

BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING 05/26/2026

The Regular Meeting of the Berlin Charter Township Board was held at 7825 N. Dixie Hwy, lower level, Newport, Michigan, and 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, Trustees Kellie Long, Kyle Long, Neil Masserant
Excused: Treasurer, Debbie Masserant, Trustee Sorovetz

A quorum was present, the meeting proceeded. Also, in attendance sixty-one (61) residents and Kerry Bondy (Township Attorney).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #2: by N. Masserant seconded by Kyle Long to approve the Berlin Charter Township regular meeting minutes (5/11/26).

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz

MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS

1. DTE CASE NO. U-22046

MOTION #3 by Kellie Long seconded by Swiercz to receive and file DTE Case N. U-22046.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz

MOTION CARRIED

2. DTE CASE NO. U-22109

MOTION #4 by N. Masserant seconded by Kyle Long to receive and file DTE Case N. U-22109.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz

MOTION CARRIED

3. MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES CASE NO. U-21891

MOTION #5 by Kyle Long seconded by Kellie Long to receive and file Michigan Gas Utilities Case No. U-21891.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz

MOTION CARRIED

BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING 05/26/2026

4. DYKEMA GOSSETT LETTER RE: ZONING ORDINANCE (4/17/26)

MOTION #6 by Swiercz seconded by Kyle Long to receive and file Dykema Gossett letter re: Zoning Ordinance dated 4/17/26.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

5. DYKEMA GOSSETT LETTER RE: S. NEWPORT RD. LAND USE (5/11/26)

MOTION #7 by Swiercz seconded by Kyle Long to receive and file Dykema Gossett letter re: S. Newport Rd. Land Use date 5/11/26.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

6. SWAN BOAT CLUB DEPOSITION REQUEST

MOTION #8 by Kyle Long seconded by Kellie Long to receive and file Swan Boat Deposition Request.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

1. UPDATED ZONING MAP AMENDMENT – FIRST READING

MOTION #9 by Gedelian seconded by Kyle Long to approve the updated zoning map amendment.

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

Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

2. TRUSTEE RESIGNATION LETTER-JOHN SOROVETZ

MOTION #10: by Kyle Long seconded by Kellie Long to accept the resignation letter of Trustee Sorovetz effective immediately.

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

Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

3. TRUSTEE RESIGNATION LETTER-DEBBIE MASSERANT

MOTION #11: by Gedelian seconded by Kellie Long to accept the resignation letter of Treasurer D. Masserant effective June 5, 2026, at the end of business day.

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

Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING 05/26/2026

MOTION #12: by Swiercz seconded by Kyle Long to appoint Deputy Treasurer Karen Beaudrie to Treasurer position effective June 5, 2026, at the end of business day.

ROLL CALL: Yes: Swiercz, Kyle Long No: Gedelian, Kellie Long, N. Masserant
Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz **MOTION FAILED**

MOTION #13: by Gedelian seconded by Kellie Long to postpone the appointments of Treasurer and Trustee to advertise for applications on social media and website.

ROLL CALL: Yes: Kellie Long, N. Masserant, Gedelian No: Swiercz, Kyle Long
Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz **MOTION CARRIED**

4. SIGN QUOTES – NEW BUILDING

MOTION #14: by Kyle Long seconded by N. Masserant to approve the quote from Newport Electric to pull two circuits and add switch for new LED sign not to exceed \$5,000.00.

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

5. ASSESSOR RECOMMENDATION

MOTION #15: by Kellie Long seconded by Gedelian to approve the contract with Christina Morse by and through Mitten Assessing, LLC, at a rate of \$7,125/mo. with 2% annual increases beginning June 1, 2026, through November 1, 2029.

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

6. PROPOSED HEALTH INSURANCE BROKER CHANGE-KAPNICK INSURANCE

MOTION #16: by Kyle Long seconded by N. Masserant postpone the proposed health insurance broker change with Kapnick Insurance until the next meeting to follow-up on union contract and current provider termination information.

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

COMMISSIONS AND REPORT

1. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

- Sub-committee looking into live streaming future meetings.
- Newport Library needed a water heater replacement which was completed today.

2. CLERK'S PREPAID BILLS FROM May 7th THROUGH MAY 22nd, 2026

MOTION #17: by Kellie Long seconded by Kyle Long to receive and file the Clerk's prepaid bills from May 7th through May 22nd, 2026, written on checks 62661-62678, 62694-62722, 62727-62737, and three (3) EFTs totaling \$293,736.58.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL No: NONE
Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz **MOTION CARRIED**

BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING 05/26/2026

3. CLERK'S PAYMENT OF BILLS 5/27/26

MOTION #18: by N. Masserant seconded by Kyle Long to approve the Clerk's Payment of bills for 5/27/26 in the amount of \$27,971.69.

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

Excused: D. Masserant, Sorovetz

No: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

4. NEW BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

- First walkthrough meeting occurred on Thursday, May 21, 2026. There are a couple delays in the changes of the fire suppression system and the new windows, but the project continues to be on schedule. Discussion also occurred regarding the addition of cement pads in the main walkway landscaping to house the township drop box and elections ballot box.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Trustee Kellie Long reported that the Parks and Rec committee met last week re: the new grant work and potential nature scenes mural at Laginess Park. Reminded everyone of the Friends of the Newport Library women's only golf outing to be held on 6/22/26 at Big Al's Greens and Grill. Also, the Beautification Committee will possibly be cleaning up Brandon Road this weekend – more details to follow.
- Trustee N. Masserant spoke on the tar and chipping of local roads.

REQUEST TO SPEAK

Thirteen (13) residents spoke about the following:

- Residents from both Berlin and Frenchtown townships spoke about data center concerns and provide some suggestions for the property use.
- Thank you letter to former Trustee Geiermann for recent donation.
- Concerns of employees being paid with current resignation of Treasurer.
- Thanked current board for transparency and work accomplished.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NONE

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #19: by Kyle Long seconded by Swiercz to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 PM.

ROLL CALL: Yes: ALL

No: NONE

Excused: D. Masserant, 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

Mary Jo Gedelian, Supervisor