

BENTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 10, 2025 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 March 10, 2025

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, Scott Hoornstra, Dave Falsetta, Neal Rohrs, Chris Tennes- Trustees

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Gary moved to accept the Agenda with Chris supported. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the Board meeting on February 10th, 2025 were presented. Scott made the motion to approve, supported by Dave. Motion passed unanimously.

RECOGNIZE VISITORS PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Bashor, Dennis Miller, Brian Droscha, Jake Arndt, Nick George, Kelly Coburn` Harris, Carol Bemis, Garie Bemis, Bob Bashore. Rayan Garyn, Julie Kramer Gary Walters, Marlana Bernheisel, Scott Roberts, Nicole Roberts, Matt Miller, Dairus Reynnet and other unnamed visitors.

REPORTS TO BOARD: Sheriff's Report:

60 events were listed, 16 Traffic Stop, 9 Traffic Violations, 4 Car deer accident. Report will be put on file.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Fire Report was given by Nick George Report will be put on file.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BILLS:

Was approved, Chris made the motion to approve, supported by Karen. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave-Yea, Chris-Yea, Gary- Yea, Carah- Yea, Karen-Yea, Neal -Yea. Motion carried 7 Yeas - 0 Nays.

PAYROLL:

Was approved, Payroll for February were paid \$10,053.23

Chris made the motion to approve, supported by Scott. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea, Gary- Yea, Carah- Yea, Karen-Yea, Neal -Yea. Motion carried 7 Yeas - 0 Nays.

BILLS: Were approved, Bills for February were paid \$15,564.95

Chris made the motion to approve, supported by Scott. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea, Gary- Yea, Carah- Yea, Karen-Yea, Neal -Yea. Motion carried 7 Yeas - 0 Nays.

CLERK REPORT: Carah gave report.

Began Election process of preparations for May 6th Election, Worked with Attorneys on several FOIAS that came in, 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 the remainder of tax payments for the 2024 tax season. Any unpaid tax bills will be collected at the county level. We have 213,869.31 in delinquent being turned over to the county. This does not include any returned checks that we may receive in the next 5-7 days. We collected 4,533,143.97 in taxes for 2024 season. We received 107,131.83 for operating and 240,164.18 for fire services. Paid tax liabilities for the month. I started reconciling bank accounts. Updated financial report. Signed and mailed checks. Answered calls and walk ins for zoning, cemetery inquiries and tax collecting and general questions.

SUPERVISOR REPORT: Gary gave report.

Worked 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, processed and sent out tax assessments.

Supervisor report will be put on file.

ASSESSORS REPORT: Report was provided by Gary.

1 Permit issued, 0 bank foreclosures, 1 recent Mortgage Company sale.

PLANNING AND ZONING: Report was provided by Gary.

Which included 10 phone/email discussions, 1 new Zoning Compliance Permits processed, 1 Zoning Board of Appeals Petition land division, 0 Special Use Permit, and 0 Site Plan Permit.

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:

Consideration of computer software administrator and backup Chris made the motion to approve, supported by Karen. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea, Gary- Yea, Carah- Yea, Karen-Yea, Neal -Yea. Motion carried 7 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Consideration of IT administrator and backup Chris made the motion to approve, supported by Scott. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea, Gary- Yea, Carah- Yea, Karen-Yea, Neal -Yea. Motion carried 7 Yeas - 0 Nays.

A motion was made to table Month end process, financial reporting policy, Carah made the motion to table, supported by Chris. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea, Gary- Yea, Carah- Yea, Karen-Nay, Neal - Nay. Motion carried 5 Yeas - 2 Nays.

A motion was made to table Resolution – partial termination PA- 116 rights, Neal made the motion to table, supported by Karen. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Yea, Dave- Yea, Chris-Yea, Gary- Yea, Carah- Yea, Karen-Yea, Neal - Yea. Motion carried 7 Yeas - 0 Nays.

A motion was made to terminate establish procedure for township department inquiries and analysis. Neal made the motion to terminate, supported by Karen. Roll Call VOTE: Scott - Nay, Dave- Nay, Chris-Nay, Gary-Nay, Carah- Nay, Karen-Yea, Neal -Yea. Motion failed 2 Yeas - 5 Nays.

Public Comment was heard.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:35 P.M. Carah Spadafore, Clerk