

BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING 3/24/2025

The Regular Meeting of the Berlin Charter Township Board was held at 8000 Swan View Newport, Michigan called to order at 6:00 PM by Supervisor Mary Jo Gedelian, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL: Supervisor Mary Jo Gedelian, Clerk Gina Swiercz, Treasurer Deborah Masserant, Trustees Kellie Long, Kyle Long, and Neil Masserant.
Excused: Trustee John Sorovetz.

A quorum was present, the meeting proceeded. Also in attendance township accessor, township fire chief, Sheriff Troy Goodnough and 18 residents.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION #1: by Kyle Long seconded by D. Masserant to approve the agenda as presented.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

Excused: Sorovetz

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #2: by Kellie Long seconded by Kyle Long to approve the Berlin Charter Township regular meeting minutes (3/10/25).

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

Excused: Sorovetz

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

1. NOXIOUS WEEDS ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 2nd READING & ADOPTION

MOTION #3: by N. Masserant seconded by D. Masserant to adopt the 2nd reading of the Noxious Weed Ordinance amendment.

ROLL CALL: Yes: Swiercz, Kellie Long, D. Masserant, Kyle Long, Gedelian, N. Masserant

Excused: Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

2. UPDATED 2025 BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

MOTION #4: by Kyle Long seconded by Kellie Long to accept the additions of the Water/Sewer Board, New Building Committee and Fire Committee on the Boards and Commissions for 2025.

ROLL CALL: Yes: Kyle Long, N. Masserant, Swiercz, Gedelian, D. Masserant, Kellie Long

Excused: Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

3. BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE – LAGINESS PARK SIGN & BRANDON RD ADOPT-A-ROAD

MOTION #5: by Kellie Long seconded by D. Masserant to table Laginess Park sign quote from FastSigns until an additional quote for another sign company can be obtained.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

Excused: Sorovetz

MOTION CARRIED

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Trustee Kellie Long provided information on the dates for the clean up of Brandon Road Adopt-A-Road program of April 25, 26, and 27. Asked board members to save the date and will work with all for best possible date, which can be changed, if needed. Also, the Beautification Committee has not been completed – need to check with former member on interest to continue and potential new committee member.

4. PROBATIONARY FIRE FIGHTER – NOAH KUDLA

MOTION #6: by Kellie Long seconded by N. Masserant to approve the probationary fire fighter-Noah Kudla.

ROLL CALL: Yes: Gedelian, Swiercz, D. Masserant, Kellie Long, Kyle Long, N. Masserant
Excused: Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

5. PROBATIONARY FIRE FIGHTER – PHILIP PERRY, JR.

MOTION #7: by Kellie Long seconded by Kyle Long to approve the probationary fire fighter-Philip Perry, Jr.

ROLL CALL: Yes: Kellie Long, N. Masserant, Swiercz, D. Masserant, Gedelian, Kyle Long
Excused: Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. WWTP TECHNICIAN CELL PHONE STIPEND AND AGREEMENT

MOTION #8: by Kyle Long seconded by Kellie Long to approve the cell phone stipend for the two (2) WWTP Technicians who do not currently have township-issued phones with a monthly stipend of \$50/month following completion of cell phone stipend agreement.

COMMISSION AND REPORT

1. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The Supervisor spoke about the following:

- Brightspeed request for support of grant application to expand broadband access to township residents.

MOTION #9: by N. Masserant seconded by Kellie Long to sign and return letter of support to Brightspeed.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

Excused: Sorovetz

MOTION CARRIED

- Request for motion by Supervisor Gedelian for termination of contract with Township Assessor. Comments from residents and Board of Review members were heard. Township Assessor requested a closed session hearing to include herself, Township Attorney Kerry Bondy, Township Board and Deputy Clerk.
- Prior to heading into closed session, Supervisor Gedelian allowed Sheriff Troy Goodnough his time to present and provide board members with a report on crime stats and trends within Berlin Township from 2022-2024.

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MOTION #10: at 7:25 PM by Kellie Long seconded by Kyle Long to discuss the request for termination of Township Assessor with Counsel and Assessor in closed session.

ROLL CALL: Yes: Kellie Long, Gedelian, N. Masserant, D. Masserant, Swiercz, Kyle Long
Excused: Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION #11: at 8:53 PM by Gedelian seconded by Kellie Long to reconvene to open session.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL
Excused: Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION #12: by N. Masserant seconded by Kellie Long for Supervisor Gedelian to provide Assessor with list of action items for performance improvement by March 28, 2025, with time for response and improvement. Board will review progress at April 28, 2025, regular board meeting.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL
Excused: Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

2. CLERK'S PREPAID BILLS FROM MARCH 7th THROUGH MARCH 20TH 2025

MOTION #13: by Kyle Long seconded by N. Masserant to approve the Clerk's prepaid bills from March 7th-March 20th, 2025 written on checks 61170-61190, 61192, 61198-61221 and 4 EFTs totaling \$83,119.02.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL
Excused: Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

3. NEW BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

- Meeting held on 3/20/25 with township engineer, supervisor, and clerk to review a potential layout and potential needs of township offices for the main floor of the new building.
- Follow-up meeting to review and discuss revised floor plans to be held on 3/27/25.
- Blood Lab has moved to basement as of 3/24/25.
- Once floor plans for township offices are approved, engineers estimate 6-8 months for official move into new building.
- Neil Masserant also met with a Coldwell Banker broker for potential use of remaining open spaces for new tenants – potential use for call centers – broker to provide additional information by 3/27/25.

4. FIRE COMMITTEE REPORT

- Township engineer provided an email as of 3/24/25 with potential developed design.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Trustee Neil Masserant suggested looking into WWTP assets to potentially be sold and need for new equipment following meeting with Superintendent Jason Dobson.
- Trustee Kyle Long suggested utilizing the upcoming closure of Brandon Road for the Adopt-A-Road clean up as there may be less traffic.

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REQUEST TO SPEAK

- One (1) resident thanked the board for allowing her to speak and listen to her experience in past Board of Review meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION # 14: by Kyle Long seconded by Kellie Long to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 PM

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

Excused: Sorovetz

MOTION CARRIED

These minutes are a synopsis of the comments made at a regular meeting and are not intended to represent a verbatim transcript.

Gina Swiercz, Clerk

Sarah Masserant, Recording Secretary