



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON

Gary Griewahn
Supervisor
Janet Moden
Clerk
Harold Gregg
Treasurer

3804 S. ADRIAN HIGHWAY
ADRIAN, MI 49221
517-263-9313 Fax: 517-263-4569

TRUSTEES
Howard Bales
Matt Carpenter
Ralph Benschoter
Chad Rodgers

Madison Township Board Meeting
Held in Person and Electronically (Zoom)
Minutes of May 9, 2023

7:00 p.m. Board Meeting called to order, with a silent prayer, and pledge to the flag said by all.

ROLL CALL:

Present in person: Griewahn, Gregg, Moden, Rodgers, Benschoter, Carpenter, and Bales.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MTG MINUTES 4/11/23:

Motion by Bales, supported by Rodgers to dispense reading and approve the monthly Board meeting minutes as written for 4/11/2023. Motion was carried 7-0.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL BOARD MTG MINUTES 5/4/23:

Motion by Bales, supported by Benschoter to dispense reading and approve the monthly Board meeting minutes as written for 5/4/2023. Motion was carried 7-0.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: Griewahn stated reminder of the Anderson Dev. Tire and Paint Disposal on May 13, from 8 to noon.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS: Zoom introduction of Laura Hallahan, our Tax Tribunal attorney representing us in Wal-Mart tax reduction legal action. She reported that Wal-Mart had prevailed in their request for a reduction which is bad news for the Township, County and Schools. She suggested that we appeal the decision due to multiple errors, 2021 information was not supported by evidence, testimony that was denied that would have helped our case, and testimony that was outside of the scope was allowed. We have until May 24 to file an appeal. Our attorney, Castleberry, will prepare a memo for the board to look into, as well as talk to the county administrator to see if the County is willing to go half with us again on the legal fees if we choose to go forward with the appeal. A special board meeting will be called before the May 24 deadline to vote on whether to appeal the final decision or not.

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None



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3-MINUTE DEPT. HEAD UPDATES:

Fire: Chief Wilson reported that he is trying out a new style of report, which is currently quite lengthy, for his monthly board reports. He may trim it back if he receives feedback that it's too much information.

Police: Chief Shadbolt, absent-excused, he reported that the ordinances in motion with the courts are moving along. It was stated that Ben Oram, has been hired as a full-time police officer who will serve as the SRO for Sand Creek Schools. He will start on 5/22/23. He has been sworn in by Clerk Moden.

Water/Sewer: Watterson reported that his department will start the hydrant flushing this week. He also stated that the City of Adrian is receptive to working with us on the cost of the Sewer study that will be done soon with Tetra Tech.

Inspection: Dave Rincon reported that

Legal: None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Rodgers, supported by Benschoter to approve the consent agenda. Roll call vote: Griewahn, Yes; Gregg, Yes; Moden, Yes; Rodgers, Yes; Benschoter, Yes; Carpenter, Yes; and Bales, Yes. Motion carried 7-0.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES 4/18/2023

Minutes were read and submitted for approval by Benschoter, supported Carpenter. Motion passed 7-0

Discussion about the resignation of Amy Hepker-Wilson as secretary due to meeting schedule changes and times.

Recommendation by committee to increase the per meeting rate from \$30.00 per meeting to \$60.00 per meeting for the Chairman and the Secretary due to the duties of these positions. Motion by Benschoter to increase the pay for the Chairman and Secretary of this committee to \$60.00 per meeting.

There was much discussion regarding this subject as there had already been an increase in the meeting rate in 2022, and if it was done for this committee it would not be fair to the other committees, they should be treated the same. It was discussed that currently the publish of notices, minutes are handled by our Administrative Asst. and the Clerk in most cases. It was mentioned that maybe there be specific duties for Chairs and Secy of committees.

The motion on the floor was not supported, so the motion to increase the Chairman and Secretary fees of this committee to \$60.00 per meeting failed and is dead.



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OLD BUSINESS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Approval of Steven Mann, of Miller, Canfield Law Firm, for Water Project:

After a special presentation to the entire board at the special board meeting on 5/4/2023 a motion was made by Bales, supported by Rodgers, to hire Steven Mann, of Miller, Canfield Law Firm to handle the bonds financing and sale by Private Placement method, for the proposed Water/Sewer Project for Madison Twp. Roll Call Vote. Griewahn, Yes; Gregg, Yes; Moden, Yes; Rodgers, Yes; Benschoter, Yes; Carpenter, Yes; and Bales, Yes. Motion carried 7-0.

CivicPlus:

After a special presentation to the entire board at the special board meeting on 5/4/2023 a motion was made by Moden, supported by Bales, to use CivicPlus (Municode) Codification of Ordinances and Meeting/Agenda Programs at a quoted cost of approx. \$21,000 the first year for both programs. Roll Call Vote. Griewahn, Yes; Gregg, Yes; Moden, Yes; Rodgers, Yes; Benschoter, Yes; Carpenter, Yes; and Bales, Yes. Motion carried 7-0. Quotes were also given for subsequent years as well.

Motion by Gregg, supported by Rodgers to make a budget adjustment for the CivicPlus purchase of \$21,000.00 to Twp Hall - Contractual Services Acct. 101-265-805-000 and the funds should come from the ARPA funds. Roll Call Vote. Griewahn, Yes; Gregg, Yes; Moden, Yes; Rodgers, Yes; Benschoter, Yes; Carpenter, Yes; and Bales, No. Motion carried 6-1.

Road Work on Cadmus Rd and Porter Hwy.

Griewahn reported that the Lenawee Road Commission had notified him that both Fairfield and Palmyra have failed to support the joint township road repairs scheduled. He was suggesting that we move two of our scheduled 2024 road projects up to 2023, which would be Cadmus Rd. and Porter Hwy. The approx. cost for Cadmus would be \$92,000. and Porter Hwy. \$35,395. There was much discussion. A motion by Griewahn, supported by Rodgers to move the improvements to Cadmus Rd and Porter Hwy from 2024 to 2023. Roll Call Vote. Griewahn, Yes; Gregg, No; Moden, No; Rodgers, No; Benschoter, Yes; Carpenter, Yes; and Bales, No. Motion failed 3-4.

There was further discussion about how to get these shared areas done, it was suggested that Madison pay it all and allow the other township to pay us back over a period of time. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS: None



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ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS: None

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

.Dale Thielan: Member of Planning Committee expressed that he felt that the Chairperson and Secretary should be paid the \$60.00 for their position for all the work that they do.

Cathy Thielan: W. Gier Rd. She asked the Clerk if there was going to be a need for more office help to be able to setup and use the new CivicPlus programs. Clerk Moden stated that no, most of the work can be done with the help of our current part-time office help who has the computer skills to help where needed in the process.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT/RECESS: Motion by Rodger, seconded by Benschoter, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-Yes; 0-No. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Submitted by:

Janet Moden
Township Clerk