



Charter Township of Oscoda
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Special Meeting Minutes March 15, 2023

Call to Order – Ms. Richards called the meeting to order at 09:05 a.m. The meeting was held at Robert J. Parks Library 6010 N. Skeel Ave. Oscoda, MI 48750.

Roll Call – Board Members Present: Ms. McGuire, Mr. Wusterbarth, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Sutton, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Richards

Board Members Absent:

Others Present: Ms. Kline

Agenda Additions. – None

Public Comment –

Clayton Jolly - I believe the replacement for Township supervisor should be held by special election.

Rose Latham - I believe the replacement for Township supervisor should be held by special election.

Cathy Wusterbarth – Bill Palmer is a very engaged member of the township board he's very thorough.

Martin Gayeski – Supports the appointment of Bill Palmer.

Kelly Brown- I think an official should be elected and not appointed so the people have a say.

Martin Gayeski – In the early 2000's we went through the same situation, and we appointed officials then. I think the same should be done now.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Appointment of Vacant Supervisor Position Discussion and Possible Action.

Discussion:

Ann Richards- I think we should appoint Bill Palmer and have an election for the vacant trustee.

Jeremy Spencer – I think we should appoint Bill Palmer to supervisor and discuss what we want to do in relation to the trustee position.

Joshua Sutton – Just so everyone is aware we have missed the window for the May election and would have to hold a special election at our cost under the new requirements that passed in November.

Jamie McGuire - I would like to see us take applications for the supervisor.

Tim Cumming – The supervisor's position is different than what people think it is. The supervisor plays a pivotal role in the township leadership. I know people have spoken to me about applying because things don't get done quickly enough. If anyone is interested in leadership, the trustee would be a great opportunity.

Steve Wusterbarth – I would like to have the supervisor have some experience in the role. Everyone has been elected this time around and I like us to follow the process. I think we should handle the vacant trustee position as we have in the past.

Bill Palmer - I would accept supervisor if I was appointed. I originally joined the board because I wanted to help move forward and try and do some positive things for this community. I also would address questions at board meetings by getting answers and bringing to the next meeting as I know citizens want answers. I also would hold office hours weekly to be available to the public for any questions or concerns. I simply want to try and do what's best for this community and that's all I have to say thank you both.

Ann Richards – I had office hours when I started but we were not open to the public and then the board voted to have my office moved to the Treasures office at which time I began responding to emails and meeting with or contacting citizens as they reached out.

Possible options:

1. We can hold a special election for the supervisor position.
2. We can appoint a supervisor from the trustee's and then appoint a trustee.
3. We can appoint a supervisor from applicants.

Motion for Ms. Richards to abstain – Mr. Spencer supported a motion by Mr. Wusterbarth to allow Ms. Richards to abstain from voting.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

Adopt Resolution 2023-3– Mr. Spencer supported a motion by Mr. Wusterbarth to accept the resignation of the Supervisor and Appoint Bill Palmer as Supervisor.

YEAS: Mr. Wusterbarth, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Sutton, Mr. Cummings

NAYS: Ms. McGuire

MOTION CARRIED

Appoint Supervisor– Mr. Spencer supported a motion by Mr. Wusterbarth to approve the appointment of Bill Palmer as Supervisor.

YEAS: Mr. Wusterbarth, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Sutton, Mr. Cummings

NAYS: Ms. McGuire

MOTION CARRIED

Vacant Trustee position – Mr. Cummings supported a motion by Mr. Wusterbarth to post vacant trustee position on March 18th,2023 with applications due by April 14th ,2023.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

2. Fire Fighter Compensation Discussion

Discussion: Reviewed information presented by the Fire Department.

They are asking for Training to respond to aircraft crashes as our base is a maintenance hub for aircraft, dive training be opened up to when available instead of only at Fire meetings, milage for increased costs to respond, equipment/uniform budget, and increased wages.

Reasoning: Currently our firefighters do not have training for an aviation crash which could occur at any time, dive training and certification is required for our dive team and is hard to do on just one approved day so we would like to be able to do training when we have the required amount to do it as we dive in local lakes, rivers, and streams that present many risks for our divers, mileage as gas costs have risen and our firefighters have a huge area to cover compared to other municipalities, equipment and uniforms as we currently pay for lights, sirens, clothing, boots, and more that are required for firefighting at our own cost, increased wages as we currently only receive run pay and then \$10.00 an hour after 2 hours, and today it takes 240 hours of training to get certified to be a firefighter.

Referred to the policy committee for review and recommendation to board at the April 24 meeting.

Review Fire Department Request – Mr. Cummings supported a motion by Mr. Wusterbarth to have the policy committee meet with the Fire Department and return at the April 24th meeting with recommendation.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment:

Martin Gayeski - I respect all these guys here, they put their life on the line every day and are a special group and I support these guys 100% and I think the board should support them 100%.

Clayton Jolly –

Maybe Mr. Kalitta can talk to the people in Washington D.C. about getting more funds for our airport, he's been a good citizen in this community and if he sees a need, I can't believe he won't do what he can to answer that.

Adjourn – Ms. Richards made a motion to adjourn at 10:24 a.m.



William Palmer
Supervisor



Joshua Sutton
Clerk

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