

**KEENE TOWNSHIP
IONIA COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

(RESOLUTION NO. 10-20-25)

At a special meeting of the Keene Township Board, Ionia County, Michigan, held on October 20, 2025 at the Township Hall located at 8505 Potters Rd, Saranac, Michigan 48881, the following Resolution was offered for adoption by Township Board Member C. HENDRICK and supported by Township Board Member W. PFLUGRADT:

FIRE AND EMS SERVICES SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

A RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO CREATE A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT AND LEVY A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR FIRE AND EMS SERVICES; ESTIMATING THE COSTS AND EXPENSES OF PROVIDING FIRE AND EMS SERVICES TO BE DEFRAYED BY SPECIAL ASSESSMENT; AND CALLING A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE SAME.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Section 1(3) (being MCL 41.801 *et seq*) of Act 33 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1951, as amended ("Act 33") and Section 20948 (being MCL 333.20948) of Act 368 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1978 ("Act 368"), provide that the Township Board may provide fire and emergency medical services ("EMS"), including purchasing fire and EMS motor vehicles, apparatus, equipment, and housing along with any costs associated with maintenances and operation of the fire and EMS services (collectively, "the Services"), and may defray the costs of the Services by special assessment on the lands and premises in the township to be benefitted, except for lands and premises exempt from the collection of taxes under the General Property Tax Act, Act 206 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1893 (however, lands and premises otherwise subject to special assessment via a contract or agreement with the Township or

otherwise or subject to special assessment due to special or other legislation are not exempt and shall be subject to the proposed special assessment.); and

WHEREAS, the proposed special assessment will help defray the cost and expenses of maintenance, operations, and capital improvements and expenses for the Services; and

WHEREAS, The Township finds that initiating proceedings to establish such a special assessment district is in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, there exists a need for the Services in the Township, and Act 33 and Act 368 provide the means to finance the Services.

RESOLVED

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Township Board intends to proceed pursuant to Act 33 and Act 368 to provide the Services and to defray the cost of the Services (in whole or in part) by special assessment on the lands and premises in the Township to be benefitted, except for lands and premises exempt from the collection of taxes under the Michigan General Property Tax Act (however, lands and premises otherwise subject to special assessment via a contract or agreement with the Township or otherwise or subject to special assessment due to special or other legislation are not exempt and shall be subject to the proposed special assessment).

2. The Township has prepared an estimate of the costs and expenses of providing the Services. The Services and estimated costs are described in Exhibit A and Exhibit B as attached hereto.

3. The Township Board anticipates assessing the costs of the Services on a yearly basis beginning in fiscal year 2026-2027 based upon the estimates on file with the Township and the resolutions adopted by the Township Board pursuant to this process. Each year thereafter, if the Township Board determines to proceed with the process, on or before each September 30, the Township Board shall, to the extent possible, ascertain the Services costs for the coming year. Each year the Board determines to proceed with this process, the Township Board shall annually determine and establish the amount to be assessed based on unexpended funds, cash on hand, and the estimated project costs for that year, shall hold a hearing on the estimated costs and expenses of fire and EMS services and on the distribution of the levy, shall direct the Supervisor to distribute the special assessment levy, and shall assess that approved amount. The costs for administration, publication and legal costs and expenses and other expenses for creating and setting up this special assessment district shall be levied in December 2025 for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

1. The Township Board hereby tentatively designates a special assessment district known as the Fire and EMS Special Assessment District, consisting of all lots and parcels of property located within the boundaries of Keene Township, Ionia County, Michigan, against which lots and parcels all or a portion of the cost of the Services shall be assessed to the extent permissible under the law.

4. As currently proposed, the special assessment would first be levied in December 2025 for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, and would be assessed at the equivalent of 0.42 mills (\$0.42 for each \$1,000 of taxable value) for each lot or parcel as permitted by law. It is estimated that the special assessment would raise approximately \$37,335 during its first year.

5. The Township Board shall hold a public hearing on Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Township Hall located at 8505 Potters Rd, Saranac, Michigan 48881, to hear and consider comments and objections to the plans, estimate of costs, the creation of a special assessment district, the special assessment district tentatively designated herein, and defraying the expenses of the special assessment district on the property to be especially benefitted (except for lands and premises exempt from the collection of taxes under the Michigan General Property Tax Act; however, lands and premises otherwise subject to special assessment via a contract or agreement with the Township or otherwise or subject to special assessment due to special or other legislation are not exempt and shall be subject to the proposed special assessment) and all other matters relating to the creation of the proposed special assessment district.

6. The Township Clerk shall cause to be published a Notice of the Public Hearing, Exhibit C as attached, in *The Daily News*, 109 N. Lafayette St., Greenville, Michigan, 48838, a newspaper of general circulation within the Township, at least two (2) times prior to the November 6, 2025 public hearing, with the first publication at least ten (10) days prior to the public hearing. Proofs of publication of such notice shall be filed with the Township Board.

7. The Township Clerk shall cause to be mailed, by First Class United States Postal Service Mail, the Notice of the Public Hearing, Exhibit C as attached, to all property owners of record according to Township tax rolls in the special assessment district not less than 10 days before the November 6, 2025 public hearing.

8. The form of the Notice of the Public Hearing to be mailed and published, as required herein, shall be substantially as set forth in Exhibit C hereto.

9. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith shall be and the same are hereby rescinded, but only to the extent of any such conflict.

10. Following the public hearing, the Township board may revise, correct, amend or change the plans, estimate of cost, boundaries or other aspects of the special assessment district.

11. All actions heretofore taken by Township officials, employees, and agents with respect to the Services and proceedings regarding this matter are hereby ratified and confirmed.

YEAS: Members C. HENDRICK, S. Smiley, H. MELTON
W. PFLUGRADT

NAYS: Members 0

ABSENT: Members N. WOLFF

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.



Holli Melton
Keene Township Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF LONIA)

I, Holli Melton Keene Township Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Keene Township Board at a special meeting held on October 20, 2025, and that public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, including, in the case of a special or rescheduled meeting, notice by publication or posting at least eighteen (18) hours prior to the time set for the meeting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have affixed my official signature this 20TH day of OCTOBER, 2025.

Holli Melton
Keene Township Clerk

EXHIBIT A

(THE SERVICES)

The Services are described as providing fire and emergency medical services ("EMS") services including purchasing fire and EMS motor vehicles, apparatus, equipment, and housing along with any costs associated with the maintenance and operation of fire and EMS services and may defray the costs of the Services by special assessment. The costs and expenses covered or paid for by the special assessment may include any, some or all of the following:

- (1) Operating and maintenance costs and expenses.
- (2) Contract fees and costs.
- (3) Salaries, compensation, benefits and similar costs and expenses.
- (4) Capital improvements, fixtures, buildings, leases, and similar undertakings.
- (5) Equipment, vehicles, and other items.

Projected/Estimated Total Cost for the Services:
for the Entire Duration of the Special Assessment - \$156,588 total

Projected/Estimated Total Cost per Year of the
Services -
\$156,588

EXHIBIT B

**KEENE TOWNSHIP FIRE/EMS SERVICES
PLANS AND COSTS ESTIMATES**

VENDOR – HISTORY	2026 PROJECTION
Belding Fire - 2024 \$11,899.43 2025 \$12,244.52	\$12,700.00
Saranac Fire - 2025 Capital Obligation remaining 2026 EST Capital \$5000	\$72,341.00
2025 \$42,000 2025 EST w/o cap \$46,200	\$47,586.00
Life EMS – 2024 \$ 11,899.44 2025 \$ 12,256.42	\$12,625.00

Other Projections to add a Special Assessment to cover the shortfall to provide the services:

Legal	\$8,000.00
Publications	\$600.00
Letters to Taxpayers	\$900.00
Postage	\$1,836.00

TOTAL 2026 FIRE/EMS EXPENDITURE PROJECTION: \$156,588.00

Current FIRE Cash on hand Balance: (\$76,900.00)

TOTAL 2026 SHORTFALL ON EXPENDITURE PROJECTED: \$79,688.00

Projected Extra Voted Fire Mil Collection 2025 Winter (\$43,000)

Remaining Shortfall \$36,688.

REAL PROPERTY PARCEL 985

[All costs and assessments are subject to changes and increases as provided by Act 33 and Act 368]

EXHIBIT C

KEENE TOWNSHIP
IONIA COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

FIRE AND EMS SERVICES SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Township Board of Keene Township, Michigan, Ionia County, Michigan, (“the Township”) intends to proceed pursuant to Act 33 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1951 (“Act 33”) and Act 368 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1978 (“Act 368”) to provide for fire and EMS services including purchasing fire and EMS motor vehicles, apparatus, equipment, and housing along with any costs associated with the maintenance and operation of fire and EMS services (collectively, the “Services”) and to defray the cost by special assessment on the lands and premises in the Township to be benefited, except for lands and premises exempt from the collection of taxes under the Michigan General Property Tax Act (however, lands and premises otherwise subject to special assessment via a contract or agreement with the Township or otherwise or subject to special assessment due to special or other legislation are not exempt and shall be subject to the proposed special assessment).

The Township Board has resolved its intention to proceed pursuant to Act 33 and Act 368 to provide the Services in the Township. The Township Board has tentatively determined that some or all of the cost of the Services shall be specially assessed against each of the lots and parcels of land located in the proposed Fire and EMS Special Assessment District (the “Special Assessment District”). The proposed Special Assessment District shall be comprised of all lots and parcels of property located within the boundaries of Keene Township, Ionia County, Michigan. The Special Assessment District includes all parcels of real property within the Township. The Special Assessment District shall be levied in December 2025 for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of Kenne Township will hold a public hearing on November 6, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Township Hall locate at 8505 Potters Rd, Saranac, Michigan 48881, to hear and consider comments and objections to the estimate of cost, the creation of a special assessment district, the special assessment district tentatively designated, and defraying the expenses of the special assessment district on the property to be especially benefited, except property exempt from the collection of taxes (however, lands and premises otherwise subject to special assessment via a contract or agreement with the Township or otherwise or subject to special assessment due to special or other legislation are not exempt and shall be subject to the proposed special assessment), and all other matters relating to the creation of the proposed special assessment district.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that there may be a right of referendum available to property owners under Act 33 and Act 368 on the question of defraying the expenses of the Services by special assessment.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the estimates of cost for the Services are on file with the Township Clerk for public examination.

TAKE ADDITIONAL NOTICE THAT AFTER THE CREATION OF THE DISTRICT, IF THE TOWNSHIP DETERMINES TO PROCEED UNDER THIS PROCESS, THE TOWNSHIP WILL ANNUALLY DETERMINE THE AMOUNT TO BE ASSESSED FOR FIRE AND EMS SERVICES, SHALL HOLD A HEARING ON THE ESTIMATED COSTS AND EXPENSES OF PROVIDING FIRE AND EMS SERVICES AND ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE LEVY AND SHALL DIRECT THE SUPERVISOR TO DISTRIBUTE THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT LEVY AS APPROVED.

PROPERTY SHALL NOT BE ADDED TO THE PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT AND THE ACTUAL INCREMENTAL COSTS SHALL NOT BE INCREASED BY 10% OR MORE OVER THE ORIGINAL ESTIMATE WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING. HOWEVER, IF A LOT OR PARCEL IS PERMANENTLY COMBINED AFTER THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT HAS BEEN CREATED, APPROVED AND IS IN PLACE, THEN IN THAT SITUATION, THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT SHALL BE ADJUSTED FOR THAT PROPERTY TO REFLECT THE EXISTENCE THEREAFTER OF ONLY ONE LOT OR PARCEL. LIKewise, IF A LOT OR PARCEL IS SPLIT OR DIVIDED AFTER THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT HAS BEEN CREATED, APPROVED AND IS IN PLACE, EACH OF THE NEW RESULTING LOTS OR PARCELS IN THAT SITUATION SHALL BE CONSIDERED A SEPARATE LOT OR PARCEL FOR PURPOSES OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT TO BE APPLIED.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a property owner or person in interest must either appear and object at the public hearing or submit a letter of appearance and objection to the Township prior to the public hearing in order to preserve the person's right to appeal the special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. A record owner of land may appeal a special assessment by filing a written appeal with the Michigan Tax Tribunal within 30 days after written confirmation of the special assessment roll.