

2022 CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF UNION
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Charter Township of Union Board of Trustees was held on December 14, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Union Township Hall.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present:

Supervisor Mielke, Clerk Cody, Treasurer Rice, Trustee Bills, Trustee Brown, Trustee Hauck, and Trustee Thering

Approval of Agenda

Cody moved Bills supported to approve the agenda as presented. Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Presentation

- a. Frank Engler, Isabella County Commissioner, gave updates on 911 Emergency CAT System upgrades and changes to the Material Recovery Facility (MRF).

Public Hearings

Public Comment

Open: 7:09 p.m.

Ben Gunning, 2270 E. Broomfield Rd., commented on the December 7th Zoning Board of Appeals meeting. Expressed his frustration to the open ended questions brought up during Final Board Comments to which the public doesn't hear the response.

Jim Haymaker, 5480 E. Valley Rd., thanked Trustee Hauck for his service to the Township and requested that his replacement be of the same political party.

Closed: 7:13 p.m.

Closed Session

Reports/Board Comments

A. Current List of Boards and Commissions – Appointments as needed

1. Reappointment to the Economic Development Authorities for a 4-year term

Hauck moved Brown supported to reappoint Robert Bacon for a 4-year term to the Economic Development Authorities with the term expiring 12/31/2027. Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion carried.

2. Reappointment to the Cultural and Recreational Commission for a 3-year term

Hauck moved Cody supported to reappoint Robert Sommerville for a 3-year term to the Cultural and Recreational Commission with the term expiring 12/31/2025. Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion carried.

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3. Reappointment to the Mid-Michigan Aquatic Recreational Authority for a 3-year term

Bills moved Thering supported to reappoint Allison Chiodini for a 3-year term to the Mid-Michigan Aquatic Recreational Authority with the term expiring 12/31/2025. **Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

4. Reappointment to the Board of Review for a 2-year term

Bills moved Brown supported to reappoint Doug LaBelle, Sarvjit Chowdhary, Bryan Neyer, and Randy Golden (Alt #1) for a 2-year term to the Board of Review with the term expiring 12/31/2024. **Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

5. Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3-year term

Cody moved Bills supported to appoint Richard Barz for a 3-year term to the Zoning Board of Appeals with the term expiring 12/31/2025. **Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

6. Reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3-year term

Cody moved Hauck supported to re-appoint Liz Presnell for a 3-year term to the Zoning Board of Appeals with the term expiring 12/31/2025. **Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

7. Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 2-year term

Cody moved Brown supported to appoint Eric Loose for a 2-year term to the Zoning Board of Appeals with the term expiring 12/31/2024. **Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

8. Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate #1 for a 2-year term

Cody moved Brown supported to appoint David Coyne for a 2-year term as an Alternate #1 to the Zoning Board of Appeals with the term expiring 12/31/2024.

9. Reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 1-year term

Cody moved Hauck supported to reappoint Brandon LaBelle for a 1-year term to the Zoning Board of Appeals with the term expiring 12/31/2023.

10. Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 2-year term

Cody moved Hauck supported to appoint Jeff Brown, Board of Trustee Representative, as an Alternate #2, for a 2-year term to the Zoning Board of Appeals with the term expiring 11/20/2024.

B. Planning Commission, EDA, Sidewalks, and ZBA updates by Community and Economic Development Director

C. Board Member Reports

Bills – gave an update on the Middle Michigan Quarterly Breakfast Meeting held on December 13th.
Rice – gave an update on the 2022 winter tax bills.

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Cody – gave an update on the Midland County Board of Canvassers Recount held on December 7th.
Hauck – gave an update on the Isabella County Road Commission meeting held December 8th.
Mielke – gave an update on the Board of Review Organizational Meeting held on December 13th.

Consent Agenda

- A. Communications
- B. Minutes – November 22, 2022 – Regular Meeting
- C. Accounts Payable
- D. Payroll
- E. Meeting Pay
- F. Fire Reports

Hauck moved **Bills** supported to approve the consent agenda as presented. **Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0.**
Motion carried.

New Business

A. Discussion/Action: (Stuhldreher) Consideration of Approving/Adopting the 2023 Budget

Bills moved **Hauck** supported to approve the adoption of the FY 2023 Appropriations Resolution covering the following funds: General, Fire, Special Assessment, East DDA, West DDA, 2% Grant, Sewer and Water and approval of the 2023 fee schedule and millage rates with the following changes: the water turn on/turn off fee for nonpayment is set for a onetime fee at \$45 and the turn on/turn off fee for regular business hours is set at \$45 each. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Mielke, Cody, Rice, Bills, Brown, Hauck, and Thering. Nays: 0. Motion carried**

B. Discussion/Action: (Stuhldreher) Adoption of the 2023 Meeting Schedule

Cody moved **Brown** supported to approve the proposed Board of Trustees meeting schedule for the 2023 calendar year in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. **Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

C. Discussion/Action: (Board of Trustees) Receipt of Trustee Hauck's Resignation Notice and Action to Accept.

Cody moved **Bills** supported to accept Trustee Hauck's resignation letter with an effective date of 12-31-22. **Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 1 Abstain: 1. Motion carried.**

Cody moved **Brown** supported to open up the Application process for the open Trustee position. Applications to be submitted to the Union Township Office by close of business day January 16, 2023. **Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 1. Motion carried.**

Rice moved **Brown** supported to appoint Clerk Cody as the Road Commission Liaison. **Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

D. Discussion/Action: (Stuhldreher) Policy Governance 2.4 Financial Planning/Budgeting

Discussion by the Board

E. Discussion/Action: (Board of Trustees) Policy Governance 3.0 Global Governance Commitment

Discussion by the Board

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: RESTRICTED TO 5 MINUTES REGARDING ANY ISSUE

Open: 8:48 p.m.

Ben Gunning, 2270 E. Broomfield Rd., questioned if appointing a Trustee to the ZBA is a conflict of interest.

Frank Engler, 1798 W River Rd., commented on proposal II and how local clerks feel about the proposal. Commented on the timeline to fill the vacant Board of Trustee seat.

Closed: 8:51 p.m.

MANAGER COMMENTS

- Reported on Union Township’s staff Annual Holiday Party held on December 9th.
- Staff scheduled a potluck lunch for the Trustees and staff to be held on December 22nd.
- Reminded the Board that the Township Manager will be out of the office the week of December 26th through January 8th.
- Wished everyone Happy Holidays

FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Brown – Lifted up Clerk Cody and feels it’s time to evaluate the clerk’s wages.

Bills – Wished everyone a happy holiday season and prosperous New Year. Asked for a breakdown of the clerk’s hours and duties to evaluate wages. Commented on applying for the Sparks grant.

Thering – Thank Clerk Cody for all she does and looks forward to the wage discussion. Thanked Trustee Hauck for all he’s done and wished him good luck.

Rice – Commented on Trustee Hauck being an asset to the Board and wished him good luck.

Mielke – Commented on the law/requirements of ZBA Appointments. Read aloud a postcard that he received from a resident.


Cody – Thanked Manager Stuhldreher for funding the Holiday Staff Party. Thanked Trustee Hauck and is sad to see him go.

Hauck – Hopes everyone noticed the change to LED lights in the Board Room, hopes that the Board compiles an ARPA funds list, and suggests that the Board reach out to the citizens for major decisions. Thanked the citizens and Board members for their support. Merry Christmas.

ADJOURNMENT

Brown moved **Rice** supported to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m. **Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

APPROVED BY:



Lisa Cody, Clerk



Bryan Mielke, Supervisor

(Recorded by Tera Green)