

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE SUBMITTAL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following is a summary of the text of a proposed ordinance which was received for the first reading by the Lake Charter Township Board of Trustees at its regular meeting held on May 16, 2023.

AN ORDINANCE TO IMPOSE A MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS, LICENSES, OR APPROVALS FOR, OR FOR ANY CONSTRUCTION OF, WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS, MET TOWERS, AND SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LAKE DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Definitions.

- A. “**Wind Energy Conversion System**” includes all equipment that is used to convert, store or transfer energy from wind into usable forms of energy and includes any wind turbines or wind generators as well as any bases, blades, foundations, generators, nacelles, rotors, towers, transformers, turbines, vanes, wires, or other components used in such a system whose purpose is to provide electricity to the electric utility grid.
- B. “**Meteorological Tower**” (“**MET Tower**”) includes a tower used for the measurement of wind speed.
- C. “**Large Solar Energy Facilities**” means a utility-scale commercial facility that converts sunlight into electricity, whether by photovoltaics (PV) or various experimental solar technologies, for the primary purpose of wholesale or retail sales of generated electricity.

Section 2. Purpose and Findings. The purpose of this moratorium is to provide sufficient time for the Township to fully explore, analyze, research, and make informed decisions regarding Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Meteorological Towers, and Large Solar Energy Facilities. In support of this Ordinance, the Township Board has determined the following:

- A. The Township Board has become aware that developers may be interested in constructing Wind Energy Conversion Systems or Large Solar Energy Facilities in the Township.
- B. The integration of these Wind Energy Conversion Systems and Large Solar Energy Facilities within the Township emphasizes the need for suitable regulations and controls.
- C. The Township Board is authorized to establish reasonable requirements and regulations to govern and control Wind Energy Conversion Systems, MET Towers, and Large Solar Energy Facilities within the Township to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the Township residents and their property.

- D. Imposing a moratorium, on a limited temporary basis, is reasonable and necessary to allow the Township time to fully explore, analyze, research and develop any proposed regulations regarding the integration of Wind Energy Conversion Systems, MET Towers, and Large Solar Energy Facilities within the Township.
- E. A moratorium should be imposed upon the issuance of any and all permits, licenses, and approvals for any property in the Township for the establishment and use of Wind Energy Conversion Systems, MET Towers, and Large Solar Energy Facilities for eighteen (18) months.

Section 3. Moratorium. A moratorium is hereby imposed upon the issuance of any and all permits, licenses, or approvals for any property in the Township for the establishment and use of Wind Energy Conversion Systems, MET Towers, and Large Solar Energy Facilities, so long as this Ordinance is in effect.

Section 4. Term of Moratorium; Renewal. The moratorium imposed by this Ordinance remains in effect 18 months following the effective date of this Ordinance, unless repealed sooner.

Section 5. Validity and Severability. Should any portion of this Ordinance be found invalid for any reason, such holding will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Section 6. Repealer Clause. Any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

Section 7. Publication. Within seven (7) days of its adoption, this Ordinance or a summary thereof, as required by law, shall be published by the Township Clerk in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township.

Section 8. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be effective seven (7) days after its publication, or a publication of a summary thereof, in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township.

The proposed Ordinance is on file in the Office of the Township Clerk at the address set forth below and has also been posted on the Township's website: www.lake-township.org. The Ordinance will be considered for adoption by the Township Board at its next regular meeting to be held at the Lake Charter Township Hall on June 20, 2023, commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Lake Charter Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed material being considered at the hearing, to individuals with disabilities at the hearing upon three (3) days' notice to the Township Clerk. If you require such aids or services and plan to attend this meeting, please contact the Township.

Gloria Payne, Clerk
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