

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
Regular Monthly Meeting
Grass Lake Charter Township Board
January 9, 2024

The **regular monthly** meeting of the Grass Lake Charter Township Board was called to order on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Lesinski at the Grass Lake Charter Township Meeting Room.

Board Members Present by Roll Call: Bednarski-Lynch, Loveland, Harris, Lesinski, Lamborghini, Brennan. Absent: Bray

Also Present: County Commissioner Walz, Fire Chief Jones, and approximately 7 Public. Zoom Attendees: 6

Pledge to flag was recited.

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

Consent Agenda Items: - **Meeting Minutes** – as prepared. **County Commissioner Report** – Thank you to American 1 for the donation to be able to purchase working dogs for the Sheriff's department. The Parks department has employment opportunities posted online. The County Commissioners' IT department is working on a new website. Jackson County Department of Transportation was able to finish a few projects around the county. **County Sheriff Report** – as prepared. There was double the activity compared to last month. **Zoning Administrator's Report** – Lesinski informed the Board the Planning Commission tabled the rezoning request at Sarossy Lake and Michigan Ave. There may be new projects in the near future that Campbell is getting more information on including Twin Knolls Golf Course. **DPW Report** – as prepared. **Zoning Enforcement Report** – as prepared, will be busy with new issues that have been brought to Bisard's attention. **Building and Grounds Report** – as prepared. Motion by Brennan to accept the consent agenda items as reported and discussed. Supported by Loveland. Roll Call: Yeas – Brennan, Loveland, Bednarski-Lynch, Harris, Lesinski, Lamborghini. Nays – None. Absent – Bray. Motion Carried.

Monthly Bills: The annual computer maintenance invoice was included in this month's bills and Sunrise Assessing had an additional invoice for the mailing of personal property statements. Motion by Brennan to pay the General Fund bills in the amount of \$64,809.63 and Fire Fund bills in the amount of \$24,651.00. Supported by Loveland. Roll Call: Yeas – Brennan, Loveland, Bednarski-Lynch, Harris, Lesinski, Lamborghini. Nays – None. Absent – Bray.

Treasurer's Report: Water and Tax funds not updated. The five Michigan Class Investment accounts have earned a total of over \$86,000 in interest for the year. Tax collection slowly moving along. Hannah Claussen is taking on more responsibilities and doing well. Motion by Bednarski-Lynch to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Supported by Lamborghini. Motion Carried.

Correspondence: The Jackson Conservation District is having a meeting on January 23, 2024 at 6:00p.m. Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes prepared a newsletter on renewable energy projects.

Old Business: a) – ARPA Update – The board needs to seriously start thinking how to spend the ARPA funds. There are major sewer and water issues that need to be considered. Lesinski will be receiving reports from Holland and Ripstra in the next couple of weeks with more information. **b) – Parks Report** – None. **c) – Short-Term Rental Ordinance** – A Village ordinance and a second draft Township ordinance were presented to the board. Will revisit once board has a chance to look them over.

New Business: a) – Resolution for 2024 Poverty Exemption Guidelines – The resolution was presented with the same guidelines the previous year. Motion by Lesinski to offer the resolution for 2024 poverty exemption guidelines. Supported by Loveland. Roll Call: Yeas – Lesinski, Loveland, Bednarski-Lynch, Harris, Lamborghini, Brennan. Nays – None. Absent – Bray. Motion carried. **b) – Resolution for JISD Tax Collection Agreement** – The resolution was presented with no changes from the previous year. Motion by Loveland to offer the resolution for Jackson County ISD tax collection agreement. Supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Roll Call: Yeas – Loveland, Bednarski-Lynch, Harris, Lesinski, Lamborghini, Brennan. Nays – None. Absent – Bray. Motion carried. **c) – JCPC Recommendation on Rezoning** – The Jackson County Planning Commission’s recommendation and minutes were presented to the board. There will be a special meeting next week with the Township attorney to learn more.

Fire Department Report: as prepared by Fire Chief Jones. Jones presented an annual report that shows emergency calls continue to increase. Two applications for cadet positions were received from Abel Peterson and Sara Wasiak. They are both receiving training through the career center. Jones has the room and equipment for them. Motion by Brennan to hire Abel Peterson and Sara Wasiak as cadets to the Grass Lake Fire Department. Supported by Lamborghini. Motion carried.

Public Comment: George McKenzie asked that the state not influence the board’s decision on the rezoning issues. Bruce Gillar asked if a second public comment section be added to the board meeting agenda, was disappointed in the conduct of the Planning Commission at the last meeting, would like ordinances that are being worked on posted online. Phil Kocher thanked the board for the work they do, would like the board meeting agendas posted sooner, would like a copy of the JCPC minutes.

Adjournment: Motion by Brennan to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. Supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Gail Harris, Township Clerk