

BENTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 10, 2023

7:00 pm

The Benton Charter Township Board meeting was held at the Township Hall, 5136 Windsor Hwy., Potterville, MI 48876 at 7:00 PM on July 10, 2023.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Gary Suits, led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Gary Suits. Roll Call for Board Members included: Gary Suits, Supervisor, Karen Miller, Treasurer, Joy Suits, Clerk, Scott Hoornstra, Charles Meddaugh, Chris Tennes, Dave Falsetta - Trustees .

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chris moved to accept the agenda, Charles supported. Motion was passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the Board meeting on June 12, 2023 were presented. Karen moved to approve the minutes, Scott supported. Roll Call VOTE: Motion was passed unanimously.

RECOGNIZE VISITORS & PUBLIC COMMENT: Benton Township Fire Department representatives, Chief James, Asst Chief Don Buck, Chad Chambers, Roy Gilbertson, Eaton County Commissioner Brian Droscha, Eaton County Deputies Lorenzo and Shier.

REPORTS TO BOARD:

Sheriff's Report: Deputy Dylan Lorenzo led the discussion of the Sheriff's Report . 94 events were listed, including 20 traffic violations/stops, 12 motorist/citizen assist accidents, 4 larceny. Report will be put on file.

Fire Department Report – Chief James gave the Fire Department Report which included the CHEMDOT 2023 Exercise, training for Cardiovascular

emergencies, and the Potterville Public Schools Field Day. Calls for service included (Fire) 8 City of Potterville, 5 Benton Township, 5 mutual aid and (EMS) 27 city of Potterville, 9 Benton Township, 27 mutual aid.

The Fire Department's Report will be put on file.

Bills. Bills for June were paid \$11,222.15, Payroll \$10,438.42 Motion to accept bills made by Karen supported by Chuck. Roll Call VOTE: 7 Yeas
0 Nays

Clerk Report: Joy gave report. Work included hiring of new deputy clerk, Carah Spadafore,.

Paid Bills, contractors and staff. Cemetery requests for burials, foundations, and burial spaces. Prepared publications, other duties of the clerk. Statutory duties of the office performed. Clerk report will be put on file.

Treasurer Report: Karen gave report. Made bank deposits, monitored investments, assisted with zoning and cemetery calls. Completed bank reconciliations. Gathered documents for Audit. Mailed Tax Bill for 2023 Summer tax season. Working with county on back data bases. Working on Treasurer's training manual. Treasurer Report will be on file.

Supervisor Report: Gary gave report. Attended Planning Commission Meeting, Township Board Meeting and Fire Board Meeting. Assisted with Zoning applications, calls and office encounters. Worked on Ordinance complaints and violation reports with OEO regarding problem properties. Prep work for Board meetings. Worked on plans for Meeting room desk. Work with Tammy on Planning and Zoning issues. Performed Statutory Duties of the office. Supervisor report will be put on file.

Assessors Report: Report was provided by Gary. 2 building permit was issued, 2 bank foreclosures, and 1 recent Mortgage Company sale.

Planning and Zoning: Report was provided by Gary which included 9 phone/email discussions, 4 new Zoning Compliance Permits processed , 0

Zoning Board of Appeals Petition land division and 2 zoning amendment applications. Planning and Zoning Report on file.

Ordinance Enforcement: Report was provided by Gary. Robert Bashore working to address complaints at 3 sites. Activity included 3 site visits to research possible violations and a Zoom Training on Zoning Litigation Enforcement. Report will be put on file.

Correspondence: `Notification of Necessity for improvement of the Potter Drain from the Eaton County Drain Commissioner.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

- Discussion about the maintenance of landscaping in the front of the Benton Charter Township Hall.
- Continued discussion on the new or improved Fire Department. Gary proposed an AD HOC committee comprised of 2 township board members, 2 fire department members, and 3-5 township citizens from various interests, in Benton Charter Township.

Public Comment Commissioner Droscha gave an update on current County projects.

Adjournment: Chuck made a motion to adjourn, supported by Scott. All board members voted yea. Meeting Adjourned at 8:34 P.M.

Joy Suits, Clerk