

**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 October 11, 2023, 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, Trustee Bills, Trustee Brown, Trustee Smith, and Trustee Thering

**Excused:**

Treasurer Rice

**Approval of Agenda**

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

**Presentation**

- a. Frank Engler, Isabella County Commissioner, spoke on the county receiving the Sparks Grant for upgrades to Herrick Park.

**Public Hearing**

- a. Application to Transfer the Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate 2018-003 from Burch Tank and Truck, Inc. to Bandit Industries, Inc.

Open: 7:01 p.m.

James McBryde, 2130 Flagstone, expressed strong support on behalf of Middle Michigan Development Corporation (MMDC) for the Bandit Industries expansion.

Bill Zehnder, Bandit Industries CFO, is looking forward to a long term relationship with Union Township.

Closed: 7:03 p.m.

**Public Comment**

Open: 7:03 p.m.

No comments were offered

Closed: 7:04 p.m.

**Reports/Board Comments**

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

- 1. Appointment to the Chippewa River District Library Board for a 4-year term**

**Bills moved Smith supported to reappoint Ruth Helwig for a 4-year term to the Chippewa River District Library Board with a term ending 12/31/2027. Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

**B. Board Member Reports**

Bills – gave an update on the October 3<sup>rd</sup> Isabella County Board of Commission meeting.

**C. Memo from Treasurer Rice: List of Delinquent Assessments (Step 1 to get them on the winter tax roll)**

**Consent Agenda**

- A. Communications
- B. Minutes – September 27, 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: (Nanney) Application to Transfer the Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate 2018-003 from Burch Tank and Truck, Inc. to Bandit Industries, Inc.**

**Brown moved Bills supported to open and hold a hearing for and to adopt a resolution to authorize transfer of the previously approved Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate 2018-003 to Bandit Industries, Inc., and to approve the associated Agreement of Understanding with Bandit Industries, Inc. and authorize the Township Manager to sign the agreement. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Mielke, Cody, Bills, Brown, Smith, and Thering. Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

**B. Discussion/Action: (Township Clerk) Consideration to approve a joint 9-day early voting agreement between City/UT**

**Brown moved Bills supported to adopt a Resolution Designating Early Voting Center and consider approval of an Early Voting Agreement for Election Services between the City of Mt. Pleasant and Charter Township of Union. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Mielke, Cody, Bills, Brown, Smith, and Thering. Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

**C. Discussion/Action: (Board of Trustees) Negotiation of the Manager 2024 Employment Agreement**

**Smith moved Thering supported to approve the Township Manager Evaluation form for 2023 as presented with comments. Vote: Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

Discussion by the Board.

**Smith moved Brown supported to approve contract language that would include an 11% pay increase to the Manager's pay, increase the managers vacation leave from 5 weeks to 6 weeks, increase the Township's retirement contribution to the manager's MERS to 9.5% which corresponds with the Township employees, and to increase the personal leave time from 2 days to 3 days to reflect what the Township employees get. Vote: Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

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

Open: 8:20 p.m.

No comments were offered

Closed: 8:21 p.m.

**MANAGER COMMENTS**

- Thanked the Board for the discussion and support in tonight's exercise.
- Commented on how well the annual Clean-up Day went on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

**FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Bills – commented on negative feedback she received regarding connection fees to Township utilities.

Smith – Apologize on how his tone came across in the discussions.

Cody – Commented on the clean-up day. Tera and the volunteers did a great job.

Thering – Commented on the great job Tera did and the perfect number of volunteers.

Mielke – Commented on how great clean-up day went and how much the residents appreciate the event.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Smith moved Thering supported to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 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)*