

**MINUTES OF THE
CASCADE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

Wisner Center

2870 Jacksmith Dr SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49546

And Virtual Zoom Meeting

7:00 P.M.

HYBRID FORMAT

- Article 1.** Supervisor Lesperance called the meeting to order.
Present: Supervisor Lesperance, Clerk Slater, Treasurer Korstange, Trustees Koessel, McDonald, Shipley and Noordhoek
Absent: None
Also Present: Township Manager Swayze, Fire Chief Magers, Deputy Clerk Brott, and those listed in the Supplement
- Article 2.** Supervisor Lesperance led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Article 3.** **Approval of Agenda**
Trustee Koessel stated that Article 9 re Consideration of Camping Ordinance, should be changed to set Public Hearing prior to consideration for approval.
Motion by Trustee Shipley, seconded by Trustee Koessel to approve the agenda with the noted changes. Motion carried unanimously.
- Article 4.** **Presentations**
None
- Article 5.** **Public Comments-Anything on the Agenda not scheduled for a public hearing. (limit comments to 3 minutes)**
None
- Article 6.** **Approval of Consent Agenda**
- a. Receive and File Minutes
 - 1. Township Board Meeting – 4/26/23 & 4/26/23-Closed Session
 - 2. Strategic Plan Implementation Committee – 3/17/23 & 4/21/23
 - b. Receive and File Reports
 - 1. Treasurer’s Department – March 2023
 - 2. Building Department – April 2023
 - c. Receive and File Education Requests
 - 1. Todd Pell – IAAI Arson Conference 2023 – Lansing, MI - May 22-25, 2023
 - d. Receive and File Communication
 - 1. Grand Valley Metropolitan Council (GVMC) Airport Access Study Final Report– March 2023
- Clerk Slater noted that Article 9, 040 and 041 should read 043 & 044 on the current meeting Agenda.
Motion by Clerk Slater, seconded by Trustee McDonald to approve the Consent Agenda with the correction of the certification date of item 043 to 5/10/2023 and the item numbers on the current agenda corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

Article 7. Financial Actions

a. Consider Approval of April 2023 Payables, Payroll, and Transfers

Trustee Noordhoek asked for clarification of items and if the Board could approve before the items are paid. Manager Swayze and Treasurer Korstange responded.

Motion by Trustee Koessel, seconded by Trustee Shipley to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

Article 8. Unfinished Business

None

Article 9. New Business

043-2023 Consider Approval of Resolution Adopting the Hazard Mitigation Plan for Kent and Ottawa Counties (Roll Call)

Motion by Trustee Shipley, seconded by Treasurer Korstange to approve. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

044-2023 Consider Setting a Date for Public Hearing for Camping & Storage of Personal Property Ordinance

Motion by Trustee McDonald, seconded by Trustee Shipley to set a Public Hearing for this matter at the 5/24/23 Township Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Article 10. Discussion

1. Review/Update on Finances:

- a.** Treasurer Korstange - One of the complaints heard repeatedly is that there is a lack of financial transparency. She discussed the meetings held with Supervisor Lesperance, Manager Swayze, Deputy Treasurer Sourine, and Accountant Thompson and the progress made. Treasurer Korstange discussed the budget process and the importance of having a plan for capital improvement. She noted that it is important to understand the roles of the Board Members and the staff, and emphasized the work that Manager Swayze does, and that it will continue after his absence and throughout the transition to a new Township Manager.
- b.** Manager Swayze – Gave a brief overview of staff and elected officials’ duties. Updated the Board on follow up of suggestions as it relates to the forensic audit.
- c.** Supervisor Lesperance – Emphasized that money has not been misappropriated; the Board wants to make certain the processes are correct.

2. Manager Search Committee – Status Update:

- a.** Supervisor Lesperance – Need an interim Manager as soon as possible. The Subcommittee and Board need to be able to make a thoughtful decision about the next Township Manager. No decisions will be made outside of public view.

3. Clerk Slater – Read the Resolution Honoring the Service of Township Manager Benjamin Swayze.

Motion by Clerk Slater, seconded by Trustee Koessel to approve. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The Board presented Manager Swayze with a gift.

Article 11. Public Comments

1. Brian Holcomb-3415 Glenstone Ct-Requested update re Egypt Creek Landscaping. Manager Swayze advised that EGLE has closed the complaint; this information was emailed to Mr. Holcomb. Still looking at internal zoning capabilities. Has property owner violated terms of PUD?
2. Jeff Hughes-7250 Red Bud Ln-Re Deer issue: Kent County has appointed a committee to research Dr. Keys' findings. Who will oversee the funding of projects by the committee? Manager Swayze and Supervisor Lesperance responded.
3. Scot VanSolkema-2570 Orange Ct-Great job on the Pathways. Recommends that the Parks and Pathways pages on the website be updated. What is the difference between the DDA and the eliminated Community Development position? Supervisor Lesperance responded.

Article 12. Manager Comments

1. He has always treated this position as a privilege. Thanked the Board for the privilege.

Article 13. Board Member Comments

1. Trustee Shipley-Thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting. Mentioned the GVMC report.
2. Trustee McDonald – Many thanks and good luck to Manager Swayze.
3. Trustee Koessel – Manager Swayze is the third Manager since he's been a member of the Board. He was the most committed and did the best job.
4. Clerk Slater – Wished Manager Swayze the best and she will miss him.
5. Trustee Noordhoek – Thanked Manager Swayze for all his service.
6. Treasurer Korstange – Thanked Manager Swayze.
7. Supervisor Lesperance – Thanked Manager Swayze; he's always been kind, strong, and professional, even when others weren't.

Article 14. Adjournment

Motion by Trustee Shipley, seconded by Clerk Slater to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Krissi Brott
Deputy Clerk

Approved by:

Grace Lesperance, Supervisor

Susan B. Slater, Clerk