

**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**  
**Public Hearing for Special Assessment District**  
**Grass Lake Charter Township Board**  
**September 14, 2021**

A Public Hearing for the Special Assessment District was called to order on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Lesinski. This meeting was in person as well as ZOOM.

Board Members present by Roll Call: Bray, Golding, Lesinski, Loveland, Bednarski-Lynch, Brennan. Absent: Zenz. Also present: Assessor Waldron, Park Manager Jim Howe, Deputy Darren Shackelford, Deputy Clerk Gail Harris and approximately 18 Public.

Discussion on the proposed Special Assessment District, Resolution on Grass Lake Aquatic Weed Control. Lesinski stated that proper notice of the hearing on these matters has been published in The Brooklyn Exponent and sent by first class mail to each property owner within the proposed assessment district. Public comments: Jane Fitzgerald wanted to know why the cost is being divided among the 66 owners instead of the 70 parcels that was originally stated in the letter. The leaders of the group and Supervisor Lesinski decided to go with the number of property owners, this does not include any easements or back lots. Dick Jarzynka believes the county should pay for the treatment. Dan Schaffer wants every parcel that pays taxes to be included for the payment of the treatment and also wanted to make the board aware that DNR approval is needed before spraying the weeds.

Motion by Golding and supported by Loveland to adjourn the Public Hearing at 6:40 p.m. Motion Carried.

**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**Grass Lake Charter Township Board**  
**September 14, 2021**

**The regular monthly** meeting of the Grass Lake Charter Township Board was called to order on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 6:40 p.m. by Supervisor Lesinski. This meeting was in person as well as ZOOM.

**Board Members Present by Roll Call:** Bray, Golding, Lesinski, Loveland, Bednarski-Lynch. Brennan present remotely due to medical reasons at his home in Grass Lake Charter Township, Jackson County, Michigan. Absent: Zenz

**Also Present:** Assessor Barry Waldron, Village President Joe Deboe, Park Manager Jim Howe, Deputy Darren Shackelford, Deputy Clerk Gail Harris, and approximately 18 Public.

**Moment of Silence** for Jim Zenz, husband of Clerk Cathy Zenz and longtime Firefighter.

**Pledge** to flag was recited.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Bednarski-Lynch and supported by Golding to approve agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

**Consent Agenda Items:** - **Meeting Minutes** – No discussion. **County Sheriff Report** – Reviewed by Deputy Shackelford. **Assessor's Report** – Reviewed by Lesinski. **Zoning Administrator's Report** – Reviewed by Lesinski. **DPW Report** – Reviewed by Lesinski. **Motion** by Golding and supported by Bray to accept the consent agenda items as reported. Motion Carried.

**Monthly Bills:** Loveland informed the board that Diane DeBoe had inadvertently been paid, but was already in the works to correct the error. Motion by Loveland to pay the General Fund bills in the amount of \$75,361.73 and Fire Fund bills in the amount of \$16,768.40. Supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Roll Call: Yeas – Loveland, Bednarski-Lynch, Bray, Golding, Lesinski, Brennan. Nays – None. Absent – Zenz.

**Treasurer's Report:** Loveland stated that they survived the last day of tax collection and thanked Tammy Claussen and Aimee Elliott-Kocher for their help. Also, the new payout system is working really well. Motion by Bednarski-Lynch to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Supported by Golding. Motion Carried.

**Correspondence:** None

**Old Business:** **a) – Maute Road Culvert** – nothing new to report. **b) – Website Update** – contracts have been signed and the process should start in the next few weeks. Any suggestions for the website send to Lesinski. **c) – ARPA Update** – nothing new to report, still waiting to be audited. **d) – Parks Update** – Lesinski met with two men from AYSO and was given their insurance binder. Bednarski-Lynch wanted to know if the gentlemen had reached back out to the board regarding the county park. There has been no response, but Lesinski is making it a priority. Everyone agrees the residents have a right to know how the tax money is being budgeted. Bray inquired about the post being fixed at the entrance to the soccer fields. Howe will take care of it. Security camera equipment was delivered and the system will soon be updated. Bednarski-Lynch informed the public that all residents are allowed to make phone calls to the County Commissioner to address the issues at the county park. Bray has offered to help with these issues as well. **e) – LRUA Update** – Leoni Township is attempting to set up a better plan for maintenance costs. A copy of the presentation was provided to all board members and there will be more to come. The board was asked to review it and direct any questions to Lesinski. Bray questioned the proposed 4.5% increase every year and 10% this year. It is a five-year plan but it shows numbers out to ten years. Loveland stated that the current sewer usage rates, depending on the area, was minimum \$133.65 per quarter and maximum \$154.59 per quarter. The rates recently increased due to Leoni Township, so will the township be paying Leoni 4.5% more? Bednarski-Lynch wanted to know if the sewer usage funds build up enough to handle a catastrophe. Loveland has breakdowns of sewer usage rates. Many variables in the presentation. **f) – Cemetery Tree Clean Up** – Lesinski received a second quote for the tree removal and clean up. That will be discussed at the work session on September 28. May need to change the policy in regards to what can be planted in the cemetery.

**New Business:** **a) – Resolution Regarding Grass Lake Special Assessment District** – Lesinski stated a petition was signed by the owners of record more than 51% of the total area of the proposed special

assessment district, all information required was filed with the township clerk, a second public hearing will be held October 12, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., and the estimate of costs for the completion is \$70,000 for five years. The cost includes all permitting, advertising and mailings. The amounts of \$6,000 held in the account from previous years and \$4,000 from the county, township, village and boat racers contribution have been deducted from the cost. It would be approximately \$182 per owner per year, that would cover the cost of the project to the end of the fifth year without accumulating any extra to contribute to the next five years. The weed issue will never go away. The public boat launch is not really the problem. A survey will be done in the spring to determine how much of the lake to spray. Motion by Golding to approve the first special assessment as defined. Supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Roll Call: Yeas – Golding, Bednarski-Lynch, Bray, Lesinski, Loveland, Brennan. Nays – None. Absent – Zenz. Motion by Bednarski-Lynch that the Township Board shall meet at 6:30 p.m. on October 12, 2021 at the Grass Lake Charter Township located at 373 Lakeside Drive within the township, to review such special assessment roll and hear any objections thereto. Supported by Loveland. Roll Call: Yeas – Bednarski-Lynch, Loveland, Bray, Golding, Lesinski, Brennan. Nays – None. Absent – Zenz. **b) – Traffic Jam-In Police Coverage** – The cost of the bill for police coverage was a little higher than originally approved in June. Also, the funds that were approved for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July police coverage the township was not billed for, thanks to the generosity of the Jackson County Sheriff. Loveland made a motion to pay the additional \$320 for the Traffic Jam-In police coverage. Supported by Golding. Motion carried.

**Fire Department Report:** Reviewed by Lesinski. **a) – Policies and Procedures** – Changes and additions to the Policy and Procedures manual are highlighted in yellow. The changes were suggested by Michigan Par Plan. Bray would like to see the previous manual. Motion by Golding to table approving the updated Policies and Procedures manual. Supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Jane Fitzgerald – thank you to board members and volunteers for working on the special weed assessment. Joe Deboe – thanking everyone for their help and support with the Sesquicentennial and 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations. The village manager has resigned, Jim Stormont will be stepping in as interim manager. And reminding everyone about the Music in the Park, and the Farmers Market.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Bednarski-Lynch to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm, supported by Bray. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Gail Harris, Township Deputy Clerk