

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD**  
**TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**September 12, 2023**

Supervisor Chuck Korn called the Town Board Meeting to order at the Garfield Township Hall on September 12, 2023 at 6:00p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call of Board Members**

Present: Molly Agostinelli, Chris Barsheff, Steve Duell, Chuck Korn, Chloe Macomber, Lanie McManus and Denise Schmuckal

Staff Present: John Sych, Planning Director

**1. Public Comment (6:01)**

Dustine Murphy, Dr. Don Piche and Lowell Gruman commented on the Curling Club.

**2. Review and Approval of the Amended Agenda - Conflict of Interest (6:06)**

*Agostinelli moved and Duell seconded to approve the agenda as presented.*

*Yeas: Agostinelli, Duell, Schmuckal, McManus, Barsheff, Macomber, Korn*

*Nays: None*

**3. Consent Calendar (6:04)**

**a. Minutes**

August 22, 2023 Regular Meeting

August 29, 2023 Study Session

(Recommend Approval)

**b. Bills**

(i) General Fund \$429,056.43

(ii) Gourdie Fraser  
Developer's Escrow Fund -Utility Plan Review,  
Oversight and Closeout \$ 38,914.00  
General Utilities 45,127.20  
Park Funds/DNR Trust Fund 3,920.00  

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Total \$ 87,961.20

(Recommend Approval)

**c. Consideration of Resolution 2023-25-T to establish an intermunicipality committee for transportation planning in the Traverse study area (New form required by MDOT)  
(Recommend Approval)**

**d. Introduction of Amendment to Grand Traverse Commons Development Regulations and schedule public hearing for October 10, 2023 (Recommend Approval)**

*Duell moved and Barsheff seconded to adopt the Consent Calendar as presented.*

*Yeas: Duell, Barsheff, Agostinelli, McManus, Schmuckal, Macomber, Korn  
Nays: None*

**4. Items Removed from the Consent Calendar (6:09)**

**5. Correspondence (6:10)**

**a. Letter from Steven and Penny Fellows dated September 6, 2023**

Board members discussed the letter and shared concerns with the events.

**6. Reports**

**a. GT County Commissioner's Report (6:11)**

Commissioner Brad Jewett stated that the 2022 audit was discussed. The county has an ad-hoc committee to help the Pavilions reach a solution for their finances and a new sheriff, Mike Shea, has been appointed since the retirement of Tom Bensley.

**b. Construction Report (6:14)**

Township Engineer Jennifer Graham reported that the Cedar Run Water main project has been finished out. She is working on the Capital Improvement Plan to present to the board. River East Phase Three will be bid this month and she is busy with lots of utility reviews. Board members asked questions.

**c. Sheriff's Report (6:19)**

Acting Lieutenant Roy Raska stated that the lieutenant position should be filled this week. The CPO's have been busy and have been building community relationships with cookouts in the neighborhoods. Raska also reviewed statistics for the month of August.

**d. GT Metro Fire Report (6:22)**

Metro Chief Pat Parker reviewed August 2023 statistics in Garfield Township and the entire Metro organization. Garfield Township made up 66% of calls in August. Parker added that the 9/11 memorial ceremony went smoothly and he is busy with plan reviews and inspections.

**e. Planning Department Report for September 2023 (6:26)**

Township Planner John Sych reported that there would be two public hearings tomorrow evening and a study session will be devoted to the future land use map.

**f. Parks & Recreation Report (6:28)**

The Parks and Recreation report was submitted in writing.

**g. Clerk's Report (6:28)**

McManus stated that her report was submitted in writing and added that she is still busy with election planning.

**h. Supervisor's Report (6:30)**

Supervisor Korn stated that he attended the Evergreen Development groundbreaking. It will be a net-zero development. He also attended an MTA luncheon and heard about an employee assistance program, met with the Building and Personnel Committees, and met with the Liquor Control Commission.

**7. Unfinished Business (6:16)**

**a. Public Hearing – Consideration of the amount of property tax millage to levy for the 2024 General and Fire Fund accounts (6:33)**

Korn stated that the township operating millage was being lowered from 2.0 to 1.75. The Emergency Services millage remains the same at 2.75. Korn opened the public hearing at 6:34pm and seeing no one wishing to comment, closed the public hearing at 6:35pm.

*Duell moved and Barsheff seconded to levy 1.75 mills for the township operating budget and 2.75 mills for Emergency Services.*

*Yeas: Duell, Barsheff, Macomber, McManus, Schmuckal, Agostinelli, Korn  
Nays: None*

**b. Consideration of recommending approval for a Class C or Tavern Liquor License to the following applicants: (6:36)**

**I. High Tops request for Class C License, Resolution 2023-18-T**

**II. Curling Club request for Class C License, Resolution 2023-23-T**

Board members discussed the two applicants and presented their rationale for one or the other.

*Schmuckal moved and Macomber seconded to award the Class C License to High Tops approving Resolution 2023-18-T.*

*Yeas: Schmuckal, Macomber, Duell, Agostinelli, Barsheff,  
McManus*

*Nays: Korn*

8. **New Business**

a. **Consideration of upgrading the Township's elevator controller (6:58)**

Korn explained that the elevator's electronic control unit is in delicate condition.

*Schmuckal moved and Agostinelli seconded to accept the proposal from Otis in the amount of \$19,800.00 for a new controller.*

*Yeas: Schmuckal, Agostinelli, Duell, Macomber, Barsheff, McManus, Korn*

*Nays: None*

9. **Public Comment: (6:59)**

Kevin Byrne of Traverse City commented.

10. **Other Business (7:02)**

Budget study session set for September 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.


Duell stated that the Cass Road culverts are working well.

11. **Adjournment**

*Korn adjourned the meeting at 7:05pm.*



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Charter Township of Garfield  
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Lanie McManus, Clerk  
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