

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD**  
**TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**April 8, 2025**

Supervisor McManus called the Town Board Meeting to order at the Garfield Township Hall on April 8, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call of Board Members**

Present: Molly Agostinelli, Chuck Korn, Laurie Lapp, Chloe Macomber, Joe McManus, Lanie McManus and Denise Schmuckal,

Also in Attendance: Township Manager Chris Barsheff

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

None

**2. Review and Approval of the Agenda - Conflict of Interest (6:01)**

*Schmuckal moved and Korn seconded to approve the agenda as presented.*

*Yeas: Schmuckal, Korn, Lapp, Agostinelli, L. McManus, Macomber,  
J. McManus*

*Nays: None*

**3. Consent Calendar (6:02)**

**a. Minutes**

March 25, 2025 Regular Meeting and  
Revised February 26, 2025 Joint Meeting (Recommend Approval)

**b. Bills**

General Fund	\$18,032.74
(Recommend Approval)	

*Agostinelli moved and Korn seconded to adopt the consent calendar as presented.*

*Yeas: Agostinelli, Korn, Lapp, Schmuckal, L. McManus, Macomber, J. McManus*  
*Nays: None*

**4. Items Removed from the Consent Calendar**

None

**5. Correspondence (6:05)**

None

**6. Reports****a. Engineering/Construction Report (6:05)**

Engineer Jennifer Graham submitted her report in writing and noted that water usage discussions with the city are going well. A new location was found for the McCrea PRV and easement discussions are taking place. Graham added that the master meter upgrade is now a major priority but no bidders are coming forth. Graham is coordinating with East Bay and Acme Townships on their force main project and is working with township staff on the CIP projects. Feedback is expected from the DNR on the Commons accessible trail and bathrooms at the River East Parks will now be stick built instead of pre-fab.

**b. County Commissioner's Report (6:15)**

No report

**c. Sheriff's Report (6:15)**

Lt. Roy Raska reviewed March 2025 statistics for Garfield Township. He added that the CPO for Garfield Township would be changing. Raska added that the department has held scam presentations and safety classes recently and that deputies have new tasers.

**d. GT Metro Fire Report (6:20)**

GT Metro Chief Paul Mackin reviewed calls in the township and overall Metro area for March 2025. He spoke about the Lautner Irrigation building fire and challenges in fighting that fire. Mackin added that fire classification will be completed this summer for insurance purposes and a public safety drone was purchased.

**e. MMR Report (6:28)**

Amy Fairchild, Operations Manager, reported the March 2025 statistics and added that they are trying to educate people on fall prevention. She added that new classes are beginning for EMT's very soon.

**f. Planning Department Monthly Report for February (6:32)**

Planning Director John Sych submitted his report in writing and added that the Planning Commission will review the Gauthier site multi-family development this week along with a down zoning request. He added that High Tops has now requested to locate a night club and sports bar in the remainder of the old Younkers building at the Cherryland Center.

**g. Parks & Recreation Report (6:37)**

A report was included in packets. Barsheff added that the River East playground has been delivered and staking is being done pertaining to placement.

**h. Clerk's Report (6:37)**

The Clerk's report was submitted in writing and the clerk's office is finishing the audit.

i. **Township Manager's Report (6:37)**

Barsheff stated that the Ridgeview Court project is waiting on an updated bid from Elmers and then another public hearing will need to be held because of the cost increase. The Silver Lake Milfoil Treatment SAD needs to be reestablished and the cost needs to be high enough to recover the expenses. MDOT rail lease agreements will move forward with five-year leases. Barsheff stated that the cost for the signals at US 31 Lowes and Meijers has increased and now the cost share price will be approximately \$251,800.00. He will bring more detail at the next meeting. He added that the website is almost done and should be live by the end of the month. Christine Minervini is creating a task force on homelessness which includes many community leaders and organizations and has asked Garfield Township to join the task force. Barsheff also found that there needed to be no significant changes to the township emergency management plan at this time.

j. **Supervisor's Report (6:54)**

J. McManus reported that comments on the County Prosperity Plan are still welcome. He added that the MTA was very informative and the water contract with the city has been amended to allow for six million gallons of water per day instead of five million.

7. **Unfinished Business**

a. **Discussion on Cherryland Center Redevelopment Project Area (6:58)**

Barsheff said that the owner of Cherryland would like the designation of *Redevelopment Project Area*. Such a designation would allow a new liquor license for the K-1 Speed. The designation is based on dollars invested in the center and population of which both would be met. Dr. Christopher Walls, owner of K-1 Speed, stated that a liquor license would help to expand his business and that he employs 30-40 people. He estimates the amount invested in the Cherryland Center redevelopment to be at or near \$23 million. Manager Barsheff said that this would come back to board members when all figures were solidified.

b. **Discussion on Potter Road Repair Cost Sharing with Grand Traverse County Road Commission (7:07)**

J. McManus and Barsheff met with the Road Commission and they have two plans for Potter Road. The first plan would cost \$144,000.00 for the chip seal and gravel. The second option is a crush and pave at a cost of \$300,000.00. This item will be brought back to board members at a later time.

8. **New Business**

a. **Consideration of Resolution 2025-07-T, supporting Supervisor McManus application for the Par Plan Board (7:13)**

*Korn moved and Schmuckal seconded to approve Resolution 2025-07-T, supporting Supervisor McManus' application for the Par Plan Board*

*Yeas: Korn, Schmuckal, L. McManus, Lapp, Agostinelli, Macomber,  
J. McManus  
Nays: None*

**b. Discussion on hiring Township Assessor (7:15)**

Barsheff stated that May 8<sup>th</sup> will be Amy DeHaan's last day. The position was posted and the Personnel Committee interviewed two candidates. The committee recommends that Polly Cairns be hired at a salary of \$122,000.00 per year due to her extensive experience.

*Schmuckal moved and Agostinelli seconded to hire Polly Cairns for the position of Township Level IV Assessor at a salary of \$122,000.00/year.*

*Yeas: Schmuckal, Agostinelli, Korn, Lapp, Macomber, L. McManus,  
J. McManus  
Nays: None*

Ms. Cairns introduced herself to the board and thanked them for the opportunity.

**9. Public Comment: (7:21)**

None

**10. Other Business (7:21)**

Schmuckal thanked Jennifer Graham for answering questions about the Commons Trail at the Parks & Rec meeting.

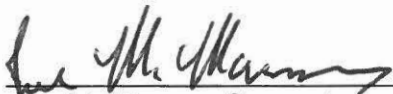
Macomber stated that Barsheff's 6-month review will be completed via a staff survey. She asked board members to give her any specific focus topics for the review.

Barsheff asked about scheduling a website committee meeting and the public works tours.

McManus stated that the next MTA meeting may be in Traverse City.

**11. Adjournment**

*McManus adjourned the meeting at 7:25pm.*



Joe McManus, Supervisor  
Charter Township of Garfield  
3848 Veterans Drive  
Traverse City, MI 49686



Lanie McManus, Clerk  
Charter Township of Garfield  
3848 Veterans Drive  
Traverse City, MI 49686