

**MINUTES  
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
BOARD MEETING  
September 20, 2022  
7:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Supervisor Zach Carson, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Clerk Payne called the roll. Board members present were Zach Carson, Supervisor; Gloria Payne, Clerk; Robert Clark, Treasurer; John Wilk, Trustee; Mike Essig, Trustee and Nancy Mensinger Trustee. A quorum of the board was declared to be present. There were fourteen visitors. Four students from Bridgman High School government class were present, Jack Strating, Allen Kietzer, Nate Hawley and Colton Dubyque.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Supervisor Carson called for additions or deletions to the agenda. An addition of a change order from Reith-Riley was added to the agenda. It was moved by Wilk seconded by Mensinger to accept the additional agenda item. Six ayes, motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Robert "Bob" Cook introduced himself as a candidate running for the Bridgman Public School board. He is a 1982 graduate of Bridgman High School. He is married and has two sons. He would like to maintain transparency and interaction with parents, teachers, and the community. As well as providing a safe environment for all students.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*August 16, 2022 Board Meeting*

It was moved by Wilk seconded by Essig to approve the Meeting Minutes of August 16, 2022. Six ayes, motion carried.

*August 29, 2022 Joint City/Township Meeting Minutes*

It was moved by Essig seconded by Clark to approve the Joint City/Township Minutes of August 29, 2022. Six ayes, motion carried.

*August 16, 2022 Closed Session Meeting Minutes*

It was moved by Payne seconded by Carson to approve the August 16, 2022 closed session meeting minutes. Six ayes, motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

After explanations, it was moved by Carson seconded by Clark to approve the August 2022 Lake Charter Township bills in the amount of \$385,785.42. Six ayes, motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE PACKET**

Lake Charter Township account balances for August 2022.

Notice of large trash for October 22, 2022 and October 29, 2022, as well as tire recycling for October 29, 2022

A thank you note from Mary Rath for use of the Township Park.

Budget Workshop Notice.

Berrien County Drain Commission Report from January 2022 - September 2022

*Supervisor's Report*

Supervisor Carson reported he is getting to know the lay of the land. He attended a CEO Supervisor's meeting, and is in the process of cleaning old files and organizing the office.

*Clerk's Report*

Attached.

Treasurer's Report

Attached.

Planning Commission Report

Lake Charter Township Planning Commission Meeting minutes are on file in the Township Hall offices.

Water Plant Report

Attached.

John Wilk reported a 21% increase in pumpage. There is also an increase in the gas heating bill, as well as a 28% increase in the electric bill.

GRSD Sewer Authority Report

John Wilk reported a presentation was given by Baker Tilly to set rates with regard to the catch flow and make it more even for all entities. They are trying to see how to get rid of BioSolids since they started getting charged for dumping them. They are looking to purchase 100 acres of land to spread the BioSolids.

Medic 1 Report

Meeting Minutes attached, as well as July 2022 Medic 1 Ambulance Report

John Wilk reported a clean audit was recently finalized. A survey was given to employees to find out what Medic 1 is doing well and what it is not doing well.

Police Department

Treasurer Clark reported the Baroda-Lake Township Police Department began developing their 2023 budget. Police statistics were included in board members' packet.

Fire Department Report

The new Fire Truck has been delivered.

Park Committee Report

Attached.

Robert Clark reported 100 people participated in the Third Coast Championship golf tournament. Soccer games started September 13, 2022, 185 children signed up.

Library Report

Rick Fuller reported the Library Board hired Sarah Skinner from Niles, Michigan as the replacement candidate for the Library Director. A meet and greet is scheduled for October 8, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. - Noon. There is going to be a banned book week. A zoom meeting regarding haunted places is scheduled.

Cemetery Committee Report

Attached.

Reith Riley has begun the Graceland Cemetery road extension.

Building Department Report

Attached.

Lake Township Economic Growth Alliance Report

Attached.

The committee is preparing for the Holiday Village event on December 10, 2022.

Utility Committee Report

Attached.

Capital Improvement Report

No meeting.

### Zoning Board of Appeals Report

The Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals meeting minutes are on file in the Township Hall offices.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **Second Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Map of the Zoning Ordinance**

Supervisor Carson made a motion, seconded by Clark to continue to table this agenda item in an effort to obtain further information. Six ayes, motion carried.

### **Consideration of Two Additional Members - Planning Commission**

Supervisor Carson asked board members what their opinion was of adding two additional members to the Planning Commission.

It was moved by Mensinger seconded by Wilk to approve adding two additional members to the Planning Commission. Five ayes, one nay (Payne). Motion carried.

### **Tax Rate Request - L-4029**

Supervisor Carson brought board members attention to the 2022 Tax Rate request, Form L-4029, setting the township millage rate at 3.0.

After discussion, it was moved by Clark seconded by Payne to approve the 2022 Tax Rate request for Lake Charter Township at 3.0 mills. Six ayes, motion carried.

### **Approval of Sewer Agreement - Lincoln Township**

Supervisor Carson turned board members' attention to the Sewer Service Agreement between Lake Charter Township and Lincoln Township. A review of the document by Lake Charter Township Scott Dienes found the document to be in order and ready for approval.

It was moved by Carson seconded by Essig to approve the Sewer Agreement between Lake Charter Township and Lincoln Township. Six ayes, motion carried.

### **Approval of Sewer Agreement - Baroda Township**

Supervisor Carson turned board members' attention to the Sewer Service Agreement between Lake Charter Township and Baroda Township. A review of the document by Lake Charter Township Scott Dienes found the document to be in order and ready for approval.

It was moved by Clark seconded by Mensinger to approve the Sewer Agreement between Lake Charter Township and Baroda Township. Six ayes, motion carried.

### **Trick or Treat**

Supervisor Carson informed board members the City of Bridgman is having their Trick or Treat on October 31, 2022 from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. This was confirmed and okayed with Baroda-Lake Township Police Chief, Shawn Martin. It was moved by Clark seconded by Essig to set Lake Charter Township Trick or Treat on October 31, 2022 from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Six ayes, motion carried

### **Reith-Riley Change Order**

Supervisor Carson reported to board members that the road extension project at Graceland Cemetery is in need of a change order. The pavement is broken up bad enough that they are unable to attach it to the continuation of the road. So they are requesting to remove the old surface, machine and grade 80 square yards for an additional \$5,000.00.

After discussion, it was decided to include the north driveway cut out and have it repaired at this time. It was moved by Essig seconded by Carson to approve the change order not to exceed \$6,000.00 for the Graceland Cemetery Road project. Six ayes, motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Shirley Myers asked Robert Clark to elaborate on the Cook Nuclear Power Plant assessment issue.

Robert Clark explained that the Cook Plant is looking for a reduction in their assessment. These types of issues are taken care of in Tax Tribunal Court. We are at the stage where they will get an independent assessment and Lake Charter Township will as well. The issue will be brought together with a mediator to see if we can reach an agreement. This process could take one to two years before it is finalized.

Robert "Bob" Cook asked if there was justification for this. There is.

Don Hill, Jr., asked if they compare with other power plants. They do.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Planning Commission is scheduled for October 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals is scheduled for October 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Baroda-Lake Township Police Board meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further objection and no further business it was moved by Payne seconded by Wilk to adjourn the meeting. Six ayes, motion carried. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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Zach Carson, Supervisor