CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE
TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES QUARTERLY MEETING
2009 Township Drive
Commerce Township, MI 48390
Tuesday, October 27, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Clerk Creech called the Township Board of Trustees Quarterly Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

At the request of Supervisor Gray, Clerk Creech would like the Board to appoint Trustee Rick Sovel as Interim Chairperson.

MOTION by Creech, supported by Weber, to appoint Trustee Rick Sovel as Interim Chairperson for tonight's meeting. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

ROLL CALL: Present: Rick Sovel, Interim Chairperson/Trustee
Larry Gray, Supervisor
Melissa Creech, Clerk
Katelyn Massey, Treasurer
Bob Berkheiser, Trustee
Robert Long, Trustee
George Weber, Trustee

Also Present: Hans Rentrop, Township Attorney
Jim Dundas, Fire Chief
Natalie Hiney, HR/Finance Director
Jay James, P/E Building Official
Ben Sebrowski, IT Director

ITEM 1: Public Comments
Interim Chairperson Trustee Sovel opened Public Comments.

Seeing none, Interim Chairperson Trustee Sovel closed Public Comments.

ITEM 2: IT Update
IT Director Ben Sebrowski is requesting an extension to interview an IT firm that will provide a Township Hall network security assessment and penetration testing. He met with a representative from Dark Blue Technologies and received a proposal from them. He also met with representatives from two other companies and are waiting for their proposal. He will meet this Thursday with a representative from a company recommended by Trustee Sovel. He would like to interview local companies so we are not covering the cost of travel when they come to work on site. He is also looking for companies that not only scan networks for vulnerabilities but stick with us to help

ITEM 2: IT Update (continued)
with remediation and put us on a path for future protection and scanning. He will provide his findings at the Township Board of Trustees meeting on November 17, 2026.

ITEM 3: Huron Cemetery Maintenance Contract
Township Attorney Hans Rentrop said the contract includes the necessary insurance amounts and the updated fees that were approved at the September 8, 2026 Township Board meeting. The Cemetery Contract form was revised from a four-party agreement to a now two-party agreement. He spoke with attorneys for Highland and Milford Townships and they have no objection to a two-party agreement.

MOTION by Long, supported by Creech, to approve the Contract for Cemetery Maintenance, Sexton, and Bookkeeping Services for Huron Cemetery Maintenance. The contract shall commence on January 1, 2027 and shall terminate on December 31, 2029. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

ITEM 4: Approval of Multi-Year Delinquent and Single Year SAD's to be placed on the 2026 Winter Tax Roll
Treasurer Massey presented a spreadsheet for S.A.D.'s to be assessed to 2026 winter taxes.

MOTION by Massey, supported by Berkheiser, to approve the Multi-Year Delinquent and Single Year SAD's to be placed on the 2026 Winter Tax Roll.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 5: Snow Removal SAD Contracts

MOTION by Berkheiser, supported by Sovel, to approve the Snow Removal Services Agreement 2026 – 2029 between the Charter Township of Commerce and RNA Michigan Holdings, LLC, d/b/a RNA Facilities Management for Demarist & Barkley Streets, Joe Drive, Golf Lane, and Chickory Lane; the Snow Removal Services Agreement 2026 – 2029 between the Charter Township of Commerce and DEQ Property Services, LLC, d/b/a Snow Plow Group for Half Penny Court, Lyniss Drive, and Whitlow Court; and the Snow Removal Services Agreement 2026 – 2029 between the Charter Township of Commerce and A & C Landscaping LLC for Wenonah Hills/Tree Haven Subdivision includes salting of roads after plowing and Lower Mount Royal Subdivision consisting of the following roads: Bluebird, Ruppert Street, Polvadera Street, Alban Street, Ridgemont Street, Creedmore Street, Foxbury Street, Camelina Street, Vandalia Street, Island Drive, Rowena, Achilla Street, Oakestia Street, Sherbrooke, Sundew, and Rondelay. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

ITEM 6: Other Matters

Trustee Weber -

- Confirming that Captain Schneider, Oakland County Sheriff's Department will attend the Township Board of Trustees Discussion Meeting in January 2027 to discuss the Flock Safety System.
- Do we have anything in the Township that helps families in need, specifically during holidays? Jay James said the Township adopts one family. Clerk Creech said Lakes Area Assistance and Hospitality House help families in the Township. Trustee Berkheiser said there are several churches that also help families in need.

Trustee Berkheiser -

- Discussed the Township's hiring policy for failing a drug test because of marijuana use. Marijuana is legal in the State of Michigan but the Township will not hire anyone that fails a drug test. Hans Rentrop said the Township can put terms and conditions in a contract with the exception of race or religion. If a potential or current employee signs a contract or signs acknowledgement of the terms and conditions of employment then yes, it is legal and binding. Jim Dundas said the Fire Department has a policy on drug testing. Treasurer Massey said there is language in the Township handbook that addresses this issue.

Supervisor Gray –

- He is requesting salary evaluations and current spreadsheets for the November 17, 2026 Township meeting.
- I will be out of the office next week.

Clerk Creech –

- Reminder to vote next Tuesday or early voting until Sunday.

Adjournment

MOTION by Sovel, supported by Berkheiser, to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Melissa Creech

Melissa Creech, Clerk
Charter Township of Commerce