



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BEDFORD  
115 S. Uldriks Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49037  
January 11, 2024 – 7:00 PM  
TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES

---

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:00 PM
2. MOMENT OF REFLECTION
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

Joyce Feraco, Clerk; Barry Beamish, Trustee; Kraig Dingman, Trustee; Stacy Greenwood, Trustee; Mark Hires, Trustee

Absent: Erica Miller, Treasurer

**\*Motion by Clerk Feraco, supported by Trustee Greenwood to appoint Trustee Beamish to serve as chairperson for the meeting.** Approved by voice vote unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF January 11, 2024 AGENDA

Moved by Trustee Beamish, supported by Trustee Greenwood to approve the January 11, 2024 agenda, as submitted.

5 – Yes

1 – Absent

6. APPROVAL OF THE December 14, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Trustee Greenwood, supported by Trustee Dingman to approve the December 14, 2023 minutes as submitted.

5 – Yes

1 – Absent

7. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda items only)

- A citizen asked if there would be a Roads Committee report. Stated he would wait to speak until the last public comment.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

- Draft Dec. 14, 2023 minutes
- December check disbursement reports
- December check register
- Revenue & Expense report
- BCPD activity report
- Bedford Fire Dept. activity report
- Superintendent Action Plan – Monthly update

- Building & Zoning Administrator Report
- Assessor Report
- Planning Commission Document for Rezone – 3201 W. Michigan Ave.
- Treasurer’s Quarterly Report

**9. REPORTS**

**A. FINANCE**

**RES. 1/11/24/01** Moved by Trustee Beamish, supported by Trustee Dingman and resolved by the Board of Trustees to approve payment of expenses totaling \$82,135.93.

**ROLL CALL**

**5 – Yes**

**1 - Absent**

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**11. PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS**

**RES. 1/11/24/02** Moved by Trustee Beamish, supported by Trustee Greenwood to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission to rezone parcel #04-029-006-02 also known as 3201 W. Michigan Ave., from “RB” Medium Density Residential to “C” Commercial Use District.

**ROLL CALL**

**5 – Yes**

**1 – Absent**

**RES. 1/11/24/03** Moved by Trustee Beamish, supported by Trustee Dingman to move the remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to the General Fund. This means that the Township can elect to use its full allocation for general township services, projects and uses.

**ROLL CALL**

**5 – Yes**

**1 - Absent**

**RES. 1/11/24/04** Moved by Trustee Dingman, supported by Trustee Hires to appoint Trustee Stacy Greenwood to the Election Commission with term expiring on November 20, 2024.

**ROLL CALL**

**5 – Yes**

**1 – Absent**

**RES. 1/11/24/05** Moved by Trustee Beamish, supported by Trustee Greenwood to direct the Superintendent to bring a final recommendation for resolving the recycling issues to the February 2024 Board Meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

**5 – Yes**

**1 – Absent**

**RES. 1/11/24/06** Moved by Trustee Beamish, supported by Trustee Greenwood to direct the Superintendent to provide a recommendation for Personnel Policy Manual template at the February 2024 Board Meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

**5 – Yes**

**1 – Absent**

**RES. 1/11/24/07** Moved by Trustee Greenwood, supported by Trustee Dingman to accept the recommendation of Chief Cochensparger to hire James Green as firefighter. (He will be required to pass a physical examination and there will be a one (1) year probationary period.)

**ROLL CALL**

**5 – Yes**

**1 – Absent**

**RES. 1/11/24/08** Moved by Trustee Beamish, supported by Trustee Greenwood to accept the following meeting dates for 2024. (This list supersedes the previous meeting dates announced.)

**ROLL CALL**

**5 – Yes**

**1 – Absent**

Thursday, January 11  
Thursday, February 8  
Thursday, March 14  
Thursday, April 11  
Thursday, May 9  
Thursday, June 13  
Thursday, July 11  
Thursday, August 8  
Thursday, September 12  
Thursday, October 10  
Thursday, November 14  
Thursday, December 12

**12. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- A resident stated that he wondered if the board would have any problem if there was a conflict of interest by the chair of the Roads Committee. He also requested assistance for the hearing impaired at the meetings and stated that live streaming of the meetings should be done.
- A resident stated that he believes the Superintendent is doing work that should be done by the elected board. He stated that the meetings are now down to twenty minutes because they couldn't be controlled before. The resident was warned by the Chair regarding the use personal attacks. Two additional warnings were issued, and the resident was escorted out of the building by BCPD officers.
- A resident stated that an apology should be made by the Board to another resident regarding his treatment.
- A resident stated that he hopes that ARPA funds that have now been moved to the General Fund can be used to assist residents in need. He also thanked a resident who produces YouTube livestream videos of the meeting for those who cannot attend.

**13. TRUSTEES' PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

- **Trustee Hires** – No comments.
- **Trustee Greenwood** – Clarified that the Superintendent is working with the Board on the Policy Manual. Also stated that the Election Commission appointment does not require a significant time commitment as it is one meeting per election. She also agrees with the need to livestream the meetings. Stated that issues with Fire Station #1 will need to be considered related to the use of ARPA funds now in the General Fund.
- **Trustee Dingman** - No comments.

#### 14. ANNOUNCEMENT BY CHAIR, CHAIRPERSON OR ELECTED OFFICIALS

- **Trustee Beamish (Acting Chair)** – Thanked Cody McCarty (B & Z Administrator) for setting up microphone and speakers in meeting room. Agreed that livestreaming of meetings should be pursued.
- **Clerk Feraco** – Explained voting procedures, both old and new. Provided packets of information and brochures with voting information. Early voting (in-person) begins on February 17 and continues for nine days, as per the new law. She also provided a review of the history of River Road Project and update. Clerk Feraco also clarified the role of a township’s Election Commission.

#### 15. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

*\*Next Board Meeting – February 8, 2024 at 7:36 PM.*

DRAFT