



# 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  
Larry Liedel

Madison Township Board Meeting  
Held in Person and Electronically due to Covid-19 restrictions from Gov. Whitmer  
Minutes of April 13, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Gary Griewahn. Silent prayer time was offered. The pledge to the American Flag was said by all.

### ROLL CALL:

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

### APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF March 9, 2021:

Motion by Bales, supported by Liedel, to dispense reading and approve meeting minutes of 3/9/21. Roll Call Vote taken: : Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion carried 7-0.

### APPROVAL OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF March 22, 2021:

Motion by Bales, supported by Benschoter, to dispense reading and approve meeting minutes of 3/22/21. Roll Call Vote taken: : Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion carried 7-0.

### AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Clerk Moden made a motion to amend the agenda to include in New Business to add Cemetery Lawncare Contract, seconded by Carpenter. Roll Call Vote taken: : Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion carried 6-1.

### PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

Clerk Moden stated that she had received a letter and form from Diana Schulz of E. Gier Rd. regarding donations needed for Alzheimer's Assoc. of MI, while a very worthy cause, she stated that she would post the form for public review until Oct. 3, 2021. They are looking for gift cards and other items to be donated for silent auction.



## **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON**

Supervisor Griewahn state that he had received notice from Consumer's Energy that there will be an increase in electric rates effective June 2021 thru Sept 2021 during peak hours.

**INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS:** Sarah Rafko, from our Auditors, Cooley, Hehl, Sabo and Caulkins presented a summary of our 2020 final audit. After going over details of the audit, summarized that financially the township is in very good shape and noted that improved accounting practices have helped to achieve this goal.

**LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:** None

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion to approve a consent agenda by Liedel, supported by Gregg. Roll Call Vote taken: Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-No. Motion Carried 6-1.

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 3/17/2021: *The minutes for this meeting were approved at Special Board Mtg on 3/22/21.***

Motion by Liedel, supported by Benschoter to increase Dave Rincon, Building Official, hourly wage by \$2.00/hr., retro back to January 1, 2021 when he started for doing the zoning workload. There was much discussion about the time when he started doing the zoning work, also whether he should be an "exempt" employee versus hourly paid. No vote taken on this motion.

Motion by Bales, supported by Benschoter to table the previous motion and move it to New Business. Motion carried 7-0

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 3/24/2021:**

Meeting minutes were read by Liedel, motion to approve the minutes by Benschoter, supported by Carpenter. Motion carried 7-0 It was mentioned that no contracts were on the agenda. No other action taken.

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 3/31/2021:**

Meeting minutes were read by Liedel, motion to approve the minutes by Benschoter, supported by Bales. Motion carried 7-0 No other action taken.



# **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON**

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Rivers Edge Street Lights Update:**

Attorney Lucas read the resolution he had prepared to set forth a resolution to the Rivers Edge Condo Assoc. regarding the streetlights for that area and the need for a special tax assessment to be put into place for the use and upkeep involved with the lights. Motion by Bales, supported by Griewahn to accept the resolution, as read and to approve a Public Hearing on the matter. Roll call vote: Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Attorney Lucas announced that there would be a Public Hearing on May 11, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. regarding the implementation of a Special Assessment for the Rivers Edge Street lighting, before the monthly May Board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

### **Add New Agenda Item to New Business:**

A motion was made by Griewahn, supported by Gregg to add another agenda Item to New Business by getting an update on the hunting blind that was build on the well property off Baldwin Hwy. Motion carried: 7-0

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Hiring Procedure:**

A written hiring procedure document was presented to the board for approval, so that it is used in all future hiring opportunities and that the process is fair and equal for all Charter Township of Madison hiring, in all departments.

Motion by Bales, supported by Gregg to accept this procedure for all future hiring processes. Roll call vote: Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion carried 7-0.

### **1013 W. Beecher St. – Land Split – Andy Borders**

Rex Murphy presented an approved land split for 1013 W. Beecher St. property owned by Andy Borders for the purpose of possible sale to two different people, there was discussion about the legal easement of use of the single road in that area to the prospective buyer, Jordan Campbell, and John Barrett. Motion to approve the land split was made by Griewahn, supported by Gregg, with the contingency that it includes a private road agreement that is subject to review by the township. Roll call vote: Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion carried 7-0.



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### **Cemetery Lawncare Contract:**

Clerk Moden stated that the current contract with Nate McVay was ended as of April 15, and that he has submitted a new contract with is much higher, due in part by him under determining the cost and time involved with this assignment. Moden asked the board what their pleasure was, to accept the McVay contract, or to put it up for bids, knowing that time to do bids could cause issues with mowing if it takes to long.

Motion by Carpenter, supported by Gregg that we put the lawncare for both cemeteries up for bid, in the next 10 days and that we vote on them at our special board meeting on April 27, 2021. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Hunting Blind on Township property - Baldwin Hwy:**

After discussion and clarification of the hunting blind issue on Township property a motion was made by Bales, supported by Gregg to have the township attorney to handle the legal work to see that the blind is removed by the people who put it there, without permission. Motion carried 7-0.

**Miles Drive:** The City of Adrian is paying for the improvements to Miles Dr., which is in the City of Adrian, as well as others such as the Sterling Estates and individuals. The township has no ownership in the street and is not contributing to this project, as the City of Adrian had requested.

**The meeting took a break from 8:15 – 8:19 due to the length of the meeting.**

### **Dept. Head Contracts:**

The discussion started out talking about the individual contracts of each department head, with Ryan Rank's being the first. Ryan was present, as were all of the other dept. heads, Tim Watterson, Mike Shadbolt, and David Rincon. During the discussion and questions that were being asked by board members, that there was still a lot of confusion as to the process that would be best used by the township board to address the individual contacts, how they were going to be administered if there were differences with the handbook, how the employee was to be classified, should there be shorter contracts than 4 years, questions on severance pay, the idea of STD/LTD insurance to help control and eliminate an unfunded liability from comp. pay and sick leave being banked, longevity pay, and termination pay length.



## **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON**

A motion by Moden, supported by Gregg to table the voting on all Dept. Head employment contracts, with their pay retro to April 13, 2021 until a special meeting is held on April 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. when everyone has had chance to be better informed on the contracts. Also, at that time the Cemetery lawncare bids can be looked at and decision made. Roll call vote: Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion carried 7-0.

### **ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS:**

Moden – Announced that we were informed by Blue Cross/Blue Shield that our increase for our renewal would be just over 4%, which is very good.

### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS:**

Ryan Rank, Fire Chief gave an update on the Fairfield Fire Dept agreement for ALS and Mgt of the Fairfield Fire Dept. It will cost Fairfield one half mill, or around \$29,000/yr. for services from Madison. The management is paid on a month-to-month basis.

Tim Watterson, Water/Sewer Mgr. stated that they will be audited on April 20<sup>th</sup> from the State of Mi.

Attorney Lucas stated that he would also investigate the trespass laws in connection to the hunting blind on Baldwin Hwy.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

### **ADJOURNMENT/RECESS:**

Motion by Benschoter, seconded by Liedel, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-Yes, 0-No. Meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Submitted by:

Janet Moden  
Township Clerk