

**2023 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 April 26, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Union Township Hall.

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

**Bills moved Brown supported to appoint Trustee Thering as temporary clerk until Clerk Cody arrives. Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

**Roll Call**

Present:

Supervisor Mielke, Trustee Bills, Trustee Brown, Trustee Smith, and Trustee Thering

Excused:

Clerk Cody (late arrival) and Treasurer Rice

**Approval of Agenda**

**Bills moved Smith supported to approve the agenda as presented. Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

**Presentation**

**Public Meeting/Hearing**

a. Jennifer Hodges gave a presentation on the Clean Water Revolving Funds Project Plan. Discussion by the Board.

**\*7:27 p.m. Clerk Cody arrived.**

**Public Q&A**

Open: 7:35 p.m.

No comments were offered.

Closed: 7:36 p.m.

**Public Comment**

Open: 7:37 p.m.

No comments were given.

Closed: 7:37 p.m.

**Reports/Board Comments**

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

**B. April Monthly Activity Report**

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

**D. Board Member Reports**

Cody – Gave an update on the Isabella Road Commission meeting.

Bills – Gave updates on the April 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Isabella County Board of Commissioners meetings and

the April 19<sup>th</sup> MTA meeting.

Brown – Gave updates on the April 24<sup>th</sup> City Commissioners meeting.

Mielke – gave an update on the Pickard Street corridor streetlights.

### **Consent Agenda**

- A. Communications
- B. Minutes – April 5, 2023 – Joint Meeting and April 12, 2023 – Regular Meeting
- C. Accounts Payable
- D. Payroll
- E. Meeting Pay
- F. Fire Reports

**Bills moved Smith supported to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote: Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

### **New Business**

**A. Discussion/Action: (Smith) Consideration to Approve a Resolution in support of the Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund Project Plan**

**Brown moved Bills supported to approve a Resolution Adopting a Final Project Plan for Wastewater System Improvements through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and designating Kim Smith, Public Services Director as the Authorized Project Representative. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Mielke, Cody, Bills, Brown, Smith, and Thering. Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

**B. Discussion/Action: (Stuhldreher) Consideration to Amend Language to Clarify the Definition of Policy Governance 3.3.1**

**Bills moved Brown supported to approve an amendment to Policy Governance 3.3.1. Vote: Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

**C. Discussion/Action: (Teall) Policy Governance 2.5 Quarterly Financial Conditions and Activities**  
Discussion by the Board

**D. Discussion/Action: (Stuhldreher) Policy Governance 2.6 Asset Protection**  
Discussion by the Board

**E. Discussion/Action: (Stuhldreher) Policy Governance 3.4 Agenda Planning**  
Discussion of potential language changes

**F. Discussion/Action (Board of Trustees) Policy Governance 1.0 – 1.6 Review of Ends – Initial Discussion**

The board discussed the possibility of combining section 1.3 and 1.4 of the Ends to eliminate similarities and to correct a typographical error in section 1.5.4. There was discussion on how to incorporate language in section 1.6 to encourage job growth without sacrificing the Master Plan.

Trustee Smith – Manager and staff are enforcing policies put in place by the Board.

Manager Stuhldreher – Language that emphasizes the use of best practices in our development review processes is important to developer community and if said right it will not conflict with the

Master Plan. It has been communicated that the Township feels a lot different now than it did 5-7 years ago. I'm glad to hear that. That means the Township Administration is executing the policies that the Board talks about in the Ends.

Supervisor Mileke – Most of the pushback that we've got are complaints from developers that have been in the community for a long time. Developers that come from outside of the local area praise what we do and say that we are easy to work with. That tells me that the old timers see the change and that's hard.

Trustee Brown – I am one of the old boys network from a long time ago. From someone that has lived here all my life, who has lived through the process here at Union Township for the last 30 years in business, that old boys network needed to go. What we are doing now has made this township 100 times better in my opinion. So, it is a better process and it's a better community because of the policy governance focus and what we do now as a Township.

**EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: RESTRICTED TO 5 MINUTES REGARDING ANY ISSUE**

Open: 9:38 p.m.

No comments were offered.

Closed: 9:38 p.m.

**MANAGER COMMENTS**

- The public restrooms in the parks are now open.
- The township's new assessor, Jill Peters, started on Monday.
- Commented on the MERF report.
- The Care Store Drive is ongoing until May 5<sup>th</sup>
- Commented on the County's consideration of a potential millage request.
- Spring Hydrant Flushing started this week.

**FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Brown – Commented on spring mowing and asked everyone to keep an eye out for the bunnies in the lawn before mowing.

Bills – Commented on MTA and potential millage request on the November ballot.

Smith – Thanked the manager for getting the Aquatic Center Meeting Minutes fixed on the City's website.

Thering – Looking forward to a discussion on increased support and compensation for the Clerk's Office via stipend and commented on how to prepare the various Boards for the Joint meeting.

Mielke – inquired on the 2022 audit presentation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Smith** moved **Thering** supported to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 p.m. **Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: 0.**  
**Motion carried.**

**APPROVED BY:**

  
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Lisa Cody, Clerk

  
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Bryan Mielke, Supervisor

*(Recorded by Tera Green)*