

GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
Regular Meeting
May 15, 2023

MINUTES

Supervisor Rogers called the regular meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board to order at 6:30 pm at the Township Hall. The following members were present constituting a quorum for the transaction of business: Bill Rogers, Jean Ledford, Terry Croft, Diana Lowe, Robin Hunt, Paulette Skolarus, and Jim Mortensen. Also present were Township Manager Kelly VanMarter, and 10 people in the audience.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The call to the public was opened at 6:31 pm.

Mr. Kurt Skarjune of 2787 Monte Vista advised that today is the first day of police week and it honors officers who were killed in the line of duty. He did a ride along with the Livingston County Sheriff and it confirmed his belief that the law enforcement presence in the Township is inadequate. He made a post on the Nextdoor App, and it has 10,000 views. He encouraged the Board Members to do a ride along as well. He wants the Township to contract with the Livingston County Sheriff's Department.

The call to the public was closed at 6:34 pm.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Ms. Skolarus requested to have Agenda Item #2 moved to the Regular Agenda.

Moved by Skolarus, supported by Lowe, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. **The motion carried unanimously.**

1. Payment of Bills: May 15, 2023

~~2. Request to approve May 1, 2023 regular meeting minutes. (moved to Regular Agenda)~~

Regular Agenda

Moved by Ledford, supported by Mortensen, to approve the Regular Agenda as amended. **The motion carried unanimously.**

2. Request to approve May 1, 2023 regular meeting minutes.

Ms. Skolarus asked to have it noted at the top of the minutes what time Jim Mortensen arrived at the meeting, to bold the agenda items so they are easier to see, and to note that Mr. Mortensen was absent in the roll call votes before he arrived.

Moved by Skolarus, seconded by Hunt to approve the May 1, 2023 regular agenda minutes as corrected.

3. Public Hearing on the proposed Special Assessment Roll for the Stillriver Drive Road Rehabilitation Special Assessment Project (Summer Tax 2023).
A. Call to the Property Owners
B. Call to the Public

The call to the property owners was opened at 6:36 pm.

Mr. Mike Luce of 3039 Stillriver Drive thanked the Board for facilitating this project. He noted almost all the property owners are in favor of it. Kelly VanMarter has been instrumental in helping them, and she is a pleasure to work with.

Ms. Joan Darnell of 3052 Stillriver Drive is not in favor of the project as she does not have the means to pay. These are public roads, and she does not understand why they have to be funded privately. She feels like this is being pushed through. Supervisor Rogers noted that Ms. Darnell also sent an email to the Township voicing her concerns.

Mr. Ben Luethy of 3019 Stillriver Drive is in favor of this project.

The call to the property owners was closed at 6:41 pm.

The call to the public was opened at 6:41 pm with no response.

4. Request for approval of Resolution #5 Confirming the Special Assessment Roll for the Stillriver Drive Road Rehabilitation Special Assessment Project (Summer Tax 2023). (Roll Call)

Ms. Skolarus questioned the Township's policy for residents who are unable to pay for the assessment.

Ms. Hunt stated there is a hardship deferral, which would not require the current owner to pay the assessment. It would become a line on the property, remain on the taxes, and it would have to be paid upon sale of the property, be paid for by the next owner.

Moved by Ledford, supported by Croft, to approve Resolution #5 Confirming the Special Assessment Roll for the Stillriver Drive Road Rehabilitation Special Assessment Project (Summer Tax 2023). **The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote (Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Hunt - yes, Lowe - yes, Mortensen - yes, Skolarus - yes, and Rogers - yes).**

5. Consideration of amendments to the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget for Fund 202 – “SAD Roads and Lakes” to create a new Department #494 with associated revenue

and appropriation line items for the Stillriver Drive Special Assessment project as submitted by the Township Manager.

Moved by Skolarus, supported by Lowe, to approve amendments to the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget for Fund 202 – “SAD Roads and Lakes” to create a new Department #494 with associated revenue and appropriation line items for the Stillriver Drive Special Assessment project as submitted by the Township Manager. **The motion carried unanimously.**

6. Request for approval of an Addendum to the Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace Policy for CDL Licensing.

Mr. Tatara provided a review for the reason for the update to this policy.

Mr. Croft stated he is not in favor of the \$2,000 bonus for employees having a CDL.

Moved by Skolarus, supported by Lowe, to approve the Addendum to the Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace Policy for CDL Licensing as presented. **The motion carried (Ledford - yes, Croft - no, Hunt - yes, Lowe - yes, Mortensen - yes, Skolarus - yes, and Rogers - yes).**

7. Consideration of a recommendation for approval of the environmental impact assessment corresponding to an amended Final PUD grading plan for proposed site grading located at 7575 Grand River, Brighton. The request is petitioned by Tom Tocco, Trinity Health.

Mr. Tom Tocco of Trinity Health and Mr. Dino Lekas of Smith Group, the landscape architect, were present. Mr. Tocco stated the suggestions that were made at the Planning Commission meeting have been addressed.

Mr. Smith Group provided a review of the project, which is to now maintain the graded soil on the property to allow for the future installation of a community garden.

Moved by Ledford, supported by Lowe, to approve the Environmental Impact Assessment dated February 24, 2023 corresponding to the revised amended final PUD grading plan (5-8-23) for the previously approved Trinity Health Hospital Addition located at 7575 Grand River Avenue. **The motion carried unanimously.**

8. Request for amendment to Resolution #5 to extend the interest free pre-payment period from May 17, 2023 to September 14, 2023 for the Pine Creek Ridge Road Improvement Special Assessment District. (Roll Call)

Ms. VanMarter stated that since the project has been paused due to filings with the Michigan Tax Tribunal and the Township has not gone to the bond market, Staff is requesting to extend

the no interest free payment period until September 14, 2023. Ms. Hunt stated that 14 residents have submitted their payoff payments, and staff is going to offer to return it to them.

Moved by Lowe, supported by Mortensen, to approve an amendment to Resolution #5 to extend the interest free pre-payment period from May 17, 2023 to September 14, 2023 for the Pine Creek Ridge Road Improvement Special Assessment District. **The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote (Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Hunt - yes, Lowe - yes, Mortensen - yes, Skolarus - yes, and Rogers - yes).**

9. Request for approval of Resolution 230515 to approve the Assessor's Affidavit of the 2023 Millage Levies for Genoa Charter Township establishing the Millage Rate at 0.7774. (Roll Call)

Moved by Skolarus, supported by Hunt, to approve the Assessor's Affidavit of the 2023 Millage Levies for Genoa Township, establishing the Millage Rate at 0.7774. **The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote (Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Hunt - yes, Lowe - yes, Mortensen - yes, Skolarus - yes, and Rogers - yes)**

10. Request for approval to re-appoint Chris Grajek and Tim Chouinard to the Planning Commission and Michele Kreutzberg to the Zoning Board of Appeals with terms ending on 06/30/26 as recommended by the Township Supervisor.

Supervisor Rogers thanked these three members for continuing to serve.

Moved by Ledford, supported by Croft, to approve the re-appointment of Chris Grajek and Tim Chouinard to the Planning Commission and Michele Kreutzberg to the Zoning Board of Appeals with terms ending on 06/30/26 as recommended by the Township Supervisor. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Member Discussion

Ms. Skolarus stated there was a poor turnout for the May election. There were only 30 in-person voters.

Supervisor Rogers addressed the comments at the Call to the Public. The IT department determined that there were 10,000 clicks on the post on Nextdoor, but that does not mean the post was read in full each time; it just means that it was clicked on. Of the 132 responses to the post, 17 of them were Township residents and 43 of the comments were made by Mr. Skarjune. He has not received any phone calls from residents regarding this issue. He noted there is a dedicated officer for the Township to work with the residents and the schools. Additionally, Green Oak Township, Hamburg Township, The City of Howell, the City of Brighton City all have police departments. Michigan State Police also has a post in Brighton Township.

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Approved Minutes

Ms. Hunt stated that she viewed the post many times as she wanted to read the comments. She did not infer that there are a lot of residents in favor of this. The article had all the Board Member's phone numbers, and she did not receive any calls. It also listed tonight's meeting, and no one attended and spoke.

Adjournment

Moved by Lowe, supported by Mortensen, to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 pm. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Thomas
Recording Secretary

Approved:

Paulette Skolarus, Clerk
Genoa Charter Township

Bill Rogers, Supervisor
Genoa Charter Township