

BENTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2025 7:00 PM

The Benton Charter Township Board meeting was held at the Township Hall, 5136 Windsor Hwy, Potterville, MI 48876 at 7:05 PM on April 14, 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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the Board meeting on March 10th, 2025 were presented. Chris made the motion to approve, supported by Neal. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes from Special Budget meeting on March 17, 2025 were presented. Scott made a motion to approve with amendment supported by Dave. Motion passed unanimously.

RECOGNIZE VISITORS PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Bashor, Dennis Miller, Brian Droscha, Jake Arndt, Connie Arndt, Marissa Arndt, Kelly Coburn` Harris, Steve Davidson, Carol Bemis, Garie Bemis, Michael Walker, John Baker, Lynn Forell, Karen Forell and other unnamed visitors.

REPORTS TO BOARD: Sheriff's Report:

66 events were listed, 17 Traffic Stop, 13 Traffic Violations, 6 Follow up of any kind. 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 as was the lease bill for the ambulance in the amount of \$33,297.26, 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.

BILLS: Were approved, Bills for March were paid \$38,074.44

Payroll was approved, Payroll for March were paid \$11,026.88 Chris made the motion to approve both payroll and bills, 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.

CLERK REPORT: Carah gave report.

Our pre-accuracy testing was successful. Ballots were sent out flawlessly due to a great team. Worked with attorneys on several FOIA's that came in. Assisted with tax calls, tax payments tax statement requests, zoning inquiries, 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.

Paid tax liabilities for the month. Reconciled all bank accounts. Updated financial report. Signed and mailed checks. Signed Fire Department checks. Answered calls and walk ins for zoning, cemetery inquiries and general questions. Ordered office supplies. Deposited all township funds into appropriate accounts. Sam's registration updated. Continue to monitor investments. Updated investment spreadsheet. Provided completed bank reconciliations to auditors. Started prepping documents for auditors.

Treasurers report will be on file

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 Board of Review -public meeting. Attended Planning commission meeting was cancelled. Township Board meeting on 3/10/2025 and Special Budget meeting on 3/17/2025. Supervisor report will be put on file.

ASSESSORS REPORT: Report was provided by Gary.

2 Building Permits issued, 0 bank foreclosures, 1 recent Mortgage Company sale.

PLANNING AND ZONING: Report was provided by Gary.

Which included 9 phone/email discussions, 1 new Zoning Compliance Permits processed, 0 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:

Motion to make Clerk-Carah Spadafore Computer software for BS&A backup administrator, Carah 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.

Motion to make Clerk-Carah Spadafore IT administrator backup, Carah 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.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget adjustment to be postponed was motioned by Gary and seconded by Carah. Roll Call Karen – Yea, Gary – Yea, Carah – Yea, Chris – Yea, Dave – Yea, Scott – Yea, Neal _ Yea

Motion to use Total Security monitoring was motioned by Neal and seconded by Scott. Roll Call Gary – Yea, Carah – Yea, Chris – Yea, Dave – Yea, Scott – Yea, Neal – Yea, Karen – Yea

Motion to appoint Gabridge And Company as the new Auditor was motioned by Chris and seconded by Scott. Roll Call Neal – Yea, Karn – Yea, Gary – Yea, Carah – Yea, Chris – Yea, Dave – Yea, Scott - Yea

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

MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:08 P.M. Carah Spadafore, Clerk