

MONROE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2020

7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Monroe Charter Township was called to order by Supervisor Alan Barron at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20, 2020, in the Monroe Charter Township Hall, 4925 East Dunbar Road, Monroe County, Michigan.

ROLL CALL

Present: Supervisor Barron, Clerk Smith, Treasurer Barton, Trustees Manor, Heck, Pancone and Blank.

Others Present: Chief Cherney, Attorney Patricia McCormick and fifty four (54) people in the audience.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ANNOUNCEMENT

Supervisor Barron addressed audience members; I am sure many of you are here tonight in regards to the Marihuana Ordinance and the number of businesses that the ordinance currently allows. While I welcome each of you to stay for tonight's meeting, no action will be taken at tonight's meeting that would amend or change the ordinance allowing us to atop taking applications. When amending an ordinance we must follow the legal process. In part, that process included notifications as well as a public hearing from the Planning Commission and public hearing by the Township Board. However, I do agree that we need to "tweak" and modify the current ordinance. Sometime after the election, the Ordinance Committee and the Planning Commission will begin to review the current ordinance with amendments and changes to the Township Board. At tonight's meeting I will ask for a motion to have the Township initiate the possible rezoning of residential properties located in a C-2 zoned area to R-3. An example of this would me the residential houses on Military in South Monroe Townsite.

It is important to remember, whether you are in favor or not, Marihuana is legal in the State of Michigan. In 2018 the majority of Monroe Township voters were in favor of the state proposal. Even though 6 businesses have Planning Commission approval, none are close to opening. They all have more requirements to meet by the state and the township.

I have had two emails today asking for a moratorium on the number of businesses. I will let our attorney speak to that issue during her comments.

We welcome your comments during the Public Comment item on the agenda, I ask that you limit them to 3 minutes or less and to not constantly repeat what others have said or to interrupt those speaking. You will also have your chance for comments during the public comments of the Planning Commission on the November 9 for additional applicants.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Regular Meeting Minutes of September 15, 2020)

Motion #1. Motion by Barton, supported by Heck to approve and place on file the regular meeting minutes of September 15, 2020, as presented.

MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

October 20, 2020

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Con't)

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Heck yes, Smith yes, Manor yes, Pancone yes, Blank yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS/INVOICES

Motion #2. Motion by Manor, supported by Pancone to approve payment of bills/invoices as listed by the Clerk.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Pancone yes, Blank yes, Heck yes, Barton yes, Smith yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Cherney updated the Board on the fire runs for the month of September 2020.

Motion #3. Motion by Manor, supported by Heck to accept and place on file the September 2020 Fire Department Report, as presented by Chief Cherney.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Pancone yes, Barton yes, Smith yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT REPORT

Sheriff Department Report on police activity for the month of September 2020.

Motion #4. Motion by Pancone, supported by Heck to accept and place on file the September 2020 Sheriff Department Report, as presented.

Roll call vote: Pancone yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Manor yes, Barton yes, Smith yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Accept and place on file the Planning Commission Report.

Motion #5. Motion by Pancone, supported by Smith to accept and place on file the Planning Commission report, as presented.

Roll call vote: Pancone yes, Smith yes, Blank yes, Heck yes, Manor yes, Barton yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

Financial Reports:

1. Clerk's 2020 Budget Summary Report, period ending September 30, 2020.
2. Treasurer's Monthly Statement of Bank Accounts & Investments, period ending September 30, 2020.

General Reports:

1. Supervisor.
2. Building Official.
3. Blight Report.
4. Fire Chief

MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

October 20, 2020

CONSENT AGENDA (Con't)

Communications:

1. Charter Communications correspondence.

Motion #6. Motion by Barton, supported by Manor to accept the Consent Agenda and place on file, as presented.

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Manor yes, Heck yes, Blank no, Pancone yes, Smith yes, Barron yes, **Motion carried.**

Trustee Blank wanted it noted in the minutes that he requested moving the public comments ahead in the agenda due to the amount of people at the meeting about the Marihuana Ordinance.

PRESENTATION

Presentation by the Monroe County Business Development Corporation and the City of Monroe regarding 425 Land Transfer.

NEW BUSINESS

Accept Resolution from the Monroe County Board of Commissioners in support of Monroe Charter Townships Economic Development efforts with the City of Monroe.

Motion #7. Motion by Barton, supported by Smith to accept Resolution from the Monroe County Board of Commissioners in support of Monroe Charter Townships Economic Development efforts with the City of Monroe, as presented.

Roll call vote: Barton no, Smith no, Manor no, Heck no, Blank no, Pancone no, Barron yes. **Motion denied.**

Accept Memorandum of Understanding between Monroe Charter Township and the City of Monroe regarding the LaPlaisance Road Innovation District and to continue negotiations with the City of Monroe on the 425 Land Transfer Agreement.

Motion #8. Motion by Barton, supported by Smith to accept Memorandum of Understanding between Monroe Charter Township and the City of Monroe regarding the LaPlaisance Road Innovation District and to continue negotiations with the City of Monroe on the 425 Land Transfer Agreement, as presented.

Roll call vote: Barton no, Smith no, Manor no, Heck no, Pancone no, Blank yes, Barron yes. **Motion denied.**

Set Trick or Treat hours for Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Motion #9. Motion by Smith, supported by Pancone to set Trick or Treat hours for Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Pancone yes, Blank yes, Heck yes, Manor yes, Barton yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

October 20, 2020

NEW BUSINESS (con't)

Accept resignations, with regrets, from Cindy Chesney, Wendy Spicer and Josh Henscheid from the Monroe Charter Township Planning Commission.

Motion #10. Motion by Barton, supported by Manor to accept resignations, with regrets, from Cindy Chesney, Wendy Spicer and Josh Henscheid from the Monroe Charter Township Planning Commission, as presented.

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Manor yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Pancone yes, Smith yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Approve appointment of Adam McLaughlin to the Planning Commission as recommended by the Supervisor, to fill unexpired term of Wendy Spicer, expiring 01/01/2023

Motion #11. Motion by Manor, supported by Barton to approve appointment of Adam McLaughlin to the Planning Commission as recommended by the Supervisor, to fill unexpired term of Wendy Spicer, expiring 01/01/2023, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Barton yes, Blank no, Pancone yes, Heck yes, Smith yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Approve appointment of Joann Van Aken to the Planning Commission as recommended by the Supervisor, to fill unexpired term of Josh Henscheid, expiring 01/01/2022.

Motion #12. Motion by Barton, supported by Manor to approve appointment of Joann Van Aken to the Planning Commission as recommended by the Supervisor, to fill unexpired term of Josh Henscheid, expiring 01/01/2022, as presented.

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Manor yes, Smith yes, Pancone yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Approve renewal of VSP Vision Care for 2021.

Motion #13. Motion by Smith, supported by Heck to approve renewal of VSP Vision Care for 2021, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Pancone yes, Manor yes, Barton yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Approve renewal of Delta Dental Plan of Michigan for 2021.

Motion #14. Motion by Smith, supported by Barton to approve renewal of Delta Dental Plan of Michigan for 2021, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Barton yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Pancone yes, Manor yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Approve renewal of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan Health Insurance Plan for 2021.

Motion #15. Motion by Smith, supported by Barton to approve renewal of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan Health Insurance Plan for 2021, as presented.

MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

October 20, 2020

NEW BUSINESS (con't)

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Barton yes, Blank yes, Pancone yes, Heck yes, Manor yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Approve request of Chief Cherney to promote Lt. Calvin Schmitt to Captain and Sgt. Frank Brown to Lieutenant, effective October 1, 2020.

Motion #16. Motion by Pancone, supported by Heck to approve request of Chief Cherney to promote Lt. Calvin Schmitt to Captain and Sgt. Frank Brown to Lieutenant, effective October 1, 2020, as presented.

Roll call vote: Pancone yes, Heck yes, Smith yes, Barton yes, Manor yes, Blank yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Approve 1-year leave of absence for Firefighter Jacob Nadeau effective October 1, 2020, as requested by Chief Cherney.

Motion #17. Motion by Manor, supported by Blank to approve 1-year leave of absence for Firefighter Jacob Nadeau effective October 1, 2020, as requested by Chief Cherney, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Blank yes, Pancone yes, Heck yes, Barton yes, Smith yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Approve payment of \$32,940.06 to R and R Fire Truck Repair, Inc. for repairs on 1988 Aerial.

Motion #18. Motion by Manor, supported by Pancone to approve payment of \$32,940.06 to R and R Fire Truck Repair, Inc. for repairs on 1988 Aerial, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Pancone yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Barton yes, Smith yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Authorize Chief Cherney to seek interested parties or bids to sell the 1988 Aerial.

Motion #19. Motion by Heck, supported by Barton to authorize Chief Cherney to seek interested parties or bids to sell the 1988 Aerial, as presented.

Roll call vote: Heck yes, Barton yes, Blank yes, Pancone yes, Manor yes, Smith yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Review and award bid for Fire Station #1 parking lot repair.

Motion #20. Motion by Manor, supported by Smith to review and award bid for Fire Station #1 parking lot repair to JB Seal Coating LLC, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Smith yes, Barton yes, Pancone yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Approve the 2021 Regular Board Meeting Schedule.

Motion #21. Motion by Barton, supported by Heck to approve the 2021 Regular Board Meeting Schedule, as presented.

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Pancone yes, Manor yes, Smith yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Approve the 2021 Holiday Schedule.

MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

October 20, 2020

NEW BUSINESS (con't)

Motion #22. Motion by Barton, supported by Smith to approve the 2021 Holiday Schedule, as presented.

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Smith yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Pancone yes, Manor yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Approve Salary & Wage Scale Amendment #28.

Motion #23. Motion by Barton, supported by Smith to approve Salary & Wage Scale Amendment #28, as presented.

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Smith yes, Manor yes, Pancone yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Motion to have Monroe Charter Township initiate the possible rezoning of residential properties located in a C-2 zoned area to R-3. Having the Zoning Enforcement Officer prepare a roll of all properties that meet the above requirements and to notify owners of those affected properties of a public hearing.

Motion #24. Motion by Smith, supported by Barton to have Monroe Charter Township initiate the possible rezoning of residential properties located in a C-2 zoned area to R-3. Having the Zoning Enforcement Officer prepare a roll of all properties that meet the above requirements and to notify owners of those affected properties of a public hearing, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Barton yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Pancone yes, Manor yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

Public comments began at 8:48 p.m.

Board comments were made by Supervisor Barron, Clerk Smith, Treasurer Barton, Trustee Manor and Trustee Blank. Audience comments were made by Attorney Patricia McCormick, Sylvia Mayes, Dr. Stephen McNew, Sue Loveland, Calvin Schmitt, Chief Cherney, Joshua Uran, Vicky Loveland, Dr. John Ray, Alisha Pipsney, Chris Harter, Vincent Burkey, Chelsea Robinson, Katybeth Davis, Dr. Julie Everly, David Hoffman, Mike Dab, Jerry Oley, Tracy Oberleiter, Jesse Riggs, Eric Redmond, Dave Swartout, Tim Lake, Vince Pastue, Dr. Kojo Quartey. Discussion was residents and officials who are for or against the Marihuana Ordinance. Those opposed cited the harm to the user and children, the potential effects on the community with the increase in the business regarding increased police presence and the epidemic already facing our community with heroin. They asked that a cap be placed on those businesses allowed in the Township or that a moratorium be placed in order to amend the Ordinance. A letter was read on behalf of Senator Dale Zorn opposing the Marihuana business in Monroe Charter Township. Jerry Oley made a formal FOIA request to Supervisor Barron.

Those in favor of Marihuana cited the medicinal benefits including cancer patients and that it is legal, like alcohol. It was also brought up that the Township would see an increase in tax money and that there would be more jobs in the area. The Board was also asked when the Ordinance was published in the Monroe News. It was not available at the time and advised that it would be made available at a later date.

Public and Board Comments ended at 10:11 p.m.

MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

MINUTES

ADJOURNMENT

REGULAR MEETING

October 20, 2020

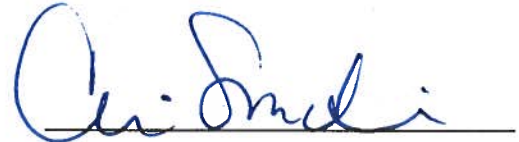
Motion #25. Motion by Barton, supported by Smith to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 p.m.

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Smith yes, Manor yes, Pancone yes, Heck yes, Blank yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

Attested:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Barron", written over a horizontal line.

Alan Barron, Supervisor
Monroe, Charter Township

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Christina Smith", written over a horizontal line.

Christina Smith, Clerk

Monroe Charter Township