

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

Wednesday, April 12, 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, Treasurer Korstange, Trustees Koessel, McDonald, Shipley and Noordhoek
Absent: Clerk Slater (excused)
Also Present: Township Manager Swayze, Fire Chief Magers, Firefighter Kadish, Planning Director Hilbrands, Dr. Keys-Cornerstone University, Deputy Clerk Brott, and those listed in the Supplement
- Motion by Trustee Noordhoek, seconded by Trustee Shipley to appoint Trustee McDonald to position of temporary Clerk in Clerk Slater's absence for the purpose of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
- Article 2. Approval of Agenda**
Motion by Trustee Shipley, seconded by Trustee Koessel to approve. Motion carried unanimously.
- Article 3.** Supervisor Lesperance led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Article 4. Presentations**
1. Presentation from Dr. Keys on Burton Park Deer Study
- Article 5. Public Comments-Anything on the Agenda not scheduled for a public hearing. (limit comments to 3 minutes)**
1. Jeff Hughes-7250 Red Bud Ln-Thanked Dr. Keys for his presentation. Asked further questions about the Burton Park Deer Study. Dr. Keys responded.
 2. Alan Rowland-1829 Linson Ct-Planning Commission member; showed proposed Master Plan that Planning Commission would like to zone as Agricultural pushed to Kraft. Expressed fears that a gas station would be built on 36th Street.
 3. Mark Eastburg-6985 Oakbrook St-Lives on the property that borders Burton Park. Has seen dramatic changes in the deer population, which has changed the undergrowth. Deer have become bolder; supports any effort of deer management.
 4. Scot VanSolkema-2570 Orange Ct-Showed photo of deer in backyard. They leave waste in his yard. Deer carry disease, and the population needs to be controlled quickly. Is there anything private citizens can do to control deer on their own property?
 5. Kim Thompson-7261 Red Bud Ln-The deer have increased damage; this is a serious problem.
 6. Bruce Goodman-7726 Kirkwall Dr-Has not seen day lilies in 10 years because of the deer population. He won't drive on Cascade Road because of the deer.

7. Andrew Vanover-7114 Windcrest-In the last three (3) years, he and his family have experienced two total losses to vehicles because of deer on Cascade Road and Laraway Lake. We have developed this area and should manage it.
8. Janet Goodman-7726 Kirkwall Dr-Buttrick Rd is dangerous because of the deer. Neighbors have had deer drown in their swimming pools. Knows of some feeding the deer, which enables the problem.
9. Betty Belding-2696 Orange Ave-Deer are dangerous to pets. There is not enough food for the deer so they eat anything, including plant life that is poisonous.
10. Paul Piotrowski-2586 Orange Ct-Every day there are six (6) deer grazing in his yard.
11. Brian Turner-2644 Orange Ave-His neighborhood association does not allow hunting. There are not any deer repellent products that work.

Article 6. Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Receive and File Minutes
 1. Township Board Meeting – 3/22/23 & 3/28/23
 2. Planning Commission – 1/9/23 & 2/6/23
- b. Receive and File Reports
 1. Treasurer’s Department – February 2023
 2. Building Department – March 2023
 3. Planning Department Annual Report - 2022
- c. Receive and File Education Requests
None
- d. Receive and File Communication
None

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

Article 7. Financial Actions

None

Article 8. Unfinished Business

None

Article 9. New Business

030-2023 Consider Resolution to Distribute Draft Amended Master Plan and to Assert Township Board’s Right to Adopt Master Plan (Roll Call)

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

031-2023 a.) Public Hearing – Snow Avenue Reconstruction Project

Members of the Kent County Road Commission shared a presentation. Considerable discussion.

Motion by Trustee McDonald, seconded by Trustee Shipley to open Public Hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Cindy VanderVennen-5830 Snow Ave-Concerned about the price and the speed limit. Does not support.
2. Diane Knapp-5740 Snow Ave-In favor of paving the road.
3. Jim Gruber-9590 Anderson Acres-Is not in favor of paving the road.

4. Kathryn Gruber-9590 Anderson Acres-Loves the dirt road. Is not in favor of paving it.
5. Matt Buckhold-5776 Snow Ave-Supports paving the road, and would be happy to pay and/or help neighbors to pay.
6. Dave Knapp-5740 Snow Ave-Supports paving the road.
7. Dale VanderSchaaf-5667 Snow Ave-Started the petition to pave the road and supports it.
8. Rob Dewey-5905 Snow Ave-Showed a PowerPoint slideshow. Supports paving the road even with the cost.
9. Rene Greenlee-9570 Anderson Acres-Does not support paving the road.

Motion by Trustee McDonald, seconded by Trustee Koessel to close Public Hearing.
Motion carried unanimously.

b.) Consider Snow Avenue Reconstruction Project

Motion by Trustee McDonald, seconded by Trustee Koessel to direct staff to solicit from residents of Cascade and Lowell if they would pay up to 32 percent via a Special Assessment District, and work with Lowell to see if they will collect from their residents.
Motion carried unanimously.

032-2023 Consider 2023 Local Street Work Order

Considerable discussion.

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

033-2023 Cascade Township Liquor License Ordinance

Motion by Trustee McDonald, seconded by Treasurer Korstange to set a Public Hearing for this matter on April 26, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

034-2023 Cascade Township Fire Alarm Ordinance

Motion by Trustee Shipley, seconded by Trustee McDonald to set a Public Hearing for this matter on April 26, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

035-2023 Consider Entering Purchase Agreement for Fire Engine

Fire Chief Magers and Firefighter Kadish shared a presentation.

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

036-2023 Consider Appointment of Parks and Recreation Director

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

Article 10. Discussion

None

Article 11. Public Comments

1. Don Faass-7674 Grachen Dr-Read letter to Board re Treasurer Appointment. Requested letter be available in Supplement.
2. Scot VanSolkema-Supports the choice of Treasurer Korstange.

3. Brian Holcomb-3415 Glenstone Ct-Requested an update re Egypt Creek Landscaping. Manager Swayze responded.

Article 12. Manager Comments
None

Article 13. Board Member Comments

1. Trustee Shipley-Thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting.
2. Supervisor Lesperance-Parks Committee Chair Wanty and resident Jeanine Heibel were recognized as volunteers of the year by the Kent County Conservation District. Congratulated them and thanked them for their hard work.

Article 14. Adjournment
Motion by Trustee McDonald, seconded by Trustee Shipley to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 10:09 pm.

Krissi Brott
Deputy Clerk

Approved by:

Grace Lesperance, Supervisor

Susan B. Slater, Clerk