

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 1ST READING

MOTION #7: by N. Masserant seconded by Kellie Long to approve the suggestion to repeal Berlin Charter Township junkyard ordinance 1st 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 AMENDMENT 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 30th, 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 22ND 2026

MOTION #20: by Kyle Long seconded by Kellie Long to receive and file the Clerk's prepaid bills from January 9th through January 22nd, 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.

BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING 01/26/2026

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.

Gina Swiercz, Clerk

Mary Jo Gedelian, Supervisor