

**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 25, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Union Township Hall.

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

**Bills moved Smith supported to appoint Kimberly Rice as acting clerk in the absence of Clerk Cody. Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

**Roll Call**

Present:

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

Excused:

Clerk Cody

**Approval of Agenda**

**Smith moved Bills supported to approve the agenda with an amendment to add item D "Consider a resolution to oppose legislation to preempt local control for the siting and permitting of utility-scale renewable facilities including solar, wind and large scale battery storage facilities" under New Business. Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

**Presentation**

- a. Kim Smith, Public Services Director and Jennifer Graham, Gourdie Fraser Project Engineer, gave an update on the Clean Water Revolving Fund (CWRF) and Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF) Project Plan Application.
- b. Mark Stuhldreher, Township Manager, gave a presentation on the Manager FY 2024 Budget Recommendations.

**Public Hearing**

**Public Comment**

Open: 8:05 p.m.

Lori Rogers, 2248 Cornerstone Dr., is interested in getting involved with the Township.

Closed: 8:06 p.m.

**Reports/Board Comments**

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

**1. Appointment to the Hannah's Bark Park Advisory Board for a 2-year term**

**Bills moved Brown supported to reappoint John Dinse for a 2-year term to the Hannah's Bark Park Advisory Board with a term ending 12/31/2025. Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

**2. Appointment to the Construction Board of Appeals for a 2-year term**

**Bills moved Smith supported to appoint William Gallaher for a 2-year term to the Construction**

1/3  
BDM

Board of Appeals with a term ending 12/31/2025. **Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

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

**Bills moved Brown supported to reappoint Stan Shingles for a 3-year term to the Mid-Michigan Aquatic Recreational Authority with a term ending 12/31/2026. **Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: 0. Motion carried.****

**B. October Monthly Activity Report**

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

**D. Board Member Reports**

Bills – Updated that the Isabella Board of Commission meetings will be held at the Commission on Aging for the foreseeable future due to the County Building being closed.

Rice – gave an update on the October 25<sup>th</sup> Tax Production Meeting.

**Consent Agenda**

- A. Communications
- B. Minutes – October 11, 2023 – Regular Meeting
- C. Accounts Payable
- D. Payroll
- E. Meeting Pay
- F. Fire Reports

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

**New Business**

**A. Discussion/Action: (Teall) Certify Delinquent Special Assessments from McGuirk Subdivision and Carriage Hill Estates.**

**Brown moved Smith supported to certify Delinquent Special Assessments from both the McGuirk and Carriage Lane Paving Special Assessment Rolls in order to place said delinquencies on the winter tax bill as allowed under State of Michigan Public Act 188 of 1954. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Mielke, Rice, Bills, Brown, Smith, and Thering. Nays: 0. Motion carried.****

**B. Discussion/Action: (Teall) Policy Governance 2.5 Financial Condition and Activities**

Discussion by the Board

**C. Discussion/Action: (Board of Trustees) Policy Governance 4.3 Delegation to the Township Manager & Management Team**

Discussion by the Board.

**D. Discussion/Action: (Board of Trustees) Consideration a resolution to oppose legislation to preempt local control for the siting and permitting of utility -scale renewable facilities including solar, wind and large-scale battery storage facilities**

**Smith** moved **Bills** supported to adopt the resolution as presented with an addition to add the specific Senate and House bill numbers in the resolution and to send it off immediately to the appropriate House and Senate committees and the Governor's office. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Mielke, Rice, Bills, Brown, Smith, and Thering. Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

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

Open: 8:55 p.m.  
No comments were offered  
Closed: 8:55 p.m.

**MANAGER COMMENTS**

- Thanked Director Smith and her team for their work on the grant application.

**FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Brown** – commented positively on the value that the township employees bring to the taxpayers.  
**Bills** – Echoed Trustee **Brown's** comment and kudos to all the employees. Thanked the board for their ability to work together. Commented on how she does not appreciate the way the governor is trying to push through the bill.

**Smith** – Agrees with all of the previous comments.

**Rice** – Commented on how the staff supported each other while the building clerk was on vacation and kept the township running smoothly. Our employees are great.

**Thering** – Thanked Director **Smith**, the staff, and **Gourdie Frasier** for making a huge improvement to the Township

**Mielke** – There is a lot of appreciation from the Board for the staff and those that manage the staff and he believes that the community would say thank you, as well. He hopes that the paper runs the story on the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Grant Award.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Smith** moved **Rice** supported to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 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)*