

**ANN ARBOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MINUTES OF MEETING – MONDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2023
TOWSLEY AUDITORIUM, MORRIS LAWRENCE BUILDING
WASHTENAW COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 4800 EAST HURON RIVER DRIVE, ANN ARBOR, MI**

I. CALL TO ORDER, ESTABLISH QUORUM

Supervisor O’Connell called the Ann Arbor Charter Township Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:50pm on September 18, 2023.

Present: Supervisor Diane O’Connell
Clerk Rena Basch
Treasurer Carlene Colvin-Garcia
Trustee Michael Moran
Trustee Kristine Olsson
Trustee Rodney Smith

Absent: Trustee John Allison

Also Present: Utilities Director Judkins
Deputy Treasurer Whitt
Township Attorney Redmond, Bodman PLC
Comptroller Coogan, Woodhill Group
Township Planner Elmiger, Carlisle Wortman
Township Engineer Humesky, Stantec

II. APPROVAL OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting August 21, 2023

MOTION by Colvin-Garcia, support by Olsson, to approve the August 21, 2023 regular meeting minutes as submitted.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. Special Meeting September 6, 2023 Open Session

MOTION by Olsson, support by Basch, to amend and approve the September 6, 2023 special meeting open session minutes as follows:

- **P. 1, correct spelling of Township Attorney’s name: Sarah ~~Gavin~~ Gabis**

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. Special Meeting September 6, 2023 Closed Session

MOTION by Colvin-Garcia, support by Smith, to approve the September 6, 2023 special meeting closed session meeting minutes as submitted.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

AGENDA CHANGE:

MOTION by Basch, support by Colvin-Garcia, to amend the agenda to move Item VI.A.1) Update on the Mid Michigan Materials Surface Water Withdrawal Permit to next on the agenda, prior to item III. Citizen Participation.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

VI. A. Supervisor's Report

1) Update on the Mid Michigan Materials Surface Water Withdrawal Permit

Supervisor O'Connell explained that in May 2023 Mid Michigan Materials (MMM) applied for a water withdrawal permit under Part 327 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, to withdraw 4.8 million gallons of water a day (MGD). The Township opposed this permit and submitted comments twice during the public comment period. The deadline for Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE's) decision was September 13 2023. The Township found out on that same day the application was retracted by Mid Michigan. EGLE's notification of the retraction did not contain any information regarding the reasons why the application was withdrawn.

EGLE also advised that Mid Michigan may still continue water withdrawal under an existing water withdrawal registration, under Part 327 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, which limits water withdrawal and capacity of the pumping equipment to 2 MGD.

The Township also learned that EGLE issued a violation notice against Mid Michigan for multiple issues related to off-site sediment discharge from the Vella Pit. To resolve the violations Mid Michigan Materials must perform a number of corrective actions which will be monitored and enforced by EGLE.

III. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Supervisor O'Connell read communications from the following:

- Sandy McIntyre, regarding the M-14 Interchange at Barton Drive. Ms. McIntyre supported closing the ramp.
- Linda Young, former Planning Commissioner, regarding Agenda Item V.I., opposed the ordinance amendment to accessory buildings and structures, especially regarding how as the amendment would impact properties in the R-2 zoning district.
- Susan Minard and Kay Yourist, giving concerns and comments relative to the issues surrounding the Mid Michigan Materials mining operation at the Vella Pit.

Supervisor O'Connell opened the meeting to public comment.

The following people spoke regarding issues and concerns relative to the Mid Michigan Materials (MMM) Vella Pit mining operation, including the recent dewatering of resident's wells, along with other concerns. Speakers spoke of their feelings towards their homes and the area generally. Some residents had owned land in the area for generations; others had moved in more recently. Speakers thanked the Board of Trustees for their actions so far, while urging the Board to take even more immediate action. Speakers spoke of truck traffic, noise, and dangers to pedestrians, runners, and bicyclists on Joy and Warren Roads. They listed concerns regarding dust including silica dust, harm to the ecosystem, harm to Massey Lake, wells going dry, and the threat to local property values. Several speakers spoke particularly of very serious consequences that had resulted from the MMM Vella Pit operation.

Speakers, and some of their specific comments, included:

Lisa Lillelund said she and her sister Ingrid own over 20 acres on Earhart Road, across from the main entrance to the gravel pit; the land had been in their family since 1895. Ms. Lillelund urged the Township to suspend or reduce MMM operations until an environmental assessment and formal traffic study can be completed.

Robin Kunkel, 2797 Trailwood Lane, said they had experienced a very serious consequence when their well water precipitously dropped 17 feet and their pump dried out.

Yinlong Qiu, 4563 Grandeur Oaks, had just purchased their property about a year ago, and were shocked when they heard the news about MMM.

Michael Watts, 4700 Grandeur Oaks, said that MMM had four big pumps, not just one. The infrastructure and pumps were installed on or before January 7, 2021. The dewatering pipe runs 24/7. Mr. Watts repeated the violations cited in EGLE's violation notice, as well as violations cited by the Township of the Conditional Use Permit, the Development Agreement, and the Township Ordinance. Instead of trying to correct issues, MMM has doubled down and continued to operate in violation of State statute and Township regulations.

Amy Olszewski, 2819 Warren Road, said that even though MMM had been given 30 days to remediate the EGLE violations, MMM should absolutely stop dewatering her neighborhood. MMM was still pumping, at a higher level of operation than in the past. There were very serious consequences resulting from MMM's actions, in terms of health and safety of the residents. including trucks stirring up silica dust. Ms. Olszewski urged the Township to partner with the Road Commission to put up signage prohibiting truck traffic on Warren and Joy Roads. Ms. Olszewski also addressed proposed state legislation HB 4526, 4527 and 4528 that would remove all local control of sand and gravel pits; this proposed legislation must be opposed.

Andrew Ballnik, 3965 E. Joy Road, Northfield Township, said his well went dry in February 2022, and since then the water had dropped another 21 feet. He believed the Township could shut the mining operation down immediately. Vella Pit was still pumping water, not to rinse gravel, but to "throw it away." Mr. Ballnik urged the Board to contact MMM's insurance company, and other municipalities where MMM was operating.

Paul Frantz, 4200 Nixon Road, said that at the last regular BOT meeting, Mr. Wilson of MMM said that they didn't mean to harm anyone's water, but instead of stopping the harm, Mr. Wilson and his representatives were now accepting and asking residents to accept an expectation of harm, now being willfully made by MMM. MMM should not refer to themselves as "good neighbors," nor should they refer to residents as MMM "customers." They should stop the harm.

Mike Nicklowitz, 4460 Earhart Road, thanked the neighbors that had gotten together to shine a light on what was happening at the Vella Pit. He emphasized the amount of dust on his property, on his windows, trees, garden. What MMM was doing was so far off the approved plan they should be required to cease and desist.

John Darish, 4715 Ridge Creek Lane, was concerned about the damage done to Massey Lake.

Sarah Spratt, 4949 Ridge Creek Lane, spoke to the brown sediment on Massey Lake as a result of MMM's discharge activities.

Speaking again, Michael Watts added to his previous comments that many of MMM's statements had been proven to be false. What MMM was doing was more than an emergency; it was imminent danger to the health and livelihood of the community. He noted the harm to Massey Lake, where there were no fish left. There were more than 10 known severe consequences to MMM's operation. MMM was operating in defiance of local regulations and their CUP agreement, and he urged the Township to act as quickly as possible.

Rick Bunch, 4989 Earhart Road, asked the Board to send a clear message to the State legislature about what the Township was experiencing, and to oppose the preemption bills that would strip municipalities of what limited control they had over sand and gravel mining operations. The Michigan Townships Association had a proposed resolution opposing the preemption bills. Mr. Bunch could bring some language to the Board also urging the legislature to roll back provisions of the Zoning Enabling Act in order to restore full local control over sand and gravel mining operations. He asked the BOT to urge the Legislature to require EGLE and other state agencies to inform local governments when permits regarding mining operations within their borders are pending.

Betty Meredith, 1909 Warren Road, said she would also be impacted by water issues relative to the proposed mobile home park. She asked that the Township do its own hydrogeological study.

Thomas Moir, representing Dominican Sisters at 4579 Warren Road, spoke of very serious consequences resulting from MMM acting with impunity by ignoring all their reporting obligations, and by blaming their own prior hydrological study and then asking local property owners to make whole MMM's mistakes. He asked that the Township take emergency action and shut the mine down.

Ndu Ozor, 2444 Westbrooke Circle South, said that the Township had the right in the event of an emergency to shut the mine down, and to seek payment from MMM for all expenses and costs borne by the Township in seeking redress for the very serious consequences caused.

IV. APPROVE THE AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Claims Listing 8-17-23 to 9-14-23 for \$285,372.92.**
- B. Conducting analysis of cash flow for fund balance maintenance and investment**
- C. Application for Participation in Water Assistance Program**
- D. Approve Washtenaw County Early Voting Agreement and authorize Clerk to sign.**
- E. Approve Woodhill Group rate increase.**

MOTION by Basch, support by Olsson, to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

V. ANNEXATIONS, ORDINANCES, ZONING, RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution to MDOT Regarding its 2023 Planning, Environmental, and Linkages (PEL) Study of the M-14 Interchange at Barton Drive

Trustee Smith explained that the Board had two items in their packet: 1) A Road Committee report that deals with the PEL study, and 2) a draft RESOLUTION REGARDING M-14 BARTON DRIVE RAMPS AND INTERCHANGE SAFETY.

The Road Committee Report summarized discussion relative to:

1. MDOT's 2021 Road Safety Audit (RSA) of the segment of M-14 extending from approximately Newport Road on the west to the interchange with US-23 on the east.

One of the significant actions MDOT took was to apply surface treatments that increase safety. One of the biggest problems is that vehicles traveling eastbound on M-14 have to negotiate a hill with turns, and slow traffic entering the freeway, and in wet conditions and at speed this is a dangerous situation; the surface treatments were designed to improve that. The surface treatments had been more successful than expected, and there were more safety recommendations to be implemented.

2. MDOT's 2023 PEL Study resulted in a short-term recommendation to close the eastbound ramps, and a long-term recommendation to construct a double roundabout to connect with Whitmore Lake Road.

MDOT was currently receiving public input.

The Board of Trustees heard from Barton Hills Village at the August meeting regarding Barton Hills' actions related to the PEL study, along with a recommendation from Barton Hills that the Board of Trustees pass a certain resolution.

Some on the Road Committee see the closing of the ramps without funding for a long-term solution repeating a mistake that was made 50 years ago, which was to put in a “temporary ramp,” expecting something else to happen to replace it, but that something else never happened. This situation could very likely repeat.

Also, it appeared that the decrease in the number of accidents resulting from the implementation of the Road Safety Audit recommendations would be very similar to the results of the long-term solution. The cost to implement RSA recommendations (short-term and intermediate-term solutions) would be ~\$500K; the cost to construct the double roundabout is ~\$43M.

Board discussion:

- The Board discussed whether there was time to gather more information regarding the RSA recommendations – especially the intermediate solutions – or whether the draft Resolution needed to be acted on tonight.
- Clerk Basch said that many of the RSA intermediate solutions were addressed in the Q&A document that MDOT provided late this afternoon, in that MDOT basically said the intermediate solutions were not acceptable.
- Clerk Basch also said Barton Hills had recommended the Township’s resolution include four responses to MDOT, the fourth response being that the Township never wanted to see the “dog-bone (dual roundabout)” solution, but she was opposed to taking that stand; she thought there should be a dual roundabout. The Township’s resolution did present the first three responses as recommended by Barton Hills Village.
- Trustee Smith emphasized that many times doing nothing was better than doing the wrong thing. The resolution asked MDOT not to repeat the mistakes of the past, not to close the Barton Drive ramps as a short-term solution, and to reconsider whether the entrance ramp from Barton Drive can be improved to eliminate the stop sign as a method of traffic control on this ramp.

Trustee Moran said that since the question of MDOT’s intermediate recommendations was unclear, and because there was still discussion to be had regarding whether to include opposition to the dual roundabout in the resolution, he would offer the offer the following motion:

MOTION by Moran, support by Olsson, to table action on RESOLUTION TO MDOT REGARDING ITS 2023 PLANNING, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND LINKAGES (PEL) STUDY OF THE M-14 INTERCHANGE AT BARTON DRIVE, until the October meeting.

Roll call vote:

Moran	yes
Olsson	yes
Smith	yes
Basch	yes
O’Connell	yes
Colvin-Garcia	yes

Motion passed 6-0.

B. Approve 2nd and 3rd quarter budget amendments.

Deputy Treasurer/Accounts Manager Whitt reviewed the document *Third Quarter 2023 Budget Amendment Requests*, and noting the contribution, where appropriate, from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and other Federal Grant Funds.

The Budget Amendments supported the following projects:

- Dhu Varren Road Construction project
- Drinking Water Well Sampling Contract with Tetra Tech
- Dixboro Road Path Phase 2 – Final Billing
- Earhart Road project
- Cost to Update Master Plan
- Warren Road culvert repair
- New Human Services Partnership

The current Budget Amendments relative to ARPA funds were used to support:

- Township staff wages, benefits, and consultant fees
- Joy Road Project
- Dhu Varren

All the budget amendments were approved by prior resolution of the Board, except for the cost to update the Master Plan (\$35,000) and Phase 2 of the Dixboro Trail (\$40,000).

After discussion, the following motion was offered:

MOTION by Smith, support by Colvin Garcia, to accept the third quarter budget amendments.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. Resolution to Approve Ann Arbor Township, Washtenaw County, 2023 Tax Rate Request

MOTION by Basch, support by Colvin-Garcia, to approve the Ann Arbor Charter Township 2023 Tax Rate and the attached Form L-4029, as submitted.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

D. Review and Discuss 2024 Budget (Operating and Capital)

Comptroller Coogan explained that the draft budget submitted this evening is open for changes and comments. Questions can be posed tonight or can be emailed to the Comptroller after the meeting. Any questions brought to the Comptroller following the meeting will be brought back to the entire Board at the October meeting.

Comptroller Coogan further explained that the Township did a good job maintaining a tight control on its operations, was very sophisticated in its investment strategy, and was therefore able to levy less than the maximum allowable millage. Also, while most municipalities charge their residents a 1% administrative fee on tax revenue collected, Ann Arbor Township does not do that. The money being levied is used for Township operations and to plan for capital expenditures.

The Capital Plan is included as a separate document, and is a long term look at what monies will be needed over the next 10 years. A budget is a legally required document by the State of Michigan for one year only; the Township can only appropriate reserve money one year at a time. The water tower was identified in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) under utilities but had not yet been moved into the budget, as the costs were not yet known.

Trustee Moran asked about the Fire Department's Capital Plan.

Noting that the Fire Chief was unable to be present this evening, Comptroller Coogan explained that the Township maintains a capital improvement fund for all needs other than water and sewer. Historically the Board has utilized this fund for large fire equipment and apparatus purchases. Specific revenue agreements with Father Gabriel Richard High School (FGRHS) and NSF are dedicated to this fund as well as cell tower rental income. The University of Michigan does not contribute to the cost of Fire due to the increased payments from the State of Michigan for said services. The targeted use of these revenues for capital improvements has historically given the Township a unique ability to maintain and replace large capital in the Township without the need for external financing. However, this is the first year that is not going to hold true. The capital fund does not have enough money to finance the increased cost of the fire apparatus. It will need a transfer in from either Public Safety or the General Fund, either of which funds can make that transfer. The shortfall is estimated at ~\$1.7M.

Trustee Moran pointed out that the Fire Department's Capital Plan (purchase of an aerial tower and two engines) had not been presented to the Public Safety Committee.

Comptroller Coogan said she would take this back to the Fire Chief and find out when he is presenting to the Public Safety Committee. She noted that the aerial tower had been shifted up, along with the two engines, due to supply chain delays and constant increase in costs.

Trustee Smith said the Fire Chief had presented to the Climate Resilience Committee last week, and the idea was to place orders to lock prices in now. The Climate Committee was still in process of trying to plan this purchase in a way that also helps realize the Township's climate goals. Right now such purchases were a complex moving target.

Treasurer Colvin-Garcia pointed out that there was fast-moving evolution in the production of EV vehicles.

Comptroller Coogan said the Township was shifting to the position of moving a certain amount of money into the Capital Fund every year, based on identified long-term capital needs.

In response to questions, Comptroller Coogan said that historical funding sources for the Capital Fund were changing. For instance, cell tower revenue was decreasing because T Mobile had cancelled their lease with the Township. The Township will no longer receive revenue from the University of Michigan, because the State has stepped up its funding. This situation will need to be analyzed and brought back to the Township, as the Michigan funds will go directly into the Fire Fund, whereas the University of Michigan money used to go into the Capital Fund. Overall, there has been a loss to the Township of about \$85,000 a year.

The Township also receives some money from NSF and FGRHS for public safety and fire services respectively.

In response to questions from Trustee Olsson, Comptroller Coogan explained that the items in the Capital Fund represented the Township's Capital Plan, and the majority of items in the CIP had gone through the appropriate committees. Building improvement is the Supervisor's prerogative, and has not gone through any committee yet.

Trustee Smith noted that he had submitted written material and was prepared to answer questions related to road committee requests.

Comptroller Coogan said that the Capital Plan can be adopted in full, or item by item.

In response to comments, Comptroller Coogan noted that there was a new category of "available" funding, specifically applying to natural features. Tree planting and landscaping is considered a capital expenditure.

Comptroller Coogan reviewed staffing changes that have occurred in the past year, and how staff was accounted for in the budget. New Township staffers were focused on learning their tasks and being support to Township functions. Only one person (the Deputy Treasurer) was working across departments. The Fire Department now has 7 full time fire fighters, for purposes of succession planning; this had not resulted in a drop in overtime pay, however.

Investment income still continues to be a major source of revenue for the Township. Year to date through September, the Township is averaging about \$100,000 a month across all funds, and that money reduces the rates that are charged for water and sewer, and keeps the Township from having to seek external financing, and from charging the 1% administration fee mentioned earlier.

Comptroller Coogan said the biggest discussion items right now had to do with the Fire Department and Capital.

E. Set a Public Hearing for 2024 Budget for October or November

MOTION by Moran, support by Smith, to continue the budget discussion at the October BOT meeting and schedule a public hearing on the budget at the November 20, 2023 meeting.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

F. Amendment to Code: Private Roads Ordinance, First Reading

Supervisor O’Connell said that this agenda item and the next (V.G.) were related in that both looked at private roads within planned unit developments. Instead of having an applicant go through the process of the private road agreement with the Board and then repeat the process in the planned unit development process, these two agenda items will result in an applicant only having to apply one time for their private road agreement.

Township Engineer Humesky further explained that this Amendment to Code: Private Roads, addressed a technical issue that had been going on for some time. At the end of construction, after homebuilding is done, the road that has been used for homebuilding for several years ends up in poor condition, and the repair ends up being a negotiation, because the standards are not in place that require a quality road. The ordinance changes address the issues of sequence of construction and specific road class requirements. For instance, the Township is increasing the required pavement thickness from 3” to 5” for Class A and Class B roads, consistent with the Road Commission’s current standards for residential roads. The builder is required to pave the full five inches of asphalt prior to building homes so that there is a strong cross section to build on to prevent cracking. At the end of home building construction, the builder is required to mill off an inch of asphalt and repave an inch of asphalt so that there is a brand-new finish on the pavement.

Township Attorney Redmond noted that the Planning Commission had looked at the parts of the zoning ordinance that dealt with planned unit developments. However, the technical changes just described fall under the general code, and tonight was a first reading for these changes.

Clerk Basch asked that any references to submittals to the Township Clerk be changed to delete the word “Clerk,” so that the section references the “Township,” allowing the appropriate official to review whatever material is being submitted. Also, she asked that the words “shared driveway permit” be inserted to clarify the language in Section 50-28(1).

Clerk Basch noted that the proposed ordinance numbers are incorrect in the agenda.

MOTION by Basch, support by Smith, to approve the first reading of the Amendment to Code, Chapter 50, Article II, sections 26-38, pertaining to private roads in planned unit developments, Ordinance No. 3-2023.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

G. Amendment to Zoning Code: Planned Unit Developments (PUD), Ordinance No. 2-2023

Township Planner Elmiger explained that this amendment provided the sister ordinance language to the private road ordinance. The language states that if a PUD applicant is designing a street they have to meet the standards of the private road section, but they do

not have to get a separate permit. This change has been recommended by the Planning Commission after a public hearing.

MOTION by Moran, support by Smith, to approve AMENDMENT TO ZONING CODE: PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT, ORDINANCE NO. 2-2023, dated, September 18, 2023.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

H. Amendment to Zoning Code: Home Occupations

Referencing her August 18, 2023 memorandum, Township Planner Elmiger explained that while the Planning Commission had been working on the accessory structures ordinance, they realized they needed to make some decisions about whether home occupations should be allowed in detached accessory structures. While doing this, the Commission discovered the home occupations ordinance was dated, and did not permit telecommuting. Michigan State University (MSU) provided a model ordinance for home occupations, and using that as a springboard, the Commission came up with the draft language before the Board this evening.

The ordinance includes Category A home occupations, which have practically no nuisance potential for the neighbors, and which are allowed without a permit. Category A uses do not allow any employees outside of the home, and do not allow clients coming to the home. Category A uses can occupy detached accessory buildings.

Category B home occupations have the possibility for external nuisances. These uses would allow 2 off-site employees to work at the home, and would also allow up to 2 visitors/clients to visit the home at a time. These uses must receive a home occupation permit from the Township, administered by the Zoning Administrator.

MSU's model ordinance also included Category C home occupations, which would have moderate potential for nuisances to neighbors. The Planning Commission did not think these uses were appropriate for residential neighborhoods and did not include them at all.

Trustee Smith had questions regarding the requirement for written permission from the owner for both Category A and Category B home occupations for occupants other than an owner or renter. During COVID, for example, there could have been someone in the home who was neither an owner or renter – for instance, a relative – who also used the home to conduct their business. He did not understand why that person would need written permission.

Township Planner Elmiger explained that the MSU model ordinance wanted it to be clear that only people who had a financial stake in the property were allowed to have a home occupation in a residential unit. Some Planning Commissioners thought it important to allow other occupants in the home the opportunity to have a home occupation, even if they didn't have a financial stake in the property, and so they came up with the requirement that the owner had to give written permission.

Trustee Smith did not see why written permission was necessary. It seemed that the Township was setting itself up for violations that didn't really matter.

Township Planner Elmiger explained that the Planning Commission was trying to be cognizant of the need to protect residential areas from intrusion by businesses.

Trustee Moran noted that the hour was late, and suggested this discussion be continued at the October meeting.

MOTION by Moran, support by Olsson, to table further discussion of Amendment to Zoning Code: Home Occupations, to the October meeting.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

I. Amendment to Zoning Code: Accessory Buildings and Structures

MOTION by Olsson, support by Moran, to table discussion of Amendment to Zoning Code: Accessory Buildings and Structures, to the October meeting.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

J. Set a Public Hearing for Fleming Creek Subdivisions Street Light Assessment

- 1) Fleming Creek Phase 1**
- 2) Fleming Creek Phase 2**

MOTION by Smith, support by Moran, that the Ann Arbor Charter Township Board of Trustees set a public hearing for the Fleming Creek Subdivision Street Light Assessment on October 16, 2023.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

VI. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS

A. Supervisor's Report

- 1) Update on the Mid Michigan Materials Surface Water Withdrawal Permit**
Discussed at start of meeting.
- 2) Authorize approval for \$35,000 to Carlisle Wortman for Master Plan development.**
Discussed during budget amendment approval.
- 3) Gateway Lettering on Joy Road bridge (Ann Arbor Township)**
Noting that Northfield Township has authorized \$4,000 for lettering on the Joy Road Bridge, Supervisor O'Connell asked for authorization for the same amount – approximately \$4,000, to place lettering announcing Ann Arbor Township on the side of the Joy Road bridge coming into the Township.

MOTION by Smith, support by Colvin-Garcia, to authorize the Supervisor to spend up to \$5,000 for Gateway Lettering on Joy Road bridge, as described.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Other items:

- Washtenaw County Road Commission meeting tomorrow, September 19, when they will discuss whether Warren Road will be designated as a Natural Beauty Road. The Township's resolution is included in the supporting documentation.
- Sheryl Siddall is stepping down as WCRC director in December; Matthew MacDonell will be taking her place.
- Dioxane sampling is complete.
- Road trip with the Road Commission to be determined.

B. Clerk's Report

- Written report in the packets.
- The Board discussed where to schedule October's BOT meeting; the final decision will be made closer to the time.
- EGLE is providing some free well testing (for bacteria, nitrates, and/or metals); information will be placed on the website.

C. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer Colvin-Garcia is working to close out the summer property taxes, and setting up the processes for winter taxes. Correct SAD assessment numbers will be available prior to winter tax bills going out.
- Township staff participated in cybersecurity training organized by Treasurer Colvin-Garcia.
- Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority (WRRMA) is creating an RFP process for residential curbside cart collection for trash, yard waste and recyclables. The Township's contract with Waste Management ends in 2026; The Township will discuss whether to join WRRMA's trash collection services contract at that time.
- Washtenaw County offers household hazardous waste disposal at two locations. The first location is at Home Toxics Center on Zeeb Road, which is open two Saturdays a month through November. The second location is by the Arbor Hills Land Fill, with hours by appointment.

D. Planning Commission Report – September 7, 2023

Township Attorney Redmond recapped the September 7, 2023 Planning Commission meeting; draft minutes were in the packets.

E. Committee Reports

1) **Farmland Open Space and Preservation Board Report** - No report.

2) **Utility Committee**

- Utilities committee is going to be meeting, discussing cross connections plan.

- EGLE is requiring that all backfill inspectors have a Master Plumbers license. This will increase the cost of inspections.
- The State has money available for residential well testing. Information will be placed on the website.
- Regarding the water storage tank on U of M property, progress was being made, and things were closer than they had ever been.

3) Climate Resilience Committee

The committee will be receiving the draft from climate consultants RRS on September 20, followed by a meeting/workshop on September 27. Hopefully this will be brought to the Board in October.

4) Zoning Board of Appeals – Did not meet.

5) Public Safety Committee - Will meet soon.

6) Roads Committee

Roads Committee met as reported tonight by Trustee Smith. More information to be presented next month under budget discussion.

F. Utilities Department Report - Report is in the packets.

G. Public Safety Report

1) Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department - Written report is in the packets.

2) Fire Department - August Fire Department Report is in the packets.

H. Building Department Report - Report is in the packets.

VII. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS - None.

VIII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Watts addressed the situation regarding Mid Michigan Materials Vella Pit again. While he was confident things will happen in a timely manner, he was also concerned about how long that could take. Mr. Watts noted that the Township was spending \$40,000 on Earhart Road; MMM should be maintaining that road. He urged the Board to act as quickly as possible.

X. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Smith, support by Colvin-Garcia, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45pm.