

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

BRENDA BRAYBROOK, ROBERT
CARLSTROM, DAVE CUMINGS, LORI
WHALEN, ROBERT WHALEN, and
VILLAGE OF SPARTA,

Plaintiffs,

Civil Action No. 2026-²¹²⁸⁸_____-CZ

Hon.

v.

SPARTA TOWNSHIP,

Defendant.

Gary P. Gordon (P26290)
Kyle M. Asher (P80359)
Rowan Conybeare (P86571)
DYKEMA GOSSETT PLLC
201 Townsend Street, Suite 900
Lansing, Michigan 48933
(517) 374-9100
GGordon@dykema.com
KAsher@dykema.com
RConybeare@dykema.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

COMPLAINT FOR QUO WARRANTO

Plaintiffs Brenda Braybrook, Robert Carlstrom, Dave Cumings, Lori Whalen, Robert Whalen, and the Village of Sparta, by and through their attorneys, Dykema Gossett PLLC, submit this Complaint for Quo Warranto and, in support, state as follows:

INTRODUCTION

After printing and preparing thousands of ballots for the August 4, 2026 primary election, the Sparta Township Board (the "Township Board") discovered two errors in the ballot proposal (the "Library Millage Renewal") to renew a millage to support the Sparta Carnegie Township Library (the "Library"). Unfortunately, the errors were discovered and disclosed too late—not only were the ballots already printed, but they were also sent to absentee voters *one month before* the errors were made public by the Township Board.

The two omissions and defects contained within the ballot proposal were critical to its intent and purposes, thereby misleading voters. *First*, the Library Board requested that the Township Board authorize the millage renewal "annually in an amount *not to exceed* .2375 mill." But that is not what the Township Board approved and not what appeared on the ballot. Due to a typographical error, the ballot proposal—as approved and certified by the Township Board—omitted the word "not." As a result, the Township Board mistakenly authorized language "to levy a millage annually in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill." This omission misled Township electors as to their ability to set a higher millage rate than is constitutionally permissible for a millage renewal. It also misled Township electors by labeling the ballot proposal a "renewal," when the printed ballot language would actually result in an increased millage rate.

Second, the Township Board included language in the ballot proposal providing that the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority (the "Village DDA") will capture a portion of the millage revenue. However, due to a legislative change in 2018, such tax capture requires the affirmative action of the Library Board, MCL 125.4203(3), which has not been taken. The

improper inclusion of this language constituted a defect that misled voters as to which entities could capture a portion of the Library Millage Renewal's revenue.

These two omissions and defects within the Library Millage Renewal misled Township voters as to its intent and purpose. Thus, Plaintiffs bring this Complaint for Quo Warranto under MCL 600.4545(1), which allows such an action to "be brought in the circuit court of a county of this state if it appears that material fraud or error has been committed in an election[.]" *Id.* Here, not only was the Library Millage Renewal's material error "plain from the face of the ballot," *Smith v Scio Twp*, 173 Mich App 381, 389; 433 NW2d 855 (1988), but Plaintiffs also have sworn testimony from 41 Township voters that the ballot proposal's omissions and defects caused confusion, which may have impacted the election because of the slim 39-vote margin.

Because Plaintiffs have met their burden in proving material error pursuant to MCL 600.4545, they respectfully ask this Court to void the Library Millage Renewal election, as Michigan courts have long held must be done "[w]here a ballot proposal contains omissions or defects likely to have misled voters as to its intent and purpose." *Smith*, 173 Mich App at 389-390.

PARTIES

1. Plaintiff Brenda Braybrook is a resident of the State of Michigan and Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. Plaintiff Braybrook is an eligible, registered Michigan voter, and a duly elected and serving member of the Village of Sparta Council.
2. Plaintiff Robert Carlstrom is a resident of the State of Michigan and Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. Plaintiff Carlstrom is an eligible, registered Michigan voter, and a duly elected and serving member of the Village of Sparta Council.
3. Plaintiff Dave Cumings is a resident of the State of Michigan and Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. Plaintiff Cumings is an eligible, registered Michigan voter, and a duly elected and serving member of the Village of Sparta Council.

4. Plaintiff Lori Whalen is a resident of the State of Michigan and Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. Plaintiff Whalen is an eligible, registered Michigan voter.

5. Plaintiff Robert Whalen is a resident of the State of Michigan and Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. Plaintiff Whalen is an eligible, registered Michigan voter, and the duly elected and serving president of the Village of Sparta Council.

6. Plaintiff Village of Sparta is a municipality located in Kent County formed under the laws of the State of Michigan. The Village of Sparta is contained wholly within Sparta Township.

7. Defendant Sparta Township is a municipality located in Kent County formed under the laws of the State of Michigan, and is a proper party pursuant to MCL 600.4545(2).

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

8. This action is properly filed in the Kent County Circuit Court pursuant to MCL 600.4545(1) and MCR 3.306(A)(2).

9. Under MCL 600.4545(1), an "action" for quo warranto "may be brought in the circuit court of a county of this state if it appears that material fraud or error has been committed in an election to decide a constitutional amendment, question, or proposition to the electors of this state or a county, township, or municipality of this state." *Id.*

10. Such an action "must be brought not later than 30 days after the election" and can be brought "by any citizen of the county by special leave of the court or a judge of the court. The action must be brought against the municipality in which the fraud or error is alleged to have been committed." MCL 600.4545(2); MCR 3.306(B)(2) ("Other actions for quo warranto may be brought by the prosecuting attorney of the proper county, without leave of court, or by a citizen of the county by special leave of the court.").

11. Plaintiffs include citizens of Kent County.

12. This action is brought against the municipality in which the fraud or error is alleged to have been committed.

13. Plaintiffs have filed this Application for Special Leave to File Complaint for Quo Warranto within 30 days after the August 4, 2026 primary election. MCL 600.4545(2).¹

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

14. On March 17, 2026, the Library Board unanimously approved a resolution to adopt the Library Millage Renewal and submit the ballot proposal to the Township Clerk for the Township Board's consideration. Sparta Township Library Board, Resolution to Approve Library Millage Renewal Ballot Proposal (March 17, 2026), Ex. 5.

15. The language approved by the Library Board stated as follows:

Shall the previously authorized increase in tax limitation on all taxable property in Sparta Township, Kent County, that expired in 2025 be renewed and the Township be authorized to levy a millage annually *in an amount not to exceed .2375 mill* (\$0.2375 per each \$1,000 of taxable value) against all taxable property in the Township for a period of ten (10) years, 2026 through 2035, inclusive, to provide funds for operating, maintaining, and equipping the Sparta Township Library and for all other library purposes authorized by law? The estimate of the revenue the Township will collect if the millage is approved and levied in the first year of levy (2026) is approximately \$106,000. The revenue from this millage levy will be disbursed to the Sparta Township Library. [*Id.* (emphasis added).]

16. Less than one month later, the Township Board also unanimously approved and certified the Library Millage Renewal for submission on the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot. Sparta Township Board, Resolution 26-02 (April 9, 2026), Ex. 6.

¹ Plaintiffs have also complied with the requirements of MCL 600.4545(2) by requesting that the Attorney General or the Kent County Prosecutor bring a quo warranto action. Letter from Gary P. Gordon to Attorney General Dana Nessel (August 20, 2026), Ex. 1; Letter from Gary P. Gordon to Prosecutor Christopher R. Becker (August 20, 2026), Ex. 2. Both officials denied the request. Letter from Linus Banghart-Linn to Gary P. Gordon (September 2, 2026), Ex. 3; Letter from Prosecutor Christopher R. Becker to Gary P. Gordon (August 28, 2026), Ex. 4.

17. In so doing, the Township Clerk was authorized and directed to certify the following language to the Kent County Clerk:

Shall the previously authorized increase in the tax rate limitation on all taxable property in Sparta Township, Kent County, that expired in 2025 be renewed and the Township be authorized to levy a millage annually *in an amount to exceed .2375 mill* (\$0.2375 per each \$1,000 of taxable value) against all taxable property in the Township for a period of ten (10) years, 2026 through 2035, inclusive, to provide funds for operating, maintaining, and equipping the Sparta Township Library and for all other library purposes authorized by law? The estimate of revenue the Township will collect if the millage is approved and levied in the first year of levy (2026) is approximately \$106,000. The revenue from this millage levy will be disbursed to the Sparta Township Library.

The following is for informational purposes:

If approved and levied, this millage will raise an estimated \$106,000 in the first year of the levy (2026). The revenues from this millage will be disbursed to the Sparta Township Library as required by law. To the extent required by law, a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be *captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority*. [*Id.* (emphasis added).]

18. The Township Clerk thereafter certified the ballot language to the Kent County Clerk, which qualified the Library Millage Renewal to appear on the ballot. See MCL 168.646a(2).

19. However, on July 22, 2026—after the ballots were printed and *one month* into absentee voting—the Township Board called a special meeting because two errors were discovered in the ballot language as approved and certified on April 9, 2026.

20. *First*, the Township Board determined that the word “not” was omitted from the phrase “in an amount *not* to exceed 0.2375 mills.” As a result of this typographical error, the ballot proposal placed before the voters read “in an amount *to exceed .2375 mill*.” Sparta Township Board, Resolution 26-4 (July 22, 2026), p 1, Ex. 7.

21. *Second*, although the ballot proposal stated that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of

and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority," the Township Board recognized that such a capture and disbursement are "not permitted under Michigan law because ad valorem property taxes levied for public library purposes are exempt from tax increment capture and therefore cannot be captured by a downtown development authority." *Id.*²

22. At the special meeting, the Township Board enacted Resolution 26-4, which admitted to the errors, but stated that "neither the typographical error nor the incorrect statement concerning tax increment capture alters the amount, purpose, or intended disposition of the proposed library millage approved by the Sparta Township Library Board." *Id.*

23. In other words, the Board informed those in attendance at the special meeting that, notwithstanding the printed ballot's language stating that the Township would "levy a millage annually *in an amount to exceed .2375 mill*," the Township would not in fact follow the language of the proposal if passed by the voters.

24. Therefore, rather than remedying the ballot proposal's errors, Resolution 26-4 misrepresented the realities of the Library Millage Renewal's passage, provided false reassurances, and created even further widespread confusion.

25. Only six days before the election, media coverage issued noting that the "Sparta Township library millage proposal contains a language error."³ This article described what the proposal was supposed to say, *id*, and it noted that the Township Supervisor had "met with residents to discuss the error and its implications." *Id.*

² It does not appear that this was a misprint, but the result of a change in the law that the Township did not take into account.

³ Bower, *Sparta Township Library Millage Proposal Contains a Language Error*, Fox 17 (July 29, 2026), available at <<https://www.fox17online.com/news/local-news/rockford-cedar-springs-sparta/sparta-township-library-millage-proposal-contains-a-language-error>>.

26. The Township's attorney had advised that the Township, "even if they wanted to, could not levy in excess of the .2375 mills" under the Headlee Amendment, "not to mention the fact that the library board did not approve more than that." *Id.*

27. The Township Supervisor noted that, "[a]s far as our Library renewal, there has been a fair amount of confusion[.]" *Id.* But relying on the Township attorney's statement that no millage in excess of 0.2375 mills could take effect, the Township Supervisor stated that he would "encourage[] voters to support the millage." *Id.*

28. Sowing further confusion, the ballot question committee supporting the Library Millage Renewal circulated a flyer containing the language that the Library Board approved—rather than the ballot language that the Township Board approved and certified and that would actually appear on the ballot—notifying Township voters that the millage would be renewed "in an amount not to exceed .2375 mill." Sparta Library: Your Vote, Your Community Flyer, Ex. 9 (emphasis added).

29. Not only was this flyer distributed prior to the Township Board's special meeting, indicating that voters were told that the Library Millage Renewal would read "not to exceed .2375 mill" even though the ballot language read differently, but the flyer was also circulated *after the omission of the word "not" was discovered.*

30. On August 4, 2026, the Library Millage Renewal passed by a vote of 1,034 to 995—a margin of only 39 votes.⁴

⁴ Kent County Elections, *Kent County: August 4, 2026 Primary Election*, available at <<https://app.enhancedvoting.com/results/public/kent-county-mi/elections/08042026?st=Sparta%20Township%20Library%20Millage%20Renewal%20Proposal>> (accessed August 31, 2026).

31. Following the passage of the Library Millage Renewal, Kent County Clerk Lisa Posthumus Lyons, the top election official in Kent County, said, "The law requires that any proposal that is passed has to be implemented as it was passed by the voters. What that means in terms of the language and the execution—that's something that has to be worked out by the jurisdiction and their attorney and that sort of thing. We just know that the voters passed a certain proposal and so it has to be implemented as the voters passed it."⁵

32. Based on the slim 39-vote margin, there are likely voters who voted in favor of the millage "to exceed .2375 mill" who—consistent with the Township attorney's and Supervisor's advice—did so with the understanding that the millage would not, in fact exceed 0.2375 mills.

33. There are also likely voters who—consistent with the County Clerk's position—voted in favor of the millage "to exceed .2375 mill" with the understanding that the millage would, in fact, exceed 0.2375 mills.

34. There are also likely voters who abstained from voting given the confusion, or who voted against the millage given the confusion.

35. With just a 39-vote margin to pass, there can be no question that the election results were tainted by the erroneous language and subsequent confusion.

36. Indeed, Plaintiffs collected 41 affidavits from Township voters, all of whom attested that the two statements containing errors were confusing. Township Voter Affidavits, Ex.

10. As such, they were not sure how to cast their votes. *Id.*

⁵ Bower, *Sparta Library Millage Passes by 39 Votes Despite Ballot Error*, Fox 17 (August 5, 2026), available at <<https://www.fox17online.com/news/local-news/rockford-cedar-springs-sparta/sparta-library-millage-passes-by-39-votes-despite-ballot-error>>.

COUNT I – QUO WARRANTO

37. Plaintiffs incorporate the allegations of the foregoing paragraphs as if fully stated herein.

38. MCL 600.4545(1) permits a plaintiff to bring an action for quo warranto “if it appears that material fraud or error has been committed in an election to decide a constitutional amendment, question, or proposition to the electors of this state or a county, township, or municipality of this state.”

39. “Material fraud or error” means fraud or error that “might have affected the outcome of the election.” *St. Joseph Twp v St. Joseph*, 373 Mich 1, 6; 127 NW2d 858 (1964).

40. “[A] ‘but for’ showing is not necessary,” but “the plaintiff’s ‘proofs must be sufficient to support a fact finding that enough votes were tainted by the alleged fraud [or error] to affect the outcome.’” *Barrow v Mayor of Detroit*, 290 Mich App 530, 542; 802 NW2d 658 (2010), quoting *St. Joseph Twp*, 373 Mich at 6.

41. Michigan courts have long held that, “[w]here a ballot proposal contains omissions or defects likely to have misled voters as to its intent and purpose, the remedy is to void the election.” *Smith*, 173 Mich App at 389-390. See also, e.g., *West Shore Community College v Manistee Co Bd of Comm’rs*, 389 Mich 287, 297; 205 NW2d 441 (1973); *Delta College v Saginaw Co Bd of Comm’rs*, 395 Mich 562, 568; 236 NW2d 425 (1975); *Bailey v Muskegon Co Bd of Comm’rs*, 122 Mich App 808, 824; 333 NW2d 144 (1983); *Hanlin v Saugatuck Twp*, 299 Mich App 233, 247; 829 NW2d 335 (2013).

42. Courts are instructed that “every reasonable presumption, both of law and fact, is to be indulged in favor of the legality of the amendment, which will not be overthrown, unless illegality appears beyond a reasonable doubt.” *Massey v Secretary of State*, 457 Mich 410, 420; 579 NW2d 862 (1998), quoting *Jackson v Comm’r of Revenue*, 316 Mich 694, 718; 26 NW2d 569

(1947). Courts should also avoid "arcane or obscure interpretations" when determining whether the electorate was misled by a ballot proposal. *Massey*, 457 Mich at 420.

43. Pursuant to MCL 600.4545(1), quo warranto relief is proper because material error occurred in the passage of the Library Millage Renewal. Even when taken in the light most favorable to the validity of the Library Millage Renewal, it nonetheless contained two omissions and defects on the face of the ballot likely to mislead voters as to its intent and purpose. Therefore, the proper remedy is to void the election.

The Ballot Proposal Was Misleading Because the Word "Not" Was Omitted in "An Amount Not to Exceed .2375 Mill."

44. In certifying the Library Millage Renewal, the Township Board accidentally omitted the word "not" in the phrase "an amount not to exceed .2375 mill."

45. As a result of this typographical error, Township electors were misled as to the Library Millage Renewal's intent and purpose in two distinct ways.

46. First, omitting the word "not" misled Township electors as to their ability to set a higher millage rate than is constitutionally permissible for a millage renewal.

47. The Headlee Amendment, requires a local unit of government to reduce its millage rate when annual growth on existing property is greater than the rate of inflation. Const 1963, art 9, § 31. As a result, the local unit of government's millage rate gets "rolled back" so that the resulting growth in property tax revenue does not exceed the rate of inflation, i.e., the "Headlee Rollback Rate." See *id.*

48. Because the ballot proposal states that the millage renewal is "to exceed .2375 mill," the millage rate must, necessarily, be greater than 0.2376 mills.

49. This language and the resulting millage rate fails to apply the Headlee Rollback Rate, thereby violating the Headlee Amendment and misleading voters.

50. To the extent that electors cast a vote in favor of the proposal in the hopes that the millage would “exceed .2375 mills,” they were misled as to their ability to do so.

51. And to the extent that electors—in reliance on the Township attorney’s and Supervisor’s recommendation—voted in favor of the millage to “exceed .2375 mills” with the understanding that the Township could unilaterally assess a different rate inconsistent with the text of the ballot proposal without a new election—those voters, too, were misled.

52. The Township must comply with this mandate as written, even if it is contrary to the Township’s original intent and the result of a typographical error, and cannot assert that it will act contrary to a ballot proposal as passed. See, e.g., *People v Bylsma*, 315 Mich App 363, 377-378; 889 NW2d 729 (2016) (applying plain language to a statewide ballot initiative); *Warren City Council v Buffa*, 346 Mich App 528, 543-544; 12 NW3d 681 (2023) (applying plain language to a charter amendment).

53. Either way, the voters were misled as a result of the material error on the ballot.

54. *Second*, labeling the ballot proposal as a “renewal,” when the ballot language actually sought an increased millage rate, misled the electors.

55. While the General Property Tax Act does not define exactly what constitutes a millage “renewal,” several factors indicate that this is, indeed, a renewal, including MCL 211.24f’s language, the interplay of Headlee Rollback Rates and Headlee Overrides, and the millages approved by Township voters in 2010 and 2016.

56. Moreover, because of the Headlee Amendment, unless a Headlee Override is explicitly provided for in a ballot proposal, see MCL 211.34d(11), the Headlee Rollback Rate will apply, thereby decreasing the previously authorized millage rate. See Const 1963, art 9, § 31.

57. Because the word “not” was omitted—even accidentally—the ballot proposal unquestionably increases the millage rate.

58. Nonetheless, the ballot proposal was labeled a “renewal,” when, in reality, it was an “authorization of a new additional millage.” MCL 211.24f(2)(e).

59. The ballot proposal failed to comply with the instruction of Section 24f and indicate that it authorized a new additional millage.

60. Moreover, the ballot proposal’s language conflicts and cannot be reconciled, thereby misleading voters.

***The Ballot Proposal Was Misleading Because It Stated That the Village of Sparta
Downtown Development Authority Would Capture Revenue, But It Will Not.***

61. When certifying the Library Millage Renewal, the Township Board included language that the Village DDA would capture revenue from the millage.

62. It appears likely that the Township Board utilized the same ballot language that it did in 2010 and 2016, rather than the language proposed by the Library Board.⁶

63. However, in 2018, the Michigan Legislature amended the law to exempt public library taxes from automatically being captured as tax increment revenue unless explicitly authorized by the appropriate library board. 2018 PA 57, as amended, MCL 125.4203(3).

64. Because the Library Board has not agreed to allow all or a portion of its taxes levied to be subject to capture, the Village DDA will not receive a portion of the revenues from the Library Millage Renewal.

⁶ See August 2, 2016: Sparta Library District, Local Referendum, available at <https://electionstats.kentcountymi.gov/eng/ballot_questions/view/4955> (accessed August 31, 2026); August 3, 2010: Sparta Township, Township Proposal, available at <https://electionstats.kentcountymi.gov/eng/ballot_questions/view/7553> (accessed August 31, 2026).

65. The improper inclusion of this language amounted to a defect that misled voters as to the Library Millage Renewal's intent and purpose.

*Material Error Was Committed, and the Library Millage
Renewal Election Should Be Voided*

66. The two omissions and defects contained within the Library Millage Renewal misled Township voters as to its intent and purpose and, therefore, material error pursuant to MCL 600.4545(1) was committed.

67. The Library Millage Renewal's "material error" is "plain from the face of the ballot," *Smith*, 173 Mich App at 389, because the ballot language itself contained omissions and defects that misled Township voters as to the Library Millage Renewal's intent and purpose.

68. Additionally, Plaintiffs have obtained sworn testimony from Township voters that the omissions and defects contained within the ballot proposal caused confusion. Township Voter Affidavits, Ex. 10. As a result, they were unsure of how to cast their votes.

69. The sworn testimony collected by Plaintiffs evidences that the ballot proposal's omissions and defects "might have affected the outcome of the election" because it was decided by a slim margin of only 39 votes. *St. Joseph*, 373 Mich at 6.

70. This is further evidenced by the Township Clerk's own admission that the errors were "going to be a potential issue." See Sparta Township Board, Special Meeting (July 22, 2026), at 18:29 to 18:49 ("[W]hen I heard that a lot of people knew that [the errors] happened and that it was going to be a potential issue, I wanted to find a way to clarify to everybody that this was not intentional by any means.").⁷

⁷ Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XyOBAw2_4fE> (accessed August 31, 2026).

71. The legality of the Library Millage Renewal cannot be saved, even viewing “every reasonable presumption, both of law and fact, . . . in favor of the legality” of the ballot proposal. *Massey*, 457 Mich at 420, quoting *Jackson*, 316 Mich at 718.

72. For example, the Township has indicated that it will levy 0.2375 mills. Sparta Township Board, Resolution 26-4 (July 22, 2026), Ex. 7. However, this violates the plain language of the ballot proposal as approved by the voters—many of whom may have voted in favor of the millage with the understanding that its plain text would be followed, and the millage rate would exceed 0.2375 mills.

73. On the other hand, if the Township adheres to the ballot proposal’s language and levies greater than 0.2375 mills, it violates the Headlee Amendment because the millage rate fails to take into account the Headlee Rollback Rate. Const 1963, art 9, § 31. Therefore, “illegality appears beyond a reasonable doubt.” *Massey*, 457 Mich at 420, quoting *Jackson*, 316 Mich at 718.

74. Similarly, Township voters approved capturing a portion of the millage revenue and disbursing it to the Village DDA. However, such a capture and disbursement violates Michigan law. See MCL 125.4203(3). In contrast, if the Township fails to capture and disburse revenue to the Village DDA, then it impermissibly violates voters’ mandate. Again, “illegality appears beyond a reasonable doubt.” *Massey*, 457 Mich at 420, quoting *Jackson*, 316 Mich at 718.

75. Additionally, it would undoubtedly be an “obscure interpretation[]” to conclude that the Library Millage Renewal means the exact opposite of what it says on its face. See *Massey*, 457 Mich at 420.

*The Township Board's Resolution 26-4 Does Not
Save the Library Millage Renewal*

76. While the Township Board attempted to remedy the Library Millage Renewal's omissions and defects with Resolution 26-4, its adoption cannot save the material error committed in the passage of the Library Renewal Millage for two reasons.

77. *First*, the longstanding line of Michigan cases cited by Plaintiffs contemplates the actual ballot proposal's language, *not* extraneous materials.

78. *Second*, Resolution 26-4 was adopted on July 22, 2026—one month *after* absent voter ballots were sent to electors. See Const 1963, art 2, § 4(1)(b) and (h).

79. Therefore, although the Township Board attempted to remedy the Library Millage Renewal's omissions and defects, Resolution 26-4 cannot save the fact that it was misleading, nor the material error that was committed at the August 4, 2026 primary election.

80. To the contrary, the Township Board's clarifying intention in passing Resolution 26-4 appear to have had the opposite impact.

81. Rather than remedying the ballot proposal's errors, Resolution 26-4 misrepresented the realities of the Library Millage Renewal's passage and induced Township electors into voting "yes" due to false reassurances.

82. While the Township Board had no ill intent when passing Resolution 26-4, its enactment, nonetheless, served an additional material misrepresentation that misled voters as to the intent and purpose of the Library Millage Renewal.

* * *

83. While Michigan courts are, understandably, hesitant to overturn the will of the voters, such a remedy is appropriate here. When a ballot proposal is misleading, it is difficult, if not impossible, to determine the true will of the voters. The electorate has the right to understand

the implications of what they are asked to support or oppose—especially if it impacts their property taxes. Therefore, the proper, and only, remedy is to void the election and place a new library millage before Township voters. Speedy intervention by this Court will ensure that another election is conducted—as early as May 4, 2027—free of omissions, defects, errors, and misleading language to fund the Library. See MCL 168.641(1)(a).

COUNT II – DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

84. Plaintiffs do not bring this action because they seek to strip funds from the Library. Rather, they have serious concerns as to the validity of the Township’s actions, which could create fear and risk of future challenge and litigation that will shadow the Library for the next ten years.

85. In the event this Court declines to grant Plaintiffs’ request for quo warranto and void the election, there will be a remaining question as to whether Defendant can authorize the millage renewal “annually in an amount *not to exceed* .2375 mill” even though the ballot language that was voted on reads differently.

86. To provide certainty for all parties involved and the electorate, as an alternative ground, Plaintiffs request that, if the request for quo warranto is denied, this Court issue a declaratory ruling as to whether the Township can validly authorize the millage “annually in an amount not to exceed .2375 mill.”

87. A declaratory ruling as to this issue will provide certainty for all parties involved and will prevent future litigation.

88. This Court has authority and jurisdiction to issue this relief and clarify the parties’ rights. MCR 2.605(A); see also, e.g., *League of Women Voters of Mich v Secretary of State*, 506 Mich 561, 585-86; 957 NW2d 731 (2020) (“Whenever a litigant meets the requirements of MCR 2.605, it is sufficient to establish standing to seek a declaratory judgment.”).

89. The Village has standing to seek a declaratory ruling on this issue as the Village's rights will be affected.

RELIEF REQUESTED

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court:

- A. Grant Plaintiffs' Application for Special Leave to File Complaint for Quo Warranto;
- B. Issue an order voiding the Library Millage Renewal election results;
- C. Alternatively, if Plaintiffs' request for quo warranto is denied, issue a declaratory ruling that clarifies whether the Township can validly authorize the millage "annually in an amount not to exceed .2375 mill."
- D. Grant all other relief that is equitable and just.

Respectfully submitted,

DYKEMA GOSSETT PLLC

Dated: September 3, 2026

By: /s/ Gary P. Gordon

Gary P. Gordon (P26290)
Kyle M. Asher (P80359)
Rowan Conybeare (P86571)
Dykema Gossett PLLC
201 Townsend Street, Suite 900
Lansing, Michigan 48933
(517) 374-9100
GGordon@dykema.com
KAsher@dykema.com
RConybeare@dykema.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

128368.000001 4925-8841-7482.5

Exhibit 1



Dykema Gossett PLLC
Capitol View
201 Townsend Street, Suite 900
Lansing, MI 48933
WWW.DYKEMA.COM

Tel: (517) 374-9100
Fax: (517) 374-9191

Gary P. Gordon
Direct Dial: (517) 374-9133
Direct Fax: (855) 258-3515
Email: GGordon@dykema.com

Via Hand Delivery and Email

August 20, 2026

Dana Nessel
Attorney General
State of Michigan
525 W. Ottawa Street
Lansing, MI 48906

Re: Request to Bring Quo Warranto Action Pursuant to MCL 600.4545

Dear Attorney General Nessel:

On behalf of one or more Sparta Township, Kent County citizens and by this letter, we respectfully request that, pursuant to MCL 600.4545, the Michigan Department of Attorney General (the "Department") bring a quo warranto action in the 17th Judicial Circuit Court in Kent County. Material error was committed in the passage of the Sparta Carnegie Township Library (the "Library") millage renewal approved by Sparta Township ("Township") voters on August 4, 2026 (the "Library Millage Renewal"). To remedy this material error, action must be pursued no later than 30 days after the election, or by September 3, 2026. As such, we respectfully ask that the Department provide a response as to whether the Attorney General will bring a quo warranto action to invalidate the Library Millage Renewal no later than **August 28, 2026**.

On April 9, 2026, the Township Board (the "Board") voted unanimously to place the Library Millage Renewal on the primary election ballot.¹ In so doing, the Board certified the following ballot language:

Shall the previously authorized increase in the tax rate limitation on all taxable property in Sparta Township, Kent County, that expired in 2025 be renewed and the Township be authorized to levy a millage annually *in an amount to exceed .2375 mill* (\$0.2375 per each \$1,000 of taxable value) against all taxable property in the Township for a period of ten (10) years, 2026 through 2035, inclusive, to provide funds for operating, maintaining, and equipping the Sparta Township Library and for all other library purposes authorized by law? The estimate of the revenue the Township will collect if the millage is approved and levied in the first

¹ Sparta Township Board, Regular Meeting Minutes (April 9, 2026), p 2, available at <https://spartatownship.org/documents/20260416113329835_KHfZh.pdf>.

Dykema

Attorney General Dana Nessel
August 20, 2026
Page 2

year of levy (2026) is approximately \$106,000. The revenue from this millage levy will be disbursed to the Sparta Township Library.

The following is for informational purposes:

If approved and levied, this millage will raise an estimated \$106,000 in the first year of the levy (2026). The revenues from this millage will be disbursed to the Sparta Township Library as required by law. *To the extent required by law, a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.*²

Several months after certifying the ballot language, and in the midst of absentee voting, the Board admitted that omitting "not" from "an amount to exceed" was "a mistake on the ballot."³ In an attempt to explain away the mistake, the Board approved Resolution 26-4, characterizing the mistake as "an unintentional clerical and typographical error," clarifying that the Board had always intended to levy an "amount not to exceed 0.2375 mill," and committing to doing so.⁴

Additionally, Resolution 26-4 admitted that—contrary to the certified ballot language—the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority (the "Village DDA") will not receive a portion of the revenues from the Library Millage Renewal because the Library Board has not agreed to allow all or a portion of its taxes levied to be subject to capture.⁵

Nevertheless, the errors could not be remedied because the Kent County Clerk was statutorily required to print the ballot language as passed and certified by the Board, the filing deadline had already passed, and Township electors were already voting on the measure, so there was no time to correct the language.

On August 4, 2026, Sparta Township voters passed the Library Millage Renewal by a vote of 1,034 to 995—a margin of only 39 votes.⁶

² Sparta Township Board, Resolution 26-02 (April 9, 2026), available at <https://spartatownship.org/documents/20260408161452410_N6DhR.pdf> (emphasis added).

³ Sparta Township Board, Special Meeting Minutes (July 22, 2026), available at <https://spartatownship.org/documents/20260804170837277_VL855.pdf>.

⁴ Sparta Township Board, Resolution 26-4 (July 22, 2026), available at <https://spartatownship.org/documents/20260804170837277_VL855.pdf> (emphasis added).

⁵ *Id.* See MCL 125.4203(3).

⁶ Kent County Elections, Kent County: August 4, 2026 Primary Election, available at <<https://app.enhancedvoting.com/results/public/kent-county-mi/elections/08042026?st=Sparta%20Township%20Library%20Millage%20Renewal%20Proposal>> (accessed August 18, 2026).

Dykema

Attorney General Dana Nessel
August 20, 2026
Page 3

Michigan courts have long held that, "[w]here a ballot proposal contains omissions or defects likely to have misled voters as to its intent and purpose, the remedy is to void the election." See *Smith v Scio Twp*, 173 Mich App 381, 389-390; 433 NW2d 855 (1988). See also, e.g., *Hanlin v Saugatuck Twp*, 299 Mich App 233, 247; 829 NW2d 335 (2013) ("When a ballot proposal is misleading, the remedy is to void the election."); *Bailey v Muskegon Co Bd of Comm'rs*, 122 Mich App 808, 824; 333 NW2d 144 (1983) ("A discrepancy likely to mislead voters as to the intent and purpose of the amendment affects the validity of the adoption of the constitutional amendment, not its construction."); *West Shore Community College v Manistee Co Bd of Comm'rs*, 389 Mich 287, 297; 205 NW2d 441 (1973) ("Where a ballot proposal is misleading, the remedy is to void the election."); *Delta College v Saginaw Co Bd of Comm'rs*, 395 Mich 562, 568; 236 NW2d 425 (1975) (same).

While such a determination is not made lightly, Michigan courts have, indeed, voided millage elections because ballot language has been misleading. For example, in *Smith v Scio Township*, 173 Mich App 381, the Michigan Court of Appeals held that a ballot question was improperly placed before the electorate. When considering whether to declare the election results void, the Court wrote:

The serious error in the instant case is plain from the face of the ballot. The ballot proposal misled the electors as to their ability to limit the board's taxing authority. Where a ballot proposal contains omissions or defects likely to have misled voters as to its intent and purpose, the remedy is to void the election. We hold the election on the proposal void.

Id. at 389-390 (citations omitted).

So, too, here. The material errors are plain from the face of the ballot. First, the ballot proposal misled the electors as to their ability to set a higher millage rate than is constitutionally permissible for a renewal, i.e., the Headlee Rollback was not properly conveyed. Second, the ballot proposal misled electors by indicating that it was a "renewal" when it was actually the passage of a new, increased millage rate.⁷ Third, the ballot proposal misled the electors into believing that about 4.4% of the Library Millage Renewal's first year revenues would be disbursed to the Village DDA. Indeed, Township Supervisor Dale Bergman admitted, "As far as our Library renewal, there has been a fair amount of confusion[.]"⁸

Moreover, the Library Millage Renewal only passed by 39 votes. As the *Smith* Court opined, "[t]here is a substantial likelihood that the electors may not have voted yes . . . had they known that the . . . proposal was invalid." *Id.* at 391.

⁷ See MCL 211.24f(2)(e) (requiring "a clear statement indicating whether the proposed millage is a renewal of a previously authorized millage or the authorization of a new additional millage").

⁸ Bower, *Sparta Township Library Millage Proposal Contains a Language Error*, Fox 17 (July 29, 2026), available at <https://www.fox17online.com/news/local-news/rockford-cedar-springs-sparta/sparta-township-library-millage-proposal-contains-a-language-error>.

Dykema

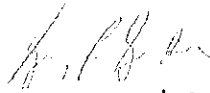
Attorney General Dana Nessel
August 20, 2026
Page 4

Under MCL 600.4545(1), all of this amounts to "material . . . error." Pursuant to affidavits that will be sworn to by Township voters, we believe that such material error "may have affected the outcome of the election." *Smith*, 173 Mich App at 389. Your action is requested to remedy the material error in this election and prevent the Library Millage Renewal from imposing a tax that violates the Michigan Constitution

Because an action must be filed by September 3, 2026, we respectfully request your response by August 28, 2026. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Thank you for your consideration of this important and time-sensitive matter.

Sincerely,

Dykema Gossett PLLC



Gary P. Gordon

cc: Joshua Booth, boothj2@michigan.gov

Exhibit 2



Dykema Gossett PLLC
Capitol View
201 Townsend Street, Suite 900
Lansing, MI 48933
WWW.DYKEMA.COM
Tel: (517) 374-9100
Fax: (517) 374-9191

Gary P. Gordon
Direct Dial: (517) 374-9133
Direct Fax: (855) 258-3515
Email: GGordon@dykema.com

Via Email and U.S. Mail

August 20, 2026

Christopher R. Becker
Prosecuting Attorney
Kent County
82 Ionia Avenue NW, Suite 450
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
E-Mail: chris.becker@kentcounty.mi.gov

Re: Request to Bring Quo Warranto Action Pursuant to MCL 600.4545

Dear Prosecutor Becker:

On behalf of one or more Sparta Township, Kent County citizens and by this letter, we respectfully request that, pursuant to MCL 600.4545, the Kent County Prosecutor's Office (the "Prosecutor's Office") bring a quo warranto action in the 17th Judicial Circuit Court in Kent County. Material error was committed in the passage of the Sparta Carnegie Township Library (the "Library") millage renewal approved by Sparta Township ("Township") voters on August 4, 2026 (the "Library Millage Renewal"). To remedy this material error, action must be pursued no later than 30 days after the election, or by September 3, 2026. As such, we respectfully ask that the Prosecutor's Office provide a response as to whether the Prosecutor will bring a quo warranto action to invalidate the Library Millage Renewal no later than **August 28, 2026**.

On April 9, 2026, the Township Board (the "Board") voted unanimously to place the Library Millage Renewal on the primary election ballot.¹ In so doing, the Board certified the following ballot language:

Shall the previously authorized increase in the tax rate limitation on all taxable property in Sparta Township, Kent County, that expired in 2025 be renewed and the Township be authorized to levy a millage annually *in an amount to exceed .2375 mill* (\$0.2375 per each \$1,000 of taxable value) against all taxable property in the Township for a period of ten (10) years, 2026 through 2035, inclusive, to provide funds for operating, maintaining, and equipping the Sparta Township Library and for all other library purposes authorized by law? The estimate of the revenue the Township will collect if the millage is approved and levied in the first

¹ Sparta Township Board, Regular Meeting Minutes (April 9, 2026), p 2, available at <https://spartatownship.org/documents/20260416113329835_KHfZh.pdf>.

Dykema

Prosecutor Christopher R. Becker
August 20, 2026
Page 2

year of levy (2026) is approximately \$106,000. The revenue from this millage levy will be disbursed to the Sparta Township Library.

The following is for informational purposes:

If approved and levied, this millage will raise an estimated \$106,000 in the first year of the levy (2026). The revenues from this millage will be disbursed to the Sparta Township Library as required by law. *To the extent required by law, a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.*²

Several months after certifying the ballot language, and in the midst of absentee voting, the Board admitted that omitting "not" from "an amount to exceed" was "a mistake on the ballot."³ In an attempt to explain away the mistake, the Board approved Resolution 26-4, characterizing the mistake as "an unintentional clerical and typographical error," clarifying that the Board had always intended to levy an "amount not to exceed 0.2375 mill," and committing to doing so.⁴

Additionally, Resolution 26-4 admitted that—contrary to the certified ballot language—the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority (the "Village DDA") will not receive a portion of the revenues from the Library Millage Renewal because the Library Board has not agreed to allow all or a portion of its taxes levied to be subject to capture.⁵

Nevertheless, the errors could not be remedied because the Kent County Clerk was statutorily required to print the ballot language as passed and certified by the Board, the filing deadline had already passed, and Township electors were already voting on the measure, so there was no time to correct the language.

On August 4, 2026, Sparta Township voters passed the Library Millage Renewal by a vote of 1,034 to 995—a margin of only 39 votes.⁶

² Sparta Township Board, Resolution 26-02 (April 9, 2026), available at <https://spartatownship.org/documents/20260408161452410_N6DhR.pdf> (emphasis added).

³ Sparta Township Board, Special Meeting Minutes (July 22, 2026), available at <https://spartatownship.org/documents/20260804170837277_VL855.pdf>.

⁴ Sparta Township Board, Resolution 26-4 (July 22, 2026), available at <https://spartatownship.org/documents/20260804170837277_VL855.pdf> (emphasis added).

⁵ *Id.* See MCL 125.4203(3).

⁶ Kent County Elections, Kent County: August 4, 2026 Primary Election, available at <<https://app.enhancedvoting.com/results/public/kent-county-mi/elections/08042026?st=Sparta%20Township%20Library%20Millage%20Renewal%20Proposal>> (accessed August 18, 2026).

Dykema

Prosecutor Christopher R. Becker
August 20, 2026
Page 3

Michigan courts have long held that, "[w]here a ballot proposal contains omissions or defects likely to have misled voters as to its intent and purpose, the remedy is to void the election." See *Smith v Scio Twp*, 173 Mich App 381, 389-390; 433 NW2d 855 (1988). See also, e.g., *Hanlin v Saugatuck Twp*, 299 Mich App 233, 247; 829 NW2d 335 (2013) ("When a ballot proposal is misleading, the remedy is to void the election."); *Bailey v Muskegon Co Bd of Comm'rs*, 122 Mich App 808, 824; 333 NW2d 144 (1983) ("A discrepancy likely to mislead voters as to the intent and purpose of the amendment affects the validity of the adoption of the constitutional amendment, not its construction."); *West Shore Community College v Manistee Co Bd of Comm'rs*, 389 Mich 287, 297; 205 NW2d 441 (1973) ("Where a ballot proposal is misleading, the remedy is to void the election."); *Delta College v Saginaw Co Bd of Comm'rs*, 395 Mich 562, 568; 236 NW2d 425 (1975) (same).

While such a determination is not made lightly, Michigan courts have, indeed, voided millage elections because ballot language has been misleading. For example, in *Smith v Scio Township*, 173 Mich App 381, the Michigan Court of Appeals held that a ballot question was improperly placed before the electorate. When considering whether to declare the election results void, the Court wrote:

The serious error in the instant case is plain from the face of the ballot. The ballot proposal misled the electors as to their ability to limit the board's taxing authority. Where a ballot proposal contains omissions or defects likely to have misled voters as to its intent and purpose, the remedy is to void the election. We hold the election on the proposal void.

Id. at 389-390 (citations omitted).

So, too, here. The material errors are plain from the face of the ballot. First, the ballot proposal misled the electors as to their ability to set a higher millage rate than is constitutionally permissible for a renewal, i.e., the Headlee Rollback was not properly conveyed. Second, the ballot proposal misled electors by indicating that it was a "renewal" when it was actually the passage of a new, increased millage rate.⁷ Third, the ballot proposal misled the electors into believing that about 4.4% of the Library Millage Renewal's first year revenues would be disbursed to the Village DDA. Indeed, Township Supervisor Dale Bergman admitted, "As far as our Library renewal, there has been a fair amount of confusion[.]"⁸

Moreover, the Library Millage Renewal only passed by 39 votes. As the *Smith* Court opined, "[t]here is a substantial likelihood that the electors may not have voted yes . . . had they known that the . . . proposal was invalid." *Id.* at 391.

⁷ See MCL 211.24f(2)(e) (requiring "a clear statement indicating whether the proposed millage is a renewal of a previously authorized millage or the authorization of a new additional millage").

⁸ Bower, *Sparta Township Library Millage Proposal Contains a Language Error*, Fox 17 (July 29, 2026), available at <<https://www.fox17online.com/news/local-news/rockford-cedar-springs-sparta/sparta-township-library-millage-proposal-contains-a-language-error>>.

Dykema

Prosecutor Christopher R. Becker
August 20, 2026
Page 4

Under MCL 600.4545(1), all of this amounts to "material . . . error." Pursuant to affidavits that will be sworn to by Township voters, we believe that such material error "may have affected the outcome of the election." *Smith*, 173 Mich App at 389. Your action is requested to remedy the material error in this election and prevent the Library Millage Renewal from imposing a tax that violates the Michigan Constitution

Because an action must be filed by September 3, 2026, we respectfully request your response by **August 28, 2026**. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Thank you for your consideration of this important and time-sensitive matter.

Sincerely,

Dykema Gossett PLLC



Gary P. Gordon

Exhibit 3

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL



P.O. Box 30212
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909

DANA NESSEL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 2, 2026

Gary P. Gordon
Dykema Gossett PLLC
Capitol View
201 Townsend Street, Suite 900
Lansing, MI 48933
GGordon@dykema.com

Dear Mr. Gordon:

This letter is in response to your August 20, 2026, request that the Attorney General institute a quo warranto action to invalidate the Sparta Township Library millage renewal that was passed by voters on August 4th.

This office has carefully reviewed your letter and supporting documentation, and the Attorney General declines to participate. That said, we do want to make it clear that the decision to decline this request should not be viewed as any type of comment on the substance or merit of the underlying claim. Rather, the decision was made out of this office's traditional deference to having local issues resolved at the local level and the fact that this type of action need not be brought by the Attorney General.

The Attorney General, therefore, declines to institute the quo warranto action you have requested.

Sincerely,

Linus Banghart-Linn
Chief Legal Counsel

Exhibit 4

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

CRIMINAL DIVISION
82 Ionia Ave N.W. - Suite 450
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-3022
Telephone: (616) 632-6710
Fax: (616) 632-6714



CHRISTOPHER BECKER
Prosecutor

ELIZABETH A. BARTLETT
Chief Assistant Prosecutor

August 28, 2026

Gary P. Gordon
Attorney at Law
Dykema Gosset PLLC
201 Townsend Street, Suite 900
Lansing, MI 48933

RE: Request to Bring Quo Warranto Action

Dear Mr. Gordon:

I am writing in response to your request that this office institute a quo warranto action seeking to invalidate the recent Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage renewal election of August 4, 2026. After reviewing the information and materials I have determined that this office will not be filing such an action.

This determination should not be construed as a finding that the concerns you have are without merit. Rather, given the time constraints, our unfamiliarity with such a procedure, and the need to do additional research on the issues presented, we would be unable to proceed in an appropriate manner.

I appreciate you bringing this to our attention.

Sincerely,

Chris Becker
Kent County Prosecutor

Exhibit 5

SPARTA TOWNSHIP LIBRARY BOARD

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE LIBRARY MILLAGE
RENEWAL BALLOT PROPOSAL

At a meeting of the Library Board of the Sparta Township Library, Kent County, Michigan, held at the Library on Tues. Mar. 17, 2026 at 6 p.m.

PRESENT: Mary-Ann Meyer, Janet Hayes, Jane
Ohanesian, Dick Beauchamp, Joy Leussenkamp and
Library Director Merri Jo Tuinstra
ABSENT: Tom Lampen

The following Resolution was offered by Jane Ohanesian
and seconded by Joy Leussenkamp.

WHEREAS, the Sparta Township Library ("Library") is a township library organized under 1877 PA 164 ("PA 164") serving the residents of Sparta Township ("Township"); and

WHEREAS, as required by Section 10c of PA 164, the Library Board may determine by resolution that, if a previously authorized millage was approved for a specific number of years, the millage should be renewed and/or increased; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, voters in the Township approved a millage in the amount of .25 mill for a period of ten (10) years and that millage expired in 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Library Board desires to ask voters to renew the millage, which was last levied at a millage rate of .2375 mill, for ten (10) years beginning with the 2026 levy; and

WHEREAS, the Library Board has determined that placing the millage request on the

ballot at the August 4, 2026 election is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the Township residents.

THEREFORE, the Library Board of the Sparta Township Library, Kent County, Michigan, resolves as follows:

1. The Library Board of the Sparta Township Library has determined that a millage of .2375 mill is necessary for the Library.
2. To that end, the Library Board approves the ballot language attached as Exhibit A and certifies that the proposition attached as Exhibit A shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the Township at an election to be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2026.
3. The Library Board Secretary and/or Director is authorized and directed to promptly submit this Resolution and the ballot language attached as Exhibit A to the Sparta Township Clerk (who shall forward the Resolution and ballot language to the Kent County Clerk) so that the attached millage proposal may be presented to voters at the August 4, 2026 election.
4. Any resolution inconsistent with this Resolution is hereby rescinded.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: 5

NAYS: 0

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Sparta Township Library, Kent County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and

complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Library Board of said Library at a meeting held on the 17 day of March, 2026.

Janet Hayes, Secretary

EXHIBIT A

LIBRARY MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

Shall the previously authorized increase in tax limitation on all taxable property in Sparta Township, Kent County, that expired in 2025 be renewed and the Township be authorized to levy a millage annually in an amount not to exceed .2375 mill (\$0.2375 per each \$1,000 of taxable value) against all taxable property in the Township for a period of ten (10) years, 2026 through 2035, inclusive, to provide funds for operating, maintaining, and equipping the Sparta Township Library and for all other library purposes authorized by law? The estimate of the revenue the Township will collect if the millage is approved and levied in the first year of levy (2026) is approximately \$106,000. The revenue from this millage levy will be disbursed to the Sparta Township Library.

Yes ?

No ?

Exhibit 6

**RESOLUTION #26-02
SPARTA TOWNSHIP**

At a regular meeting of the Sparta Township Board of Sparta Township ("Township Board"), held in the Township Hall, 160 E. Division, Sparta, Michigan 49345, on Thursday, the 9th day of April, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

The following resolution was offered for adoption by Board member _____ and was seconded by Board member _____.

WHEREAS, the Sparta Township Library ("Library") was formed under Section 10 of Act 164 of 1877, as amended (MCL 397.210); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 10c of Act 164 of 1877, as amended (MCL 397.210c), the Sparta Township Library Board ("Library Board") has determined that the renewal of the dedicated library millage of 0.2375 mills for ten (10) years is necessary to provide for adequate library services and has approved a Sparta Township Library millage proposal for the August 2, 2016 election (a copy of the Library Board's resolution is attached as Exhibit A); and

WHEREAS, the Township Board wishes to submit the Library millage proposal to the qualified electors of the Township at a Township special election to be held on the regular election date of August 4, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Board calls a special Township election to be held on the regular election date of August 4, 2026 (the primary election).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to MCL 397.210c and the Michigan Election Law, the Township Board hereby approves and certifies the following proposal for submission to the qualified electors of the Township at the August 4, 2026 election:

**SPARTA TOWNSHIP LIBRARY
MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL**

Shall the previously authorized increase in the tax rate limitation on all taxable property in Sparta Township, Kent County, that expired in 2025 be renewed and the Township be authorized to levy a millage annually in an amount to exceed .2375 mill (\$0.2375 per each \$1,000 of taxable value) against all taxable property in the Township for a period of ten (10) years, 2026 through 2035, inclusive, to provide funds for operating, maintaining, and equipping the Sparta Township Library and for all

other library purposes authorized by law? The estimate of the revenue the Township will collect if the millage is approved and levied in the first year of levy (2026) is approximately \$106,000. The revenue from this millage levy will be disbursed to the Sparta Township Library.

The following is for informational purposes:

If approved and levied, this millage will raise an estimated \$106,000 in the first year of the levy (2026). The revenues from this millage will be disbursed to the Sparta Township Library as required by law. To the extent required by law, a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.

Yes ____

No ____

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Township Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to certify the ballot proposition to the Kent County Clerk, to publish all notices for such election as required by law, and to take all other action required by law in connection with such election.

Adopted this 9th day of April, 2026.

YEAS:

NAYS:

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board of the Township of Sparta, Kent County, Michigan, at a regular meeting held on April 9, 2026, the original of which is on file in my office and available to the public. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1976, including in the case of a special or rescheduled meeting, notice by posting at least eighteen (18) hours prior to the time set for said meeting.

DATED: April 9, 2026

Marcy Savage, Township Clerk

Exhibit 7

RESOLUTION #26-4

SPARTA TOWNSHIP

**RESOLUTION OF INTENT REGARDING SPARTA TOWNSHIP LIBRARY
MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL**

At a special meeting of the Township Board for the Township of Sparta, Kent County,
Michigan, held on the 22nd day of July 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT: B. Johnson, A. Johnson, Goodfellow, Bradford, Savage, Bergman

ABSENT: Steffens

The following preamble and resolution was offered by B. Johnson and seconded by
Bradford.

WHEREAS, the Sparta Township Library Board adopted a resolution requesting
submission to the electors of a library millage renewal proposal authorizing the levy of a tax
in an amount not to exceed 0.2375 mill (\$0.2375 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for library
purposes for a period of ten (10) years; and

WHEREAS, the Sparta Township Board thereafter adopted a resolution approving
placement of the proposal on the August 4, 2026 election ballot; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board has subsequently determined that the approved
ballot language inadvertently omitted the word "not" from the phrase "not to exceed 0.2375
mill," resulting in the phrase "to exceed 0.2375 mill," which was an unintentional clerical and
typographical error; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board at all times intended to submit to the voters the
same millage proposal approved by the Sparta Township Library Board, namely a renewal
millage in an amount not to exceed 0.2375 mill for a period of ten (10) years; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board further stated in the resolution that to the extent
required by law, a portion of the library millage would be captured by the Village of Sparta
Downtown Development Authority; and

WHEREAS, such a capture is not permitted under Michigan law because ad valorem
property taxes levied for public library purposes are exempt from tax increment capture and
therefore cannot be captured by a downtown development authority; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board desires to clarify the intent of its prior action and
preserve an accurate legislative record regarding the proposal submitted to the electorate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Township Board hereby acknowledges that the omission of the word "not" from the approved ballot language was an unintentional clerical and typographical error.
2. The Township Board declares that its intent was, and remains, to certify to the electors of Sparta Township a library millage renewal proposal authorizing the levy of a tax not to exceed 0.2375 mill (\$0.2375 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of ten (10) years as approved by the Sparta Township Library Board.
3. The Township Board further declares that any statement indicating that the proposed library millage could be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority is not permitted because library millages are exempt from tax increment capture under Michigan law and therefore cannot be captured by the Downtown Development Authority.
4. The Township Board affirms that neither the typographical error nor the incorrect statement concerning tax increment capture alters the amount, purpose, or intended disposition of the proposed library millage approved by the Sparta Township Library Board.
5. The Township Clerk is directed to include this Resolution in the official records of the Township and to provide copies as necessary to clarify the Township's legislative intent concerning the August 4, 2026 library millage proposal.

A vote on the above Resolution was taken and was as follows:

ADOPTED:

YEAS: B. Johnson, A. Johnson, Goodfellow, Bradford, Savage, Bergman

NAYS: None

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF Kent)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Township Clerk of Sparta Township, Kent County, Michigan, CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Township Board of said Township at a regular meeting held on the 22nd day of July, 2026.

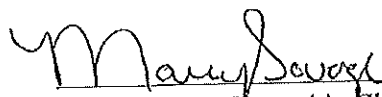

Marcy Savage, Township Clerk

Exhibit 8

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the
Sparta Township Board
160 E. Division - Sparta MI 49345
July 22, 2026 9:00 AM

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. by Supervisor Dale Bergman.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Dale Bergman, Marcy Savage, Bill Goodfellow, Jason Bradford, Ashley Johnson, and Barb Johnson

Members Absent: Rob Steffens

Approval of the Agenda: It was motioned by B. Johnson to approve the agenda with the removal of number 2, which was approving new wording for the ballot. It was seconded by Goodfellow. Passed 6-0

Public Comment:

Jim Lyema appreciated how the Clerk's office has run elections. He also believes that the ballot wording was an honest mistake. He stated that he was thankful the board was addressing the situation.

MerriJo Tuinstra, Library Director, read a statement from the Millage Committee (Larry Carter)

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Resolution of Intent Regarding Sparta Township Library Millage Renewal Proposal

Savage commented that the mistake on the ballot regarding the library, was her mistake. She stated a rumor was circulating that the Township would have to charge more than what is stated on the ballot. Savage reassured the community that the attorney stated that since this is a renewal and due to the Headlee Amendment, that it is illegal for the Township to charge more than the .2375. In addition, the DDA cannot capture money from a library. Savage then read the attached resolution. B. Johnson made a motion to accept Resolution 26-4 (see attached) as written. It was seconded by Bradford. There was a roll call vote taken, Motion Passed 6-0.

Goodfellow made a comment that the whole board was at fault, he wished the board had done something sooner.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Lynama made a statement and asked the public to vote no on the Library Millage.

ADJOURNMENT

B. Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second by A. Johnson. Passed 6-0 at 9:21 AM>

Respectfully submitted,
Marcy Savage, Sparta Township Clerk

Exhibit 9

**WHAT THE MILLAGE
RENEWAL SAYS**

Shall the previously authorized increase in tax limitation on all taxable property in Sparta Township, Kent County, that expired in 2025 be renewed and the Township be authorized to levy a millage annually in an amount not to exceed .2375 mill (\$0.2375 per each \$1,000 of taxable value) against all taxable property in the Township for a period of ten (10) years, 2026 through 2035, inclusive, to provide funds for operating, maintaining, and equipping the Sparta Township Library and for all other library purposes authorized by law? The estimate of the revenue the Township will collect if the millage is approved and levied in the first year of levy (2026) is approximately \$106,000. The revenue from this millage levy will be disbursed to the Sparta Township Library.

Yes ?

No ?

Sparta Library

YOUR VOTE, YOUR COMMUNITY

SPARTA CARNEGIE
TOWNSHIP LIBRARY
MILLAGE RENEWAL
AUGUST 4, 2026

Sparta Library: Your Vote, Your
Community Committee
68 Rogers Ct
Sparta, MI 49345

WHAT IS A MILLAGE RENEWAL?

- ❖ The millage renewal on August 4th asks for a continued 0.23 mil for ten (10) years.

WHY IS IT NEEDED?

- ❖ A sizable proportion of the library's revenue comes from the current millage.
- ❖ A renewed millage will allow the Sparta Carnegie Township Library to continue their current programs and services.

WHAT WILL THE ANNUAL COST BE?

Home Value	Taxable Value	Tax for 0.23 mil
\$50,000	\$25,000	\$5.94
\$100,000	\$50,000	\$11.88
\$150,000	\$75,000	\$17.81
\$200,000	\$100,000	\$23.75
\$250,000	\$125,000	\$29.69
\$300,000	\$150,000	\$35.63

HOW HAS THE MILLAGE BEEN USED?

- ❖ Acquiring newly-released books and DVDs.
- ❖ Increasing the purchase of electronic books (Libby & Hoopla access).
- ❖ Increasing programming for adults and children, such as Book Clubs, Quilting Club, Chess Club, Puzzle Nook, and expanded Summer Reading Programs.
- ❖ Providing the Carnegie Room for Genealogical & Historical Research.

WHAT IF THE RENEWAL IS UNSUCCESSFUL?

- ❖ Library hours will be significantly shortened.
- ❖ Library services, such as programming, book purchasing, & electronic books, will be cut back.
- ❖ There would be an increase in fees for faxing and copying services.
- ❖ Staff positions & hours would be reduced.
- ❖ There would be decreased services from Lakeland Library Cooperative.

WHAT IS THE SPARTA CARNEGIE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY?

Sparta Carnegie Township Library is a locally funded, locally governed, non-profit organization. It is a member of the Lakeland Library Cooperative, which provides state of the art shared library automation systems and online catalogs.

THE SPARTA CARNEGIE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY:

- ❖ Has over 28,000 books and DVDs
- ❖ Circulated over 60,000 items last year alone
- ❖ Loaned over 4,500 items to other libraries
- ❖ Provides free Wi-Fi
- ❖ Offered multiple adult and children programs in 2025
- ❖ Offers copy, fax and notary services
- ❖ Is the go-to place when people need information.

Paid for by:

Sparta Library: Your Vote, Your
Community Committee
68 Rogers Ct.
Sparta, MI 49345
Phone: 616-887-7600
E-mail: larrycarter@ymail.com

Exhibit 10

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Joann Rhew, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.

Joanna A. Phelps
(signature of affiant)

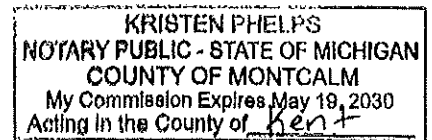
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 24, 2026.

Kristen Phelps
(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Robert Whalen , being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.

Robert Whalen
(signature of affiant)

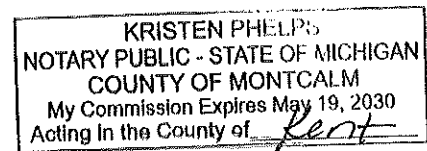
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 24, 2026

Kristen Phelps
(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Lori Whalen, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.

Lori Whalen
(signature of affiant)

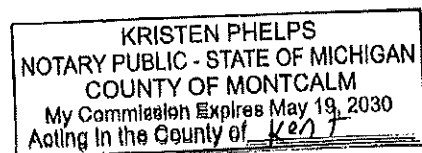
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 24, 2026.

[Signature]
(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Mindy Mattone , being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.

Kindy Mattave
(signature of affiant)

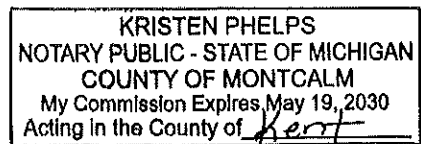
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 24, 2026

[Signature]
(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Lauren Crowl , being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.

2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.

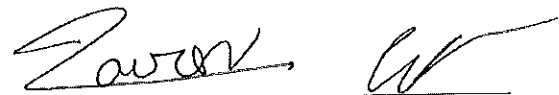
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.

4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").

5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.

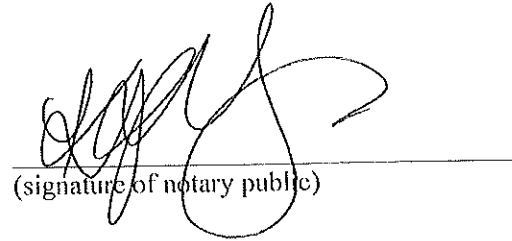
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.

7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.



(signature of affiant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 24, 2026

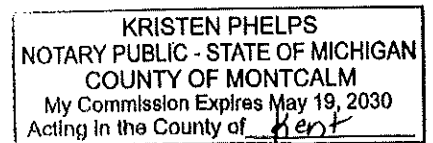


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Mary Ann Wright, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.

2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.

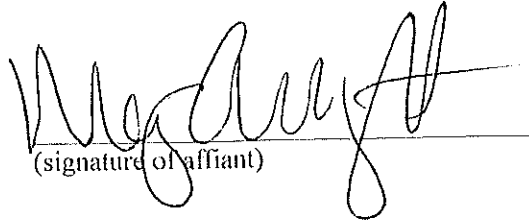
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.

4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").

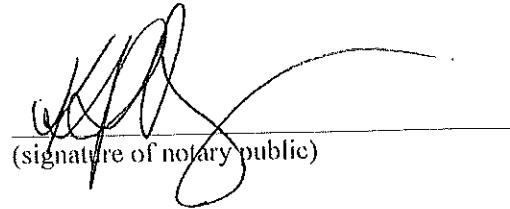
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.

6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.

7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

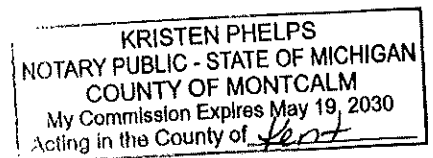
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 24, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Danielle Ogg , being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.

2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.

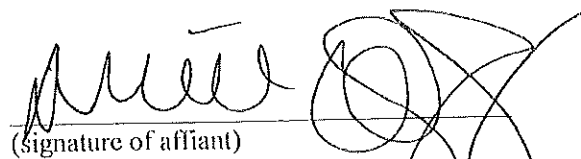
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.

4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").

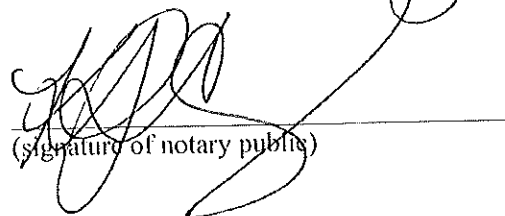
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.

6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.

7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

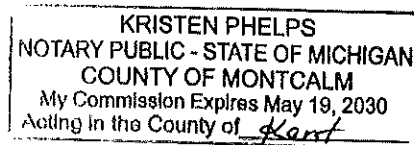
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 24, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

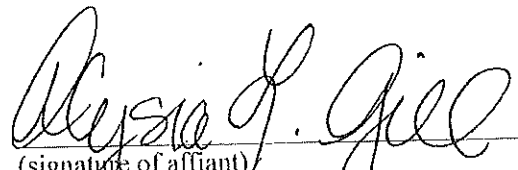
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



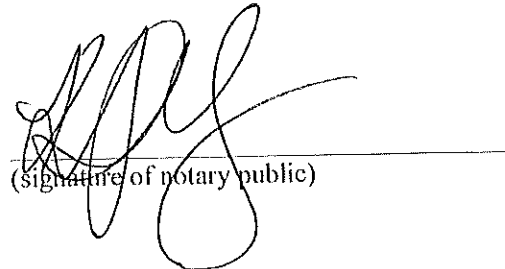
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Alysia Gill, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

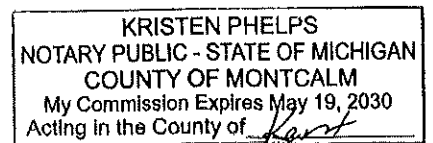
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 24, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

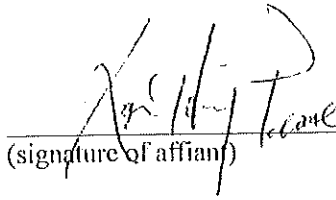
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



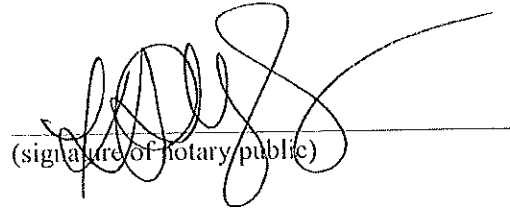
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, LaiHing Pease, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 25, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.

KRISTEN PHELPS NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF MONTCALM My Commission Expires May 19, 2030 Acting in the County of <u>Kent</u>
--

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Kenneth Minch, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.

Kenneth N. Mich
(signature of affiant)

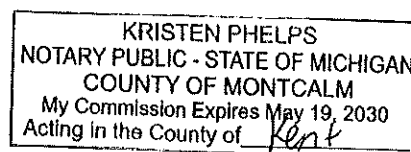
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 25, 2026

[Signature]
(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

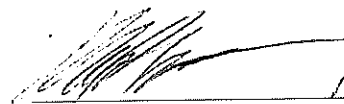
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Michael Pease, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.



Michael Pease
(signature of affiant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 25, 2026

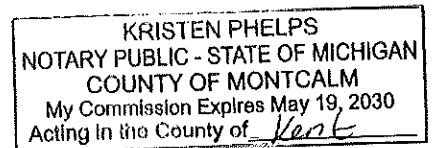


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

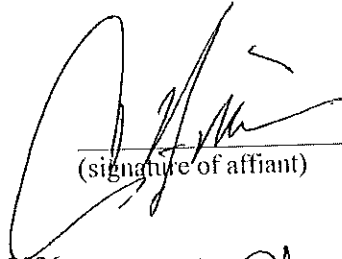
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



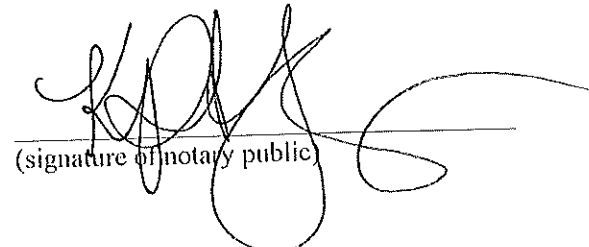
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Craig Lemier, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 24, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.

KRISTEN PHELPS
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF MONTCALM
My Commission Expires May 19, 2030
Acting in the County of Kent

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Therese Whalen, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.

2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.

3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.

4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").

5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.

6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.

7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.

Shane Whalen
(signature of affiant)

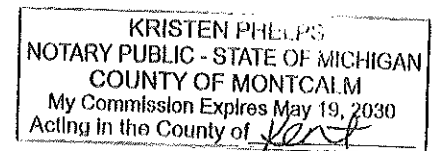
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 24, 2026

[Signature]
(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

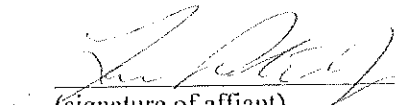
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



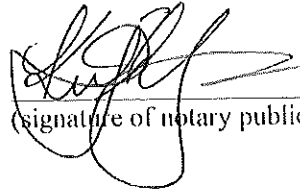
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Loren Peterson, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 25, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

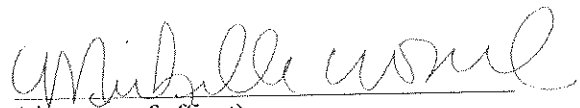
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.

KRISTEN PHELPS NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF MONTCALM My Commission Expires May 19, 2030 Acting in the County of <u>Kent</u>
--

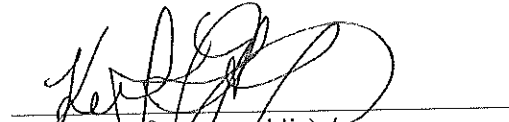
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Michelle Crowl, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

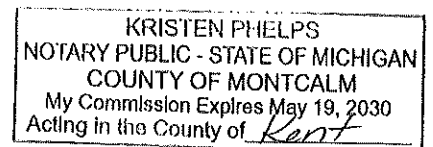
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 25, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

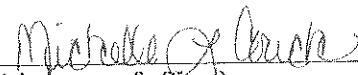
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



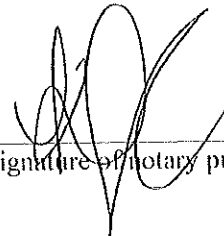
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Michelle Couch, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

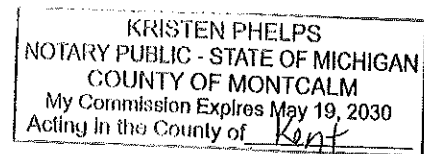
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, John Couch, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

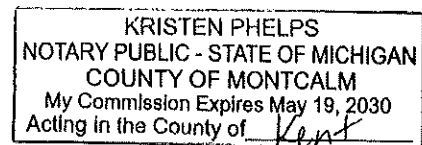
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

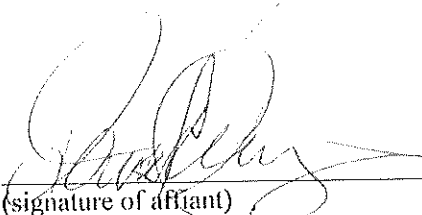
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



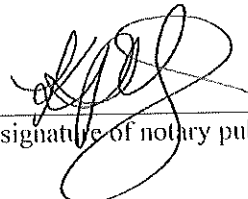
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Dave Cumings, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

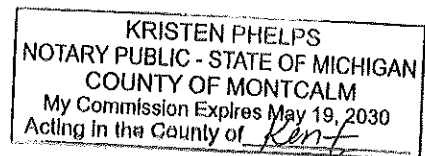
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Brenda Braybrook, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.

Brenda J. Braybrook
(signature of affiant)

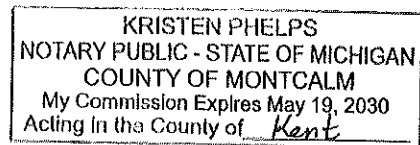
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026

[Signature]
(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

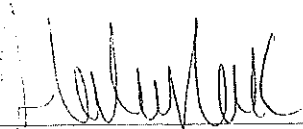
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



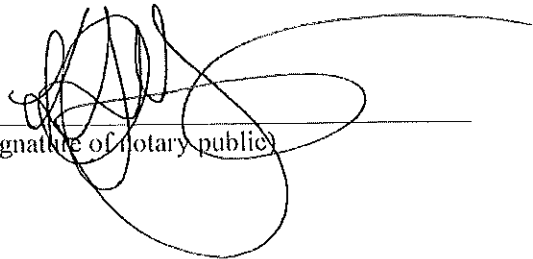
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Haley Leek, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

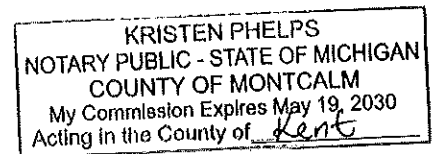
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

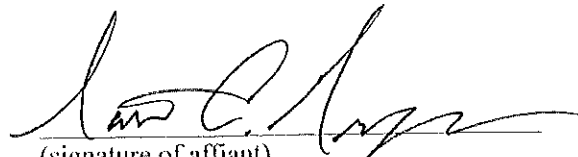
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



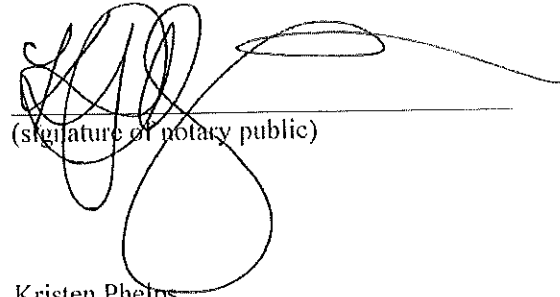
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Scott Grossmeyer, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

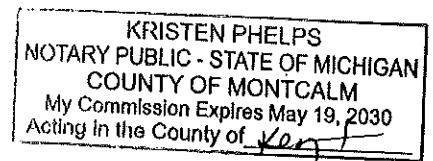
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



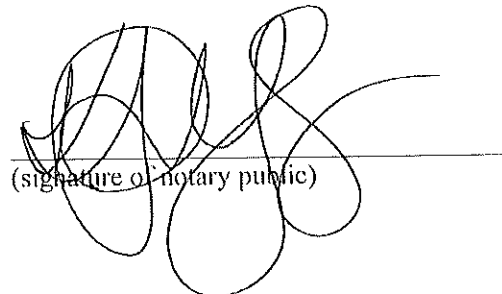
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Billie Cichewicz, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

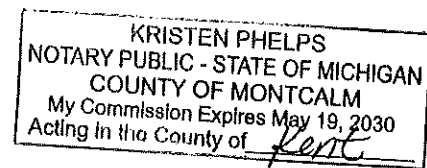
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Jean Deleon, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.

Sean Rodgers
(signature of affiant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026

[Signature]
(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

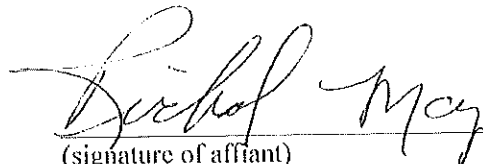
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.

KRISTEN PHELPS NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF MONTCALM My Commission Expires May 19, 2030 Acting in the County of <u>Kent</u>
--

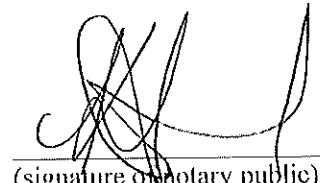
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Richard May, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

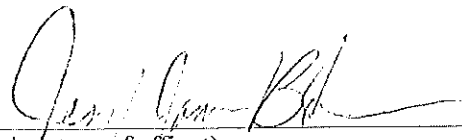
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.

KRISTEN PHELPS
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF MONTCALM
My Commission Expires May 19, 2030
Acting in the County of Kent

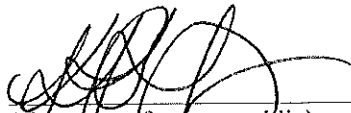
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Jerold Bolen, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

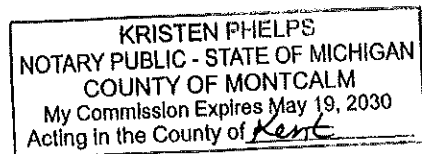
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Nancy Bolen, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.

Harry Belen
(signature of affiant)

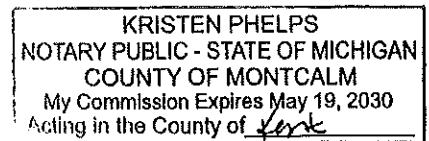
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026

KRP
(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

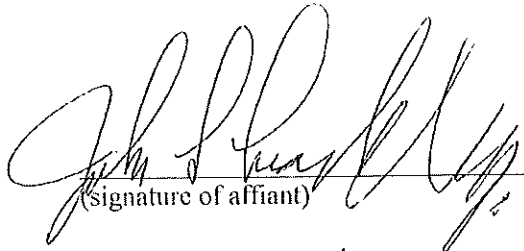
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



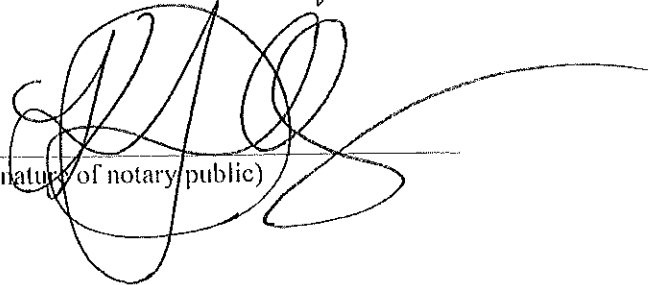
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, John Lovendosky, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

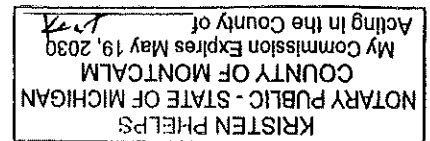
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

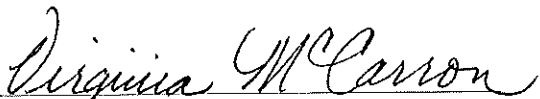
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



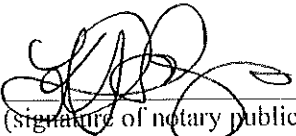
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Virginia McCarron , being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

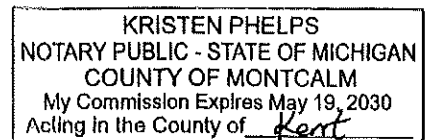
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026.


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

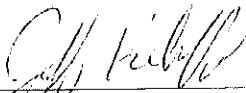
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Jeff Kolhoff, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

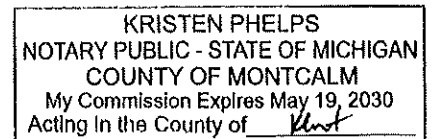
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Alicia Kolhoff, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.

Alicia Kellhoff
(signature of affiant)

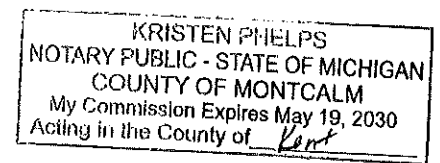
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026

[Signature]
(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

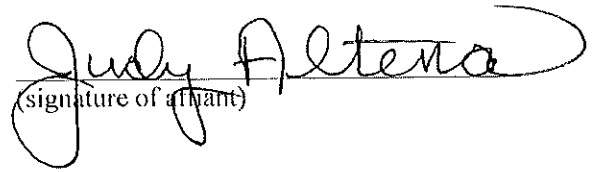
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



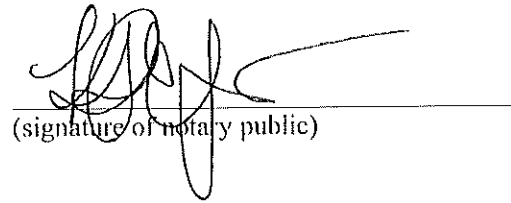
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Judy Altena, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

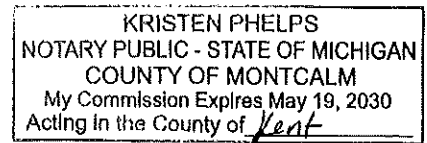
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026.


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

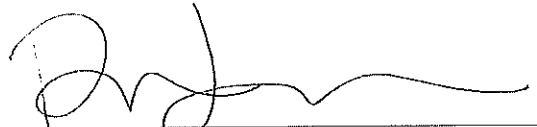
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Rachel Jurries, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

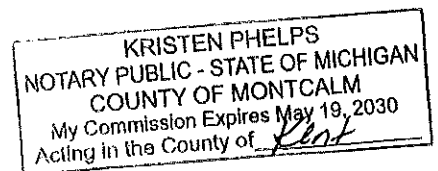
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

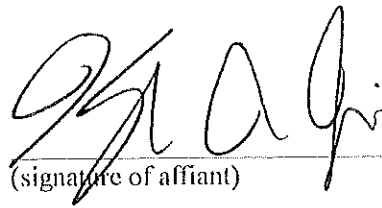
Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



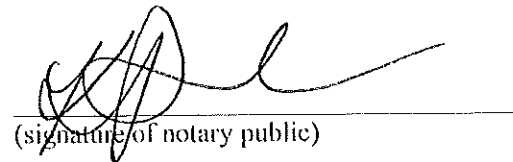
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Kyle Jurries, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

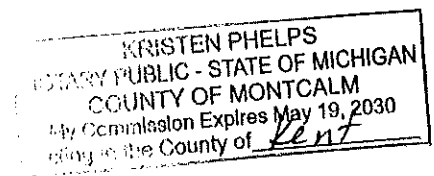
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026.


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.

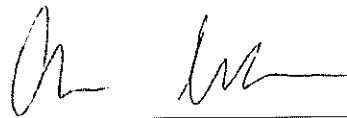


STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Chris Woodfin, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

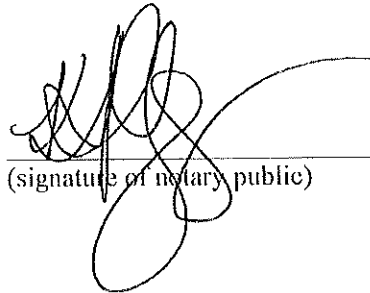
1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.
2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.
4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.
6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.
7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.

3 -



(signature of affiant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026

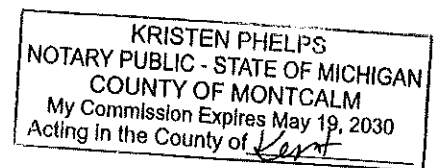


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Jordan Bohn, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.

2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.

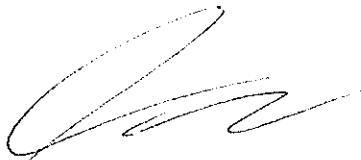
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.

4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).

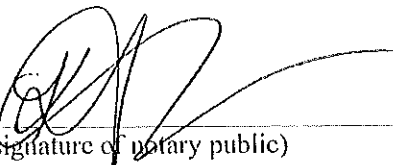
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.

6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.

7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Rencwal.


(signature of affiant)

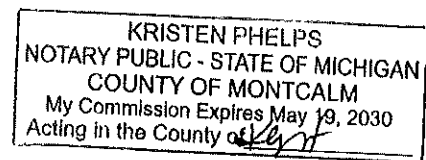
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Michael Wells, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.

2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.

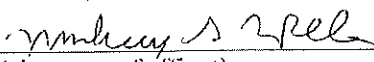
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.

4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").

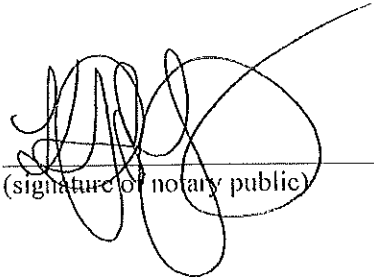
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.

6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.

7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.

KRISTEN PHELPS NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF MONTCALM My Commission Expires May 19, 2030 Acting in the County of <u>Kent</u>
--

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Kristy Sack, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.

2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.

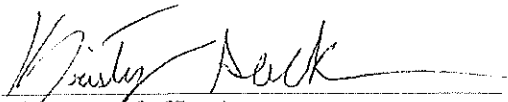
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.

4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).

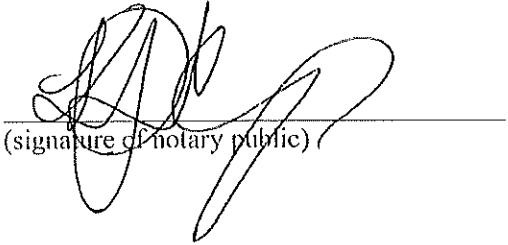
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.

6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.

7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

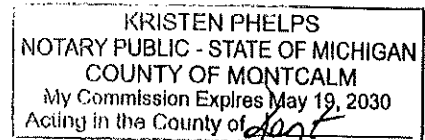
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Rose Frederick, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.

2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.

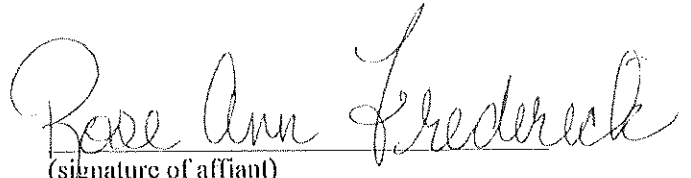
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.

4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").

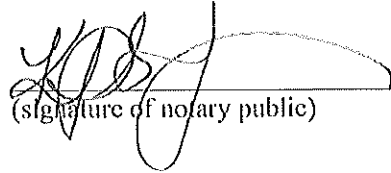
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.

6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.

7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

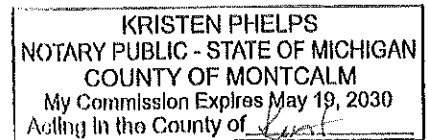
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Todd Frederick, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.

2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.

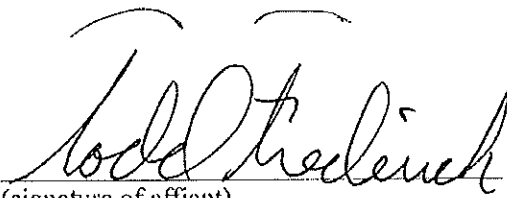
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.

4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").

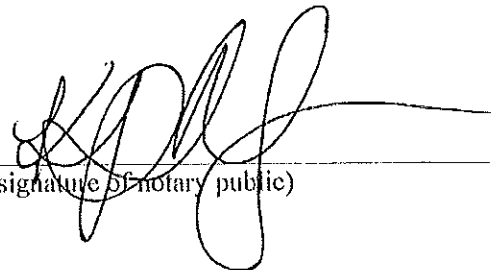
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.

6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.

7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

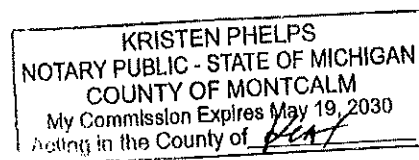
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Katie-Lorain Merryman, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.

2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.

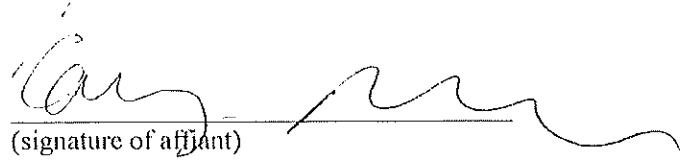
3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.

4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the “Library Millage Renewal”).

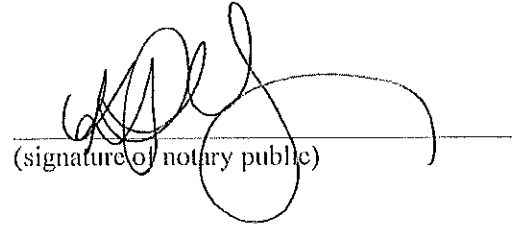
5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually “in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill,” which would increase the library millage rate.

6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that “a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.” I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.

7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.


(signature of affiant)

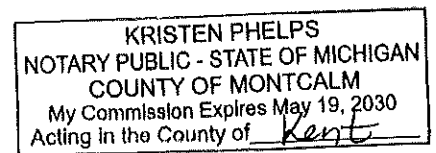
Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 27, 2026


(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.



STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Robert Carlstrom, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. The following statements are based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify, I could swear competently thereto.

2. I am at least 18 years old and of sound mind.

3. I am a citizen of the United States and of the State of Michigan. I reside in Sparta Township, which is located in Kent County. I am an eligible, registered Michigan voter.

4. On the August 4, 2026 primary election ballot, there was a question regarding whether to renew the Sparta Carnegie Township Library millage (the "Library Millage Renewal").

5. The ballot proposal provided that the millage would be levied annually "in an amount *to exceed* .2375 mill," which would increase the library millage rate.

6. Additionally, the ballot proposal provided that "a portion of the revenues from this millage (approximately 4.4% in the first year of the levy) will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority." I believed this to mean that a portion of the Library Millage Renewal would be captured by the Village of Sparta Downtown Development Authority.

7. I found these statements confusing, and was not sure how to cast my vote for the Library Millage Renewal.

Robert Carlstrom
(signature of affiant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 27, 2026

[Signature]
(signature of notary public)

My commission expires on: May 19, 2030

Kristen Phelps
(printed name of notary public)

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of Montcalm. Acting in County of Kent.

