

**BENTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
December 09, 2024 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 December 09, 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, Karen Miller-Treasurer, Scott Hoornstra, Dave Falsetta, Neal Rohrs, Chris Tennes- Trustees Carah Spadafore-Clerk-Absent

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes from the Board meeting on November 11th, 2024 were presented. Chris moved to approve the minutes supported by Scott. Motion passed unanimously.

**RECOGNIZE VISITORS** Robert Bashor, Dennis Miccer, Brad Hyner, Tara Lowe, Brian Droscha, Jake Arndt, Kelly Coburn` Harris, Tonya Anzaldua and other unnamed visitors.

**REPORTS TO BOARD: Sheriff's Report:** 67 events were listed, 14 car deer accidents. 7 Traffic Violations, 6 Traffic Stops, **Report will be put on file.**

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

**Bills:** Were approved, Bills for November were paid \$36,011.37

Chris made the motion to approve, supported by Gary. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea, Gary- Yea, Karen-Yea Neal -Yea . Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Carah - Absent

**F.D. REPORT:** F.D. Bills Were Approved.

Karen made the motion to approve, supported by Chris. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea, Gary- Yea, Karen-Yea Neal -Yea . Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Carah - Absent

Motion to Hire Michelle for FD was motioned by Chris seconded by Scott. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave-Yea, Chris-Yea., Gary- Yea, Karen -Yea Neal -Yea Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Carah - Absent

**Clerk Report:** Tonya gave report.

We had a very successful election and thankful for an amazing team who worked with incredible accuracy and quality! Many new election workers who have joined our team, these new team members were a tremendous gift our Election Day crew. Dianna Bosworth was shocked when she saw us come through the door at 9:45pm because it was so early and was grateful for a balanced organized report from our workers.

Assisted with tax calls, tax statement requests, zoning inquiries, and payroll, paid bills, contractors and staff, sent publications/postings to paper. prepared packets for meetings, and other statutory duties for the position. Clerk report will be on file

**Treasurer Report:** Karen gave report.

Collected tax payments, 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 funerals, election and zoning inquires. Signed and mailed checks. Purchased office supplies. Attended additional training through MMTA  
**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, worked on the budget.

**Supervisor report will be put on file.**

**Assessors Report:** Report was provided by Gary.

3 permit issued 0 bank foreclosures and 1 recent Mortgage Company sale.

**Report will be put on file.**

**Planning and Zoning:** Report was provided by Gary.

Planning Commission Report was given.

Which included 10 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.**

Motion to Speak about Foster Care Home motioned by Scott seconded by Chris. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea., Gary- Yea, Karen-Yea Neal-Yea Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Carah - Absent

Motion to accept Planning Commission meeting report after deadline for Agenda was motioned by Chris seconded by Scott. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea., Gary- Yea, Karen -Yea Neal -Yea Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Carah - Absent

Motion to wait until January to Hire Chief for the FD was motioned by Chris seconded by Dave. Motion passed unanimously

Motion to bring in an Attorney for Public acts 233 & 234 was motioned by Chris seconded by Scott. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea., Gary- Yea, Karen -Yea Neal -Yea Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Carah - Absent

Motion to approve Planning Commission meeting dates for 2025 was motioned by Scott seconded by Karen. Motion passed unanimously

Motion to make Plaque Recognizing Jack Caughey's long standing service was motioned by Dave seconded by Gary. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea., Gary- Yea, Karen -Yea Neal -Yea Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Carah - Absent

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

**Report of Exploratory Committee** Nothing to report.

**Correspondence:** Nothing to report.

**Unfinished Business:**  
Nothing to report.

**New Business:**

**Motion was made to approve SUP 2024-002, motioned by Gary seconded by Scott. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea., Gary- Yea, Karen -Yea Neal -Yea Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Carah – Absent**

**Distribution of ARPA Funds turning over \$40,000 Loan to FD over to donation. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea., Gary- Yea, Karen -Yea Neal -Yea Motion carried 6 Yeas - 0 Nays. Carah – Absent**

**Public Comment**

**Public comment was heard**

**Adjournment: Chris made a motion to adjourn, supported by Scott. All board members voted Yea.**

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:08 P.M. Carah Spadafore, Clerk**