



# MINUTES OF THE TEXAS TOWNSHIP PARKS & TRAILS COMMITTEE

## Held on November 28, 2023

A meeting of the Charter Township of Texas Parks & Trails Committee was held on November 28, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

### ITEM 1 & 2. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Larry Loeks called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and the following committee members were in attendance: ~~James Whittaker~~, Ellen Hector, Emily Beutel, Larry Loeks, Tricia Keala, and Jennifer Bussies. Also present was Deputy Superintendent Brooke Hovenkamp and Superintendent Erik Wilson. Absent: James Whittaker

### ITEM 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### ITEM 4. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA

~~Mr. Whittaker~~ offered a motion, supported by Ms. Keala, to adopt the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried.

### ITEM 5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Ms. Beutel, seconded by Ms. Keala, motion carried, to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2023, meeting.

### ITEM 6. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. DRAFT Oshtemo Township Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan

Deputy Superintendent Hovenkamp provided copies for the committee of the Oshtemo plan for feedback. Ms. Beutel stated that it is a comprehensive plan, appreciating the goal of native species use and protection. The plan has great ways of documentation and is grateful of the resources Oshtemo has to implement. Mr. Loeks noted that Oshtemo receives a much larger amount of funding from the state and general fund. Ms. Beutel indicated that she would put together a letter to Oshtemo Township in support of their endeavors and looks forward to working together in the future.

### ITEM 7. OLD BUSINESS

#### A. Field Rentals

The Deputy Superintendent stated that the Township Board is in support of B45 field maintenance. Deputy Superintendent Hovenkamp will reach out to inform. The organization will have first availability for two years in exchange for maintaining the field. There is a recommendation for rentals moving to two hours and moving rentals to 365 days out instead of one calendar year. There was a discussion at the township regarding renting the pavilion now that the splash pad is open during the summer. The recommendation is to only rent the pavilion for 2 hours a day per reservation. Ms. Keala recommended keeping the ninety-minute session with the option to add an additional thirty minutes.



7110 West Q Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
269.375.1591  
www.texastownship.org

**B. Pickleball Windscreen**

The Deputy Superintendent stated that they have been purchased and delivered. The pickleball outreach has requested shade covering half of the cost with a plaque honoring the Hackenburgs. Ms. Beutel addressed concern over cementing of the shade and the construction of installation. Ms. Keala stated that a more specific budget is needed, and a shade pavilion is more of a focus.

**C. 6<sup>th</sup> Street Park Restroom Project**

Superintendent Wilson stated that the Township Board approved the restroom project bid specs for 6<sup>th</sup> Street. There was a request to connect the existing garage to the restroom for cameras and wifi for security.

**D. Maple Hill Splash Pad**

Superintendent Wilson stated that our maintenance workers were working on the French drain surrounding the structure. However, the snow today has interfered. We are hoping to seed before the real winter hits. The well driller needs to do additional testing of the water for the health department. Deputy Superintendent Hovenkamp stated that the bucket will be swapped out with a different logo for Consumers. Ms. Keala inquired about where the responsibility lies for the oversight of draining issues and who could be held accountable.

**ITEM 8. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Ms. Beutel, seconded by Ms. Keala, motion carried, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:42 p.m.

Next meeting date: December 19, 2023, at 5:00 pm

Submitted  
Jennifer A. Bussies, Secretary

Approved: December 19, 2023