

BENTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 11, 2024 7:02 PM**

The Benton Charter Township Board meeting was held at the Township Hall, 5136 Windsor Hwy, Potterville, MI 48876 at 7:02 PM on November 11, 2024

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, Carah Spadafore-Clerk, Karen Miller-Treasurer -Absent, Scott Hoornstra, Dave Falsetta, Charles Meddaugh, Chris Tennes- Trustees

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Chris moved to accept the Agenda Scott supported. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the Board meeting on October 14th, 2024 were presented. Scott moved to approve the minutes supported by Chris. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes from the Special Board meeting on October 16th, 2024 were presented Scott moved to approve the minutes supported by Charles. Motion passed unanimously.

RECOGNIZE VISITORS Robert Bashor, Nick George, Brian Droscha, Jake Arndt, Kelly Coburn` Harris, James Betha, Mike Wakey, Nancy Meddaugh, Rick Sullivan, Tonya Anzaldua and other unnamed visitors.

REPORTS TO BOARD:

Sheriff's Report: 65 events were listed, 10 Traffic Violations, 7 Traffic Stops, car deer accidents. **Report will be put on file.**

Fire Department Report: Fire Report was given by Jake Arndt & Nick George **Report will be put on file.**

Bills: Were approved, Bills for October were paid \$133,645.96
Chris made the motion to approve, supported by Charles. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea, Gary- Yea, Carah-Yea Charles-Yea . Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Karen - Absent

Clerk Report: Carah gave report.

This election season was our most successful one yet we were first to the county with a balanced complete tally, given the team we had we were able to deliver quality and control over the intense tiny though important details the election required. Thank you to the board for approving the extra help needed to make this happen. And although I had quite a bit of help I was still needed for many extra hours and days to make sure the office of the clerk remained operating. Assisted with tax calls, tax payments, tax statement requests, zoning inquiries, and payroll, paid bills, contractors and staff, sent publications/postings to paper. Cemetery

requests for burials, foundations, and burial spaces, prepared packets for meetings, ran errands, ordered supplies, and other statutory duties for the position. Clerk report will be on file

Treasurer Report: Karen gave report.

Collected tax payments, Taxes collected, Paid tax liabilities for the month

Began reconciling bank accounts will finish up when remaining entries are complete. Answer phone calls and walk in for funeral, election and zoning inquires. Updated financial and investment spreadsheets, these will be updated along with reconciliations. Signed and mailed checks. Communicated with Tim at Riverside concerning Fire Department financials. Treasurer Report will be on file.

Supervisor Report: Gary gave report.

Work with Tammy on planning and zoning issues, zoning applications calls and counter encounters. Worked with Bob on ordinance complaints and violations. Prep work for meetings. Statutory duties of the office and more. Exploratory committee duties / N/A. Attended: Planning Commission meeting- na Township Board meeting - 10/14/24 Special meeting - 10/16/24 FD Exploratory mtg - na

Supervisor report will be put on file.

Assessors Report: Report was provided by Gary.

7 permit issued 0 bank foreclosures and 2 recent Mortgage Company sale.

Report will be put on file.

Planning and Zoning: Report was provided by Gary.

Which included 8 phone/email discussions, 1 new Zoning Compliance Permits processed, 0 Zoning Board of Appeals Petition land division, 1 Special Use Permit, and 0 Site Plan Permit.

Report will be put on file.

Ordinance Enforcement: Report was provided by Bob Bashor. Report will be put on file

Report of Exploratory Committee Nothing to report.

Correspondence: Engineers report was given by Gary.

Unfinished Business:

Motion was made to wait on hiring new Fire Chief until next meeting, motioned by Charles seconded by Dave. Motion passed unanimously

New Business:

Motion to hire Rick Sullivan for full time EMT motioned by Chris seconded by Scott. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea., Gary- Yea, Carah-Yea Charles-Yea Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Karen - Absent

Motion to accept new Insurance proposal from David Chapman Agency, and approved the payment for the insurance was motioned by Chris seconded by Scott. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea., Gary-Yea, Carah-Yea Charles-Yea Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Karen - Absent

Motion to buy new Law Notice was motioned by Charles seconded by Scott. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave-Yea, Chris-Yea., Gary- Yea, Carah-Yea Charles-Yea Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Karen - Absent

Motion to reimburse food for Election workers was motioned by Chris seconded by Scott. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea., Gary- Yea, Carah-Yea Charles-Yea Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Karen – Absent

Motion was made to make Jack Temsey new member for Planning and Zoning Commission, motioned by Carah seconded by Chris. Motion passed unanimously

Approved if legal, extension on presenting new budget, Gary will research. was motioned by Charles seconded by Chris. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea., Gary- Yea, Carah-Yea Charles-Yea Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Karen – Absent

Motion was made to Table Employee Discipline until January 13th 2025. Motioned by Chris seconded by Scott. Motion passed unanimously

Public Comment

Public comment was heard

Adjournment: Gary made a motion to adjourn, supported by Charles. All board members voted Yea.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:41 P.M. Carah Spadafore, Clerk