



# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON

Gary Griewahn  
*Supervisor*  
Janet Moden  
*Clerk*  
Harold Gregg  
*Treasurer*

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TRUSTEES  
Howard Bales  
Matt Carpenter  
Ralph Benschoter  
Chad Rodgers

Madison Township Board Meeting  
Held in Person and Electronically (Zoom)  
Minutes of July 12, 2022

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: 6/14/2022

Motion by Bales, supported by Rodgers to dispense reading and approve the Board meeting minutes as written for 6/14/2022. Motion was carried 7-0.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:** Carpenter mentioned that we needed to address the tabled item from our last meeting having to do with the inspector's agreement. It was determined that this subject could be part of the minutes of the Inspector's committee and dealt with in that area of the meeting. No additions to the agenda.

**PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:** Clerk Moden read an announcement from the Lenawee County Solid Waste department regarding the disposal of tires on August 25<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Lenawee County Recycling Drop Off site on Race St. in Adrian.

Clerk Moden also announced the August 2, 2022 Michigan Primary Election will be held from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. Absentee Ballots requests must be in by August 1, 2022.

## INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

Supervisor Griewahn allowed A. J. Brown Jr. to speak to the board on behalf of A. J. Brown, owner of Ace Drill property in Madison Twp. He was allowed 10 minutes of time to speak. Mr. Brown was asking the board to settle the lawsuit that Mr. Brown had against the Township by allowing them to circumvent the ruling by the Zoning Board of Appeals to not allow the variance in the Marijuana Overlay requirements of 50 foot property boundary lines. After Mr. Brown submitted documents to the board about the property in question, and his concerns about buying neighboring lots that have sheds to would then violate the ordinance rules, Dave Rincon, building official for Madison Twp. retrieved a copy of the ordinance and gave an interpretation



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of the ordinance that would not need the shed to have a variance if Brown was to buy the additional footage from the Holt property owner. This corrected information could change the outcome for the Browns, with out requiring any further action by the board. No further action was taken by the board at this time.

**LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** John McKeon, resident spoke up about an issue that he had with being asked to pay for tap into the water system, that he should not be charge because he had already paid \$1,000. for it many years ago but just never hooked up to it. It was done under a special agreement with the board at the time. Gary said he would look into it.

“Red” Jacobs started talking about grass in her neighborhood that had not been kept mowed. Clerk Moden asked the Supervisor, what agenda items both of these issues were pertaining to, to be raised at this point in the meeting. Supervisor Griewahn explained to both parties that both of these issues should be raised at the end of the meeting, where any public comments are heard, at this point in the meeting it was only if there were questions from the public about the items on the current agenda for this meeting.

### **3-MINUTE DEPT. HEAD UPDATES:**

**Fire:** Chief reported that he is closely tracking fire/EMS vehicle maintenance costs by individual vehicles. This will allow him to have a clear picture of which vehicle are costing us the most and how to manage them within the department for replacement. The new Tower Fire Truck was parked in the parking lot for this meeting so everyone could see it. There were some big repairs finished on Engine 3. He reported that Fairfield now has 6 members in their Fire Dept. and are making some positive progress at this time slowly.

**Police:** Chief Shadbolt reported that his department has been busy, they had a large outdoor event on the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend at Crossroads Church on U. S 223. All went well and no major incidents with behavior or traffic. Jimmy Ensor, part time ordinance officer has resigned effective June 30. Their department has had some vehicle repairs costing \$1200.

**Water/Sewer:** Watterson reported that the water meters that were approved last month have been ordered, he is looking at September delivery dates at this point. There was a small leak on Taylor Dr., they are waiting on parts. When asked about when the Water Tower is expected to be power washed, he replied that he is waiting to hear back from the company that does it for the township.

**Inspection:** Dave Rincon reported that building was pretty status quo, with land splits inquiries being up.

**Legal:** Fred Lucas, township attorney, reported that since the last meeting that he had talked with the assessor about the proposal to purchase 3 acres of farmland from Harry Schadewald for use by the Water system, and was told that farmland was going for \$5000 to \$7000 an acre for



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farmland, and approximately \$15,000 an acre for residential lots. Fred contacted Dale Smith, lawyer for Harry Schadewald and told him to contact his client and let him know that \$50,000 and acre is not acceptable. Smith has not hear back from Mr. Schadewald as of this time.

Fred also spoke to the information that he had on the Walmart Tax Tribunal trial. The trial was in process, Walmart did not want to settle. There is no opinion as of yet, it may be a while before the Judge rules on the outcome of the trial.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:** 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.

**OLD BUSINESS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**INSPECTOR COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: 6/30/2022**

Carpenter read the minutes of the meeting and submitted a motion to approve as read, supported by Bales. Motion Carried 7-0

The committee presented a copy of an agreement that they recommended that all inspectors hired to represent the township should sign for a period of one year, that spells out the expectations, for their services. There was discussion as to whether we should remove the specific dollar amount paid, but legal counsel stated that it should stay as stated for now.

Motion by Moden, supported by Bales to approve the Inspector Committees recommended agreement document, for all inspectors to sign and operate under while representing Madison Charter Township. Motion carried 7-0.

Further discussion was held as to what was tabled from the last meeting, and it was clarified that it was about the actual hiring of another inspector before an agreement document was drafted. It was discussed that maybe each agreement should come before the board to be approved, that inspectors should have handbooks to follow for behavior, Bales stated that they are not employees, that Dave Rincon should be accountable for any number of inspector that he wants to hire.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS:**



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Moden: Election inspector's have been recruited and are awaiting training for the August 2, 2022 Michigan Primary Election. She presented a list of people, but stated they will only be eligible to work, if they attend the training by the County Clerk on Aug 14, 2022. There are approximately 30 people on the list. She also announced the Township Public Accuracy testing of Election equipment will take place on Aug 25<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm. as published in the newspaper.

Griewahn: Stated that the Township Board of Review will be meeting on July 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm to correct any errors that is brought before the board.

During the most recent Township Employee Staff meeting it was discussed that there are some very impending issues that need to be addressed with the roofing and maintenance of our current buildings. There will be specific quotes to be sought for the Building and Grounds Committee to consider in the near future.

Supervisor wanted to acknowledge and appreciate the hard work and dedication of Officer Jimmy Ensor during his employment as the Ordinance Officer.

### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS:**

"Red" Jacobs, spoke again about the grass issues on Allen St., specifically back by the woods, a narrow piece of property, doesn't know who owns it now. Rincon stated he would check on ownership. She also invited the fire and police to the Madison Meadow get-to-gather at Reuban Vargas house on August 20<sup>th</sup>.

Jan Bishop, of 1896 Allen St. stated that her road ditch always has water in it, she has talked with the Road Commission and the Drain Commission and neither are willing to deal with it. It was likely not drained properly from when the house was first built.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS: None**

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

Submitted by:

Janet Moden  
Township Clerk