

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE
DRAFT Minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting
SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Kowall called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Clerk Noble called the Roll:

Present:

Rik Kowall, Supervisor
Mike Roman, Treasurer
Anthony L. Noble, Clerk
Scott Ruggles, Trustee
Steve Anderson, Trustee
Andrea Voorheis, Trustee
Liz Smith, Trustee

Also Present:

Trish Pergament, Deputy Supervisor
Sean O'Neil, Community Development Director
Aaron Potter, Department of Public Services Director
Dave Hieber, Township Assessor
Matthew Ivory, Chief of Police
J. David Feichtner, Fire Chief
Lisa Hamameh, Township Attorney
Hannah Kennedy-Galley, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Supervisor Kowall stated the Treasurer's Report has been omitted from this month's consent agenda.

**It was MOVED by Clerk Noble, seconded by Trustee Anderson to approve the agenda as presented.
The motion carried with a voice vote: (7 yes votes).**

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. REVENUE AND EXPENSES
- B. CHECK DISBURSEMENTS
- C. BUDGET AMENDMENTS
- D. DEPARTMENT REPORT - POLICE
- E. DEPARTMENT REPORT - FIRE
- F. DEPARTMENT REPORT - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
- ~~G. DEPARTMENT REPORT - TREASURER~~
- H. NOTICE OF SPECIAL EVENT - ST. PATRICK'S PIEROGI RUN

It was MOVED by Trustee Ruggles, seconded by Clerk Noble to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion carried with a voice vote: (7 yes votes).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Duane O'Parka, resident and member of Rolling Thunder Michigan Chapter 5, addressed the Board regarding Rolling Thunder's mission as a POW/MIA awareness and veterans support organization, its local community outreach, and an upcoming Wreaths Across America ceremony scheduled for December 19, 2026, at noon at White Lake Cemetery to honor approximately 300 veterans' gravesites.

MINUTES

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - SPECIAL BOARD MEETING, AUGUST 12, 2026
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - REGULAR BOARD MEETING, AUGUST 18, 2026
- C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - SPECIAL BOARD MEETING, AUGUST 25, 2026

It was MOVED by Treasurer Roman, seconded by Trustee Voorheis, to approve the minutes of August 12, 2026, August 18, 2026, and August 25, 2026, as presented. The motion carried with a voice vote: (7 yes votes).

PRESENTATIONS

- A. SWEARING IN OF FIREFIGHTER - ANTHONY SMITH

Chief Feichtner presented Firefighter Anthony Smith to the Board. Clerk Noble administered the official oath. Firefighter Smith was pinned by his stepfather.

PUBLIC HEARING

- A. TO HEAR COMMENTS REGARDING THE CONFIRMATION OF THE ROLL FOR THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT DESIGNATED COLEDALE BAY AQUATIC WEED CONTROL AND LAKE IMPROVEMENT 2026-2030

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, seconded by Clerk Noble to open the public hearing to hear comments regarding The Confirmation Of the Roll For the Special Assessment District Designated Coledale Bay Aquatic Weed Control and Lake Improvement 2026-2030 at 6:43 P.M. The motion carried with a roll call vote: (7 yes votes) (Kowall/yes, Roman/yes, Voorheis/yes, Anderson/yes, Smith/yes, Ruggles/yes, Noble/yes).

Public Comment: None.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, seconded by Trustee Anderson to close the public hearing. The motion carried with a voice vote: (7 yes votes).

- B. TO HEAR COMMENTS REGARDING THE CONFIRMATION OF THE ROLL FOR THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT DESIGNATED EMERGENCY SEWER CONNECTIONS 2026-01

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, seconded by Clerk Noble to open the public hearing to hear

comments Regarding the Confirmation of The Roll for The Special Assessment District Designated Emergency Sewer Connections 2026-01 at 6:43 P.M. The motion carried with a roll call vote: (7 yes votes). (Voorheis/yes, Smith/yes, Anderson/yes, Ruggles/yes, Noble/yes, Roman/yes, Kowall/yes).

Public Comment: None.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, seconded by Clerk Noble to close the public hearing. The motion carried with a voice vote: (7 yes votes).

NEW BUSINESS

- A. RESOLUTION #26-028; TO CONFIRM THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT DESIGNATED COLEDALE BAY AQUATIC WEED CONTROL AND LAKE IMPROVEMENT 2026-2030

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, seconded by Trustee Ruggles to approve Resolution #26-028; To Confirm the Special Assessment Roll for The Special Assessment District Designated Coledale Bay Aquatic Weed Control and Lake Improvement 2026-2030. The motion carried with a roll call vote: (7 yes votes). (Noble/yes, Roman/yes, Kowall/yes, Anderson/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Ruggles/yes).

- B. RESOLUTION #26-029; TO CONFIRM THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT DESIGNATED EMERGENCY SEWER CONNECTIONS 2026-01

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, seconded by Clerk Noble to approve Resolution #26-029; To Confirm the Special Assessment Roll for The Special Assessment District Designated Emergency Sewer Connections 2026-01. The motion carried with a roll call vote: (7 yes votes). (Smith/yes, Ruggles/yes, Roman/yes, Noble/yes, Kowall/yes, Anderson/yes, Voorheis/yes).

- C. REQUEST TO APPROVE DARK WEB MONITORING AND CLOUD PROTECT LICENSES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND GENERAL TOWNSHIP

Deputy Supervisor Pergament presented a request for approval of a three-year licensing agreement covering Cloud Protect (backup and monitoring for the Microsoft 365 cloud environment) and Dark Web monitoring/endpoint remediation services for 83 township devices and 42 police department devices. The price for the General Township would come to \$31,344.12 for the 3-year licenses and \$15,860.88 for the Police Department for the 3-year licenses. She added that there was no labor included in the price and no overhead for VC3, only the cost of the licensing. The licenses are based on the number of users.

Deputy Pergament stated the request is for approval to purchase and implement the three-year licenses for both the General Township and the Police Department at a total of \$47,205.

Trustee Anderson stated he would like to have reviewed the Township's current contract with VC3, to further identify what the current contract covers as far as monitoring goes. Deputy Pergament stated that the current support in the VC3 contract is for technical support, not monitoring support of this nature. She added this licensing is specific to the Cloud based platforms and many of the Township's programs are moving from internal server platforms to the Cloud based platform.

Trustee Smith stated she would have liked to see comparables for this service and added the last few technology-related items the Board has reviewed recently did not have comparables. She also asked why the licenses weren't purchased directly. Deputy Pergament explained the process for an upgrade through a vendor already approved. She stated VC3 is going to install them without additional costs, because it's included in the current contract.

Trustee Anderson suggested that licensing of this nature should be included with VC3's contract. Deputy Pergament stated this type of service wouldn't be negotiated into a contract and wasn't a factor at the time the current contract was negotiated.

It was **MOVED** by Treasurer Roman, seconded by Clerk Noble to approve \$47,205 for a three-year license agreement covering Dark Web monitoring and Cloud Protect for both the Township and Police Department (Township: \$31,344.12; Police Department: \$15,860.88), with an annual payment of \$15,735. The motion carried with a roll call vote: (7 yes votes). (Voorheis/yes, Anderson/yes, Smith/yes, Ruggles/yes, Noble/yes, Kowall/yes, Roman/yes).

D. FOIA APPEAL DT 9-4-26 RE: 9-2-26 FOIA RESPONSE - PARTIAL DENIAL OF RECORDS - ERNEST PARKER

Deputy Pergament presented the appeal request to the Board.

It was **MOVED** by Clerk Noble, seconded by Trustee Ruggles to uphold the FOIA Coordinator's response indicating that certain documents do not exist and/or protected by the Attorney-Client Privilege, related to Mr. Parker's August 28, 2026 FOIA request for the following reasons:

1. FOIA Section 13, subsection (g) allows the Township to withhold information that would disclose any legal communications it received or referenced while preparing the FOIA request at issue.
2. Moreover, disclosure of the exempt material would not provide any beneficial information to the public should it be disclosed.

The motion carried with a roll call vote: (7 yes votes). (Noble/yes, Kowall/yes, Roman/yes, Voorheis/yes, Anderson/yes, Smith/yes, Ruggles/yes).

E. REQUEST TO APPROVE STANLEY PARK PHASE 2 DESIGN AND ENGINEERING SERVICES PROPOSAL - BECKETT & RAEDER

Director O'Neil and Brian Barrick (Beckett & Raeder) presented a \$167,500 proposal for design and engineering services for Stanley Park Phase 2, funded through a \$500,000 state grant with a \$500,000 township match. Scope items discussed included a restroom/storage building with integrated picnic shelter, a pavilion near Brendel Lake fishing pier, picnic pods, a multi-sport court, parking near Elizabeth Lake Road, design prep for a future play structure (funded in part by a \$75,000 Kroger grant), a park entrance sign, and site preparation for a future amphitheater.

Director O'Neil stated construction would potentially occur during April through October 2027, a similar construction window as phase one at Stanley Park had. He added that an added expense for this phase of the park design was due to the need to design and make the connection to public utilities, as well as the need to have an architect present sign and sealed plans for the restroom building.

Trustee Ruggles raised concerns regarding the cost of some of the items included in the scope of work, and shared he has interest in the construction being done properly and in the most cost effective manner.

Trustee Smith asked if the sub-architect was a firm decision. She stated she was not comfortable with the proposed sub-consultant architect Stu Pettit and requested that alternative architects be explored. Mr. Barrick added that Beckett & Raeder has worked with Mr. Pettit on other similar State funded project and was comfortable working with Mr. Pettit's firm. Trustee Smith reiterated the desire to see additional architects included in the proposal to choose from.

Trustee Smith added she would also like to see rubber as opposed to woodchips at the play structure. Mr. Barrick said it can be explored, but the costs will be higher to do so.

Treasurer Roman said the Board needs to come to a decision on which way to take the park – rustic, or more upgraded. He asked if the professional fees be reduced where possible.

Trustees Ruggles, Smith and Voorheis, previously assigned to a subcommittee for the play structure, will continue working with the Parks and Recreation Committee to refine the plan and return a recommendation to the Board.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, seconded by Trustee Anderson, to approve the Stanley Park Phase 2 design and engineering services proposal from Beckett & Raeder in an amount not to exceed \$167,500, with a request that the consultant team make an earnest attempt to reduce fees by approximately 10% (with corresponding scope adjustments as needed) and explore alternative architects for the restroom/pavilion building design, with Trustee Ruggles to lead a Board subcommittee coordinating with the Parks and Recreation Committee and returning a final recommendation to the Board. The motion carried with a roll call vote: (7 yes votes). (Voorheis/yes, Smith/yes, Noble/yes, Roman/yes, Kowall/yes, Anderson/yes, Ruggles/yes).

**F. DISCUSSION REGARDING POTENTIAL T-MOBILE WATER TOWER CO-LOCATION AGREEMENT-
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES**

Director Potter presented information regarding a request from Haley Law Firm, representing T-Mobile, to enter into a co-location agreement for cellular equipment on the Township's water tower at Meijer. Discussion covered potential revenue to offset water tower maintenance and painting costs, and concerns regarding proper contractual safeguards for tower integrity based on experience from neighboring communities (Waterford Township, Independence Township). The Board expressed general support for pursuing the opportunity.

G. REQUEST TO APPROVE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM GENERAL CONDITIONS TO STAFFING REIMBURSABLES - CIVIC CENTER PROJECT

Director O'Neil presented a memo from McCarthy & Smith, dated September 4, 2026, requesting a transfer of funds to cover increased construction management staffing costs resulting from project delays, to be offset by unused General Conditions funds (approximately \$378,000 remaining for Public Safety Building; approximately \$432,000 remaining for Township Hall, as of July). He clarified that contractor staffing rates were reduced during prior project slowdowns and that the projected occupancy date has moved to January 2027 as a conservative estimate, with actual occupancy expected sooner.

It was MOVED by Treasurer Roman, seconded by Supervisor Kowall to approve \$250,000 in additional staffing reimbursement, split \$125,000 per building, funded from the General Conditions line item in each project's budget, based on the documented extension of project duration and the resulting requirement to maintain construction management staffing through January 2027. The motion carried with a roll call vote: (7 yes votes). (Kowall/yes, Noble/yes, Smith/yes, Ruggles/yes, Roman/yes, Anderson/yes, Voorheis/yes).

H. REQUEST TO APPROVE LAKELAND HIGH SCHOOL FIREWORKS APPLICATION

Fire Chief Feichtner confirmed the application met all ordinance and code requirements, noting a typographical correction needed on line two of the letter to the Board. Specifically, the date should read 2026 and not 2025.

It was MOVED by Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Voorheis approve the fireworks application for Lakeland High School for September 18, 2026, as amended The motion carried with a voice vote: (7 yes votes).

FYI - CIVIC CENTER

Treasurer Roman said most of the windows and flooring have been installed. A lot of the painting has also been completed. Director O'Neil stated the construction trailer is expected to be removed shortly, with site restoration/grading to follow.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Voorheis recognized four White Lake residents honored at the 40th Annual Fisk Farm Fall Festival for their service to the White Lake Historical Society, and announced the Fire Department Open House on September 27, 12:00–3:00 PM.

Trustee Anderson reported on the most recent Zoning Board of Appeals meeting (three cases reviewed) and announced a special ZBA meeting scheduled for September 17, 2026, at 5:30 PM to address a late filed case; three cases are scheduled for next month's regular ZBA meeting.

Clerk Noble thanked Mr. O'Parka for coming out this evening and stated the importance of honoring our veterans.

Trustee Smith echoed recognition of the Fisk Farm Festival honorees and the upcoming Fire Department Open House. She also recognized the annual Walk for Cancer Awareness led by firefighter Warren. She noted the Friends of the Library's successful book sale.

Trustee Ruggles stated the Planning Commission will be meeting this Thursday.

Treasurer Roman thanked Mr. O'Parka for bringing Rolling Thunder to White Lake.

Supervisor Kowall thanked attendees, including Duane Parker, for their attendance this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED by Treasurer Roman, seconded by Clerk Noble to adjourn at 8:10 P.M. The motion carried with a voice vote: (7 yes votes).

Rik Kowall, Supervisor
Charter Township of White Lake

Anthony L. Noble, Clerk, MiPMC
Charter Township of White Lake