CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
PROPOSED MINUTES
Tuesday, April 22, 2025
6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER AT 6:31 PM

A. ROLL CALL: Supervisor Curmi
Treasurer Doroshewitz
Clerk Vorva
Trustee Stewart
Trustee Buckley
Trustee Groth
Trustee Clinton

ALSO PRESENT: L. Haw, Planner
K. Bennett, Attorney
J. Knittel, Police Chief
P. Conely, Fire Chief
L. Simpson, Rec. Secretary
Approximately 50 additional individuals in attendance

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- RECOGNITION OF ARBOR DAY – *Supervisor Charles Curmi*

Supervisor Curmi recognized Arbor Day with a Proclamation and identified Plymouth Township as a Tree City. He noted the kickoff of the "Big Tree Hunt in the Township," contest sponsored by Adient beginning on April 25, 2025, noting more information on the Township Website.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Tuesday, April 22, 2025
Moved by Clerk Vorva and Supported by Trustee Groth to approve the Agenda for Tuesday, April 22, 2025.
All Ayes
Motion Passed.

D. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Approval of Proposed Minutes –** April 8, 2025, Board Meeting

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
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2. Consent Agenda – New Business

a. Appointment of Joe Reilly to the Zoning Board of Appeals, **Resolution #2025-04-22-34,** *Supervisor Charles Curmi*

Supervisor Curmi introduced Mr. Reilly as the new Zoning Board appointee.

3. Consent Agenda – Acceptance of Communications, Correspondence and Reports

- 2024 Annual Planning Commission Report of Activities, *Township Planner Laura Haw, AICP*

4. APPROVAL OF TOWNSHIP BILLS

FUND	ACCT	ALREADY PAID	TO BE PAID	TOTAL
General Fund	**101**	$534,596.27	$583,471.82	$1,118,068.09
Drug Forfeiture - Federal	**262**	$0.00	$15,835.99	$15,835.99
Drug Forfeiture - State	**265**	$0.00		$0.00
Drug Forfeiture - IRS	**266**	$0.00		$0.00
Opioid Fund	**284**	$0.00		$0.00
ARPA	**285**	$0.00		$0.00
Improv. Rev	**446**	$0.00		$0.00
Senior Transportation	**588**	$5,490.98		$5,490.98
Water/Sewer Fund	**592**	$76,776.25	$95,606.02	$172,382.27
Solid Waste Fund	**596**	$5,004.84	$117,337.34	$122,342.18
Tax Pool	**703**	$0.00		$0.00
Police Bond Fund	**710**	$650.00		$650.00
Special Assess Capital	**805**	$0.00	$21,600.00	$21,600.00
	TOTAL	**$622,518.34**	**$833,851.17**	**$1,456,369.51**

Moved by Clerk Vorva and Supported by Trustee Groth to approve the Consent Agenda for Tuesday, April 8, 2025.
All Ayes
Motion Passed.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT *(Limited to 3 Minutes, non-agenda items)* – In lieu of including the entirety of written public comments, they may be listened to in full on the website video.

Kurt Heise thanked the Boards, the Commission, and the Attorneys for following the law and noted that the Northville Downs Federal lawsuit against Plymouth Township was dismissed on April 21, 2025, with prejudice, meaning that it cannot be brought back to federal court.

Roman Benson made a formal request to be added to a future agenda to give a presentation on bringing his cannabis business to the Township.

Patty Pozios noted a new tax that was passed by Lansing in December of 2024, for the SMART bus system and is planned for the 2026 ballot in Plymouth Township. She indicated that there will be a bipartisan informational meeting at the Phoenix Mill Events location on May 5th at 7:30 PM with registration beginning at 6:30 PM.

Trustee Stewart noted the Showcase of Businesses at St. John's also on May 5, 2025, at 5:00 PM.

Miriam Kadi thanked the Board and discussed the Relay for Life Event for Westland-Western Wayne County and invited Plymouth Township to participate. Located at Tattan Park in Westland, June 7, 2025, from 11:00 AM until midnight, she noted that the event honors survivors and caregivers, provides them with a luncheon, honors first responders, and has a lot of other fun activities. She indicated that while the event raises money for cancer research, it also provides assistance to local cancer patients in a variety of ways.

Dale Bernhardt asked about Township equipment being stored at Risen Christ Church and paid for by the Township. He also commented on the Clerk's request to fill the vacancy.

Maddy Piontek still had concerns about the cracking walls in her home and sidewalks, which she believes are the result of equipment used at the construction site.

Duane Zantop had concerns with the election process. He noted that charges against him from the early voting center were dismissed.

Mary Pine had concerns about fiscal responsibility, including Risen Christ Church rental for early voting and storage.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Replacement of Fire Suppression System and Ceiling Tiles and New Installation of Fire Alarm System at Fire Station 3, **Resolution #2025-04-22-35,** *Fire Chief Patrick Conely*

Supervisor Curmi and Fire Chief Conley indicated the need to replace the sprinkler system, ceiling tiles and a new fire alarm system to Fire Station 3. It was noted that the sprinkler system is over 30 years old, which is about the normal lifespan.

Moved by Trustee Buckley and Supported by Trustee Groth that the Board of Trustees does hereby adopt **Resolution #2025-04-22-35** to replace the fire suppression system, ceiling tiles and install a fire alarm system at Fire Station 3 located at 13600 Beck Road for a cost not to exceed $140,000.
All Ayes
Motion Passed.

2. Text Amendment to the Charter Township of Plymouth Zoning Ordinance No. 99 by adding to Article 2: Providing for Sign Notice Standards for Certain Planning and Zoning Applications, **Resolution #2025-04-22-36,** *Township Planner Laura Haw, AICP*

Planner Haw discussed this Text Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, which creates clear standards for sign notices related to rezoning, Cluster Housing Options (CHO), or Planned Unit Developments (PUD) and formalizes the Township's current policy.

Moved by Trustee Groth and Supported by Treasurer Doroshewitz to adopt **Resolution #2025-04-22-36** authorizing adoption of a text amendment to Zoning Ordinance No. 99,

amending Article 2, to provide sign notice standards for certain planning and zoning applications, as recommended by the Planning Commission.
All Ayes
Motion Passed.

3. Informational Presentation and Discussion regarding Senior Programs through Plymouth Community Council on Aging (PCCA) at Friendship Station, *Bobbi Pummill, PCCA Director; Cindy Morency, Treasurer, PCCA Board of Directors; and Kimberleigh Boyce, Senior Transportation Manager / Friendship Station Building Manager*

Kimberleigh Boyce discussed her role as Senior Transportation Manager and Building Manager at the Senior Center, which houses the Plymouth Community (Township and City) Transportation Dispatch. She indicated that the Senior transportation service is funded by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), received by the Township and City and is not funded through the Plymouth Community Council on Aging (PCCA). She noted that PCCA began operating the Senior Center in 2015, which the Township bought with Federal funds in 1981. She added that the Township provides them office space at Friendship Station and Township Hall and also pays for utilities and maintenance at Friendship Station.

Bobbi Pummill, Director of the PCCA explained that they are a 501c3, and she coordinates and runs a vast array of Senior programs and services, some of which include lunches, exercise, games, classes, presentations, and workshops. She indicated that she and her small board have been advocating for the future of the Senior Center by raising awareness, and they hope to attract sponsorship through a fundraiser.

Cindy Morency, Treasurer of the PCCA, discussed participation numbers which have more than doubled in the past seven years. She indicated that other funding comes from the Plymouth United Way, fundraising, sponsors, fees, dues, donations, and grants. She indicated a projected growth of the Senior population over the next 10-20 years, based on 2010 and 2020 census records. She noted a significant short-term financial challenge, which is needed by June 30, 2025, due to loss in revenue from major grant sources and long-term funding sustainability which needs to align with the growing Senior population. She indicated the need to establish annual funding and to raise community awareness/investment. She was informed by Representative Koleszar that most grant requests are being denied this year. She added that donations could be made to the PCCA (a 501c3) or a GoFundMe page which has been created for contributions.

Treasurer Doroshewitz noted an article from Michigan Townships Association (MTA), which cites a section of code in the law that allows for funding of this 501c3 organization due to its mission and would support some level of funding for the short and long term.

Trustee Stewart noted that he would support an increase in Senior funding, as he visits friends at Friendship Station regularly and thanked the staff for their work.

Clerk Vorva was in agreement with Trustee Stewart in supporting the program and encouraged donations from those who are able.

Trustee Groth also agreed that PCCA funding is a short and long-term issue, but sustainability is required. She was also in support of Township contributions to the program.

Supervisor Curmi noted that donations made to the PCCA from an IRA's required minimum distribution (RMD) can be made without paying income tax on it.

The discussion by the Board, Senior Center/PCCA staff, and residents, Dale Bernhardt, Mary Tavarozzi, Anne Van Wagoner, and Duane Zantop included: a needs assessment, a volunteer run organization, a task force to secure financing, assistance from Representative Koleszar's office, funding through the Older Americans Act, Title Three B, advertising through the Township newsletter/website to increase awareness, fundraisers, and donations. Mary focused on restructuring the Senior Program, to accommodate increasing demand, as the census indicates 23% of the Township population is now over the age of 65.

4. Posting and Hiring Part-Time Administrative Assistant for the Clerk's Department, **Resolution #2025-04-22-37,** *Clerk Jerry Vorva*

Supervisor Curmi indicated that he decided not fill the part-time administrative assistant position for the Clerk's Department until January 2026.

Clerk Vorva indicated that this union position has been in place since before his election nine years ago and hiring in the Clerk's department has always been under the purview of the Clerk. He noted that during an election year, this position becomes full-time to accommodate the extra election work. He added that in non-election years, it is still

necessary to have this as a part-time position to complete actions on data submitted daily by the State, take phone calls, handle customers coming into the Clerk's Office, and cover the desk when others are out of the office. He noted that election questions, voter registrations, and address changes occur all year. He noted that the person he would like to hire is already Qualified Voter File (QVF) trained. In addition, he indicated that this position is in the union contract and has been funded in the budget. He added

that the union has filed a grievance, because the position has not yet been posted. He asked the Board to vote for this and thus satisfy the grievance.

Treasurer Doroshewitz indicated that both he and the Clerk have autonomous departments, both being elected officials, and they have autonomy over the statutory duties of their respective departments. He added that the departments are open to the public daily from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM and must be staffed during those hours, even if there are no customers for a period of time.

Trustee Clinton supported the hiring of the part-time vacant position in the Clerk's office to manage daily customers.

Trustee Groth disagreed on the necessity of the part-time position during a non-election year, based on her past work in the Clerk's office.

Trustee Stewart opposed the hiring of the part-time position in a non-election year.

Dale Bernhardt, Mary Pine, and Bill Pine had discussion concerning the Clerk's Department and opposed the filling of the part-time administrative assistant position.

After much discussion concerning the recently vacated part-time front desk position for Administrative Assistant in the Clerk's department, a compromise was suggested to allow posting of the position for eight hours per week instead of fifteen with the hope that this sufficiently resolves the union's grievance.

Kelly Latawiec, Union President for Technical, Professional and Officeworkers Association of Michigan (TPOAM) here in the Township, indicated that this is a union position and must be hired, not appointed.

Moved by Clerk Vorva and Supported by Treasurer Doroshewitz to adopt **Resolution #2025-04-22-37** authorizing the immediate posting and hiring for the vacant Part-Time Administrative Assistant in the Clerk's Department for eight hours a week only as a union position, hereby resolving the union Grievance #25-132.
Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Clerk Vorva, Trustee Clinton, Trustee Buckley, Treasurer Doroshewitz, Trustee Stewart, Supervisor Curmi
Nays: Trustee Groth
Motion Passed.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT (Limited to 3 Minutes)

Marilyn Albee and Katherine Klepack made comments regarding lack of order to the meeting.

Duane Zantop again noted that the court case against him was dismissed.

Glenn Miller steward of the TPOAM in the Township appreciated the compromise on the part-time position but noted that the Union will still need to discuss it and vote to determine if this will sufficiently resolve the grievance.

Dale Bernhardt asked if the Township paid for any costs stemming from the Northville Downs Lawsuit. Supervisor Curmi noted that the Township insurance covers the charges.

Roman Benson spoke again hoping to bring his Cannabis business presentation to the Board and indicated that it could bring money to the Township.

Mary Pine opposed a Cannabis business in the Township with concerns over the safety and welfare of the community.

Estelle Oliansky asked the Board to allow it on the Agenda, so that it can finally be resolved.

Chief Knittel first paid tribute to Leonard Uller, Township resident, who passed away in March. He noted that he was an Air Force Veteran and worked with him in the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). He offered a moment of silence in his memory. Secondly, he noted that the Operation Takeback Program through the DEA is scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2025, 10:00-2:00 at the Township and Kroger.

Bill Ickes reviewed the Text Amendment approval from earlier in the meeting, noting that it outlines the standards regarding sign content, placement, and removal for a proposed rezoning. He added that with Election laws continuing to change, the Clerk's office needs to be staffed and appreciated the decision of the Board.

H. BOARD COMMENTS

Clerk Vorva thanked the public for their scrutiny and questions. He explained that the $150 "storage fee" charge at Risen Christ Church is to allow the Township to keep internet, the recording device, security cameras, and the Township Dropbox hooked up, because disconnecting and removing this will cost several thousand dollars. He added that he has discussed this with the Supervisor and also noted that the State has reimbursed the Township for over $200,000 for Early Voting and Early Voting Center costs. He thanked the Board for listening to his request.

Trustee Groth noted a packed audience at a Meeting was here a number of years ago in response to the idea of marijuana shops in Plymouth Township.

Trustee Stewart noted his attendance at the State of the Community luncheon recently with the Supervisor, who discussed the full police department, traffic, and jobs.

Supervisor Curmi indicated that discussion regarding the Salem Springs pipeline will be at one of the next two meetings. He indicated that the Sprayscape construction will begin next week and should take two weeks to complete.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Stewart and Supported by Clerk Vorva to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Trustees on April 22, 2025, at 9:40 PM.
All Ayes
Motion Passed.

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PLEASE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township Meetings, to individuals with disabilities at the Meetings/Hearings upon two weeks' notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Human Resource Office at 9955 N Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170; 734-354-3202; Voice/TTY: 844-578-6563 or email: mirelay@hamiltonrelay.com (Michigan Relay Services).

The public is invited and encouraged to attend all meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth