible for the creation of Hamburg Township's social media sites, at the direction of their Social Media Director and/or the Technology Director.~~
 - ~~Social media sites will be created using official Township email accounts, or other approved email such as Gmail, on file with the Technology Director.~~
 - ~~Passwords will be created and maintained by the Social Media Specialist, with copies on file with the Technology Director, and will conform to password requirements. Passwords shall be promptly reset when authorized access is removed.~~
 - ~~Social Media Directors shall notify the Technology Director immediately in the case of termination for any employee with authorized use of any social media networks used by the Township.~~

~~Authenticity Establishment & Site Content~~

~~Hamburg Township's social media sites shall be created and maintained with identifiable characteristics of an official Township site. Both creation and maintenance of sites, and the content there in, shall comply with procedures as outlined in the Social Media Handbook. Wherever possible, links should direct users back to the Township's official website for more information, forms, documents, or online services. Social Media should~~

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~~not serve as a duplication of efforts, but as a way to further the goals and mission of the Township.~~

~~A list of undesirable content and/or words posted by external and authorized users will be provided to the Social Media Specialist who may remove them at their discretion, and/or by the direction of the Social Media Director, as outlined in the Social Media handbook. This includes, but is not limited to, removal of public comments using profanity and/or inappropriate images.~~

~~Security Compromise~~

~~If a compromise is identified on any official Township social media site, the managing Social Media Director and the Technology Director, must be notified immediately. The Social Media Specialist will change appropriate passwords immediately to isolate the incident, and archive compromising content as outlined in the Social Media Handbook.~~

~~The Technology Director has final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue, or at the direction of the Township Board.~~

~~Record of Updates~~

~~This policy will evolve as new technologies and social media sites change. Please refer to the Social Media Handbook for the latest changes.~~

6.9 Governmental Access Cable Television Channel Capacity Policy

6.9(a) Introduction

As part of its administration of its cable franchise authority, the Township of Hamburg is hereby establishing guidelines for the use of channel capacity on the cable system dedicated by the Cable Franchise Grantee for governmental purposes. All regulations shall be governed by applicable regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

This policy may be included in the Municode version of Hamburg Township Ordinances if so designated and directed by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

6.9(b) Background

Under the Cable Franchise Agreement, the Cable Franchise Grantee is required to supply channel capacity for access to its cable system for governmental access purposes.

At the time of the adoption of this policy, video access is provided over one channel, Channel 191. Its broadcast signal is being carried over the Charter Spectrum Cable TV Network. The Technical Services Department of Hamburg Township maintains and operates Channel 191 under the direction of the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

These access guidelines establish rules, procedures and requirements to determine eligibility to program the capacity and the acceptability of programming material for governmental

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access, and otherwise set forth operating policies by which the Township will make use of governmental access capacity.

6.9(c) Purpose

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

—The purpose of governmental and community cable TV access hereunder is to provide to Hamburg Township Board, commissions, committees, departments and community organizations an outlet for governmental and community information ~~and programming, and also additional educational and public information video programming~~ and announcements.

6.9(c)(1) Eligible Governmental and Community Entities

- A. **Access to Channel Capacity:** Upon application to the Township, governmental access information or programming may be inserted over the cable system's governmental access channel capacity by an eligible governmental or community entity.
- B. **Eligible Entities:** The term "eligible entity" means the following:
 - i. Township Board of Trustees
 - ii. Executive personnel and administrative personnel of the Township of Hamburg
 - iii. The Boards, commissions, committees and departments of Hamburg Township
 - iv. The Hamburg Police Department;
 - v. The Hamburg Fire Department;
 - vi. Executive personnel and administrative personnel of Livingston County; and the State of Michigan; and
 - vii. Other entities as may be allowed by the Township Board of Trustees.

Governmental access is intended both for in-service use by and between eligible government entities and community groups and as a public service to the citizens of Hamburg.

6.9(c)(2) Responsibilities of the Technical Services Department

~~A.~~ *Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx*

~~B.~~ A. Responsible for coordinating the operation of Channel 191 pursuant to the direction of the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees. The Director of Technical Services shall designate staff responsibilities for maintenance and operation of Channel 191's station, equipment and programming.

~~C.~~ B. Provide the Township with advice concerning governmental issues that are relevant to Hamburg and the development and procurement of information, information services and programming responsive to those issues.

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- ~~D.C. _____ Shall regularly consult with eligible governmental entities to identify relevant governmental issues.~~
- ~~E.D. _____ May seek comment from members of the Hamburg community or Township legal counsel, or approved industry consultants for further input on relevant issues and information, information services and programming responsive to those issues.~~
- F.E. _____ Shall be the primary interface with the cable television franchisee for the purpose of scheduling franchisee-provided resources and facilities for the production and cablecast of governmental access programming. All franchise agreements shall be approved by the Township Board of Trustees and executed by the appropriate Township elected officials.
- G.F. _____ Shall be responsible for collecting programming information and materials from eligible governmental and community entities. The Township Board of Trustees has ultimate authority with respect to programming and material transmitted over the governmental access capacity.
- H.G. _____ Shall assist in and coordinate the production of governmental access programming both onsite and offsite for such entities as they may require, subject to available facilities, funds and personnel.
- ~~I.H. _____ Develop, produce, and distribute a program schedule to community media, Township staff and others upon request.~~
- J.I. _____ Shall review and approve all material or programming cablecast on governmental access capacity pursuant to policy set by the Township Board.
- K.J. _____ Shall be responsible for reviewing accessibility options for the deaf and hard of hearing community as such technologies may become available. The Township Board of Trustees shall have final approval for any contracts required to provide such services.
- L.K. _____ Shall be responsible for the physical and daily operation of the governmental access channel capacity.
- M.L. _____ Chain of Command: The Technical Services Department shall report first to the Township Supervisor, then to the Township Board of Trustees.

6.9(c)(3) Programming

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

A. Programming Focus

Programming shall be primarily focused in four main areas:

- government programming;
- community programming;
- educational and community interest programming;
- public service programming;

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All programming shall be of special interest and benefit to the residents of the Township of Hamburg, and shall promote and further the goals and objectives of the Hamburg Township Board for Hamburg Township. All applicable FCC regulations shall govern.

B. Programming Types

Automated News Services Programming	Modules provided under agreements with Leightronics, Inc. and/or other suppliers as approved by the Township Board of Trustees.
Live	Live coverage may be provided, subject to the preemption for any material that does not comply with these guidelines.
Remote	Utilizing remote video production facilities for on-location tape-delayed cablecasts.
Video Delayed	Events or presentations may be recorded for cablecast at a later time. Recordings of live cablecasts may be replayed.
Locally Produced Programs	Original programs that are governmental and community programming may be produced by eligible entities, including production and production assistance by Technical Services staff or others on behalf of such eligible entities. Any copyrights to locally produced programming shall belong to the eligible entity producing such program. If such eligible entity is not organized and authorized to own such a copyright, the copyright shall belong to the Township or the County or the State with direct jurisdiction over the eligible entity.
External Programs	Governmental, community and educational programming may be acquired or borrowed by eligible entities for access. The eligible entity shall be responsible for securing all copyright authorizations required for externally produced programs and shall provide a written copy of such authorizations upon application to Technical Services staff to air such programming.
Alphanumeric Message Board	A governmental and community bulletin board may be maintained to display messages of local interest in Hamburg

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	Township and Livingston County, Michigan and a community calendar.
Data	Computer applications may be integrated over the access capacity as technology permits.

~~C. Program Log~~

~~A daily log will be maintained of all programming cablecast that day by Technical Services staff. A Program Guide may be placed on Channel 191 and/or the Township's web site. Notices regarding scheduling for certain broadcasts including "Meet the Candidates" forums may be placed on the Township's web site.~~

D. Township Control

Hamburg Township reserves the right to control all programming, including all non-profit advertising, which is broadcast over the channels. No for-profit advertising is permitted due to cable TV franchise limitations. The right of control is a broad right, including, but not limited to, control over any and all content (video, audio, graphics, text), length of programming, broadcast schedule times, methods of production and broadcasting, copyright of materials generated by Hamburg Township and any related fees, production costs, broadcasting costs and/or equipment costs.

E. Political Programming

No "political programming" shall be accepted for governmental access except as may be approved by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

i. Definition of "Political programming"

a. That programming which, if inserted on the governmental or community access channel capacity, would constitute a use by a legally qualified candidate or his or her supporters (authorized or unauthorized) that would give rise to requirements by a cable operator, if such programming were to have been inserted on a cable channel subject to the cable operator's control, to provide equal opportunities and quasi-equal opportunities to other such candidates for the same office or their supporters (authorized or unauthorized) under Federal Communications Board CFCC") cable television regulations, e.g., 47 C.F.R. §76.3(q) and §76.205 et seq., and related FCC policies, rules and doctrines, including the "personal attack rule."

b. "Meet the Candidate" and other issues-related forums held prior to elections may be allowed as approved by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees even though they may be considered "political" programming.

ii. Definition of "Non-Political Programming"

For these guidelines, the following are considered news events and are not "political programming:"

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- a. Meetings of and hearings before the Hamburg Township Board and Hamburg Township Planning Commission, Hamburg Zoning Board of Appeals; and any other Hamburg Township government committees and departments.
- b. Meetings of and hearings held by Livingston and Washtenaw County departments affecting Hamburg Township residents and property owners.
- c. Meetings of and hearings held by State of Michigan departments such as the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (MEGLE), Michigan State Police (MSP)/Emergency Management, etc.
- d. Meetings held by Federal regional government agencies such as FEMA/NFIP, USACE, and USGS for issues involving Hamburg Township residents and property owners.

iii. Right of Refusal

Hamburg Township reserves the right to refuse cable broadcasting of programs which may contain any of the following:

Unauthorized use of copyrighted material.
Violation of the State and Federal law regarding obscenity. No programming shall be accepted for governmental access if it contains obscene material, sexually explicit conduct or material soliciting or promoting unlawful conduct under Section 10(c) of the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992 ("Cable Act") as implemented by regulations of the FCC.
Advertising of a "lottery" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1304 and FCC regulation 47 C.F.R. § 213.
Unlawful invasion of privacy.
Material which is libelous, slanderous or defamatory.
Material which violates local, state or federal laws.
Any other material deemed inappropriate by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

F. Preview of Programming

Any programming submitted by an eligible governmental entity for access shall be previewed by the Technical Services staff, or Township elected officials for acceptance. Such programming may be edited to conform to these guidelines, or the programming may be rejected. If concerns develop, the matter shall be referred to the Township Board for review.

G. Alphanumeric Bulletin Board

Messages programmed into the "Bulletin Board" shall be edited to provide clarity and to provide maximum use of the memory bank currently available. Message content generally will not be edited, but will not be inserted if inconsistent with these guidelines

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H. Handling of Program Materials

i. Return of Refused Programming

Any programming submitted by an eligible entity for cable TV channel access that is not accepted will be returned.

ii. Program Retainage

Programming accepted for governmental access will be retained, including recordings of live programming, for the duration of the scheduled run of the programming, including repeat exhibitions, and for any such period of time as may be applicable under the Township's policies for programming return, receipt and record retention.

iii. Program Copying

a. Subject to copyright and licensing considerations, programming shall be available to the public for copying one week after the last scheduled run. All requests for copies shall be made pursuant to FOIA requirements.

b. The cost for copies of programming shall be set by the Township Clerk according to the Township Schedule of Fees under FOIA.

c. Programming generated by entities other than Hamburg Township shall be obtained directly from that entity and not from Hamburg Township.

6.9(c)(4) Programming Schedules

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

A. Day to Day Management

~~i. Daily Schedule~~

~~Technical Services staff are responsible for scheduling.~~ The day-to-day management of schedules shall be through the Technical Services office.

~~ii. Program Schedule~~

~~The program schedule, once publicized, generally will not be deviated from or added to except in the event of an emergency, as a result of technical difficulties or unavailability of the scheduled programming.~~

~~B. Scheduling priorities and guidelines~~

PRIORITY LEVEL	GUIDELINES

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Level 1	Announcements concerning emergencies affecting health or safety or exigent circumstances may preempt at any time; weather bulletins; civil defense bulletins, etc.
Level 2	Special and regular meetings and hearings of the Township Board, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and other related boards and committees; election notices; election precinct workers' meetings notices; meetings of Livingston County of interest to Hamburg residents; requests for service workers; notices
Level 3	Other public meetings and public hearings; In-service use of government access channel capacity; Information programming, news, public interest; community activities (festivals and special events; senior citizens; parks and recreation programming, etc.);
Level 4	Educational programming; public safety programming; environmental programming; community access programming, adoptable pets from Livingston County Animal Control Shelter
Level 5	Database programming; internet generated programming; repeats of public meetings and hearings for time diversity; alphanumeric bulletin board messages

~~C. Live Programming Scheduling~~

~~i. Programming of live scripts or concepts for such live programming must be submitted at least two (2) weeks in advance of the intended cablecast date to allow for scheduling, preparation, production, if any, and evaluation for consistency with these guidelines.~~

~~ii. Emergency programming is not subject to this requirement.~~

~~iii. All scripts shall be submitted to the Technical Services Department and a Production Proposal completed.~~

~~D. Community Bulletin Board Notices~~

~~"Bulletin Board" messages must be submitted to the Technical Services Department at least 72 hours prior to the intended insertion date except for special public announcements (such as emergency closings).~~

~~E. Scheduling Conflicts~~

~~i. It is the Township's policy to cablecast all programming submitted by an eligible entity, subject to the priorities and guidelines herein. Scheduling requirements may, from~~

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~~time to time, preclude available cablecast time for all such programming for its intended cablecast date.~~

~~ii. Technical Services staff shall use reasonable efforts to accommodate such programming and entity and to resolve potential scheduling conflicts.~~

~~F. Right of Scheduling Reservation—Hamburg Township reserves the right to schedule the time in which a program will be cablecast.~~

~~G. Viewer Discretion Notification—Programs which may not be suitable for viewing by children, or contain material which may be offensive to sensitive viewers, will carry the standard disclaimer at the head of the program:~~

~~"The following program contains material which may be offensive to some viewers and may be inappropriate for viewing by children. Viewer discretion is advised."~~

6.9(c)(5) Support for Access Programming - Underwriting

A. Franchise Fees

Channel 191 is presently maintained via franchise fees generated by cable TV subscribers to the Charter/Spectrum Cable TV Network in Hamburg Township as budgeted for pursuant to allocation by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

B. Underwriting Contributions

Individuals or organizations that provide contributions to the Township or to a municipal instrumentality of the Township that is exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code to support governmental and community access or specific programming of a public interest may be identified by name and, if a business or organization, the display of their business or organization logo and tagline, consistent with Section 399B of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and FCC regulations (47 C.F.R. § 73.503(d)) and policies and guidelines governing the noncommercial, educational broadcast services with respect to so-called "underwriting announcements."

B. Underwriting Disclosures

The names, addresses and phone numbers of individuals and/or organizations providing funding for production of programming must be disclosed to the Technical Services Department and the same noted on the Production Proposal.

C. Underwriting Credits

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i. Credit may appear at the beginning and/or end of the program identifying the underwriter. The display should be no longer than 10 seconds and the word "sponsor" cannot be used.

ii. The credit may include the words "This program made possible in part by ____" followed by the underwriter's name or logo. Such underwriting announcements or acknowledgments shall be for identification purposes only and shall not promote the contributor's products, services or company. Such announcements may not contain comparative or qualitative descriptions, price information, calls to action or inducements to buy, sell, rent or lease.

D. Underwriting Payments

All underwriting contribution funds shall be submitted to and paid to the Hamburg Township Treasurer with receipts provided for same.

6.9(c)(6) Video Products

A. Video Copies

i. Subject to copyright licensing requirements and FOIA requirements, copies of any available Township of Hamburg programs, including Township Board meetings, shall be provided to authorized Township employees or departments for official use only, free of charge, upon request.

ii. Copies of Township Board and other public meetings shall be provided to any citizen at cost (to include administrative and overhead) in accordance with the provisions of Schedule of Fees and Charges as set by the Technical Services Department in accordance with FOIA requirements.

iii. Simulcasting: Township meetings shall be simulcast via Livestream/Vimeo services software platform online and/or via Channel 191 on the Charter/Spectrum Cable TV network.

iv. Archiving/Video-On-Demand: Video recordings will be posted and made available to the public free of charge on the Livestream/Vimeo or other similar video-on-demand internet viewing service.

B. Videotape review

Video recordings will be posted and made available to the public free of charge on the Livestream/Vimeo or other similar video-on-demand internet viewing service. FOIA requests for video recordings transcribed to physical media such as DVDs or flash drives shall be directed in writing to the Hamburg Township Clerk.

C. Archives

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- i. It is the policy of the Township to maintain video tape archives of meetings of and hearings before the Township Board of Trustees, the Hamburg Planning Commission (when the Planning Commission proceedings are recorded), and the Hamburg Township Zoning Board of Appeals pursuant to Township record retention policy as administered by the Hamburg Township Clerk.
- ii. Recording and record retention policies for all other meetings of and hearings before other eligible entities shall be arranged by such entity in a manner acceptable to the Township Clerk, who is the designated Keeper of the Records for Hamburg Township.
- iii. All recording and record retention policies shall be handled pursuant to current FOIA regulations. Video recordings will be posted and made available to the public free of charge on the Livestream/Vimeo or other similar video-on-demand internet viewing service.

6.9(c)(7) Legal

A. Copyright and Trademark/Service Mark

i. Copyright Clearance

All programming accepted for governmental access cable broadcasting shall be cleared for copyright.

ii. Copyright Use Authorization

The eligible entity submitting the programming must have obtained and provided to the Technical Services Department a specific authorization from the copyright holder of the programming authorizing the "Township of Hamburg" to perform, edit and make ephemeral recordings of the work consistent with these guidelines.

iii. Personal Release

In the case of live programming or recorded programming produced for access hereunder that is not a public proceeding, permission or releases must be obtained from persons depicted therein to use their likenesses, including printed, recorded and photographed material. Written evidence of permission shall be submitted to the Technical Services Department at the time of submission of the programming request by the entity on the Production Proposal.

iv. Trademark Clearance

Any trademark or service mark, depicted or audible, in any programming accepted for governmental access shall be cleared in the same manner as for copyright.

B. Errors and Omissions

i. Warrant to Township

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Eligible entities shall represent and warrant to the Township that they have all necessary copyright, trademark, service mark and likeness (i.e., invasion of privacy) permissions and authorizations for the Township to cablecast the submitted programming consistent with these guidelines and that such information or programming is not libelous, slanderous or defamatory and is otherwise consistent with these guidelines.

ii. Indemnification of Township

Such eligible entities shall indemnify and defend the Township against damages and loss, including reasonable attorney's fees, for any claims arising out of such representations and warranties. Such indemnification shall also extend to the cable operator to the extent it is not exempt from liability under the Cable Act or other applicable law. A copy of the certificate of copyright authorization is to be attached as part of the Production Proposal.

iii. Broadcasters' Liability Insurance

The Township may obtain appropriate "broadcasters' liability" insurance, in which case it may name such eligible entities as additional insureds and assess such entities, pro-rata, the premium amount of any such insurance.

iv. Township as Named Insured

Alternatively, any such eligible entity that has or obtains such insurance shall name the Township as an additional insured with respect to governmental access programming cablecast pursuant to these guidelines.

6.9(c)(8) Amendment and Repeal

The Hamburg Township Board of Trustees may from time to time amend or repeal these guidelines as it deems fit.

6.10 Tax and Assessment Information Policy

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

~~—Updated by Board of Trustees X-X-XX~~

Hamburg Township office hours are Monday through ~~Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.~~ **Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**—During these hours Assessing records are available for public inspection, unless an after hours' time is mutually agreed by Hamburg township staff and the individual requesting the records.

Residents, banks, mortgage companies and other entities requesting information regarding tax amounts, special assessment payment amounts, property record cards, valuation sheets, all available sale records, and maps can receive this information verbally and without cost on up to five parcels. ~~within a 24 hour period. Tax records may be unavailable during~~

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~~tax collection periods, as determined by the Treasury department. Restrictions shall be posted on the Township website and in the Township hall.~~

The public does not have unrestricted access to township offices, records or facilities. A person may be required to inspect records at a specific counter or table in the view of Township staff.

Records or files cannot be removed from the Township Offices.

Township officials assisting with the inspection of public records must inform any person inspecting records that only pencils, and no pens or ink may be used to take notes.

Special assessment payoff amounts will be provided in writing via ~~fax~~, ~~or~~ mail or e-mail. ~~No payoff amounts will be issued over the phone.~~

Individuals, corporations or entities requesting the following information on more than five (5) parcels (with the exception of special assessment payoff amount) must be done in writing.

- Tax Amounts for Specific Years
- Paid Status of Taxes
- Determination of Special Assessment Status
- Amounts of Annual Special Assessment Payments
- Assessing Information

May be required to do the following:

- ~~Submit all Requests in Writing~~
- Receive all Responses in Writing Via Fax and Mail
- Pay a fee as established by the Township FOIA policy for each parcel on which information is requested. The fee is payable at the time of the request by check, money order, or cash.

(Adopted 5/27/97 – Amended 11/24/98 -Amended 2/3/15)

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HAMBURG TOWNSHIP

—ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL



Effective Date: 03-04-2025

- - - Rescinds: -

Title: **Code of Ordinances**- - - No: **7.0**

7.0 ~~Code of Ordinances~~ **CODE OF ORDINANCES**

Updated by Board of Trustees 3-4-25

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As of 2021, the Hamburg Township Ordinances have been codified, and Municode supplies web services to ensure our laws are accessible to the public. Our code gets updated on a schedule agreed to by the Township Board, and any changes must be submitted to the vendor upon adoption.

All changes in Ordinance, both for General Township Law as well as Zoning, must be forwarded to Municode with supporting documents to be incorporated as a pending change until codification is completed. **The following procedure should be used for all Ordinance changes and it is highly recommended that the originating ordinance document be obtained via the website.**

This is the current location of our Code:

[https://library.municode.com/mi/hamburg_township_\(livingston_co.\)/codes/code_of_ordinances](https://library.municode.com/mi/hamburg_township_(livingston_co.)/codes/code_of_ordinances)

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Before ordinance Supplements are processed, the updates are approved at a Township Board meeting. For General Ordinances revisions there is a 1st Reading and 2nd reading prior to adoption. For Zoning Ordinance revisions there will be a single reading prior to adoption after their review process is completed. In both cases the changes must be published in a newspaper of record before taking effect. The steps of the Ordinance Supplemental Procedure are:

7.1 Ordinance Supplemental Procedure

~~1.~~ Staff proposes change/addition to Township Board at a Work Session meeting

~~1.~~

- a. Copy of original text is provided to Board along with cover memo/bullet points
- b. Board provides comments and authorization to proceed
- c. Board indicates if Attorney should be included in development and/or review process

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~~2.~~ Staff completes change/addition to Ordinance – Draft

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2.

- a. Assigns a number in the Code of Ordinances – Master Index (Appendix 1) – shared file
 - i. General Ordinances – Tab 1 – Ordinance Coordinator will assign
 - ii. Zoning Ordinances – Tab 2 – Zoning staff will assign
- b. Works with Township Attorney, if applicable, to finalize Draft ordinance (Appendix 4)
 - i. Templates for both General and Zoning Ordinances available in shared file
 - ii. Examples of General and Zoning Ordinances available in shared file
- c. Ordinance changes which include Civil Infraction penalties, must be assigned a Class
- d. Attorney to provide opinion/clarification/review memo, if needed/requested by Board

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3. Staff proceeds with approval process

- a. Zoning
 - i. Planning Commission Approval
 - ii. Livingston County Planning Commission Approval
 - iii. Township Board Approval (single reading)
- b. General
 - i. Township Board (first reading)
 - ii. Township Board (second reading)

4. Once approved by Township Board:

- a. Staff provides draft/red-lined version and/or final word doc of numbered ordinance to Ordinance Coordinator with:
 - i. Code of Ordinances – Supplemental Request Form (Appendix 2) reflecting approval dates
 - ii. Supporting Documents in PDF format (including Attorney opinion, if any)
- b. Staff provides Clerk's Office with publication language either in full or summary format
- c. Clerk's Office determines effective date of ordinance and files publication
 - iii.i. New Ordinances will be published in their entirety and must include

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Certification clause

- iv.ii. Ordinance changes/additions exceeding two pages may be published in summary format which must be submitted to the Clerk's Office, prior to the 2nd reading, in a final single-spaced Word version which must include Certification clause

d. Certification Clause is as follows:

- v.i. I, (Clerk), the duly qualified Clerk for the Township of Hamburg, Livingston County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the Ordinance adopted by the Township Board at a meeting held on (date). The original is on file in the Office of the Township Clerk.
- vi.ii. By: (Clerk) (Signature line)
- vii.iii. Introduced: (First reading date)
- viii.iv. Adopted: (Second reading date/when motion was passed)
- ix.v. Effective: (Date the law/change becomes effective) (Clerk assists with this)
- x.vi. Published: (Date the law/change is published) (Clerk assists with this)

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- 3.5. Clerk Staff finalizes Ordinance document and has Clerk sign and seal the ordinance

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- 4.6. Ordinance Coordinator forwards red-lined version of Word Document, a PDF of signed/certified version of the approved Ordinance change/addition, and a proof of publication in order to process the update with Municode for inclusion in code

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- 5.7. Municode sends back confirmation, and changes are scheduled for the next Supplement (Appendix 3)

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- 6.8. The changes are placed on the Ordinance home page while awaiting codification and are available for public review

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- 7.9. Once codified, printed versions (4 copies) will be sent for each Supplement to Ordinance Coordinator for distribution to: Clerk, Police, Fire, Zoning

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- 8.10. All General Ordinances will be maintained in the Clerk archives & V drive. Originals are permanently housed in the Clerk Department archives.

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All publications and Ordinances are to be retained permanently as outlined in the Records Retention and Disposal Schedule for Michigan Township Clerks General Schedule #25, as provided by the Department of History, Arts and Libraries – Records Management Services. ~~Updated schedules may be referenced here.~~

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Appendix 1:

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Code of Ordinances Index – Master List for General Ordinances
Can be found by staff in Vdrive: Code of Ordinances

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Numbering convention: Year (4 digit), Type (G or Z), 3 digit sequential (001, 002, etc.)

Tab 1:

Code of Ordinances Index - Master List for General Ordinances						
This numbering system is for General Ordinances only. Please see Tab #2 for Zoning Text Amendments.						
Numbering convention: Year (4 digit), Type (GO or ZO), 3 digit sequential (001, 002, etc.)						
Example for General Ordinances (New and Changes): 2025.G.001						
Ordinance #	Description	1st Reading Date	2nd Reading Date	Publication Date	Effective Date	Comments
2025.G.001						
2025.G.002						
2025.G.003						
2025.G.004						
2025.G.005						
2025.G.006						

HAMBURG TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL

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Tab 2:

Code of Ordinances Index - Master List for Zoning Ordinances							
This numbering system is for Zoning Ordinances only. Please see Tab #1 for General Text Amendments. Numbering convention: Year (4 digit), Type (GO or ZO), 3 digit sequential (001, 002, etc.) Example for Zoning Ordinances (New and Changes): 2025.Z.001							
Ordinance #	Description	Planning Commission Approval Date	County Planning Commission Approval Date	Hamburg Township Board Approval Date	Publication Date	Effective Date	Comments
2025.Z.001							
2025.Z.002							
2025.Z.003							
2025.Z.004							
2025.Z.005							
2025.Z.006							
2025.Z.007							
2025.Z.008							

Appendix 2:

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HAMBURG TOWNSHIP

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL

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Supplemental Request Form — Example

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Code of Ordinances – Supplemental Request Form

Ordinance # _____ Municode Chapter: _____ Section _____ Line: _____

Pick one: Add _____ Change _____ Delete _____

Amendment Requested:

See attached Word Doc: _____

And/or make corrections as follows: _____

Approval/Adoption Date(s): _____

Zoning: _____ Planning _____ County _____ TB _____

General: _____ TB 1st Read _____ TB 2nd Read _____

Publication Date: _____

Effective Date: _____

Sent to Municode: _____

Verified by: _____

Added to Code date: _____

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Appendix 3:

Automated Email from Municode—Example

Deby Henneman

From: ords@municode.com
Sent: Thursday, January 6, 2022 9:44 AM
To: Deby Henneman
Subject: Hamburg Township, (Livingston Co.), MI Code of Ordinances - 2021 (15852) Supplement 1

****THIS IS AN AUTOMATICALLY GENERATED EMAIL****

Below, you will find the material that we have received/recorded to your account. This material is being considered for inclusion in your next/current update, Supplement 1

Document	Adopted Date	Recorded	Recorded Format
Ordinance No. 103	12/21/2021	1/6/2022	PDF



Update the internet version of your Code more often than a printed supplement. We can update the Internet quarterly, monthly, even weekly.



We can post newly enacted ordinances in the online Code after each meeting.

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Appendix 4:

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HAMBURG TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL

Ordinance Amendment/Change Format Example

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON
HAMBURG TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE NO. 2025.Z.001

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 36,
ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 36-482, OF THE
HAMBURG TOWNSHIP ZONING
ORDINANCE

Hamburg Township Ordains:

Sec. 36-482. Sign regulation enforcement.

- (a) *Signs on private property.* Signs in violation of the regulations will be enforced by the zoning administrator or designee utilizing Ordinance No. 71-A the civil infraction ordinance.
- (b) *Signs within the public or private right-of-way or on public land.* Signs in violation of the regulations will be removed by the zoning administrator or designee.
 - (1) First violation: Will be removed and held for ten days at the Township offices, after which the signs will be discarded.
 - (2) Second violation: The signs will be removed and will be discarded without a holding period.
 - (3) Signs in continual violation of the regulations may be enforced by the Code Enforcement Officer, Zoning Administrator, or designee, utilizing Chapter 1, Article II, Section 1-45 – Sanctions for violations, in the Hamburg Township Code of Ordinances.
 - (4) Signs will be considered in the public right-of-way if they are within ten feet of a public street or if they are in violation of section 36-228.
 - (5) For purposes of assessing fines and penalties only, a violation under this section shall be classified a Class E municipal civil infraction.
 - (6) Signs for Park/Trail related events must be approved through the Park Use Application process.

(Zoning Ord. 2020, § 18.14, 1-5-2021)

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Effective Date: Publication. The provisions of this ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption and shall be published within 15 days of its adoption by publication of a brief notice in a newspaper circulated in the Township, stating the date of enactment and the effective date of the ordinance, a brief statement as to the subject matter of this ordinance and such other facts as the Clerk shall deem pertinent and that a copy of the ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the Clerk.

Made, Passed and Adopted by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees this ____ day
of _____, 20__.

Pat Hohl, Supervisor

Michael Dolan, Clerk

Certificate of Adoption

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the ordinance adopted at the regular meeting of the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees held on the ____ day of _____, 20__.

Michael Dolan, Clerk

Adopted:

Published:

Effective:

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HAMBURG TOWNSHIP

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL

6.0.—**PUBLIC INFORMATION**~~public Information~~

6.1.—**Public Contact**

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

6.1(a) Courtesy - The primary goal of the Township is to serve the public. All staff and employees will respond to requests for Township information from members of the public with courtesy and efficiency. All officials and employees shall communicate with the public in a friendly, courteous and efficient manner at all times.

All visitors to the Township hall shall be greeted in a friendly, helpful manner. ~~The receptionist shall be under the day to day supervision of the Township Clerk, who shall ensure that the public's needs are being met.~~

~~Phone calls to the Township shall be answered, "Good Morning/Good Afternoon, Hamburg Township, this is _____ speaking, how may I help you?"~~

Department heads shall make every effort to see visitors who need their assistance. When workload or other commitments do not allow for an immediate meeting, the visitor will be asked to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

6.1(b) Complaints and Problems - All citizen complaints and problems will be directed to the appropriate office or official.

Complaints or other concerns received from a citizen shall be received with courtesy. The official or employee will make every effort to resolve a complaint or problem, within the official's or employee's scope of authority. Department heads will be notified of all complaints.

The Township Supervisor and Clerk shall be notified in writing of any citizen complaint. The notice shall include the name and address of the citizen, the nature of the complaint, and how the complaint was resolved. The Supervisor or Clerk may make a subsequent inquiry with the citizen to ensure the issue was resolved to the citizen's satisfaction.

6.2.—**Public Information Officer**

The Supervisor and the Clerk shall be the public information officers for the Township and shall be responsible for public information associated with their departments of responsibility. The Treasurer is responsible for supervising the preparation of the Township newsletter. Public service announcements and media releases on Township government events and responding to inquiries from the media or referring contact to other appropriate Township officials shall be jointly coordinated by the Supervisor and the Clerk.

Township employees will refer all public information announcements to the Supervisor and the Clerk prior to releasing them to the public or the media.

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6.3—Public Notices

Updated by Board of Trustees

xx/xx/xx

6.3(a) Meeting Notices - The Township Clerk shall be responsible for posting all regular, special and rescheduled Board meetings in conformance with the Open Meetings Act and other State laws. Departments Heads shall be responsible for posting ~~of special~~ meetings related to their department.

6.3(b) Public Notices - The Township Clerk shall be responsible for delegation and/or assistance, or publishing and mailing all public notices required by State law, including but not limited to:

- ~~1. Board of Review meetings~~ 1. Board of Review meetings
2. Budget Public Hearings
- ~~3. Planning Commission Public Hearings~~ 3. Planning Commission Public Hearings
- ~~4. Zoning Board of Appeals Hearings~~ 4. Zoning Board of Appeals Hearings
5. Special Assessment District Hearings
6. Election Notices
7. Master Plan Adoption and Amendments Public Hearings
8. Truth-in-Taxation Notice
9. Board Meeting Minutes Synopsis
10. Request for Proposals

~~Department Heads shall submit all public notices for publishing to the Clerk &/or Deputy Clerk. Departments Heads shall be responsible for posting of special meetings related to their department.~~

6.4—Freedom of Information Act Requests

Updated by Board of Trustees X-X-XX

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

Pursuant to P.A. 1976 No. 442, as amended, and MCL 15.231, as amended (Freedom of Information Act – FOIA) Hamburg Township provides access to all Township public documents except those or portions of those exempt from release under FOIA. The policies and procedures herein are intended to implement the requirements of FOIA and the release of documents that exist at the time any requests for them are made.

All requests for copies of public documents or to review public documents must be in writing with the exception of the following:

1. Copies of assessment/tax records by the property owner of his/her own property.
2. Copies of assessment/tax records that are reasonable and readily available at the time of the request.
3. Copies of all current meeting agendas.

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4. Copies of all current minutes.

All written requests shall describe the public record or records requested sufficiently to enable the FOIA Coordinator to find said public record.

A written request made by facsimile submitted through the FOIA Portal, electronic mail, or other electronic transmission, is not logged as received by the FOIA Coordinator until one (1) business day after the electronic transmission is made. For a request to be considered a sufficient writing to satisfy the FOIA, it must contain the following:

1. The name, address and contact information (i.e. phone number, email address) of the requester.
2. A statement indicating that the requester will pay the costs allowable under the FOIA, or documentation that the requester is receiving public assistance or other facts showing inability to pay due to indigence.

Generally, oral requests for documents do not constitute a request under FOIA. However, if a citizen making an oral request is disabled, either temporarily or permanently, so that he/she is unable to make the request in writing, special accommodations must be made. It is the duty of the department receiving the request to write out the request for the citizen as an accommodation under American Disability Act (ADA). Once written, the request should be processed as a formal request under FOIA.

6.4(a) FOIA Coordinators - The Township Board shall appoint a FOIA Coordinator. The FOIA Coordinator may designate another individual(s) to act on his or her behalf in accepting and processing requests for the public body's public records, and in approving a denial pursuant to FOIA.

6.4(b) Processing - Often times a request for documents under FOIA will be received by the specific department. The request must be immediately turned over to the FOIA Coordinator for processing. The FOIA Coordinator in turn will request and receive from the appropriate departments, the requested documents together with a memorandum regarding the request, listing the staff time involved in retrieving and redacting the documents. The FOIA Coordinator shall review the departmental response for both compliance with the Township policy and consistency with the Township's response to similar requests. Any required changes shall be immediately discussed with the responding department or, if appropriate, the Township Attorney. The responding department shall immediately make any changes directed by the Coordinator and provide the Coordinator with revised documents as may be necessary.

The department will provide the requested records to the FOIA Coordinator no later than four (4) days from receipt of the request. If this is not possible, the department shall notify

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the FOIA Coordinator immediately. The Coordinator will contact the requesting party and notify them of a 10-day extension of time to respond, if appropriate.

If a department cannot provide a requested record because it does not exist, the FOIA Coordinator will be notified in writing immediately. If a record does not exist in the form requested, or if it is exempt under FOIA, the Coordinator will send a notice of denial, which contains the required appeal information (see Section 6.4(d)).

In the event the request is to view public documents, a monitor (Township staff person designated by the FOIA Coordinator) will be assigned. The requestor shall be notified of the scheduled day and time for the inspection.

6.4(c).—Payment of Costs - The requester will be invoiced by the FOIA Coordinator for actual costs in filling the request. These costs are contained in the Administrative Fee Schedule. ~~(insert hyperlink)~~

Except as provided below, no fee shall be charged for searching, examining, reviewing, and deleting and separating exempt from non-exempt material unless failure to charge a fee would result in unreasonable high costs to the public body because of the nature of the request in the particular instance, such as, by way of example, cases requiring advice from legal counsel, additional staffing or other direct expenses not in the ordinary course of business. (If a FOIA request is made for an easily identified document consisting of a few standard size pages, labor for the search, examination, and making deletions under the FOIA would generally not present a case of unreasonably high costs to a public body. In such a case, the Legislature has directed that no charge be imposed. If a request for "any and all" documents as to a particular subject, requires a search of many boxes of records, including review for exempt material which must be or may be deleted (per Section 13 of the FOIA), and if that search, examination, and review involves numerous hours of labor, charges may be imposed to avoid the unreasonably high cost arising from the nature of that particular request.)

In any case where the estimated actual cost to Hamburg Township of responding to a request for a copy of a public record exceeds \$50.00, a good faith deposit equal to ½ of the estimated cost of such response shall be required prior to completing the request. The FOIA Coordinator shall be responsible for collecting the computed costs prior to the release of the requested documents.

A copy of a public record shall be furnished, without charge for the first \$20.00 of the fee for each request, to an individual who submits an affidavit that he or she is then receiving public assistance, or if not receiving public assistance, stating facts showing inability to pay the cost because of indigency.

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If an individual has an outstanding FOIA bill, the information shall be turned over to the Accounting Department for collections proceedings. The Township cannot refuse to comply with subsequent FOIA requests due to an outstanding invoice.

The Township Board may waive some or all of the costs as may be in the public interest because furnishing copies of the document(s) would be considered as primarily befitting the general public.

6.4(d) Response - The initial response may be either grant or deny the requested documents or extend the time for response up to ten (10) business days. The response either granting or denying access in whole or in part to the requested documents must contain the following:

1. An invoice containing a detailed breakdown and backup of the charges to process the request.
2. Transmittal indicating where the requester may pick up the released documents and pay the appropriate costs. This transmittal shall also include the following statement: *"The Township does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy of the information provided. Rather, it provides the documents only to comply in good faith with the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, and not for any other purpose."*
3. If any aspect of the response is less than a full granting of the request, the final paragraph MUST be inserted exactly as follows:

"If you receive written notice that your request has been denied, in whole or in part, under Section 10 of the Freedom of Information Act, you may, at your option, either 1) submit to the Hamburg Township Clerk a written appeal that specifically states the word "appeal" and identifies the reason(s) for reversal for the disclosure denial; or 2) file a lawsuit in the circuit court to compel Hamburg Township's disclosure of the record. If, after judicial review, the circuit court determines that the Township has not complied with the Act, you may be awarded reasonable attorney's fees and damages as specified under the Act".

4. Material identified as exempt shall be forwarded to the requestor accompanied by a transmittal letter indicating the specific reasons why any material is not being disclosed together with the right to appeal or seek judicial review.

~~5. Redactions~~

6.4(e) Appeals - Under the Act, the requesting person has the option of pursuing an appeal to the Hamburg Township Board or proceeding to circuit court. If the requesting person wants to appeal to the Township Board, the requester must submit a written appeal that specifically states the word "appeal" and identifies the reason or reasons for reversal of the denial. The Township Board is not considered to have received a written appeal until the first regularly scheduled meeting following submission of the appeal. Within ten days after receiving the written appeal, the Township Board must do one of the following:

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1. Reverse the disclosure denial;
2. Issue a written notice to the requesting person upholding the disclosure denial;
3. Reverse the disclosure denial in part and issue a written notice to the requesting person upholding the disclosure denial in part; or
4. Under unusual circumstances, issue a notice extending for not more than 10 business days the period during which the Township Board will respond to the written appeal. The Township Board is prohibited from issuing more than one extension for any particular appeal.

6.4(f) Document Storage - FOIA Documents ~~to be~~ released by the Coordinator shall be held for one year plus one day. If the requester fails to pay the amount due the Township, or fails to pick up the documents, the documents may be recycled, destroyed, or returned to the appropriate department.

6.4(g) Record Keeping - The FOIA Coordinator shall maintain a chronological file of all FOIA requests processed by him/her together with a copy of the document provided, response letter, and invoice. These files must be maintained for a period of one year and one day from the date of response.

6.5 — Incoming Mail

~~xx/xx/xx Updated by Board of Trustees X-X-XX~~

- Updated by Board of Trustees

1. All mail addressed to the Township is considered Township mail. Employees cannot expect to use the Township P.O. Box or its physical address as a personal mail service.
2. All mail clearly and properly addressed to a specific individual or department will be distributed unopened ~~with the envelope date stamped to their respective mailbox~~. The mail recipient will assume full responsibility for forwarding all invoices and documents (or copies) scheduled for retention to the appropriate departments mailbox in a timely fashion.
3. All mail with addressee not clearly specified will be opened to determine proper distribution with the following exceptions:
 - a. All mail addressed to the Police Department will be distributed unopened.
 - b. All mail addressed to the Library, ~~with the exception of bank statements~~, will be distributed unopened. ~~The Treasurer's Office will retain the original and forward a duplicate copy of the statement to the Library.~~
 - c. Mail from the Assessor's Office returned by the USPS as undeliverable will be distributed unopened.
 - d. Mail addressed to a specific individual marked "Personal and Confidential" will be distributed unopened.

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- e. All mail marked "Invoice" or other indication of request for payment will be delivered to ~~Accounts Payables~~ the Accounting Department.
- f. Any questions or concerns regarding the receipt and processing of incoming Township mail shall be addressed with the Clerk's Office in a timely fashion in order to expedite resolution.
- g. The Clerk's Office reserves the right to open and inspect any suspicious mail with a Township address that it deems necessary.
- h. All mail will be processed and distributed on a daily basis.

6.6.—Outgoing Mail

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

~~Updated by Board of Trustees X-X-XX~~

All outgoing mail must be stamped/metered and deposited in the outgoing mail box located next to the postage machine by 4:00 PM, M-~~F~~ **Th.** for same day Post Office drop off unless special arrangements are made with the Clerk's office.

6.7.—Confidential Information

Officials and employees shall not release any information to the media which would be a violation of a citizen's or a member of general public right to privacy.

6.8 Social Media Policy

Updated by Board of Trustees 8-4-22

Purpose: Hamburg Township supports the use of social media technology to enhance communication, collaboration, and exchange of information to further the goals of the Township where appropriate. This policy establishes policies and procedures for social media covering all Township employees, Township Board members, and/or Committee members. This policy may evolve as new technologies and social media offerings change, or are adopted.

6.8(a) Definitions

Content: Words, Video, Audio, or any combination of these things, which are used to relay a message to the public through Social Media Networks.

Social Media Networks: Examples of this are Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Cable Channel, Website, etc.

Social Media Specialist(s): Staff member and/or Township Board or Committee member who has been granted authority by the Social Media Director to perform the duties outlined in this policy as relates to social media for their particular category.

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Social Media Director: Township Official, or designee, who has been granted authority by the Township Board of Trustees to oversee, or perform, all social media activities of the Social Media Specialist, and approve content for the category they have been assigned. They work with the Township Clerk for all press releases no matter the category of content.

Emergency Management Director: Township Official, or staff member, as listed in the Emergency Management Plan Resolution, who is authorized to direct staff to post on any platform, for purposes of relaying timely information to the public in an emergency situation.

Social Media Activities: Include, but are not limited to: Social Media Posts, Advertising, Township Newsletter, Local Newspaper Articles, Cable Channel Programming, Printed Media, Public speaking engagements and/or presentations.

Technology Director: Head of the IT Department, or designee, who maintains a list of approved social media networks and sites for official use. Has final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue, or at the direction of the Township Board.

Township Clerk: Maintains all record of public comment, backups, and is main point of contact for all Press releases.

6.8(b) (a) Responsibilities

The Social Media Specialist will:

Develop and distribute social media posts on assigned mediums, such as Facebook, X, Instagram, and/or the Township website or cable channel.

Assist Clerk in developing press releases, newsletter articles, printed materials, presentations, etc.

Ensure all social media sites and channels are kept current.

Have authority to respond to comments for all posts.

Informational questions that can be easily responded to.

Sensitive questions/comments, or that the specialist is not comfortable responding to, will be referred to the assigned Social Media Director for suggested response, if any. The Director may in turn refer to the Technology Director for final action.

Monitors sites daily and responds to comments in a polite and respectful tone.

Ensures that all content is appropriate, professional, and consistent with Township Policy and branding.

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Ability to make comments via their own devices after hours as authorized/approved by their Department Head and the Social Media Director.

Stay current with social media networks, and have the ability to measure performance metrics.

Have a familiarity with the ads platform for each medium, if any (useful).

Keep the Social Media Director informed of the used social media sites and activities.

Provide available reports, or copies of posts/comments, as requested through F.O.I.A. or by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

The Social Media Director(s) will:

Approve the Social Media Activity plans for their category, as well as the addition of any new platforms, with approval from the Technology Director.

Oversees and Is responsible for content posted by the Social Media Specialist(s).

Authorizes Advertising Budgets, if any, for media campaigns and boosted posts.

Designate a Social Media Specialist and back-up responsible for overseeing the category's social media activities, policy compliance, and responding to comments completely, accurately and in a timely manner.

Designate appropriate usage levels including identifying what social media accounts individuals are approved to use, as well as defining roles.

Monitor Google Information Panels and ensure accurate information is reflected and post responses to comments as needed.

The Technology Director will:

Have final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue.

Maintain a list of approved social media networks, passwords, registered email addresses, and list of authorized site users for the purpose of emergency management.

Provide training opportunities to staff on best practices and provide samples of acceptable content.

Work with the Emergency Management Director to draft and distribute content in an emergency situation.

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Ensure all social media sites have the correct security settings with the assistance of Social Media Specialist and their assigned Director.

6.8(e) (b) Procedures

While the content for each Department within the Township varies, the overall theme, tone, and professionalism must be carried through. Examples of typical posts, as well as ones used for media blasts/promotions, will be by the Social Media Director. The Technology Director and each Social Media Director will ensure that the staff member given the responsibility for the public face of the Department is:

Familiar with the content allowed based on applicable Federal and state laws, ordinances, regulations, and Township policies. This includes but is not limited to laws regarding personally identifiable information, copyright, records retention, First Amendment, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), The Privacy Act, and employment related laws.

Is responsible and equipped to carry-out social media activity in accordance with the current Township Social Policy.

Departments who choose to utilize social media for things other than typical posts, such as media blasts/promotions, shall:

Submit a Social Media Action Plan to their assigned Social Media Manager, for public events/advertising, that identifies the department's mission, goals, objectives, audiences, and measures of success.

Request, and have approved, a "not to exceed" budget for their efforts. Advertising and boosted posts can be successful in reaching beyond organic reach, and can target specific demographics for things such as: completing surveys, public meeting announcements, important safety related posts.

May approve the distribution/advertising through a vendor hired for specific purposes such as planning, engineering, etc. The social media plan would be developed by the vendor/contractor and submitted to the Social Media Director and Technology Director for approval.

6.8(d) (c) Authorized Use

Hamburg Township respects the right of any employee to engage in online social networking using the Internet, other technology, and social media networks during their personal time. This includes instant messages, text, video, photos, and audio. While we respect the employee's right of self-expression, in order to protect the Township's interests and ensure employees focus on their job duties, employees must adhere to the following guidelines:

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Employees may not engage in such activities during work time, or at any time with Township equipment or property, without Social Media Director's approval, or within the confines of the expected duties of Social Media Specialist.

Information published on social media networks that has to do with any aspect of work must comply with all confidentiality requirements, HIPAA, and Township Policies. Information related to persons receiving services from the Township must not be disclosed. Privacy rights of fellow employees and Township Board members must be respected.

Township Departments or employees may not create a social networking site or service to conduct Township business without a Social Media Action Plan and approval from the Social Media Director assigned to their category, with review by the Technology Director.

If the employee mentions the Township while engaging in social networking and also expresses a view or opinion regarding the Township's actions, the person must specifically note that the statement is his/her personal view or opinion and not the view or opinion of the Township. This standard disclaimer does not by itself exempt supervisors, managers, coordinators, and the Township Board from special responsibility when using personal social networks.

By virtue of your position as a Hamburg Township Employee, you are held to a higher standard than general members of the public, and your online activities should reflect professionalism.

Users must immediately report violations of this policy to their manager or supervisor, as well to the Human Resources Director.

All managers and supervisors are responsible for enforcing this policy. Employees who violate this policy are subject to discipline up to and including termination from employment, professional discipline, or criminal prosecution, in accordance with the Hamburg Township Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual.

6.8(e) (d) Approved Social Media Networks, Cable Channels, Websites

Departments shall only utilize Township approved social media networks for hosting official Township social media sites. A list will be maintained by the Technology Director, and made available to the Social Media Director(s). Networks may vary for use depending on the category of content.

Social Media Action Plans, for anything other than approved daily use, will be reviewed and approved by the Social Media Director and Technology Director prior to public release.

Social media sites that are created on behalf of any Township Department that are not approved by the Technology Director and Social Media Director, will be in violation of this

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policy. Employees who violate this policy are subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.

For each approved social media network, usage guidelines will be relayed by the Social Media Director.

The Social Media Specialist is responsible for the creation of Hamburg Township's social media sites, at the direction of their Social Media Director and/or the Technology Director.

Social media sites will be created using official Township email accounts, or other approved email such as Gmail, on file with the Technology Director.

Passwords will be created and maintained by the Social Media Specialist, with copies on file with the Technology Director, and will conform to password requirements. Passwords shall be promptly reset when authorized access is removed.

Social Media Directors shall notify the Technology Director immediately in the case of termination for any employee with authorized use of any social media networks used by the Township.

6.8(f) (e) Authenticity Establishment & Site Content

Hamburg Township's social media sites shall be created and maintained with identifiable characteristics of an official Township site. Both creation and maintenance of sites, and the content there in, shall comply with procedures as outlined in the Social Media Handbook. Wherever possible, links should direct users back to the Township's official website for more information, forms, documents, or online services. Social Media should not serve as a duplication of efforts, but as a way to further the goals and mission of the Township.

A list of undesirable content and/or words posted by external and authorized users will be provided to the Social Media Specialist who may remove them at their discretion, and/or by the direction of the Social Media Director, as outlined in the Social Media handbook. This includes, but is not limited to, removal of public comments using profanity and/or inappropriate images.

All Township content will be informational and non-partisan in nature. Resident and visitor comments on posts, including the request to remove inappropriate, insensitive, or misleading information, will be responded to in a timely manner.

6.8(g) (f) Security Compromise

If a compromise is identified on any official Township social media site, the managing Social Media Director and the Technology Director, must be notified immediately. The Social Media Specialist will change appropriate passwords immediately to isolate the incident, and archive compromising content as outlined in the Social Media Handbook.

HAMBURG TOWNSHIP

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL

The Technology Director has final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue, or at the direction of the Township Board.

6.8(h)-(g) Record of Updates

This policy will evolve as new technologies and social media sites change

Note from Deby: It is possible that some of this could go into the Handbook I am suggesting we develop. It should be up to the board to decide what should be included in Administrative policy, and what could include a reference.

Purpose:

Hamburg Township supports the use of social media technology to enhance communication, collaboration, and information exchange to further the goals of the Township where appropriate. This policy establishes policies and procedures for social media covering all Township employees, Township Board members, and/or Committee members. This policy may evolve as new technologies and social media offerings change.

Definitions:

~~Content:~~ Words, Video, Audio, or any combination of these things, which are used to relay a message to the public through Social Media Networks.

~~Social Media Networks:~~ Examples of this are Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Cable Channel, Website, etc.

~~Social Media Specialist(s):~~ Staff member and/or Township Board or Committee member who has been granted authority by the Social Media Director to perform the duties as outlined in this policy as relates social media activities for their particular category.

~~Social Media Director:~~ Township Official, or designee, who has been granted authority by the Township Board of Trustees to oversee all social media activities of the Social Media Specialist, and approve content for the category they have been assigned. They work with the Township Clerk for all press releases no matter the category of content.

~~Emergency Management Director:~~ Township Official, or staff member, as listed in the Emergency Management Plan Resolution, who is authorized to direct staff to post on any platform, for purposes of relaying timely information to the public in an emergency situation.

~~Social Media Activities:~~ Include, but are not limited to: Social Media Posts, Advertising, Township Newsletter, Local Newspaper Articles, Cable Channel Programming, Printed Media, Public speaking engagements and/or presentations.

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Technology Director: Head of the IT Department, or designee, who maintains a list of approved social media networks and sites for official use. Has final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue, or at the direction of the Township Board.

Township Clerk: Maintains all record of public comment, backups, and is main point of contact for all Press releases.

Responsibilities

The Social Media Specialist will:

- Develop and distribute social media posts on assigned mediums, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and/or the Township website or cable channel.
- Assist Clerk in developing press releases, newsletter articles, printed materials, presentations, etc.
- Ensure all social media sites and channels are kept current.
- Have authority to respond to comments for all posts.
 - Informational questions that can be easily responded to.
 - Sensitive questions/comments will be referred to the assigned Social Media Director for suggested response, if any.
 - Monitors sites daily and responds to comments in a polite and respectful tone.
 - Ensures that all content is appropriate, professional, and consistent with Township Policy.
 - Ability to make comments via their own devices after hours. (Handbook will need to address this, or not allow — up to you)
- Stay current with social media networks, and have the ability to measure performance metrics.
- Have a working knowledge of the ads platform for each medium, if any (useful).
- Keep the Social Media Director informed of the used social media sites and activities.
- Provide available reports, or copies of posts/comments, as requested through F.O.I.A.
- Monitor Google Information Panels and ensure accurate information is reflected and post responses to comments as needed.

The Social Media Director(s) will:

- Approve the Social Media Activity plans for their category, as well as the addition of any new platforms, with approval from the Technology Director.
- Oversees and Is responsible for content posted by the Social Media Specialist(s).
- Authorizes Advertising Budgets, if any, for media campaigns and boosted posts.

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- Designate a Social Media Specialist and back-up responsible for overseeing the category's social media activities, policy compliance, and responding to comments completely, accurately and in a timely manner.
- Designate appropriate usage levels including identifying what social media accounts individuals are approved to use, as well as defining roles, which is further defined in the Township Social Media Handbook.

The Technology Director will:

- Have final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue.
- Maintain a list of approved social media networks, passwords, registered email addresses, and list of authorized site users for the purpose of emergency management.
- Provide training opportunities to staff on best practices and provide samples of acceptable content.
- Work with the Emergency Management Director to draft and distribute content in an emergency situation.
- Ensure all social media sites have the correct security settings with the assistance of each Social Media Specialist and their assigned Director.

Procedures

While the content for each Department within the Township varies, the overall theme, tone, and professionalism must be carried through. Examples of typical posts, as well as ones used for media blasts/promotions, will be provided in the Township Social Media Handbook. The Technology Director and each Social Media Director will ensure that the staff member given the responsibility for the public face of the Department is:

- Familiar with the content allowed based on applicable Federal and state laws, ordinances, regulations, and Township policies. This includes but is not limited to laws regarding personally identifiable information, copyright, records retention, First Amendment, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), The Privacy Act, and employment related laws.
- Is responsible and equipped to carry out social media activity in accordance with the Township Social Media Handbook (This will need to be developed and agreed upon by Department Heads and IT).

Departments who choose to utilize social media for things other than typical posts, such as media blasts/promotions, shall:

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- ~~Submit a Social Media Action Plan to their assigned Social Media Manager, as outlined in the Social Media Handbook, for public events/advertising, that identifies the department's mission, goals, objectives, audiences, and measures of success.~~
- ~~Request, and have approved, a "not to exceed" budget for their efforts. Advertising and boosted posts can be successful in reaching beyond organic reach, and can target specific demographics for things such as: completing surveys, public meeting announcements, and important safety related posts.~~
- ~~May approve the distribution/advertising through a vendor hired for specific purposes such as planning, engineering, etc. The social media plan would be developed by the vendor/contractor and submitted to the Social Media Director and Technology Director for approval.~~

Authorized Use

~~Hamburg Township respects the right of any employee to engage in online social networking using the Internet, other technology, and social media networks during their personal time. This includes instant messages, text, video, photos, and audio. While we respect the employee's right of self-expression, in order to protect the Township's interests and ensure employees focus on their job duties, employees must adhere to the following guidelines:~~

- ~~Employees may not engage in such activities during work time, or at any time with Township equipment or property, without Social Media Director's approval, or within the confines of the expected duties of Social Media Specialist.~~
- ~~Information published on social media networks that has to do with any aspect of work must comply with all confidentiality requirements, HIPAA, and Township Policies. Information related to persons receiving services from the Township must not be disclosed. Privacy rights of fellow employees and Township Board members must be respected.~~
- ~~Township Departments or employees may not create a social networking site or service to conduct Township business without a Social Media Action Plan and approval from the Social Media Director assigned to their category, with review by the Technology Director.~~
- ~~If the employee mentions the Township while engaging in social networking and also expresses a view or opinion regarding the Township's actions, the person must specifically note that the statement is his/her personal view or opinion and not the view or opinion of the Township. This standard disclaimer does not by itself exempt program supervisors, managers, coordinators, and the Township Board from special responsibility when using personal social networks.~~
- ~~By virtue of your position as a Hamburg Township Employee, you are held to a higher standard than general members of the public, and your online activities should reflect professionalism.~~

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- ~~Users must immediately report violations of this policy to their program manager or supervisor, as well to the Human Resources Director.~~
- ~~All program managers and supervisors are responsible for enforcing this policy.~~
- ~~Employees who violate this policy are subject to discipline up to and including termination from employment, professional discipline, or criminal prosecution, in accordance with the Hamburg Township Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual.~~

~~Approved Social Media Networks, Cable Channels, Websites~~

~~Departments shall only utilize Township approved social media networks for hosting official Township social media sites. A list will be maintained by the Technology Director, and made available to the Social Media Director(s). Networks may vary for use depending on the category of content.~~

- ~~Social Media Action Plans, for anything other than approved daily use, will be reviewed and approved by the Social Media Director and Technology Director prior to public release.~~
- ~~Social media sites that are created on behalf of any Township Department that are not approved by the Technology Director and Social Media Director, will be in violation of this policy. Employees who violate this policy are subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. (or could reference another section of the Admin Policy)~~
- ~~For each approved social media network, usage guidelines will be outlined in the Hamburg Social Media Handbook.~~
- ~~The Social Media Specialist is responsible for the creation of Hamburg Township's social media sites, at the direction of their Social Media Director and/or the Technology Director.~~
 - ~~Social media sites will be created using official Township email accounts, or other approved email such as Gmail, on file with the Technology Director.~~
 - ~~Passwords will be created and maintained by the Social Media Specialist, with copies on file with the Technology Director, and will conform to password requirements. Passwords shall be promptly reset when authorized access is removed.~~
 - ~~Social Media Directors shall notify the Technology Director immediately in the case of termination for any employee with authorized use of any social media networks used by the Township.~~

~~Authenticity Establishment & Site Content~~

~~Hamburg Township's social media sites shall be created and maintained with identifiable characteristics of an official Township site. Both creation and maintenance of sites, and the content there in, shall comply with procedures as outlined in the Social Media Handbook. Wherever possible, links should direct users back to the Township's official website for more information, forms, documents, or online services. Social Media should~~

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~~not serve as a duplication of efforts, but as a way to further the goals and mission of the Township.~~

~~A list of undesirable content and/or words posted by external and authorized users will be provided to the Social Media Specialist who may remove them at their discretion, and/or by the direction of the Social Media Director, as outlined in the Social Media handbook. This includes, but is not limited to, removal of public comments using profanity and/or inappropriate images.~~

~~Security Compromise~~

~~If a compromise is identified on any official Township social media site, the managing Social Media Director and the Technology Director, must be notified immediately. The Social Media Specialist will change appropriate passwords immediately to isolate the incident, and archive compromising content as outlined in the Social Media Handbook.~~

~~The Technology Director has final authority to edit or remove official social media sites, and any content therein, should there be a security issue, or at the direction of the Township Board.~~

~~Record of Updates~~

~~This policy will evolve as new technologies and social media sites change. Please refer to the Social Media Handbook for the latest changes.~~

6.9 Governmental Access Cable Television Channel Capacity Policy

6.9(a) Introduction

As part of its administration of its cable franchise authority, the Township of Hamburg is hereby establishing guidelines for the use of channel capacity on the cable system dedicated by the Cable Franchise Grantee for governmental purposes. All regulations shall be governed by applicable regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

This policy may be included in the Municode version of Hamburg Township Ordinances if so designated and directed by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

6.9(b) Background

Under the Cable Franchise Agreement, the Cable Franchise Grantee is required to supply channel capacity for access to its cable system for governmental access purposes.

At the time of the adoption of this policy, video access is provided over one channel, Channel 191. Its broadcast signal is being carried over the Charter Spectrum Cable TV Network. The Technical Services Department of Hamburg Township maintains and operates Channel 191 under the direction of the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

These access guidelines establish rules, procedures and requirements to determine eligibility to program the capacity and the acceptability of programming material for governmental

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access, and otherwise set forth operating policies by which the Township will make use of governmental access capacity.

6.9(c) Purpose

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

—The purpose of governmental and community cable TV access hereunder is to provide to Hamburg Township Board, commissions, committees, departments and community organizations an outlet for governmental and community information ~~and programming, and also additional educational and public information video programming~~ and announcements.

6.9(c)(1) Eligible Governmental and Community Entities

- A. **Access to Channel Capacity:** Upon application to the Township, governmental access information or programming may be inserted over the cable system's governmental access channel capacity by an eligible governmental or community entity.
- B. **Eligible Entities:** The term "eligible entity" means the following:
 - i. Township Board of Trustees
 - ii. Executive personnel and administrative personnel of the Township of Hamburg
 - iii. The Boards, commissions, committees and departments of Hamburg Township
 - iv. The Hamburg Police Department;
 - v. The Hamburg Fire Department;
 - vi. Executive personnel and administrative personnel of Livingston County; and the State of Michigan; and
 - vii. Other entities as may be allowed by the Township Board of Trustees.

Governmental access is intended both for in-service use by and between eligible government entities and community groups and as a public service to the citizens of Hamburg.

6.9(c)(2) Responsibilities of the Technical Services Department

~~A.~~ *Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx*

~~B.~~ A. Responsible for coordinating the operation of Channel 191 pursuant to the direction of the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees. The Director of Technical Services shall designate staff responsibilities for maintenance and operation of Channel 191's station, equipment and programming.

~~C.~~ B. Provide the Township with advice concerning governmental issues that are relevant to Hamburg and the development and procurement of information, information services and programming responsive to those issues.

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- ~~D.C. _____ Shall regularly consult with eligible governmental entities to identify relevant governmental issues.~~
- ~~E.D. _____ May seek comment from members of the Hamburg community or Township legal counsel, or approved industry consultants for further input on relevant issues and information, information services and programming responsive to those issues.~~
- F.E. _____ Shall be the primary interface with the cable television franchisee for the purpose of scheduling franchisee-provided resources and facilities for the production and cablecast of governmental access programming. All franchise agreements shall be approved by the Township Board of Trustees and executed by the appropriate Township elected officials.
- G.F. _____ Shall be responsible for collecting programming information and materials from eligible governmental and community entities. The Township Board of Trustees has ultimate authority with respect to programming and material transmitted over the governmental access capacity.
- H.G. _____ Shall assist in and coordinate the production of governmental access programming both onsite and offsite for such entities as they may require, subject to available facilities, funds and personnel.
- ~~I.H. _____ Develop, produce, and distribute a program schedule to community media, Township staff and others upon request.~~
- J.I. _____ Shall review and approve all material or programming cablecast on governmental access capacity pursuant to policy set by the Township Board.
- K.J. _____ Shall be responsible for reviewing accessibility options for the deaf and hard of hearing community as such technologies may become available. The Township Board of Trustees shall have final approval for any contracts required to provide such services.
- L.K. _____ Shall be responsible for the physical and daily operation of the governmental access channel capacity.
- M.L. _____ Chain of Command: The Technical Services Department shall report first to the Township Supervisor, then to the Township Board of Trustees.

6.9(c)(3) Programming

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

A. Programming Focus

Programming shall be primarily focused in four main areas:

- government programming;
- community programming;
- educational and community interest programming;
- public service programming;

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All programming shall be of special interest and benefit to the residents of the Township of Hamburg, and shall promote and further the goals and objectives of the Hamburg Township Board for Hamburg Township. All applicable FCC regulations shall govern.

B. Programming Types

Automated News Services Programming	Modules provided under agreements with Leightronics, Inc. and/or other suppliers as approved by the Township Board of Trustees.
Live	Live coverage may be provided, subject to the preemption for any material that does not comply with these guidelines.
Remote	Utilizing remote video production facilities for on-location tape-delayed cablecasts.
Video Delayed	Events or presentations may be recorded for cablecast at a later time. Recordings of live cablecasts may be replayed.
Locally Produced Programs	Original programs that are governmental and community programming may be produced by eligible entities, including production and production assistance by Technical Services staff or others on behalf of such eligible entities. Any copyrights to locally produced programming shall belong to the eligible entity producing such program. If such eligible entity is not organized and authorized to own such a copyright, the copyright shall belong to the Township or the County or the State with direct jurisdiction over the eligible entity.
External Programs	Governmental, community and educational programming may be acquired or borrowed by eligible entities for access. The eligible entity shall be responsible for securing all copyright authorizations required for externally produced programs and shall provide a written copy of such authorizations upon application to Technical Services staff to air such programming.
Alphanumeric Message Board	A governmental and community bulletin board may be maintained to display messages of local interest in Hamburg

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	Township and Livingston County, Michigan and a community calendar.
Data	Computer applications may be integrated over the access capacity as technology permits.

~~C. Program Log~~

~~A daily log will be maintained of all programming cablecast that day by Technical Services staff. A Program Guide may be placed on Channel 191 and/or the Township's web site. Notices regarding scheduling for certain broadcasts including "Meet the Candidates" forums may be placed on the Township's web site.~~

D. Township Control

Hamburg Township reserves the right to control all programming, including all non-profit advertising, which is broadcast over the channels. No for-profit advertising is permitted due to cable TV franchise limitations. The right of control is a broad right, including, but not limited to, control over any and all content (video, audio, graphics, text), length of programming, broadcast schedule times, methods of production and broadcasting, copyright of materials generated by Hamburg Township and any related fees, production costs, broadcasting costs and/or equipment costs.

E. Political Programming

No "political programming" shall be accepted for governmental access except as may be approved by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

i. Definition of "Political programming"

a. That programming which, if inserted on the governmental or community access channel capacity, would constitute a use by a legally qualified candidate or his or her supporters (authorized or unauthorized) that would give rise to requirements by a cable operator, if such programming were to have been inserted on a cable channel subject to the cable operator's control, to provide equal opportunities and quasi-equal opportunities to other such candidates for the same office or their supporters (authorized or unauthorized) under Federal Communications Board CFCC") cable television regulations, e.g., 47 C.F.R. §76.3(q) and §76.205 et seq., and related FCC policies, rules and doctrines, including the "personal attack rule."

b. "Meet the Candidate" and other issues-related forums held prior to elections may be allowed as approved by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees even though they may be considered "political" programming.

ii. Definition of "Non-Political Programming"

For these guidelines, the following are considered news events and are not "political programming:"

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- a. Meetings of and hearings before the Hamburg Township Board and Hamburg Township Planning Commission, Hamburg Zoning Board of Appeals; and any other Hamburg Township government committees and departments.
- b. Meetings of and hearings held by Livingston and Washtenaw County departments affecting Hamburg Township residents and property owners.
- c. Meetings of and hearings held by State of Michigan departments such as the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (MEGLE), Michigan State Police (MSP)/Emergency Management, etc.
- d. Meetings held by Federal regional government agencies such as FEMA/NFIP, USACE, and USGS for issues involving Hamburg Township residents and property owners.

iii. Right of Refusal

Hamburg Township reserves the right to refuse cable broadcasting of programs which may contain any of the following:

Unauthorized use of copyrighted material.
Violation of the State and Federal law regarding obscenity. No programming shall be accepted for governmental access if it contains obscene material, sexually explicit conduct or material soliciting or promoting unlawful conduct under Section 10(c) of the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992 ("Cable Act") as implemented by regulations of the FCC.
Advertising of a "lottery" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1304 and FCC regulation 47 C.F.R. § 213.
Unlawful invasion of privacy.
Material which is libelous, slanderous or defamatory.
Material which violates local, state or federal laws.
Any other material deemed inappropriate by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

F. Preview of Programming

Any programming submitted by an eligible governmental entity for access shall be previewed by the Technical Services staff, or Township elected officials for acceptance. Such programming may be edited to conform to these guidelines, or the programming may be rejected. If concerns develop, the matter shall be referred to the Township Board for review.

G. Alphanumeric Bulletin Board

Messages programmed into the "Bulletin Board" shall be edited to provide clarity and to provide maximum use of the memory bank currently available. Message content generally will not be edited, but will not be inserted if inconsistent with these guidelines

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H. Handling of Program Materials

i. Return of Refused Programming

Any programming submitted by an eligible entity for cable TV channel access that is not accepted will be returned.

ii. Program Retainage

Programming accepted for governmental access will be retained, including recordings of live programming, for the duration of the scheduled run of the programming, including repeat exhibitions, and for any such period of time as may be applicable under the Township's policies for programming return, receipt and record retention.

iii. Program Copying

a. Subject to copyright and licensing considerations, programming shall be available to the public for copying one week after the last scheduled run. All requests for copies shall be made pursuant to FOIA requirements.

b. The cost for copies of programming shall be set by the Township Clerk according to the Township Schedule of Fees under FOIA.

c. Programming generated by entities other than Hamburg Township shall be obtained directly from that entity and not from Hamburg Township.

6.9(c)(4) Programming Schedules

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

A. Day to Day Management

~~i. Daily Schedule~~

~~Technical Services staff are responsible for scheduling.~~ The day-to-day management of schedules shall be through the Technical Services office.

~~ii. Program Schedule~~

~~The program schedule, once publicized, generally will not be deviated from or added to except in the event of an emergency, as a result of technical difficulties or unavailability of the scheduled programming.~~

~~B. Scheduling priorities and guidelines~~

PRIORITY LEVEL	GUIDELINES

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Level 1	Announcements concerning emergencies affecting health or safety or exigent circumstances may preempt at any time; weather bulletins; civil defense bulletins, etc.
Level 2	Special and regular meetings and hearings of the Township Board, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and other related boards and committees; election notices; election precinct workers' meetings notices; meetings of Livingston County of interest to Hamburg residents; requests for service workers; notices
Level 3	Other public meetings and public hearings; In-service use of government access channel capacity; Information programming, news, public interest; community activities (festivals and special events; senior citizens; parks and recreation programming, etc.);
Level 4	Educational programming; public safety programming; environmental programming; community access programming, adoptable pets from Livingston County Animal Control Shelter
Level 5	Database programming; internet generated programming; repeats of public meetings and hearings for time diversity; alphanumeric bulletin board messages

C. ~~Live Programming Scheduling~~

i. ~~Programming of live scripts or concepts for such live programming must be submitted at least two (2) weeks in advance of the intended cablecast date to allow for scheduling, preparation, production, if any, and evaluation for consistency with these guidelines.~~

ii. ~~Emergency programming is not subject to this requirement.~~

iii. ~~All scripts shall be submitted to the Technical Services Department and a Production Proposal completed.~~

D. ~~Community Bulletin Board Notices~~

~~"Bulletin Board" messages must be submitted to the Technical Services Department at least 72 hours prior to the intended insertion date except for special public announcements (such as emergency closings).~~

E. ~~Scheduling Conflicts~~

i. ~~It is the Township's policy to cablecast all programming submitted by an eligible entity, subject to the priorities and guidelines herein. Scheduling requirements may, from~~

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~~time to time, preclude available cablecast time for all such programming for its intended cablecast date.~~

~~ii. Technical Services staff shall use reasonable efforts to accommodate such programming and entity and to resolve potential scheduling conflicts.~~

~~F. Right of Scheduling Reservation—Hamburg Township reserves the right to schedule the time in which a program will be cablecast.~~

~~G. Viewer Discretion Notification—Programs which may not be suitable for viewing by children, or contain material which may be offensive to sensitive viewers, will carry the standard disclaimer at the head of the program:~~

~~"The following program contains material which may be offensive to some viewers and may be inappropriate for viewing by children. Viewer discretion is advised."~~

6.9(c)(5) Support for Access Programming - Underwriting

A. Franchise Fees

Channel 191 is presently maintained via franchise fees generated by cable TV subscribers to the Charter/Spectrum Cable TV Network in Hamburg Township as budgeted for pursuant to allocation by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees.

B. Underwriting Contributions

Individuals or organizations that provide contributions to the Township or to a municipal instrumentality of the Township that is exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code to support governmental and community access or specific programming of a public interest may be identified by name and, if a business or organization, the display of their business or organization logo and tagline, consistent with Section 399B of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and FCC regulations (47 C.F.R. § 73.503(d)) and policies and guidelines governing the noncommercial, educational broadcast services with respect to so-called "underwriting announcements."

B. Underwriting Disclosures

The names, addresses and phone numbers of individuals and/or organizations providing funding for production of programming must be disclosed to the Technical Services Department and the same noted on the Production Proposal.

C. Underwriting Credits

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i. Credit may appear at the beginning and/or end of the program identifying the underwriter. The display should be no longer than 10 seconds and the word "sponsor" cannot be used.

ii. The credit may include the words "This program made possible in part by _____" followed by the underwriter's name or logo. Such underwriting announcements or acknowledgments shall be for identification purposes only and shall not promote the contributor's products, services or company. Such announcements may not contain comparative or qualitative descriptions, price information, calls to action or inducements to buy, sell, rent or lease.

D. Underwriting Payments

All underwriting contribution funds shall be submitted to and paid to the Hamburg Township Treasurer with receipts provided for same.

6.9(c)(6) Video Products

A. Video Copies

i. Subject to copyright licensing requirements and FOIA requirements, copies of any available Township of Hamburg programs, including Township Board meetings, shall be provided to authorized Township employees or departments for official use only, free of charge, upon request.

ii. Copies of Township Board and other public meetings shall be provided to any citizen at cost (to include administrative and overhead) in accordance with the provisions of Schedule of Fees and Charges as set by the Technical Services Department in accordance with FOIA requirements.

iii. Simulcasting: Township meetings shall be simulcast via Livestream/Vimeo services software platform online and/or via Channel 191 on the Charter/Spectrum Cable TV network.

iv. Archiving/Video-On-Demand: Video recordings will be posted and made available to the public free of charge on the Livestream/Vimeo or other similar video-on-demand internet viewing service.

B. Videotape review

Video recordings will be posted and made available to the public free of charge on the Livestream/Vimeo or other similar video-on-demand internet viewing service. FOIA requests for video recordings transcribed to physical media such as DVDs or flash drives shall be directed in writing to the Hamburg Township Clerk.

C. Archives

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- i. It is the policy of the Township to maintain video tape archives of meetings of and hearings before the Township Board of Trustees, the Hamburg Planning Commission (when the Planning Commission proceedings are recorded), and the Hamburg Township Zoning Board of Appeals pursuant to Township record retention policy as administered by the Hamburg Township Clerk.
- ii. Recording and record retention policies for all other meetings of and hearings before other eligible entities shall be arranged by such entity in a manner acceptable to the Township Clerk, who is the designated Keeper of the Records for Hamburg Township.
- iii. All recording and record retention policies shall be handled pursuant to current FOIA regulations. Video recordings will be posted and made available to the public free of charge on the Livestream/Vimeo or other similar video-on-demand internet viewing service.

6.9(c)(7) Legal

A. Copyright and Trademark/Service Mark

i. Copyright Clearance

All programming accepted for governmental access cable broadcasting shall be cleared for copyright.

ii. Copyright Use Authorization

The eligible entity submitting the programming must have obtained and provided to the Technical Services Department a specific authorization from the copyright holder of the programming authorizing the "Township of Hamburg" to perform, edit and make ephemeral recordings of the work consistent with these guidelines.

iii. Personal Release

In the case of live programming or recorded programming produced for access hereunder that is not a public proceeding, permission or releases must be obtained from persons depicted therein to use their likenesses, including printed, recorded and photographed material. Written evidence of permission shall be submitted to the Technical Services Department at the time of submission of the programming request by the entity on the Production Proposal.

iv. Trademark Clearance

Any trademark or service mark, depicted or audible, in any programming accepted for governmental access shall be cleared in the same manner as for copyright.

B. Errors and Omissions

i. Warrant to Township

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Eligible entities shall represent and warrant to the Township that they have all necessary copyright, trademark, service mark and likeness (i.e., invasion of privacy) permissions and authorizations for the Township to cablecast the submitted programming consistent with these guidelines and that such information or programming is not libelous, slanderous or defamatory and is otherwise consistent with these guidelines.

ii. Indemnification of Township

Such eligible entities shall indemnify and defend the Township against damages and loss, including reasonable attorney's fees, for any claims arising out of such representations and warranties. Such indemnification shall also extend to the cable operator to the extent it is not exempt from liability under the Cable Act or other applicable law. A copy of the certificate of copyright authorization is to be attached as part of the Production Proposal.

iii. Broadcasters' Liability Insurance

The Township may obtain appropriate "broadcasters' liability" insurance, in which case it may name such eligible entities as additional insureds and assess such entities, pro-rata, the premium amount of any such insurance.

iv. Township as Named Insured

Alternatively, any such eligible entity that has or obtains such insurance shall name the Township as an additional insured with respect to governmental access programming cablecast pursuant to these guidelines.

6.9(c)(8) Amendment and Repeal

The Hamburg Township Board of Trustees may from time to time amend or repeal these guidelines as it deems fit.

6.10 Tax and Assessment Information Policy

Updated by Board of Trustees xx/xx/xx

~~—Updated by Board of Trustees X-X-XX~~

Hamburg Township office hours are Monday through ~~Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.~~ **Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**—During these hours Assessing records are available for public inspection, unless an after hours' time is mutually agreed by Hamburg township staff and the individual requesting the records.

Residents, banks, mortgage companies and other entities requesting information regarding tax amounts, special assessment payment amounts, property record cards, valuation sheets, all available sale records, and maps can receive this information verbally and without cost on up to five parcels. ~~within a 24 hour period. Tax records may be unavailable during~~

HAMBURG TOWNSHIP

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL

tax collection periods, as determined by the Treasury department. Restrictions shall be posted on the Township website and in the Township hall.

The public does not have unrestricted access to township offices, records or facilities. A person may be required to inspect records at a specific counter or table in the view of Township staff.

Records or files cannot be removed from the Township Offices.

Township officials assisting with the inspection of public records must inform any person inspecting records that only pencils, and no pens or ink may be used to take notes.

Special assessment payoff amounts will be provided in writing via ~~fax~~, ~~or~~ mail or e-mail. ~~No payoff amounts will be issued over the phone.~~

Individuals, corporations or entities requesting the following information on more than five (5) parcels (with the exception of special assessment payoff amount) must be done in writing.

- Tax Amounts for Specific Years
- Paid Status of Taxes
- Determination of Special Assessment Status
- Amounts of Annual Special Assessment Payments
- Assessing Information

May be required to do the following:

- ~~Submit all Requests in Writing~~
- Receive all Responses in Writing Via Fax and Mail
- Pay a fee as established by the Township FOIA policy for each parcel on which information is requested. The fee is payable at the time of the request by check, money order, or cash.

(Adopted 5/27/97 – Amended 11/24/98 -Amended 2/3/15)

DRAFT

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON
TOWNSHIP OF HAMBURG
ORDINANCE NO. 2025.G.003

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE HAMBURG TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 22, "OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS," BY ADDING ARTICLE VI "FIREWORKS" TO REGULATE THE IGNITION, DISCHARGE AND USE OF FIREWORKS WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP, AND REPEALING PROVISIONS THAT CONFLICT WITH STATE LAW.

HAMBURG TOWNSHIP ORDAINS:

PART I. That Chapter 22, "Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions," is hereby amended to add Article VI "Fireworks," to reads as follows:

ARTICLE VI. - FIREWORKS

Sec. 22-135. - Title.

This article shall be known and cited as the Hamburg Township Fireworks Ordinance.

Sec. 22-136. - Purpose.

The purpose of this article is to promote the public health, safety, comfort and general welfare of the community through the proper regulation of the ignition, discharge and use of fireworks within Hamburg Township.

Sec. 22-137. - Definitions.

Act means the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act, Public Act No. 256 of 2011, MCL 28.451 et seq., as amended.

(a) "*Alcoholic liquor*" means that term as defined in section 1d of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1d..

APA standard 87-1 means 2001 APA standard 87-1, standard for construction and approval for transportation of fireworks, novelties, and theatrical pyrotechnics, published by the American Pyrotechnics Association of Bethesda, Maryland.

Articles pyrotechnic means pyrotechnic devices for professional use that are similar to consumer fireworks in chemical composition and construction but not intended for consumer use, that meet the weight limits for consumer fireworks but are not labeled as such, and that are classified as UN0431 or UN0432 under 49 CFR 172.101.

Consumer fireworks means fireworks devices that are designed to produce visible effects by combustion, that are required to comply with the construction, chemical composition, and labeling regulations promulgated by the United States consumer product safety commission under 16 CFR parts 1500 and 1507, and that are listed in APA standard 87-1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, or 3.5. Consumer fireworks do not include low-impact fireworks.

(b) "*Controlled substance*" means that term as defined in section 8b of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.8b..

Display fireworks means large fireworks devices that are explosive materials intended for use in fireworks displays and designed to produce visible or audible effects by combustion, deflagration, or detonation, as provided in 27 CFR 555.11, 49 CFR 172, and APA standard 87-1, 4.1.

Fire Official means a full-time firefighter of the Township who possesses a certification in NFPA Fire Inspector I and has been designated by the Director of Public Safety to review and process fireworks permit applications.

Fireworks means any composition or device, except for a starting pistol, a flare gun, or a flare, designed for the purpose of producing a visible or audible effect by combustion, deflagration, or detonation. Fireworks consist of consumer fireworks, low-impact fireworks, articles pyrotechnic, display fireworks, and special effects.

Low-impact fireworks means ground and handheld sparkling devices as that phrase is defined under APA standard 87-1, 3.1, 3.1.1.1 to 3.1.1.8, and 3.5.

Minor means an individual under 18 years of age.

NFPA means the National Fire Protection Association.

Novelties means that term as defined under APA standard 87-1, 3.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, and 3.2.5 and all of the following:

- (a) Toy plastic or paper caps for toy pistols in sheets, strips, rolls, or individual caps containing not more than .25 of a grain of explosive content per cap, in packages labeled to indicate the maximum explosive content per cap.

- (b) Toy pistols, toy cannons, toy canes, toy trick noisemakers, and toy guns in which toy caps as described in subparagraph (a) are used, that are constructed so that the hand cannot come in contact with the cap when in place for the explosion, and that are not designed to break apart or be separated so as to form a missile by the explosion.
- (c) Flitter sparklers in paper tubes not exceeding one-eighth inch in diameter.
- (d) Toy snakes not containing mercury, if packed in cardboard boxes with not more than 12 pieces per box for retail sale and if the manufacturer's name and the quantity contained in each box are printed on the box; and toy smoke devices.

Sec. 22-138. – General prohibitions on ignition, discharge, and use of fireworks.

No person shall ignite, discharge, or use fireworks within the Township at any time, except that:

- (a) Consumer fireworks may be discharged on the following dates and times:
 - (1) After 11:00 a.m. and before 11:45 p.m. June 29th through July 4th;
 - (2) After 11:00 a.m. and before 11:45 p.m. on July 5th, only if that date is a Friday or Saturday;
 - (3) After 11:00 a.m. and before 11:45 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Labor Day and Memorial Day;
 - (4) After 11:00 a.m. on December 31st or before 1:00 a.m. on January 1st.
- ~~(b) Fireworks may be discharged after 11:00 a.m. and before 10:00 p.m. on any other day of the year not specifically cited in section 22-138(a) of this ordinance, without a permit issued in accordance with Section 22-140 or 22-141.~~
- ~~(b)~~ (e) Consumer Fireworks may be discharged in strict compliance with a permit issued by the Township Board of Trustees in accordance with Section 22-141 of this Ordinance.
- ~~(c)~~ (d) This section shall not apply to low impact fireworks and novelties.

Sec. 22-139. – Additional prohibitions.

- (a) Consumer fireworks shall not be ignited, discharged, or used on public property, including public streets and rights-of-way, or on school property, church property, or the private property of another, without the express written permission from the person or entity legally in possession and control of that property to undertake such action.
- (b) No fireworks shall be ignited, discharged, used, stored or sold on Township property without a permit authorized by the Township Board of Trustees.
- (c) Fireworks shall not be ignited, discharged, or used by a person under the influence of alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance or a combination of both.
- (d) No person shall ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks or low-impact fireworks if a "no burning" restriction has been implemented by the Fire Department.

Sec. 22-140. – Permit required for discharge of display fireworks and articles pyrotechnic devices; permit process.

- (a) No person shall discharge any display fireworks or articles pyrotechnic devices without a permit issued by the Township Board of Trustees.

- (b) Applicants for a permit under this section must file with the Township's designated Fire Official an application in writing on a form to be provided by the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, as set forth in MCL 28.466, at least 30 days in advance of the event.
- (c) The person, firm, or corporation applying for the permit shall include with their permit application materials proof of financial responsibility by a bond or insurance in an amount, character, and form deemed necessary by the Township Board of Trustees to satisfy claims for damages to property or personal injuries arising out of an act or omission on the part of the person, firm, or corporation or an agent or employee of the person, firm, or corporation, and to protect the public.
- (d) A permit granted under this section is not transferable and shall not be issued to a minor.
- (e) Upon receipt of the application required by this section, the Fire Official shall review the application and shall make a recommendation to the Township Board of Trustees on whether the permit should be granted. This recommendation shall be based on the competency and qualifications of the articles pyrotechnic and display fireworks operator, as furnished by the operator on the operator's application form, in accordance with the requirements provided under NFPA 1123, and on the time, place, and safety aspects of the display of articles pyrotechnic or display fireworks.
- (f) The Township Board of Trustees shall review the application form and recommendation of the Fire Official and may issue a permit after ruling on the competency and qualifications of the permit applicant.
- (g) The fees for the permit required by this section shall be charged by the Fire Official in an amount to be established by the Township Board of Trustees.

Sec. 22-141. – Permits for discharge of consumer fireworks; permit process.

- (a) A person may discharge consumer fireworks outside of the permissible hours specified in section 22-138~~(b)~~ (a) of this Ordinance with a permit issued by the Township Board of Trustees.
- (b) Applicants for a permit under this section must file with the Township's designated Fire Official an application in writing on a form to be provided by the Fire Official.
- (c) A permit granted under this section is not transferable and shall not be issued to a minor.
- (d) Upon receipt of the application required by this section, the Fire Official shall review the application and shall make a recommendation to the Township Board of Trustees on whether the permit should be granted. This recommendation shall be based on the on the time, place, and safety aspects of the display.
- (e) The Township Board of Trustees shall review the application form and recommendation of the Fire Official and may issue a permit for the discharge of consumer fireworks outside the otherwise allowable hours contained in section 22-138~~(b)~~ (a).
- (f) No more than ~~two (2)~~ three (3) permits for the display of consumer fireworks under this section shall be issued to any person, firm, corporation or location in any calendar year.
- (g) Consumer fireworks discharged pursuant to a permit issued under this section shall be in strict adherence to the date(s) and hours outlined in the permit and no permit shall be issued permitting the discharge of consumer fireworks before 11:00am nor after 11:00pm.

- (h) Persons issued a permit under this section shall be responsible for the clean up of all debris and other material associated with the discharge of fireworks, provided further that the permit holder shall:
 - (1) Remove and clean up all debris and other material on public property, including public streets, parks and rights-of-way within 24 hours of the discharge of the fireworks.
 - (2) Remove and clean up all debris and other material on private property within 24 hours of receiving notice from the property owner of the presence of debris or other material associated with the discharge of fireworks on their property.
- (i) On the Monday of each week of the year, the Township shall post on the official Township website a notice of all fireworks permits issued under this section for the upcoming week.
- (j) The fees for the permit required by this section shall be charged by the Fire Official in an amount to be established by the Township Board of Trustees.

Sec. 22-142. – Penalties.

In accordance with MCL 28.457, any person found to be in violation of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be responsible for a municipal civil infraction with a civil fine of \$1,000.00 for each violation. \$500.00 of the fine collected under the section shall be remitted to the local law enforcement agency responsible for enforcing this Ordinance.

PART II. Severability. Should any section, subdivision, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance be declared by the courts to be invalid, the validity of the Ordinance as a whole, or in part, shall not be affected other than the part invalidated.

PART III. Savings Clause. The amendment of the Hamburg Township Code of Ordinances set forth in this Ordinance does not affect or impair any act done, offense committed, or right accruing, accrued, or acquired or liability, penalty, forfeiture or punishment, pending or incurred prior to the amendment of the Hamburg Township Code of Ordinances set forth in this Ordinance.

PART IV. Repealer. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, including Section 22-23 (4) of the Code of Ordinances, are hereby repealed.

PART V. Effective Date. The provisions of this Ordinance are ordered to take effect following publication in the manner prescribed by Hamburg Township.

PART VI. Adoption. This ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees in a meeting thereof duly held and called on the ____ day of _____, 2025, in order to be given publication in the manner prescribed by Hamburg Township.

Moved by _____ and supported by _____.

Mike Dolan, Hamburg Township Clerk

Certificate of Adoption

I, (Clerk), the duly qualified Clerk for the Township of Hamburg, Livingston County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the Ordinance adopted by the Township Board at a meeting held on (date). The original is on file in the Office of the Township Clerk.

By: _____
Mike Dolan, Hamburg Township Clerk

Introduced:

Adopted:

Effective:

Published: