

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE  
TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING  
2009 Township Drive  
Commerce Township, MI 48390  
Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 5:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Clerk Creech called the Township Board of Trustees Special Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Larry Gray, Supervisor  
Melissa Creech, Clerk  
Molly Phillips, Treasurer  
Rick Sovel, Trustee  
Bob Berkheiser, Trustee  
Robert Long, Trustee  
George Weber, Trustee

Also Present: Hans Rentrop, Attorney  
Natalie Hiney, HR/Finance Assistant  
Karen Stamper, Deputy Treasurer  
Mark Schoder, Maintenance Director

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

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Trustee Weber would like to add an update regarding Data Centers.

**MOTION** by Sovel, supported by Berkheiser, to amend the agenda by adding Item 3: Date Center Update.

**ITEM 1: Public Comments**

Interim Chairperson Sovel opened Public Comments.

Seeing none, Interim Chairperson Sovel closed Public Comments.

**ITEM 2: Treasurer's Vacancy**

The board discussed Treasurer Phillip's retirement at the end of June and what steps should be taken to fill the vacancy with limited time. It was decided that Clerk Creech will send a letter to "registered" and "licensed" accountants from LARA's database that are also registered voters in Commerce Township. Attorney Hans Rentrop will modify the township's employment application to make it suitable for an elected position. The board would like the application to include certain requirements such as permission for the township to conduct a background check. This will be discussed at the June 9<sup>th</sup> regular board meeting.

Special Meeting

**ITEM 3: Data Centers Update**

Trustee Weber gave a brief update on the Planning Commission's discussion on Data Centers at their last meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Sovel, supported by Creech, to adjourn the meeting at 5:51 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



Melissa Creech, Clerk  
Charter Township of Commerce