

**MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
December 17, 2024  
7:00 p.m**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A meeting of the Monroe Charter Township Board was called to order by Supervisor John Manor at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 from the Monroe Charter Township Hall, 4925 East Dunbar Road, Monroe County, Michigan.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Supervisor Manor, Clerk Smith, Treasurer Sulfaro, Trustees Raymo, Shipman, Merkle and Heck.

**Others Present:** Chief Cherney, Zoning Enforcement Officer/Community Development Director Kim Fortner, Attorney McCormick and (15) fifteen audience members.

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Move closed session to end of New Business.**

**Motion #1.** Motion by Smith, supported by Raymo to move closed session to end of New Business, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Raymo yes, Merkle yes, Heck yes, Shipman yes, Sulfaro yes, Manor yes.

**Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Regular Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2024, Public Hearing Minutes of November 19, 2024 and Board Workshop Minutes of December 9, 2024).**

**Motion #2.** Motion by Heck, supported by Sulfaro to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2024, Public Hearing Minutes of November 19, 2024 and Board Workshop Minutes of December 9, 2024, as presented.

Roll call vote: Heck yes, Sulfaro yes, Merkle yes, Smith yes, Raymo yes, Shipman yes, Manor yes.

**Motion carried.**

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS/INVOICES**

**Motion #3.** Motion by Raymo, supported by Sulfaro to approve the payment of bills/invoices as listed by the Clerk, as presented.

Roll call vote: Raymo yes, Sulfaro yes, Shipman yes, Smith yes, Heck yes, Merkle yes, Manor yes.

**Motion carried.**

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS REPORT**

**Motion #4.** Motion by Smith, supported by Sulfaro to accept the Zoning Board of Appeals Report, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Sulfaro yes, Merkle yes, Shipman yes, Raymo yes, Heck yes, Manor yes.

**Motion carried.**

**MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**December 17, 2024**

**PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

**Motion #5.** Motion by Smith, supported by Raymo to accept the Planning Commission Report, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Raymo yes, Sulfaro yes, Heck yes, Merkle yes, Shipman yes, Manor yes.

**Motion carried.**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

**Motion #6.** Motion by Smith, supported by Heck to accept and place on file the Fire Department Report for the month of November 2024, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Heck yes, Shipman yes, Raymo yes, Merkle yes, Sulfaro yes, Manor yes.

**Motion carried.**

**SHERIFF DEPARTMENT REPORT**

**Motion #7.** Motion by Smith, supported by Raymo to accept and place on file the Sheriff Department Report for the month of November 2024, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Raymo yes, Shipman yes, Merkle yes, Heck yes, Sulfaro yes, Manor yes.

**Motion carried.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. **Financial Reports:**
  - 1. Clerk's 2024 Budget Summary Report, period ending November 30, 2024.
  - 2. Treasurer's Monthly Statement of Bank Accounts & Investments, period ending November 30, 2024
  
- B. **General Reports:**
  - 1. Supervisor.
  - 2. Building Official.
  - 3. Blight Report.
  - 4. Zoning Enforcement Officer.
  
- C. **Communications:**
  - 1. Correspondence Comcast Communications dated November 16, 2024  
Re: Important Information-Price Changes
  - 2. Correspondence from Charter Communications dated November 12, 2024,  
Re: Upcoming Changes
  - 3. Correspondence from Charter Communications dated November 30, 2024,  
Re: Upcoming Changes to Channel Line Up.

**Motion #8.** Motion by Smith, supported by Heck to accept and place on file the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Heck yes, Merkle yes, Sulfaro yes, Raymo yes, Shipman yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**December 17, 2024**

**RESOLUTION**

**Adopt Resolution #24-28, Resolution to Support Local Control and Claim of Appeal Against Michigan Public Service Commission Order.**

**Motion #9.** Motion by Merkle, supported by Smith to adopt Resolution #24-28, Resolution to Support Local Control and Claim of Appeal Against Michigan Public Service Commission Order, as presented.

Roll call vote: Merkle yes, Smith yes, Raymo yes, Shipman yes, Heck yes, Sulfaro yes, Manor yes.

**Motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Consider approving bid from Geddis Paving & Excavating, Inc. for Township Hall Park addition in the amount of \$182,180.00 with a 10% contingency as recommended by the Township Engineer.**

**Motion #10.** Motion by Smith, supported by Sulfaro to consider approving bid from Geddis Paving & Excavating, Inc. for Township Hall Park addition in the amount of \$182,180.00 with a 10% contingency as recommended by the Township Engineer, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Sulfaro yes, Heck yes, Merkle yes, Raymo yes, Shipman yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**Consider approving bid from S & J Asphalt Paving Company of Canton, Michigan for Barron's Way & Stoneco Park Resurfacing Project in the amount of \$532,432.50 with a 10% contingency as recommended by the Township Engineer to be paid using ARPA Funds.**

**Motion #11.** Motion by Smith, supported by Merkle to consider approving bid from S & J Asphalt Paving Company of Canton, Michigan for Barron's Way & Stoneco Park Resurfacing Project in the amount of \$532,432.50 with a 10% contingency as recommended by the Township Engineer to be paid using ARPA Funds, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Merkle yes, Shipman yes, Heck yes, Raymo no, Sulfaro yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried**

**Approve transferring \$267,405.70 of ARPA Funds from Capital Project Fund 405-Township Hall to 440-Roads.**

**Motion #12.** Motion by Smith, supported by Sulfaro to approve transferring \$267,405.70 of ARPA Funds from Capital Project Fund 405-Township Hall to 440-Roads, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Sulfaro yes, Merkle yes, Shipman yes, Raymo no, Heck yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**Authorize payment of 2025 Annual membership dues to SEMCOG in the amount of \$1,958.00.**

**Motion #13.** Motion by Smith, supported by Heck to authorize payment of 2025 Annual membership dues to SEMCOG in the amount of \$1,958.00, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Heck yes, Sulfaro yes, Raymo yes, Merkle yes, Shipman yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**December 17, 2024**

**NEW BUSINESS (con't)**

**Approve 2025 Appointments, as recommended by Supervisor.**

**Motion #14.** Motion by Heck, supported by Raymo to approve 2025 Appointments, as recommended by Supervisor, as presented.

Roll call vote: Heck yes, Raymo yes, Smith yes, Shipman yes, Merkle yes, Sulfaro yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve request of Daniel Liddy for a 14-month military leave of absence beginning January 1, 2025, as recommended by Chief Cherney.**

**Motion #15.** Motion by Raymo, supported by Sulfaro to approve request of Daniel Liddy for a 14-month military leave of absence beginning January 1, 2025, as recommended by Chief Cherney, as presented.

Roll call vote: Raymo yes, Sulfaro yes, Shipman yes, Merkle yes, Heck yes, Smith yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**Authorize interested Board Members to attend MTA New Officials full-day Training Event with all expenses paid.**

**Motion #16.** Motion by Smith, supported by Raymo to authorize interested Board Members to attend MTA New Officials full-day Training Event with all expenses paid, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Raymo yes, Heck yes, Merkle yes, Sulfaro yes, Shipman yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve annual fee for CivicPlus for codification of Township Ordinances at a cost of \$1,000.00.**

**Motion #17.** Motion by Smith, supported by Sulfaro to approve annual fee for CivicPlus for codification of Township Ordinances at a cost of \$1,000.00, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Sulfaro yes, Shipman yes, Heck yes, Raymo yes, Merkle yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**Consider Insurance Proposal through Trident Public Risk Solutions for Property and Casualty Insurance, effective 12/31/24-12/31/25, in the amount of \$95,059.00.**

**Motion #18.** Motion by Smith, supported by Sulfaro to consider Insurance Proposal through Trident Public Risk Solutions for Property and Casualty Insurance, effective 12/31/24-12/31/25, in the amount of \$95,059.00, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Sulfaro yes, Merkle yes, Shipman yes, Raymo yes, Heck yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve hiring All Phaze Construction to complete recommended repairs to Fire Station #2 in the amount of \$4,765.00 to be paid using ARPA Funds.**

**Motion #19.** Motion by Smith, supported by Heck to approve hiring All Phaze Construction to complete recommended repairs to Fire Station #2 in the amount of \$4,765.00 to be paid using ARPA Funds, as presented.

**MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**December 17, 2024**

**NEW BUSINESS (con't)**

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Heck yes, Shipman yes, Raymo yes, Merkle yes, Sulfaro yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Move that the Township Board and Zoning Enforcement Officer/Community Development Director go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(e) which provides that a public body may go into closed session to “consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation, but only if an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement position of the public body”.**

**Motion #20.** Motion by Smith, supported by Raymo to move that the Township Board and Zoning Enforcement Officer/Community Development Director go into closed session at 7:24 p.m. pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(e) which provides that a public body may go into closed session to “consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation, but only if an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement position of the public body”, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Raymo yes, Shipman yes, Heck yes, Sulfaro yes, Merkle yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**RECONVENE OPEN SESSION**

**Motion #21.** Motion by Raymo, supported by Heck to reconvene open session at 8:00 p.m., as presented.

Roll call vote: Raymo yes, Heck yes, Merkle yes, Sulfaro yes, Shipman yes, Smith yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**Accept Attorney McCormick’s settlement recommendation and authorize her to finalize negotiations in accordance with the Boards direction.**

**Motion #22.** Motion by Smith, supported by Raymo to accept Attorney McCormick’s settlement recommendation and authorize her to finalize negotiations in accordance with the Boards direction, as presented in closed session.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Raymo yes, Sulfaro yes, Heck yes, Merkle yes, Shipman yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

**Accept settlement proposed by Township’s Counsel.**

**Motion #23.** Motion by Smith, supported by Raymo to accept settlement proposed by Township’s Counsel, as presented in closed session.

Roll call vote: Smith no, Raymo no, Shipman no, Merkle no, Heck no, Sulfaro no, Manor no. **Motion denied.**

**MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**December 17, 2024**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

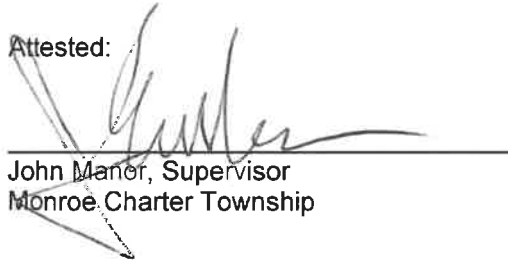
There were no Public Comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion #24.** Motion by Smith, supported by Heck to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Heck yes, Sulfaro yes, Raymo yes, Merkle yes, Shipman yes, Manor yes. **Motion carried.**

Attested:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Manor, Supervisor  
Monroe Charter Township

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christina Smith, Clerk  
Monroe Charter Township