

# Watertown Charter Township

12803 S. Wacousta Road, Grand Ledge MI 48837 | (517) 626-6593  
**May 16, 2022 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes**

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**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Supervisor John Maahs with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Supervisor John Maahs, Treasurer Sue Biergans, Clerk Carolyn Brokob, Trustee Chad Cooley, and Trustee Ron Overton.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Trustee Holly Madill and Trustee Todd Hufnagel, both with notice

**STAFF PRESENT:** Township Manager Jennifer Tubbs and Planning Director Andrea Polverento

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Ron Overton announced the Looking Glass Garden Club Native Plant Sale on June 4, 2022, from 9am-2pm at the General Store.

## **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion by Trustee Overton, seconded by Treasurer Biergans, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

## **AGENDA APPROVAL:**

Motion by Trustee Cooley, seconded by Clerk Brokob, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

### **1. April 18, 2022 – Regular Meeting**

Motion by Clerk Brokob, seconded by Trustee Cooley, to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 18, 2022. Motion carried.

### **2. April 18, 2022 – Special Meeting**

Motion by Clerk Brokob, seconded by Treasurer Biergans, to approve the special meeting minutes of April 18, 2022. Motion carried.

## **APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

The additions to the Bill List to be paid June 1, 2022, were not available due to staff illness. The Clerk recommended authorizing the Clerk and Treasurer to approve the additions to the Bill List, which would be provided at the June 20, 2022, regular meeting.

Motion by Trustee Overton, seconded by Trustee Cooley, to authorize the Clerk and Treasurer to pay the additions to the June 1, 2022, bill list, with documentation to follow at the June 20, 2022, Board of Trustees regular meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Treasurer Biergans, seconded by Clerk Brokob, to approve the bill in the packet as presented. Motion carried.

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## PENDING BUSINESS:

### 1. Clinton County Road Commission Update on Clark Road

Doug Steffen, Managing Director of the Clinton County Road Commission, attended the meeting to discuss future Clark Road construction. Estimated costs for various repaving options were discussed. Steffen reported that the safety improvements to the Clark and Francis Road intersection were scheduled for later this year. Clerk Brokob asked Steffen about a resident request to install solar-powered flashing lights on the Clark Road Stop Ahead signs near Francis Road. Steffen indicated that would be possible.

Resident Brian Hurtekant asked about life expectancy of the various Clark Road paving options.

## NEW BUSINESS:

### 1. Planning Commission Representative to the ZBA Re-appointment of Charles Openlander

Motion by Trustee Overton, seconded by Treasurer Cooley, to re-appoint Charles Openlander as the Planning Commission representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending March 31, 2023. Motion carried.

### 2. Citizens of the Year 2021 – Roger and Marilyn Hansbarger

The Hansbargers were named 2021 Citizens of the Year in October 2021, but due to various pandemic restrictions, their acknowledgement was delayed. The 2021 proclamation was read honoring them. Also, they are invited to attend the May 28<sup>th</sup> ceremony where they will be presented with the proclamation and publicly honored.

Supervisor Maahs read the following tribute:

*LET IT BE KNOWN that it is a privilege to extend our sincerest praise and commendation to Roger and Marilyn Hansbarger in acknowledgement of them attaining the distinct honor of being named Watertown Charter Township's "2021 CITIZENS OF THE YEAR"*

*Ability, commitment, and integrity have been reflected in all the Hansbargers' work volunteering in the community. Roger and Marilyn Hansbarger have been married for over 70 years. They live on Wacousta Road and have for many years. Their home is extremely difficult to miss as it is a welcoming site when traveling Wacousta Road heading north. Roger takes immense pride in the yard and the home aesthetics and can be seen outside working almost daily, mowing, watering, and caring for the flowers and landscaping. In the winter months, their home is always tastefully lit up and decorated for the holidays. They have raised four kids, have twelve grandchildren and twenty-five great grandchildren. Teaching and mentoring are not just professions for both of them but gifts that started within their family.*

*Roger has been a member of the Grand Ledge Lions Club for many years, volunteering his time in that capacity. He has also been in the Rotary Club, a Chamber member, a student mentor, involved with Mudge's Follies in Grand Ledge and he has been a McLaren Hospital board member active in starting the hospital. He is an active member of Wacousta Community United Methodist Church and still substitute teaches to this day. He also volunteers his time on the Watertown Charter Township Board of Review.*

*Marilyn retired from Grand Ledge Public Schools as a Kindergarten teacher at Wacousta Elementary where she lovingly taught thousands of students-many of them still in the area. She has volunteered as a Brownie leader, leader of the children's choir at Wacousta Community United Methodist Church, active volunteer at the church and*

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*can so often be seen with children, babysitting them, or just spending time with them. She taught preschool at Wacousta Co-Op Preschool as well.*

*IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE, therefore, this document is adopted by the Watertown Charter Township Board of Trustees to congratulate and commend Roger and Marilyn Hansbarger as Watertown Charter Township's "2021 CITIZENS OF THE YEAR."*

### **3. Citizen of the Year 2022 – Judy Devers**

Judy Devers was nominated as the 2022 Citizen of the Year. Her draft proclamation was read by Supervisor Maahs. She is also invited to attend the May 28<sup>th</sup> ceremony where she will be presented with the proclamation and publicly honored.

Supervisor Maahs read the following tribute:

*LET IT BE KNOWN that it is a privilege to extend our sincerest praise and commendation to Judy Devers in acknowledgement of her attaining the distinct honor of being named the Watertown Charter Township "2022 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR".*

*Commitment, reliability, and integrity have been reflected in all of Judy's work volunteering in the community. Judy is heavily involved in the Looking Glass Garden Club, Wacousta Community United Methodist Church, and in her neighborhood.*

*Judy and her husband Dub have been married for sixty plus years. They live on Looking Glass Brook and have for many years. Judy is one of the original founding members of the Looking Glass Garden Club, lending a hand on community projects and fundraisers. She and her husband have volunteered with numerous gardening projects such as planting flowers and trees along the Looking Glass River and at the local parks. They also helped install and maintain all the surrounding bridge planters. Judy and Dub are members of Wacousta United Methodist Church and Judy helps maintain the Memorial Garden at Wacousta United Methodist Church as well. In her free time, Judy enjoys spending time with others in the community and with her beloved dog. You will often find her listening to music rehearsals in the Township parks. In everything she does, Judy exudes kindness and willingness to everyone in need, always with a smile on her face.*

*IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE, therefore, this document is adopted by the Watertown Charter Township Board of Trustees to commend and congratulate Judy Devers as Watertown Charter Township's "2022 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR."*

Motion by Clerk Brokob, seconded by Treasurer Biergans, to approve the recommendation of the Citizen of the Year Committee to designate Judy Devers as Citizen of the Year for 2022. Motion carried.

### **4. Grand Ledge Area District Library Millage Update**

Lise Mitchell, Director, at Grand Ledge Area District Library, provided an update on GLADL activities and statistics along with information on the August 2, 2022, library millage renewal request of 1.20 mills for 10 years. Mitchell reported that the millage represents 90% of GLADL's funding. Representatives for the GLADL Marilyn Hansbarger and Dr. Andrea Herrst also spoke in support of the library millage and its programs. Mitchell added that the GLADL will be hosting a "Trim and Ride" to assist children with decorating their bikes and scooters before the Community Memorial Day parade on May 28 at 10am.

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### 5. Investment Advisor Memo

Treasurer Biergans outlined the investment memo she provided. She reported that she would be moving forward with the tasks described in the memo and would bring forward further recommendations and a draft RFP for investment advisors at a future meeting unless there were any objections. The Board had no objections. No action taken.

### 6. Visioning Priorities Update

Motion by Trustee Overton, seconded by Trustee Cooley, to table New Business Item No. 6. Motion carried.

### 7. Marijuana Discussion

Trustee Overton discussed the potential financial benefits to the township of allowing medical and recreational marijuana facilities. He suggested that a question on the November 8, 2022, ballot could gauge resident interest in the topic, and provide necessary input on how to proceed with this issue. The Board discussed forming an ad hoc committee to research and provide a recommendation on a ballot question.

Moved by Trustee Overton, seconded by Trustee Biergans, to form an ad hoc committee for the purpose of developing a question for the November 8, 2022 ballot regarding marijuana facilities, consisting of Trustees Overton and Cooley and Treasurer Biergans, to provide a recommendation to the Board of Trustees. Motion carried.

### DISCUSSION AND PUBLIC COMMENT:

Logan Byrne, candidate for Michigan's 77<sup>th</sup> House District, introduced himself to the Board.

Planning Director Polverento reported that the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan update was completed by the MSU Urban and Regional Planning students and will be shared with the Board in the future. Manager Tubbs commended Polverento on her work with the student group.

Resident Chuck Openlander commented on the Clark Road construction.

**ADJOURNMENT: 8:20PM**

Date approved: June 20, 2022

  
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John Maahs, Supervisor

  
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Carolyn Brokob, Clerk