

## **BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING 01/26/2026**

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 seven (7) residents, Jason Dobson (WWTP Superintendent), and Kerry Bondy (attorney).

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION #2:** by Sorovetz seconded by Kellie Long to approve the Berlin Charter Township regular meeting minutes (1/12/26).

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **1. DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW MINUTES (12/9/25)**

**MOTION#3:** by D. Masserant seconded by Kyle Long to receive and file the December Board of Review Minutes (12/9/25).

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **2. MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES CASE NO. U-21891**

**MOTION #4:** by N. Masserant seconded by Sorovetz to receive and file the Michigan Gas Utilities Case No. U-21891.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **3. DTE CASE NO. U-21889**

**MOTION #5:** by Kyle Long seconded by Kellie Long to receive and file DTE Case No. U-21889.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **4. ASH TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

**MOTION #6:** by Kellie Long seconded by D. Masserant to receive and file the Ash Township Planning Commission Public Hearing Notice.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING 01/26/2026**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **1. SUGGESTION TO REPEAL BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP JUNKYARD ORDINANCE 1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

**MOTION #7:** by N. Masserant seconded by Kellie Long to approve the suggestion to repeal Berlin Charter Township junkyard ordinance 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **2. ROCKWOOD AUTO PARTS LICENSE RENEWAL**

**MOTION #8:** by Kyle Long seconded by Kellie Long to postpone until the next meeting when the second reading of the suggestion to repeal Berling Charter Township junkyard ordinance is read.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL  
No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **3. BOARD ROOM MICROPHONES QUOTES**

**MOTION #9:** by Kellie Long seconded by Kyle Long to approve the quote from Amazon in the amount of \$319.99.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY RATE INCREASE REQUEST**

**MOTION #10:** by D. Masserant seconded by N. Masserant to approve the Township Attorney rate increase to \$175/hour.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **2. 3590 LAW ST ZONING ORDINANCE MAP AMENDMENT 01-26- SECOND READING**

**MOTION #11:** by D. Masserant seconded by Sorovetz to approve the second reading of 3590 Law St zoning ordinance map amendment 01-26.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **3. 3239 NEWPORT RD ZONING ORDINANCE MAP AMENDEMENT 02-26 -SECOND READING**

**MOTION #12:** by N. Masserant seconded by Kyle Long to approve the seconded reading of 3239 Newport Rd zoning ordinance map amendment 02-26.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING 01/26/2026**

### **4. STORAGE CONTAINERS ZONING ORDINANCE AMDENDMENT 03-26 – FIRST READING**

**MOTION #13:** by D. Masserant seconded by Sorovetz to approve the first reading of the storage containers zoning ordinance amendment 03-26.

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

Masserant

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **5. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR 2026 PAY RECOMMENDATION**

**MOTION #14:** by Kyle Long seconded by Sorovetz to approve the zoning administrator pay of \$1,820 per quarter equivalent to \$7,280 per year.

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

Masserant

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **6. 8829 BRANDON RD WATER BILL PAYMENT PLAN REQUEST**

**MOTION #15:** by D. Masserant seconded by Kellie Long to waive the late fee penalty, pay \$500 by January 30<sup>th</sup>, and pay \$943.49 per quarter along with her regular water bill.

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

Masserant

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **COMMISSION AND REPORT**

### **1. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

- Stoneco site plan- storage facility

**MOTION #16:** by Sorovetz seconded by D. Masserant to amend the site plan fees for 1 acre and to not exceed \$3,000 in fees.

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

Long

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 45 residents at the last planning commission meeting and to move the meeting to the new building for larger meetings.

**MOTION #17:** by Kellie Long seconded by Kyle Long to approve the purchase from Amazon for (52) chairs and (3) 8 ft long tables from Amazon to not exceed \$1,957.97.

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

Gedelian

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

- Get a quote from an electrician for the upstairs of the new township building for the planning commission to move the meetings for larger meeting.
- New township vehicle purchased, received \$8,500 for trade-in for the township van.
- Historical society grant was submitted.
- Jones and Henry Engineers spoke about the Force Main project.

## **BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING 01/26/2026**

### **2. TREASURER'S REPORT 12/2025**

**MOTION #18:** by Sorovetz seconded by Kellie Long to receive and file the Treasurer's report of 12/2025

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **3. CLERK'S BUDGET REPORT 12/2025**

**MOTION #19:** by N. Masserant seconded by D. Masserant to receive and file the Clerk's budget report of 12/2025

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **4. CLERK'S PREPAID BILLS FROM JANUARY 9TH THROUGH JANUARY 22<sup>ND</sup> 2026**

**MOTION #20:** by Kyle Long seconded by Kellie Long to receive and file the Clerk's prepaid bills from January 9<sup>th</sup> through January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026, written on checks 62291-62319, 62327-62342 and 2 EFT totaling \$87,225.03.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **5. NEW BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

- 5 bids received for the renovation of the new building- will interview the 3 lowest bids.
- Hennessey will recommend the contractor at the next board meeting.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

- Trustee Kellie Long asked about having Meijer provide an update at a future board meeting and set up a site visit of the new facility; and have Stoneco come to a future board meeting regarding community partnership.
- Trustee N. Masserant asked about the jeeps parked across from the Meijer Warehouse.
- Clerk Swiercz informed the board that we will have 3 elections this year- May, August and November. We will also need to put a continuous camera on the ballot box at the current township building location. We have contacted Guardian Alarm about this. Also we are going to start enforcing the Wednesday before a board meeting to have all documents for the board meeting into the Clerk's office.
- Trustee Kyle Long asked to schedule a bus trip for residents and board members to a data center in Ohio like Frenchtown did.

### **REQUEST TO SPEAK**

- One resident provided suggestion on wages.
- One resident spoke about road improvements needed on Strong Rd and Laginess Park grass not being cut all the way.
- One resident spoke about the storage container amendment.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION #21:** by Kyle Long seconded by Sorovetz to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 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