

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
REGULAR MEETING TOWNSHIP BOARD 2022 **-APPROVED-**  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198  
853-4000, Township Hall Room  
TUESDAY, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 **5:30 pm**

PRESENT: Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Wisinski, Sundland

ABSENT:

STAFF: Township Manager Walsh, Community Planning and Development Director Schmitt,  
IT Director Gebes

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Clerk Guthrie called the Special Meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

**Trustee Wisinski moved to have Trustee Jackson serve as Supervisor Pro-Tem for the remainder of this meeting. Supported by Treasurer Deschaine.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Wisinski, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Sundland,  
Clerk Guthrie  
NAYS: None

Motion carried: 5-0

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Pro Tem Jackson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Clerk Guthrie called the roll of the Board.

4. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mark Blumer 6120 Horizon Dr., East Lansing, MI spoke about Supervisor Styka, and how the Supervisor had appointed him the Planning Commission.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Treasurer Deschaine moved to add Item "6.B Review of Trustee Appointment Process" to tonight's Agenda. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.**

VOICE VOTE: YEAS: Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Sundland,  
Wisinski

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 5-0

**Trustee Wisinski moved to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.**

VOICE VOTE: YEAS: Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Sundland, Wisinski

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 5-0

6. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

A. Supervisor Appointment Process

Manager Walsh outlined the Supervisor Appointment Process.

**Clerk Guthrie moved to appoint Supervisor Pro-Tem Jackson to Township Supervisor effective immediately. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.**

Treasurer Deschaine spoke in support of the appointment of Supervisor Pro-Tem Jackson to Township Supervisor.

Clerk Guthrie spoke in support of the appointment of Supervisor Pro-Tem Jackson to Township Supervisor.

Trustee Wisinski spoke in support of the appointment of Supervisor Pro-Tem Jackson to Township Supervisor.

Trustee Sundland spoke in support of the appointment of Supervisor Pro-Tem Jackson to Township Supervisor.

Manager Walsh explained that if the motion is approved she will be vacating her Trustee position and would have to stand for election in the 2022 fall elections.

Treasurer Deschaine explained the appointed Trustees will also have to stand for election in the 2022 elections.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Sundland Clerk Guthrie, Supervisor Pro-Tem Jackson, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustee Wisinski

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 5-0

B. Review of Trustee Appointment Process

Manager Walsh outlined the Trustee selection process. He stated that three members is a quorum now and any meeting consisting of three board members is subject to the open

meetings act. He suggested the board think about if they want all five members to weigh in on the interview process.

Trustee Wisinski asked manager Walsh if another posting to the public is necessary for the second Trustee position.

Manager Walsh stated he would ask legal counsel.

Treasurer Deschaine asked if it would be better to have a second two person committee for the other vacant Trustee position.

Clerk Guthrie asked manager Walsh if the filled trustee applications are available for the public to look at.

Manager Walsh replied that the filled trustee application are not available to the public until the application deadline has passed. He also explained that all meetings concerning the trustee position is subject to the open meetings act whether there is a quorum or not.

Trustee Wisinski asked if all five members could attend these meetings.

Manager Walsh replied they could.

Supervisor Jackson stated she would like to see the trustee search be a combined search for two trustee positions by the board. The deadline for trustee applications is Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm to be turned in at Director Tithof's office.

Supervisor Jackson reviewed the selection process. She explained there will be a joint board meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup> to review and select trustee finalist. Another meeting will take place on March 15<sup>th</sup> at a time to be decided to interview the finalist.

Treasurer Deschaine asked if the process could be clarified to state the chosen trustees will be sworn in March 16<sup>th</sup>.

7. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

NONE

8. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Manager Walsh congratulated Supervisor Jackson for her new position.

Treasurer Deschaine stated that he believes the process is going to be very open and he wants to be sure they select the best people to serve on the board.

Clerk Guthrie stated the application process for new trustees is on the township website. She reiterated that appointed trustees would have to win in the August election if they want to keep the position of trustee. The deadline for filling out an affidavit of identity and having your name put on the ballot is April 19<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm.

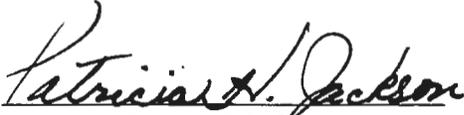
Supervisor Jackson invited anyone who is interested in serving on the township board to submit your applications by March 4<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm.

9. ADJOURNMENT

**Treasurer Deschaine moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.**

VOICE/HAND VOTE:                      Motion carried 5-0

**Supervisor Jackson adjourned the meeting at 6:08 pm.**

  
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PATRICIA H. JACKSON,  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

  
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DEBORAH GUTHRIE  
TOWNSHIP CLERK