



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF TEXAS BOARD MEETING, MAY 9, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Supervisor Loeks called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked everyone to join Trustee Kerr in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Clerk Beutel called the roll, and the following board members were present: Trustee Don Boven, Trustee Barbara Hammon, Trustee Linda Kerr, Trustee Wendy Mazer, Supervisor Nick Loeks, and Clerk Emily Beutel. Absent was Treasurer Trish Roberts. Also attending were Superintendent Julie VanderWiere, Deputy Superintendent Brooke Hovenkamp, Fire Chief Chad Tackett, and four members of the public in-person.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There were none.

**PRESENTATION/PUBLIC HEARINGS/COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

There were none.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

The Board reviewed the Superintendent Report, which highlighted the following items:

*Administration*

- Shred and Electronics Recycling Day went well, thanks to the staff and Board members who volunteered their time.
- Year Two Strategic Plan workshop was this afternoon.
- Vredeveld Haefner here for the audit this week.
- Chief Bob Stedman with McGrath Consulting will be onsite doing interviews with staff, Board members, stakeholders, etc.
- Curbside pickup is going very well and will be completed this week.
- North Eagle Lake Road project starting today, expect to be completed by July 1.
- State of Michigan Liquor License Control notified the township that an application was received for a SDM and SDD license.

*Information*

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*Flood Mitigation*

- The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 26 at 10:30 a.m. by Zoom.

**ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA**

Motion by Beutel, seconded by Kerr, motion carried, to adopt the meeting agenda as presented.

**APPROVAL OF GENERAL CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Boven, seconded by Hammon, motion carried, to approve the General Consent Agenda as amended, consisting of:

- Approval of April 25, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Bills for \$126,383.18
- Payroll of \$53,523.00 and Election Payroll of \$6,635.00
- Correspondence: 1Q HHW Report

**BUSINESS**

*Tabled*

There was none.



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**New**

Approve Hiring of Assessing 20% Review Staff

Superintendent VanderWiere explained that the Assessing Department needs to hire temporary help to perform exterior inspections on 770 parcels to comply with the State Tax Commission guidelines. She recommended Kris Meyers, a Michigan Certified Assessing Technician as the primary inspector, with Rich McGrew, a Michigan Advanced Assessor Officer, as a secondary inspector on days he is not working as Building Official.

With the rising price of gas, it was suggested to increase the price per parcel to \$16, as staff will be driving their own vehicles. The 2022 budget includes \$14,000 for the 20% review, so that increase would still fall within the budget.

Motion by Beutel, seconded by Loeks, motion carried, to approve hiring Kris Meyers as the primary inspector and Rich McGrew as the secondary inspector for the 20% parcel review at a rate of \$16 per parcel.

Approve Hiring of Planning/Zoning Administrator

Superintendent VanderWiere stated that Welsh & Associates brought forward another candidate, Ryan Fellows, for the Planning/Zoning Administrator position. The interview committee met with him on April 28 and felt he would be a good fit for the position. Mr. Fellows has accepted an offer and would be able to start Monday, June 6.

Motion by Boven, seconded by Kerr, motion carried, to authorize the hiring of Ryan Fellows as Planner/Zoning Administrator, contingent upon a successful and approved background investigation.

2022 SAW Sanitary Sewer Cleaning and Televising

Per recommendation from the SAW Grant, Superintendent VanderWiere stated the Township created a Capital Improvement Plan for projects to be completed each year. This year's budget includes \$64,700 to clean and CCTV the sanitary lines, and the target areas include 31,100 linear feet (10% of the system).

Taplin Group LLC performed this work last year and provided updated pricing to adjust for inflation and fueling costs. Prein & Newhof recommends the Board extend the current contract.

Motion by Loeks, seconded by Hammon, motion carried, to authorize the contract extension with Taplin Group of Kalamazoo to conduct sewer line inspection and cleaning not to exceed \$64,700 and authorize Superintendent VanderWiere to sign the contract.

Approve the Purchase of Turn Out Gear

Fire Chief Tackett presented his request to purchase three sets of Firefighter Turn Out Gear in the amount of \$9,645. He explained that this is an annual appropriation in their budget to ensure that they are able to maintain rotation of gear to equip personnel with proper safety and comply with MIOSHA and NFPA standards.

Motion by Boven, seconded by Mazer, motion carried, to approve the annual purchase of Firefighter Turn Out Gear, not to exceed \$10,000.

Accept Resignation of Firefighter Kevin McGrew

Fire Chief Tackett stated that Firefighter Kevin McGrew submitted his letter of resignation, effective May 4, 2022.

Motion by Loeks, seconded by Beutel, to accept the resignation of Kevin McGrew from the Texas Township Fire Department.

Authorize Hiring of Abby Wheeler as Full-Time Firefighter

With the recent position vacancy, Fire Chief Tackett requested approval to hire Abby Wheeler to fill the open Firefighter position. She has served as a paid-on-call firefighter for five years, and he said her dedication and persistence have been unwavering as she's shown great commitment through the hiring process.



105 Motion by Boven, seconded by Hammon, to approve the hiring of Abby Wheeler as a full-time  
106 firefighter through a conditional offer of employment.

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108 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

109 There were none.

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111 **BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

112 Kathy Staufer, township resident, asked Chief Tackett how many staff were needed. He said we're  
113 set for full-time but could utilize 4-5 more paid-on-call firefighters.

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115 **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

116 The attorney was not present.

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118 **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

119 Trustee Boven stated he loved the nice weather but did not like the rising lake levels. He also would  
120 like to see better pothole patching on the roads.

121 Trustee Mazer said she enjoyed the strategic planning process that afternoon.

122 Trustee Hammon echoed those comments and stated she had learned a lot.

123 Clerk Beutel thanked Trustees Kerr and Hammon for working the May 3 election. She also enjoyed  
124 opening day on Saturday at the farmers' market.

125 Supervisor Loeks echoed the comments about the strategic planning session and stated he would  
126 follow up with the Road Commission about the patching.

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128 **ADJOURNMENT**

129 Motion by Boven, seconded by Beutel, motion carried, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting  
130 adjourned at approximately 6:20 p.m.

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132 **SUBMITTED:** May 17, 2022

133 Clerk Emily Beutel

134 Attested: Supervisor Nicholas Loeks

**APPROVED:**