

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD
TOWN BOARD MEETING
February 25, 2025

Supervisor McManus called the Town Board Meeting to order at the Garfield Township Hall on February 25, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Board Members

Present: Molly Agostinelli, Laurie Lapp, Chloe Macomber, Joe McManus, Lanie McManus and Denise Schmuckal,

Absent and Excused: Chuck Korn

Also in Attendance: Township Manager Chris Barsheff

1. Public Comment (6:00)

Jan Freeman of Eagle Vale commented on the Copper Ridge PUD Major Amendment.

2. Review and Approval of the Agenda - Conflict of Interest (6:09)

Schmuckal moved and Agostinelli seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

*Yeas: Schmuckal, Agostinelli, Lapp, L. McManus, Macomber, J. McManus
Nays: None*

3. Consent Calendar (6:09)

a. Minutes

February 11, 2025 (Recommend Approval)

b. Bills

(i) General Fund \$52,567.50
(Recommend Approval)

(ii) Gourdie-Fraser
Developer's Escrow Fund – Storm Water Reviews,
Utility Plan Review, Oversight and Closeout
\$ 2,160.00
General Utilities 4,837.00
General 9,719.51
Park Funds/DNR Trust Fund 7,587.50

Total \$24,304.01
(Recommend Approval)

c. Consideration of Copper Ridge PUD Major Amendment – Introduction and set Public Hearing for March 25, 2025 (Recommend Approval)

Agostinelli moved and Schmuckal seconded to adopt the consent calendar as presented.

Yeas: Agostinelli, Schmuckal, Lapp, L. McManus, Macomber, J. McManus

Nays: None

4. Items Removed from the Consent Calendar

None

5. Correspondence (6:11)

a. Traverse Connect Business Growth Barometer Survey Results & Quarterly Update

6. Reports

a. County Commissioner's Report (6:12)

County Commissioner Fern Spence stated that Project Alpha was discussed at the last meeting. Updates to the 911 services are coming to the county and the BOC is working on the county septic code. Board members commented and asked questions regarding the septic code.

b. Joint Rec Authority Report (6:15)

- Letter Regarding municipal water service at Historic Barns Park

This item written to the Board from Matt Cowell was included in Board member communications.

Matt Cowell, Executive Director of the Joint Recreation Authority, discussed the water issues at Barns Park and Karen Schmidt from the Botanical Gardens talked about the Commons Area and its progress thus far and asked Garfield Township for their continued support. Cowell discussed water pressure at the Barns Park and stressed the importance of getting the water pressure fixed at the site so that the proposed development could move forward. Board members asked questions about the proposed project and the water issues.

J. McManus commented that water permits are being held up for other Garfield Township developments and that developers are also expressing concerns about the water situation. Commons related meeting notes indicated that three options were presented for water connections but were never brought to the township for consideration. J. McManus added that he and Barsheff attended a meeting with city officials regarding the water system and bulk water agreement and they are negotiating with the city to solve the current impasse. J. McManus further stated that the

township is committed to helping get the Historic Barns Park an improved water supply.

c. Engineering Report/Construction Update (6:45)

Township Engineer Jennifer Graham stated that she is collaborating with Acme and East Bay Townships on their force main project by studying the flows through that area. Blair Township flow rates are going up and the multi-user agreement may need to be renegotiated soon. Graham also commented on the water situation at the Barns and the Montessori school area. An EGLE permit would be needed in any case and the CIP indicates that a water pump station could be made which would give the Barns Park the water flow needed and would also help flows at Copper Ridge. The pump station is on the CIP, but could be done sooner if need be. Board members discussed the topic and asked questions regarding a water pump station which would give water to the Barns and the logistics of getting a permit from EGLE.

Graham also stated that the Commons Trail will be presented to the Parks Commission and then will go out for bids if approved.

d. Township Manager's Report (7:11)

Barsheff commented on new signals at North Long Lake Road and Medical Campus Drive and updates for the CIP to make it a very comprehensive plan. A settlement agreement was received in the Lamar case and is being reviewed by the township attorney after receiving staff recommended changes. He attended a strategic planning focus group for the City of Traverse City and gave an update on the Meadow Valley development.

e. Supervisor's Report (7:16)

J. McManus reported that he met with the new BPW director and attended an emergency response meeting and a Metro Fire Board meeting.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Consideration of approving the Traverse Connect Business Survey (7:18)

Barsheff presented the survey and asked for approval to move forward with the survey to get it to businesses. Board members commented on the survey questions and made suggestions for changes to a couple questions.

Schmuckal moved and Agostinelli seconded to approve the Traverse Connect Business Survey and suggest the two proposed changes to questions.

*Yeas: Schmuckal, Agostinelli, Lapp, L. McManus, Macomber, J. McManus
Nays: None*

8. New Business

None

9. **Public Comment: (7:24)**

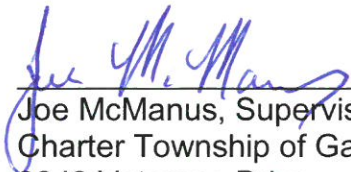
Sue Murphy commented on the water pressure in the Copper Ridge area and the Barns area.

10. **Other Business (7:27)**

Macomber will order some screen protectors for the tablets.
Barsheff commented on Apps for the tablets.

11. **Adjournment**

McManus adjourned the meeting at 7:29pm.



Joe McManus, Supervisor
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Lanie McManus, Clerk
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