

**MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
MONROE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2023
7:00 p.m**

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Monroe Charter Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Alan Barron at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 from the Monroe Charter Township Hall, 4925 East Dunbar Road, Monroe County, Michigan.

ROLL CALL

Present: Supervisor Barron, Clerk Smith, Treasurer Barton, Trustee's Howe, Janssens, Manor and Raymo.

Others Present: Chief Cherney, Attorney McCormick, Sheriff Goodnough and forty-two (42) audience members.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Regular Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2023 and Special Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2023).

Motion #1. Motion by Manor, supported by Howe to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2023 and Special Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2023, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Howe yes, Barton yes, Janssens yes, Smith yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS/INVOICES

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

Roll call vote: Raymo yes, Manor yes, Barton yes, Smith yes, Howe yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Motion #3. Motion by Howe, supported by Raymo to accept the Planning Commission Report, as presented.

Roll call vote: Howe yes, Raymo yes, Smith yes, Barton yes, Manor yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Motion #4. Motion by Janssens, supported by Raymo to accept and place on file the Fire Department Report for the month of February 2023, as presented.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT Report (Con't)

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

Tina, City of Monroe resident inquired on how many calls are on Laplaisance Rd? Chief Cherney responded that the Fire Department has responded to a few calls. He also spoke about shift work and the need for a traffic light at Albain and Laplaisance Road.

Roll call vote: Janssens yes, Raymo yes, Smith yes, Manor yes, Howe yes, Barton yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT REPORT

Motion # 5. Motion by Howe, supported by Janssens to accept and place on file the Sheriff Department Report for the month of February 2023, as presented.

Presentation by Sheriff Goodnough on recommended staffing.

Roll call vote: Howe yes, Janssens yes, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Smith yes, Barton yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Financial Reports:

1. Clerk's 2023 Budget Summary Report, period ending February 28, 2023.
2. Treasurer's Monthly Statement of Bank Accounts & Investments, period ending February 28, 2023.

General Reports:

1. Supervisor.
2. Building Official.
3. Blight Report.
4. Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Communications:

1. Correspondence from Comcast dated 01-25-23, 3-3-23 and 3-7-23; Re: upcoming changes.

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

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Raymo yes, Barton yes, Janssens yes, Howe yes, Smith yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION

Proclamation #23-01, Recognizing National Agricultural Week March 20-24, 2023 and National Agricultural Day on March 21, 2023.

Motion #7. Motion by Smith, supported by Barton to adopt Proclamation #23-01, Recognizing National Agricultural Week March 20-24, 2023 and National Agricultural Day on March 21, 2023, as presented.

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PROCLAMATION (Con't)

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Barton yes, Manor yes, Howe yes, Janssens yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

ORDINANCES

Waive second reading to repeal Mobile Food Vendors General Ordinance No. 144 and add to the General Ordinance and adopt Code of Ordinances No. 150, Mobile Food Vendors Ordinance and license application form, and to have published in the Monroe News and become effective immediately after publication.

Motion #8. Motion by Manor, supported by Howe to waive the second reading to repeal Mobile Food Vendors General Ordinance No. 144 and add to the General Ordinance and adopt Code of Ordinances No. 150, Mobile Food Vendors Ordinance and license application form, and to have published in the Monroe News and become effective immediately after publication, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Howe yes, Janssens yes, Barton yes, Smith yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

Waive second reading on proposed amendment to Zoning Ordinance 52-2010, Article 8, Section 8.102, Adult Entertainment Uses regarding the Intent of the Ordinance Amendment; Applicability; Site Design Standards; and Review Standards, all to reference Adult Entertainment Uses and to have published in Monroe News and become effective 8 days after publication.

Motion #9. Motion by Raymo, supported by Barton to waive the second reading on proposed amendment to Zoning Ordinance 52-2010, Article 8, Section 8.102, Adult Entertainment Uses regarding the Intent of the Ordinance Amendment; Applicability; Site Design Standards; and Review Standards, all to reference Adult Entertainment Uses and to have published in Monroe News and become effective 8 days after publication, as presented.

Roll call vote: Raymo yes, Barton yes, Manor yes, Smith yes, Janssens yes, Howe yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Appoint Dale Woolace as alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals with term expiring 01-01-2026.

Motion #10. Motion by Manor, supported by Barton to appoint Dale Woolace as alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals with term expiring 01-01-2026, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Barton yes, Raymo yes, Smith yes, Howe yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

Accept resignation of Derrick Liddy from Monroe Charter Township Volunteer Fire Department, effective March 2, 2023, as recommended by Chief Cherney.

Motion #11. Motion by Smith, supported by Janssens to accept resignation of Derrick Liddy from Monroe Charter Township Volunteer Fire Department, effective March 2, 2023, as recommended by Chief Cherney, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Janssens yes, Howe yes, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Barton yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

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NEW BUSINESS (Con't)

Authorize use of the Nature Center for Meadowlands Homeowners Association's annual meeting on June 6, 2023, with fee waived.

Motion #12. Motion by Barton, supported by Howe to authorize use of the Nature Center for Meadowlands Homeowners Association's annual meeting on June 6, 2023, with fee waived, as presented.

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Howe yes, Smith yes, Janssens yes, Manor yes, Raymo no, Barron yes.

Motion carried.

Approve up to \$40,000 for Seventh Street/South Telegraph Road safety improvements for the Monroe County Loop Trail. This includes installation of Mast signalization. (The City of Monroe is also paying \$40,000 and Monroe County Road Commission is considering payment of \$15,000 which would reduce cost).

Motion #13. Motion by Manor, supported by Barton to approve up to \$40,000 for Seventh Street/South Telegraph Road safety improvements for the Monroe County Loop Trail. This includes installation of Mast signalization, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Barton yes, Smith yes, Howe yes, Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes.

Motion carried.

Accept and place on file the signed demolition contract received from Quality Roots, meeting the final requirement of the contingency approval given on 10/18/22 for an extension to become a State of Michigan licensee by 11/7/23 for a marihuana provisioning center and adult use retailer at 1235 S. Monroe Street.

Motion #14. Motion by Howe, supported by Raymo to accept and place on file the signed demolition contract received from Quality Roots, meeting the final requirement of the contingency approval given on 10/18/22 for an extension to become a State of Michigan licensee by 11/7/23 for a marihuana provisioning center and adult use retailer at 1235 S. Monroe Street, as presented.

Roll call vote: Howe yes, Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Barton yes, Manor yes, Smith yes, Barron yes.

Motion carried.

Consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by H.O.D Monroe, located at 14750 LaPlaisance Road on Thursday, April 20, 2023 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Motion #15. Motion by Barton, supported by Smith to consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by H.O.D Monroe, located at 14750 LaPlaisance Road on Thursday, April 20, 2023 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

Treasurer Barton stated that there are eight requests for special events on the agenda and that it is time to revisit the ordinance.

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Smith yes, Manor yes, Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Howe yes, Barron yes.

Consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by Pure Cannabis Outlet, located at 15311 S. Dixie Hwy., on Thursday, April 20, 2023 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

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NEW BUSINESS (Con't)

Motion #16. Motion by Barton, supported by Smith to consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by Pure Cannabis Outlet, located at 15311 S. Dixie Hwy., on Thursday, April 20, 2023 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., as presented.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

Tina, City of Monroe resident stated that there is concern over consumption at the events. Supervisor Barron advised that consumption is not permitted at the events. She also asked Sheriff Goodnough how many calls the Sheriff Department has had at the Marihuana Shops. Sheriff Goodnough stated it is hard to track but he believes 3 calls. Supervisor Barron stated that there is extra security for all of the events and the business stands to lose their license if they allow consumption on premises.

Harold, Monroe Township Resident stated concerns over the traffic without the events and asked if they should even be considered?

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Smith yes, Raymo yes, Howe yes, Manor yes, Janssens no, Barron yes.

Motion carried.

Consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by Mint Cannabis, located at 760 S. Telegraph Road for April 15, 2023, April 16, 2023 and April 20, 2023 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Motion #17. Motion by Barton, supported by Smith to consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by Mint Cannabis, located at 760 S. Telegraph Road on April 20, 2023 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., as presented.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

Connie, Monroe Township resident asked for clarification of the vote and about security at the event.

Trustee Raymo asked if the business has an additional exit onto Seventh Street? Supervisor Barron stated no they do not and clarified that the business has to work with the Road Commission.

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Smith yes, Howe yes, Raymo no, Manor yes, Janssens no, Barron yes.

Motion carried.

Consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by Hempnotize/Glass Jar, located at 14733 S. Telegraph Road for April 20, 2023 - April 23, 2023 between the hours 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Motion #18. Motion by Howe, supported by Barton to consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by Hempnotize/Glass Jar, located at 14733 S. Telegraph Road on April 20, 2023 between the hours 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., as presented.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

Ann, Monroe Township resident stated that there should be more consideration for safety and working with the Sheriff Department for these events.

Treasurer Barton stated that she didn't vote for any Marihuana business to come into the Township but we have to treat them equally for these events.

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NEW BUSINESS (Con't)

Doug, Monroe Township resident asked if a traffic analysis has been done to know the impact on the township. Stated that he would like it tabled.

Supervisor advised the audience on the rules of the chamber.

Rita, Monroe Township resident inquired on the security requirements for the events.

Supervisor Barron advised that the businesses are required to have additional security.

Roll call vote: Howe yes, Barton yes, Smith yes, Manor yes, Janssens no, Raymo yes, Barron yes.

Motion carried.

Consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by Crave Cannabis, located at 1100 S. Monroe Street for April 20, 2023, May 26, 2023, June 17, 2023, July 7, 2023, August 11, 2023 and September 2, 2023 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Motion #19. Motion by Manor, supported by Smith to consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by Crave Cannabis, located at 1100 S. Monroe Street on April 20, 2023 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Smith yes, Howe yes, Raymo yes, Janssens no, Barton yes, Barron yes.

Motion Carried.

Consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by King of Budz, located at 14500 LaPlaisance Road for April 20, 2023 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Motion #20. Motion by Barton, supported by Smith to consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by King of Budz, located at 14500 LaPlaisance Road for April 20, 2023 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., as presented.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

Harold, Monroe Township resident asked if the Board listens to what is being said?

Trustee Howe stated that the Board is listening however there is a process in getting an ordinance changed.

Supervisor Barron stated that there will be Public Hearings that will be published in the Monroe News and posted to the Township website and Facebook.

Roll call vote: Barton yes, Smith yes, Janssens no, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Howe yes, Barron yes.

Motion carried.

Consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by NuGroup LLC, located at 14498 LaPlaisance Road for the 2023 year on the following dates: 04/01 - 04/02, 04/07 - 04/09, 04/14 - 04/16, 04/19 - 04/24, 04/28-04/30, 05/05 - 05/07, 05/12 - 05/14, 05/19 - 05/21, 05/26 - 05/28, 06/02 - 06/04, 06/09 - 06/11, 06/16 - 06/18, 06/23 - 06/25, 06/30 - 07/02, 07/07 - 07/09, 07/14 - 07/16, 07/21 - 07/23, 07/28 - 07/30, 08/04 - 08/06, 08/11 - 08/13, 08/18 - 08/20 and 08/25-08/27. Between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Motion #21. Motion by Howe, supported by Smith to Consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by NuGroup LLC, located at 14498 LaPlaisance Road on 04/20/2023 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., as presented.

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NEW BUSINESS (Con't)

Roll call vote: Howe yes, Smith yes, Barton yes, Janssens no, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

Consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by Pyrotecnico Fireworks Inc., located at the Monroe County Fairgrounds for a firework display on July 28, 2023 at dusk. With a rain date of September 22, 2023.

Motion #22. Motion by Smith, supported by Barton to consider application for a Special Outdoor Event to be held by Pyrotecnico Fireworks Inc., located at the Monroe County Fairgrounds for a firework display on July 28, 2023 at dusk. With a rain date of September 22, 2023, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Barton yes, Howe yes, Janssens yes, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

Consider approving license renewal for H.O.D Monroe - CMH Holdings 2 LLC (14750 LaPlaisance Road Unit H-160) effective 04/05/2023-04/05/2024. Contingent on all agency approvals.

Motion #23. Motion by Manor, supported by Howe to consider approving license renewal for H.O.D Monroe - CMH Holdings 2 LLC (14750 LaPlaisance Road Unit H-160) effective 04/05/2023-04/05/2024. Contingent on all agency approvals, as presented.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

Treasurer Barton asked if the temporary sign has been removed?

Chris Harter stated that the digital sign is not operable and that it would be removed. There is a part that had to be ordered to lower it.

Tina, City of Monroe resident read the responsibilities of a Township Board, called the hospital about patients coming in under the influence of marijuana and stated she doesn't like the smell.

Doug, Monroe Township resident and business owner advised the Board that this is your opportunity not to renew the license.

Attorney McCormick advised the Board that the applicant has property rights and that approval must be given if they are in compliance with the zoning ordinance and the police ordinance.

Resident stated that they have dealt with signs in the Township and the sign is still there.

Chris Harter, Business owner stated that the sign is unable to be moved until the electrical relay comes in because it needs to be lowered in order to move. There is nothing being advertised on the board.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Howe yes, Raymo yes, Barton yes, Janssens no, Smith yes, Barron yes.
Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments began at 8:09 p.m. and ended at 8:42 p.m.

There were ten (10) public comments regarding marijuana businesses, ordinance adoption and enforcement, emails from the Cannabis Regulatory Agency and the ability to opt-out, FOIA request, blight on LaPlaisance Road, an offer to assist the Township with fire related issues regarding marijuana

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PUBLIC COMMENTS (Con't)

businesses, legalities of marijuana and out of state purchases, limiting the amount of marijuana businesses, traffic studies along LaPlaisance Road, I-75 construction and adult entertainment.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion #24. Motion by Raymo, supported by Howe to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Roll call vote: Raymo yes, Howe yes, Smith yes, Manor yes, Janssens yes, Barton yes, Barron yes.

Motion carried.



Christina Smith, Clerk
Monroe Charter Township

Attested:



Alan Barron, Supervisor
Monroe Charter Township