

DRUMMOND ISLAND TOWNSHIP

Chippewa County, Michigan

PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET

Fiscal Year April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027

Budget Narrative for Public Hearing

FY2026-2027 PROPOSED BUDGET — AT A GLANCE	
Proposed Total Revenue	\$986,600
Proposed Total Expenditures	\$900,684
Projected Surplus	\$85,916
Fiscal Year	April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027
Status	DRAFT — Proposed, Pending Board Approval

Prepared by Krystal Truax, Township Supervisor

March 2026

DRAFT — Proposed Budget, Subject to Board Approval

Message from the Township Supervisor

Dear Drummond Island Residents,

I am pleased to present the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 — April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027. This document has been prepared so that every resident has a clear, honest picture of how your township government plans to raise and spend public funds in the coming year, ahead of our annual public budget hearing.

The proposed budget reflects total revenues of \$986,600 and total expenditures of \$900,684, resulting in a projected surplus of \$85,916. We have worked to maintain and improve service levels across all areas while being responsible with taxpayer dollars. Overall proposed spending is down approximately 9.2% / ~\$91,000, from the budget the Board approved for the current fiscal year.

The most significant change in this budget is the transition of Emergency Medical Services to the Northeast Michigan EMS Authority, known as NEMSA. NEMSA provides 24/7 emergency medical coverage on Drummond Island at a cost of approximately \$20,000 per month. This is a meaningful investment in the quality and reliability of emergency care for our community. The full cost picture, including how it will be funded, is explained in detail in this document.

I am also proud to report that our Golf Course had an outstanding year, bringing in more revenue than we had budgeted. The Park performed equally well, exceeding its full-year revenue budget before the season even closed. These are real services that our community uses and values, and their strong performance helps support the broader budget. I want to be clear that the revenue figures in this proposed budget are deliberately conservative. Property tax, interest income, and miscellaneous revenue have all come in above their budgeted estimates in recent years, and we expect that pattern to continue. The \$85,916 projected surplus is a floor, not a ceiling. Any additional surplus the township realizes during the year will be directed back into our emergency fund, which is being drawn on to help cover NEMSA contract costs during the transition. Maintaining strong reserves is a core responsibility of this Board, and this budget is structured with that in mind.

I invite every resident to read this document and attend the public hearing on March 21st. Your questions and comments matter, and no budget decision is final until the Board votes. Thank you for your continued trust in our Township government.

Respectfully,

Krystal Truax

Township Supervisor, Drummond Island Township

Budget Overview

The Drummond Island Township fiscal year runs April 1 through March 31. All figures in this document are proposed and subject to amendment and final approval by the Township Board at the public hearing.

Revenue and Expenditure Summary

Category	FY23-24 Actual	FY25-26 Approved	FY26-27 Proposed	Change
Total Revenue	\$990,765	\$960,852	\$986,600	+\$25,748 (+2.7%)
Total Expenditures	\$1,061,883	\$991,672	\$900,684	-\$90,944 (-9.2%)
Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$71,118)	(\$30,776)	\$85,916	+\$116,692

Why Expenditures Changed From FY2025-2026

The net decrease in expenditures from FY2025-2026 to FY2026-2027 is approximately \$79,760, or 8.1 percent. The Ambulance Fund drops by \$50,940 as EMS operations transition fully to NEMSA. That savings is partially offset by the Golf Course (+\$16,235, driven primarily by the New Equipment increase for the mower payback) and a modest increase in the General Fund (+\$7,686) reflecting the Maintenance Lead salary adjustment and inclusion of a Community Days budget. Excluding those changes, spending across all other funds is essentially flat year over year.

Revenue by Source — FY2026-2027 Proposed

Revenue Source	FY26-27 Proposed	Share of Total
Property & Local Taxes	\$690,000	69.9%
Charges for Services	\$247,600	25.1%
Interest Income	\$35,000	3.5%
Miscellaneous Income	\$12,000	1.2%
Licenses & Permits	\$2,000	0.2%
TOTAL PROPOSED REVENUE	\$986,600	100.0%

Expenditures by Fund — FY2026-2027 Proposed

Fund	FY23-24 Actual	FY25-26 Approved	FY26-27 Proposed	Change
101 – General Fund	\$489,252	\$531,709	\$497,399	-\$34,310
584 – Golf Course	\$101,483	\$149,435	\$165,670	+\$16,235
210 – Ambulance	\$126,808	\$136,840	\$85,900	-\$50,940
206 – Fire Department	\$276,475	\$78,605	\$75,970	-\$2,635
208 – Parks & Recreation	\$41,499	\$54,515	\$50,665	-\$3,850

All figures are proposed and subject to Board approval.

295 – Airport	\$26,366	\$29,340	\$25,080	-\$4,260
TOTAL	\$1,061,883	\$980,444	\$900,680	-\$79,764

Note on Fire Department FY2023-2024

The Fire Department actual of \$276,475 in FY2023-2024 included a \$176,675 one-time equipment purchase. Ongoing operational costs for the Fire Department run between \$75,000 and \$100,000 annually. The proposed FY2026-2027 budget of \$75,970 is consistent with that normal range and should not be compared directly to the FY2023-2024 total.

Reserve Fund Activity — Outside the Operating Budget

Two significant expenditures in FY2026-2027 are funded directly from township reserves and are not included in the operating budget figures above. This is standard practice for one-time and capital items funded from dedicated savings are kept separate from the operating budget to give an accurate picture of recurring revenue and spending.

1. NEMSA Contract — Approximately \$160,000 of the total annual NEMSA cost will be drawn from the township’s dedicated emergency savings reserve. This reserve is funded by emergency service tax revenue the township receives back from Chippewa County and exists specifically for this purpose.
2. Golf Course Rough Mower — The township is purchasing a rough mower at a total cost of approximately \$68,599 from Golf Course savings. The operating budget includes \$12,500 per year in repayments back into that reserve over approximately five years, so the savings are being restored, not spent permanently. Including these reserve draws, total township spending activity in FY2026-2027 (operations + capital expenditures) is estimated at approximately \$1,126,000. The township has the reserves in place to fully cover both items.

Township Reserves and Dedicated Funds

In addition to the operating budget, Drummond Island Township maintains several reserve and dedicated funds. These funds are separate from operating revenues and expenditures, they are accumulated balances held for specific purposes. The following is a summary of the township’s key fund balances and planned activity for FY2026-2027.

Emergency Savings Reserve

The township’s emergency savings reserve is a dedicated fund built from emergency service tax revenue that the township receives back from Chippewa County. This fund exists specifically to cover EMS-related obligations that exceed what the annual operating budget can absorb. In FY2026-2027, approximately \$160,000 will be drawn from this reserve to cover the township’s full share of the NEMSA contract cost beyond the \$80,000 budgeted in the operating Ambulance Fund. The reserve will continue to be replenished by ongoing county tax returns. A voter-approved NEMSA millage, when in place, will eliminate the need for these annual reserve draws.

Road Fund

YTD Balance — FY2025-2026	\$1,219,094
Planned FY2026-2027 Expenditure	\$650,000 (Cream City Point paving + skip patching)

The Road Fund is a dedicated fund supported entirely by the road millage. It does not draw from general operating revenues. The fund currently stands at \$1,219,094 through FY2025-2026. In FY2026-2027, the township has a significant road improvement project planned: paving at Cream City Point and various skip patching throughout the township, with a combined estimated cost of \$650,000. This investment is fully funded within the Road Fund balance and represents the township’s commitment to maintaining its road infrastructure. Because the Road Fund is a dedicated millage fund, this expenditure has no impact on the general operating budget or the surplus shown above.

Library Fund

Fund Balance — End of FY2025-2026	\$134,874
Annual Service Cost — Superior District Library	\$60,000

The Library Fund carries a current balance of \$134,874 through FY2025-2026. The primary use of this fund is an annual payment of \$60,000 to the Superior District Library, which provides library services to Drummond Island Township residents. This arrangement gives residents access to full library services without the township operating its own facility. The \$60,000 annual commitment is a consistent and planned obligation funded through the library millage.

Investment Fund Balances

Drummond Island Township holds investment balances in three accounts that represent the township’s general financial reserves, including the Emergency Fund referenced above.

Account	Balance (February 2026)
MSU-FCU Investment Account CD	\$278,824
MI Class — Emergency Fund	\$274,170
MI Class Gen Investments	\$777,373
Total Investment Reserves	\$1,330,367

These investment reserves total \$1,330,367 (equivalent to approximately 18 months of the township’s proposed operating expenditures). Put another way, even if the township collected no revenue at all, these reserves alone would cover all operating costs for a year and a half. These funds serve as the township’s primary financial safety net, distinct from the dedicated purpose funds described above.

The \$85,916 projected operating surplus for FY2026-2027 will be directed back into the township’s emergency fund, continuing the practice of rebuilding reserves that are being drawn on to cover NEMSA contract costs during the transition period. While this budget is deliberately conservative on the revenue side (actual property tax and miscellaneous income collections have consistently come in above their budgeted figures) any additional surplus realized during the year will likewise be returned to reserves. The Board’s goal is to maintain the township’s strong reserve position while funding the services residents depend on.

Revenue Detail

1. Property and Local Taxes — \$690,000 (69.9%)

Taxes are the foundation of the township budget. The township levies several distinct millages, each serving a specific purpose.

Tax Source	FY24-25 Actual	FY25-26 Approved	FY26-27 Proposed	Change
Property Tax	\$379,416	\$415,000	\$460,000	+\$45,000
State Revenue Sharing	\$86,429	\$100,000	\$90,000	-\$10,000
Admin Fees Tax	\$54,538	\$46,300	\$52,000	+\$5,700
Emergency Tax	\$41,104	\$41,000	\$41,000	\$0
Swamp Tax	\$43,015	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0
Harbor Island Tax	\$7,361	\$8,000	\$7,000	-\$1,000
TOTAL TAXES	\$611,863	\$650,300	\$690,000	+\$39,700

Property tax revenue is proposed at \$460,000. The township’s tentative taxable values for the coming fiscal year increased by approximately \$9 million, which directly supports this higher estimate: applying the township’s general operating millage to the additional \$9 million in assessed value produces roughly \$14,000 to \$15,000 in additional revenue on its own. Combined with current-year property tax collections that are on track to reach approximately \$445,000 to \$476,000 when all pending distributions clear, the \$460,000 figure is, if anything, still conservative. Actual receipts in FY2025-2026 are projected to exceed this amount. The \$460,000 proposal reflects demonstrated value trends and confirmed collection data, not an optimistic estimate. State Revenue Sharing is proposed conservatively at \$90,000, budgeted at \$100,000 last year, but actual receipts through March 2026 was \$106,440. We are remaining conservative with this estimate due to the new state budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

2. Charges for Services — \$247,600 (25.1%)

Service	FY23-24 Actual	FY25-26 Approved	FY26-27 Proposed	Change
Golf Course Revenue	\$84,774	\$120,000	\$168,000	+\$48,000
Park Fees	\$72,903	\$65,000	\$75,000	+\$10,000
Ambulance Billing	\$74,868	\$70,000	\$0	-\$70,000
Airport Lease & Fees	\$5,446	\$4,600	\$4,600	\$0
TOTAL	\$237,991	\$259,600	\$247,600	-\$12,000

Why Ambulance Revenue Shows \$0

Under the proposed NEMSA contract model, the township will no longer bill patients for ambulance services. Billing and collections become NEMSA’s responsibility. The \$70,000 that was budgeted as ambulance revenue in FY2025-2026 therefore drops to \$0 in FY2026-2027. This is the intended and expected outcome of the transition, where the township trades billing revenue and billing risk for a predictable flat contract cost. The expenditure side of the Ambulance Fund shows the same shift.

Golf Course revenue is proposed at \$168,000, up \$48,000 from the prior year approved budget. The course brought in \$163,324 against a full-year approved budget of \$120,000, exceeding the full-year budget well before the May–October season concluded. Park Fees are proposed at \$75,000. The Park collected \$80,763 against a full-year approved budget of \$65,000, surpassing the budgeted figure before the season closed. Both results demonstrate that the proposed revenue figures for FY2026-2027 are grounded in demonstrated performance.

3. Interest Income — \$35,000 (3.7%)

Interest income is proposed at \$35,000. This reflects two converging factors. First, the high-interest-rate environment of recent years is normalizing, reducing returns on the township's invested funds compared to the \$88,765 earned in FY2023-2024. Second, and equally important, the township will be drawing down its dedicated emergency savings fund to help cover NEMSA contract costs until a permanent millage is in place. As those reserves are spent down, the principal earning interest decreases, further reducing projected interest income. The \$35,000 estimate is deliberately conservative for both reasons.

4. Miscellaneous Income — \$12,000 (1.3%)

Miscellaneous income includes reimbursements (\$7,000) and other non-recurring sources (\$5,000). This category has consistently come in above budget in prior years. The \$12,000 proposed figure is deliberately conservative, as these sources are unpredictable. Actual performance will likely exceed this estimate.

Expenditure Detail by Fund

General Fund (101) — \$497,399

The General Fund is the largest fund and covers the full range of township government functions: elected officials, administrative staff, maintenance, public facilities, community programming, the Museum, and the Cemetery. The proposed \$497,399 is \$34,314 less than the \$531,709 approved for FY2025-2026.

Department	FY25-26 Approved	FY26-27 Proposed	Change
General Township Operations (Dept. 261)	\$164,312	\$164,512	+\$200
Treasurer’s Office (Dept. 253)	\$71,554	\$66,154	-\$5,400
Assessor’s Office (Dept. 257)	\$71,460	\$58,160	-\$13,300
Community Promotion (Dept. 755)	\$52,450	\$59,300	+\$6,850
Clerk’s Office (Dept. 215)	\$54,635	\$49,335	-\$5,300
Supervisor’s Office (Dept. 171)	\$19,911	\$17,161	-\$2,750
Town Hall (Dept. 265)	\$27,000	\$26,000	-\$1,000
Office (Dept. 267)	\$17,600	\$16,100	-\$1,500
Museum (Dept. 804)	\$18,815	\$15,055	-\$3,760
Police (Dept. 301)	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
Elections (Dept. 262)	\$7,575	\$7,575	\$0
Board of Review (Dept. 247)	\$5,650	\$3,400	-\$2,250
Cemetery (Dept. 567)	\$4,315	\$2,415	-\$1,900
Attorney (Dept. 266)	\$6,500	\$2,500	-\$4,000
Veterans (Dept. 681)	\$500	\$200	-\$300
Trustees (Dept. 101)	\$5,432	\$5,532	+\$100
Police Salaries (Dept	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$531,709	\$497,399	-\$34,310

General Township Operations — \$164,312

The largest department within the General Fund. Covers the Maintenance Lead salary (\$52,000, reflecting a salary adjustment from the prior year’s \$48,835), all employee benefit lines (health insurance \$13,000, employer insurance \$22,500, MERS 401 plan \$8,000, unemployment reserve \$16,000), recycling (\$13,475 for 77 trips at \$175 per trip), and contract labor for facilities work and snow removal. General township utilities are proposed at \$6,500, reflecting current-year actual spending already at \$6,173 through March 2026.

Supervisor’s Office — \$17,161

Covers the Supervisor salary (\$13,211, unchanged from prior year), MERS IRA contribution (\$2,000), payroll taxes and workers’ compensation (\$1,650), and education and travel (\$200). The Supervisor Deputy position is not funded in FY2026-2027.

Treasurer’s Office — \$66,154

Covers the Treasurer salary (\$25,779), Treasurer Deputy (\$10,400 at \$20.00/hour, two five-hour days per week), annual audit (\$10,500), supplies and postage (\$9,000), MERS IRA contribution (\$4,000), and consulting fees (\$2,500).

Assessor’s Office — \$58,160

The salary line reflects a planned staffing transition.

Community Promotion — \$59,300

Covers Spring Clean-Up (\$26,000), Fireworks (\$19,000), the Social Media Coordinator contract (\$6,000), Community Days (\$4,000 - a new annual event added this year), Skating Rink (\$3,500, increased to fund concrete repairs), legal notices (\$300), and website hosting (\$500).

Clerk’s Office — \$49,335

Covers the Clerk salary (\$26,440), Clerk Deputy salary (\$14,820), MERS IRA (\$4,000), payroll taxes and workers’ compensation (\$3,575), and education and consulting (\$500).

Town Hall — \$25,500

Utilities and telephone are consolidated into a single line (\$9,500, increased from \$8,000). Other costs include the Custodial Technician (\$6,500 at \$25/hr, one hour daily), trash collection (\$3,500), supplies (\$2,300), contract labor (\$2,000), repair and maintenance (\$1,000), and a new compliance line (\$200) for water testing.

Golf Course Fund (584) — \$165,670

The Golf Course operates May through October and is one of the township’s most active services and strongest revenue producers. The proposed budget of \$165,670 is \$16,235 more than the prior year’s approved budget, driven primarily by the New Equipment line increase for the golf cart lease and the annual mower repayment into savings.

Category	FY25-26 Approved	FY26-27 Proposed	Change
Salaries & Wages (all staff)	\$82,200	\$82,570	+\$370
New Equipment	\$17,500	\$28,600	+\$11,100
Repair & Maintenance	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0
Chemicals & Fertilizer	\$6,500	\$8,500	+\$2,000
Employer Insurance	\$5,750	\$5,750	\$0
SS/Medicare & Workers Comp	\$8,085	\$8,300	+\$215
Clubhouse Merchandise	\$6,000	\$7,500	+\$1,500
Gas & Oil	\$5,000	\$5,500	+\$500
Utilities	\$5,200	\$4,500	-\$700
Credit Card Fees (new)	\$0	\$3,000	+\$3,000
Supplies (Grounds & Clubhouse)	\$3,000	\$1,600	-\$1,400
Contract Labor	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0

All figures are proposed and subject to Board approval.

Other (compliance, travel, etc)	\$1,200	\$850	-\$350
TOTAL GOLF COURSE	\$149,435	\$165,670	+\$16,235

New Equipment (\$28,600) includes a golf cart lease (\$16,100/year) and a structured payback of \$12,500 per year for a rough mower the township is purchasing outright from its savings fund. By purchasing the mower with existing savings and then repaying the savings fund over approximately five years, the township avoids external financing interest (the full repayment goes directly back into township reserves rather than to a lender). The \$11,100 increase in this line item from the prior year represents higher equipment costs that are effectively returned to savings through these repayments, not spent permanently. Credit card processing fees (\$3,000) are now tracked as a distinct line item.

Ambulance Fund (210) — \$85,900

EMS Transition to NEMSA — The Full Financial Picture

In FY2026-2027, Drummond Island Township is transitioning from directly employing EMS staff to contracting emergency medical services through the Northeast Michigan EMS Authority (NEMSA). NEMSA provides 24/7 emergency medical coverage at a cost of approximately \$20,000 per month — roughly \$240,000 annually — ensuring around-the-clock professional EMS service for our community. The \$80,000 Contract Labor line in the Ambulance Fund covers the township's direct budgeted contribution toward that contract. The remaining roughly \$160,000 will be drawn from the township's dedicated emergency savings reserve — a fund specifically maintained for EMS-related obligations, replenished by money the township receives back from Chippewa County from the emergency service taxes our residents already pay. A dedicated NEMSA millage will be placed on the ballot for all participating townships. If approved by voters, this millage will create a permanent, sustainable revenue stream for EMS services, eliminating the need to draw on reserves. Until then, the township will fund NEMSA costs through the combination of budgeted contract labor funds and draws from the emergency savings reserve. Ambulance billing revenue drops to \$0, as NEMSA assumes responsibility for patient billing and collections. Emergency medical response on Drummond Island continues without interruption.

Line Item	FY25-26 Approved	FY26-27 Proposed	Change
All Salary & Wage Lines (702/704)	\$65,000	\$0	-\$65,000
SS/Medicare & Workers Comp	\$9,285	\$0	-\$9,285
Employer Insurance (717)	\$10,050	\$0	-\$10,050
Contract Labor — NEMSA (802)	\$1,000	\$80,000	+\$79,000
Utilities (920)	\$4,880	\$5,000	+\$120
Supplies (727)	\$13,500	\$700	-\$12,800
Repair & Maintenance (930)	\$6,625	\$200	-\$6,425
Compliance & Other	\$2,500	\$0	-\$2,500
Intercepts (851)	\$16,000	\$0	-\$16,000
TOTAL AMBULANCE FUND	\$136,840	\$85,900	-\$50,940

Fire Department Fund (206) — \$75,970

The Fire Department is staffed by volunteer firefighters. The proposed budget of \$75,970 is \$2,635 less than the FY2025-2026 approved budget of \$78,605. Workers' compensation rates increase, but compliance costs drop substantially as initial regulatory review work is complete.

Category	FY25-26 Approved	FY26-27 Proposed	Change
Employer Insurance (717)	\$15,520	\$16,025	+\$505
Firefighter Wages (704)	\$13,125	\$13,125	\$0
Repair & Maintenance (930)	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
New Equipment (971)	\$7,500	\$9,000	+\$1,500
Fire Chief Salary (702)	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0
SS/Medicare & Workers Comp	\$3,000	\$4,270	+\$1,270
Utilities (920)	\$3,600	\$3,000	-\$600
Gas & Oil (921)	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
Education (820)	\$2,700	\$2,500	-\$200
Compliance (940)	\$6,000	\$1,000	-\$5,000
Contract Labor (802)	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
Supplies & Other (727/860)	\$1,160	\$1,050	-\$110
TOTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$78,605	\$75,970	-\$2,635

Parks and Recreation Fund (208) — \$50,665

The Park is open May through October. The proposed budget of \$50,665 is \$3,850 less than the FY2025-2026 approved budget, with savings in supplies and contract labor partially offset by increases in trash collection and Camp Life platform fees.

Category	FY25-26 Approved	FY26-27 Proposed	Change
Park Manager Salary & Benefits	\$23,365	\$23,365	\$0
Contract Labor (802)	\$12,500	\$7,000	-\$5,500
Camp Life Fees (958)	\$3,500	\$5,300	+\$1,800
Trash Collection (925)	\$4,000	\$5,000	+\$1,000
Utilities (920)	\$2,000	\$3,200	+\$1,200
Supplies (727)	\$4,500	\$2,000	-\$2,500
Repair & Maintenance (930)	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
Park Compliance (new)	\$0	\$600	+\$600
Equipment, Gas & Other	\$2,650	\$2,200	-\$450
TOTAL PARKS & REC	\$54,515	\$50,665	-\$3,850

All figures are proposed and subject to Board approval.

Trash collection is proposed at \$5,000, reflecting actual costs: \$4,803 was spent through March 2026. Camp Life platform fees (\$5,300) support the online reservation system that has seen growing use. Contract labor (\$7,000) covers pump-outs (\$4,000), tree work (\$1,000), and a 30-amp electrical service installation.

Airport Fund (295) — \$25,080

The proposed budget of \$25,080 is \$4,260 less than the FY2025-2026 approved budget, primarily due to a contract labor reduction from \$10,000 to \$5,000 (elevated tree removal costs in the prior year drove that line significantly over its original target budget). Employer insurance increases by \$1,700. Airport revenue from lease and tie-down fees is expected at \$4,600, resulting in a net township cost of approximately \$20,480.

Personnel and Salaries

Total proposed salaries, wages, and benefits for FY2026-2027 are \$469,742, a decrease of \$75,912 from the FY2025-2026 approved total of \$545,654. This decrease is entirely attributable to the elimination of EMS staffing costs through the NEMSA transition. Excluding the Ambulance Fund, personnel costs are stable.

Elected Officials

Position	FY25-26 Approved	FY26-27 Proposed	Notes
Supervisor	\$13,211	\$13,211	Unchanged; Deputy position not funded
Clerk	\$26,440	\$26,440	Established rate
Treasurer	\$25,779	\$25,779	Established rate
Assessor	\$64,260	\$50,710	(new hire) — staffing transition pending
Trustees (x2)	\$4,326	\$4326	Unchanged
Supervisor Deputy	\$0	\$0	Not funded

Staff Positions

Position	FY26-27 Proposed	Basis / Notes
Maintenance Lead	\$52,000	Salary adjustment
Clerk Deputy	\$14,820	Part-time
Treasurer Deputy	\$10,400	Part-time
Golf Course Manager	\$50,000	Seasonal; May–October
League Coordinator	\$9,270	Seasonal; May–October
Clubhouse Attendant(s)	\$18,000	Seasonal; May–October
Golf Maintenance Tech	\$5,300	Seasonal; May–October
Park Manager	\$20,000	Seasonal; May–October
Museum Manager	\$9,500	Hours increased from previous year
Custodial Technician	\$6,500	\$25/hr, 1 hr/day, 5 days/week
Airport Manager	\$3,000	Part-time
Cemetery Sexton	\$1,500	Part-time
Social Media Coordinator	\$6,000	Contract
Board of Review	\$2,700	Per-meeting stipend
Election Workers	\$3,500	As-needed
Fire Chief / Officers	\$7,500	Established rate
Firefighter Wages	\$13,125	Volunteer response pay

All figures are proposed and subject to Board approval.

Notable Items in This Budget

The following items represent the most significant changes, new expenditures, or context that residents and Board members may find helpful when reviewing this budget.

1. NEMSA — 24/7 EMS Coverage at Approximately \$20,000 Per Month

The transition to NEMSA means Drummond Island will have professional, 24/7 emergency medical coverage at a cost of approximately \$20,000 per month, or roughly \$240,000 per year. This level of coverage was not achievable under the previous township-staffed model at the same cost. Of the total annual cost, \$80,000 is budgeted directly in the Ambulance Fund. The remaining approximately \$160,000 is being funded from the township's dedicated emergency savings reserve — a fund that exists specifically for this purpose and is continuously replenished by emergency service tax revenue the township receives back from Chippewa County and surplus revenue.

A millage to permanently fund NEMSA services will appear on the ballot for voters across all participating townships in 2028. If approved, it will create a dedicated revenue stream and end the reliance on reserve draws for this cost. In the meantime, the township has the reserves in place to responsibly cover the full obligation.

2. Golf Course Mower — Interest-Free Purchase Using Township Savings

The Golf Course New Equipment line includes \$12,500 per year as the annual repayment on a rough mower the township is purchasing directly from its own savings rather than through outside financing. This approach means every dollar of that repayment goes back into township reserves rather than to a lender as interest. The total mower cost is approximately \$68,599, with the repayment structured over approximately five years. The golf cart lease (\$16,100 annually) makes up the remainder of the New Equipment line.

3. Assessor's Office — Staffing Transition

The Assessor salary line of \$50,710 reflects a planned staffing transition.

4. Community Days — A New Annual Event

For the first time, this budget includes \$4,000 for a Community Days event under Community Promotion. This is a new investment in community programming with no prior-year history in the budget. Details on the planned event will be available at the public hearing.

5. Skating Rink — Concrete Repairs

The Skating Rink budget line has been increased to cover needed concrete repairs to the rink surface. This is a one-time maintenance investment to preserve the facility for continued community use.

Public Hearing Information

Michigan law requires the Township Board to hold a public hearing on the proposed budget before adoption. This hearing is your opportunity as a resident to ask questions and share your comments before the Board takes a final vote.

Hearing Details

Date & Time	March 21, 2026 at 10:00 AM
Location	Frank J Sasso Township Hall, Drummond Island, Michigan
Full Budget Available	Township offices during business hours
Written Comments	Submit to the Township offices prior to or at the hearing
Questions in Advance	Contact Krystal Truax, Township Supervisor

This document is issued for public information purposes in advance of the annual budget public hearing required under Michigan law. All figures are proposed and subject to amendment and formal approval by the Drummond Island Township Board. The budget becomes effective only upon Board adoption. Nothing in this document constitutes a final appropriation or commitment of township funds.

Narrative prepared by Krystal Truax, Township Supervisor, March 2026.