

## **BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING 7/28/2025**

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 Debbie Masserant, Trustees Kellie Long, Kyle Long, Neil Masserant, John Sorovetz.

A quorum was present, the meeting proceeded. Also, in attendance township attorney Kerry Bondy, WWTP Superintendent Jason Dobson, and 3 residents.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION #1:** by Debbie Masserant seconded by Sorovetz to approve the agenda.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION #2:** by Kyle Long seconded by Sorovetz to approve the Berlin Charter Township regular meeting minutes (7/14/25).

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **COMMUNICATION**

#### **1. DTE - CASE NO. U-21681, U-21672, and U-21830**

**MOTION #3:** by N. Masserant seconded by Sorovetz to receive and file DTE Case No. U-21610, U-21672, and U-21830.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **2. MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES - CASE NO. U-21442**

**MOTION #4:** by Kellie Long seconded by D. Masserant to receive and file Michigan Gas Utilities Case No. U-21442.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **3. MONROE COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION INVITATION**

**MOTION #5:** by Sorovetz seconded by Kyle Long to receive and file the Monroe County Firefighters Association Invitation.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. QUOTES – LIBRARY NEW ROOF**

**MOTION #6:** by Kyle Long seconded by Kellie Long to approve the full replacement of the library roof with New Methods Roofing & Building not to exceed \$20,250 and contingent on the 100' included is square foot and \$2.00 per square foot after that.

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

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

**2. 8803 ARMSTONG – SHIPPING CONTAINER ON PROPERTY FOR STORAGE**

**MOTION #7:** by Sorovetz seconded by Kyle Long to deny the request to keep the container on the property and request resident have it removed within 30 days of this meeting date.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION #8:** by N. Masserant seconded by Kellie Long to have the ordinance related to shipping containers reviewed by the Planning Commission for clarification and possible rewording of Section 18.214.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3. RESOLUTION-AMENDING RATES & CHANGES FOR WATER SYSTEM FOR PREMISES WITHIN & OUTSIDE TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES**

**MOTION #9:** by Sorovetz seconded by N. Masserant to approve the resolution at a 5.5% rate increase for premises within and outside township boundaries and have it published twice prior to September 1, 2025, when the rate increase will take effect.

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

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

NONE

**COMMISSION AND REPORT**

**1. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

The Supervisor spoke about the following:

- SEMCOG will present at the August 11, 2025 meeting re: trails.
- Continue to work through Recycling contract.

**2. CLERK'S PREPAID BILLS FROM JULY 11TH THROUGH JULY 24<sup>TH</sup> 2025**

**MOTION #10:** by Sorovetz seconded by Kyle Long to receive and file the Clerk's prepaid bills from July 11<sup>th</sup> 2025- July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 written on checks 61651-61670, 61681-61692, and 2 EFTs totaling \$213,399.93.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

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### **3. CLERK'S PAYMENT OF BILLS 7/28/25**

**MOTION #11:** by Sorovetz seconded by Kellie Long to approve the payment of bills for 7/28/25 totaling \$850.00.

ROLL CALL: Yes: D. Masserant, Sorovetz, Kellie Long, Kyle Long, Swiercz, Gedelian, N. Masserant  
No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **4. NEW BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

- Meeting with Ray Parker-Hennessey, DAG representatives to review and move forward with mechanical and electrical layout plans.
- Two showings this week – one for a financial advisor firm and one for a non-profit group.

### **5. FIRE COMMITTEE REPORT**

- MTA has a training available on September 10 related to Emerging Issues in Emergency Services if anyone is interested in attending.
- Hybrid Firemen possibility. Need more information about this and discuss with fire chief Bob Cousino.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

- Kellie discussed the Beautification Committee Awards and gathering a judging committee to consist of board members Swiercz, Sorovetz, and Kyle Long.
- Kellie also mentioned downtown Newport looking haggard and weeds along I-75 ramps and turnabouts. Supervisor Gedelian shared that she has been in touch with MDOT and they missed that area and will be cutting soon.
- Neil asked about the status of the assessor position. Supervisor Gedelian shared two resumes received and will possibly receive one more. The posting is currently on MTA website and township website. Sorovetz suggested adding it to the MAA website.
- Neil suggested getting the concrete at the WWTP plant patched as it is a tripping hazard. WWTP Superintendent suggests getting the engineers to get an expert review of it and see what should be done. Supervisor Gedelian to contact Hennessey.
- Neil also asked about the speaker system for board meetings. Supervisor Gedelian still working on a second quote and will work with WWTP Superintendent to see if current alternate speaker box will work.
- Kyle shared about the SEMCOG email on South Rockwood receiving the grant for non-motorized trails and working with South Rockwood to tie in with Berlin township plans. Supervisor Gedelian will reach out to Sue Wagers to possibly represent on behalf of township at South Rockwood planning meetings.
- Clerk Swiercz shared that internet had been installed at the new building and the new phones for the township and WWTP will be installed later in August.

### **REQUEST TO SPEAK**

NONE

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION #12:** by Kyle Long seconded by Sorovetz to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 PM.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

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

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Gina Swiercz, Clerk

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Mary Jo Gedelian, Supervisor