MARION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Lloyd, Dan Lowe, Les Andersen, Tammy Beal, Jim Witkowski,

Sandy Donovan, and Bill Fenton

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: John Gormley, Attorney; Phil Westmoreland, Spicer

CALL TO ORDER

Bill Fenton called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. The meeting is also available to attend online.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

The board members introduced themselves.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No response.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Les Andersen motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Tammy Beal seconded. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Les Andersen motioned to approve the consent agenda. Scott Lloyd seconded. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION TO DISSOLVE CEDAR LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD

A petition to disband the Cedar Lake Improvement Board was submitted by the residents involved; they feel their needs can be better served with an SAD.

Tammy Beal motioned to adopt a resolution to dissolve the Cedar Lake Improvement Board, as presented. Sandy Donovan seconded. Roll call vote: Lowe, Lloyd, Beal, Donovan, Witkowski, Andersen, Fenton—all yes. **Resolution passed 7-0**.

ATTORNEY'S UPDATE REGARDING SHOW CAUSE HEARINGS

John Gormley said he will start the legal proceedings for these two cases. Jim Witkowski asked why the home occupation violation is included in the Richardson case and how does it help? Attorney Gormley said the violator openly admitted to running a scrapping business on the property and he does not have a permit.

Bill Fenton motioned to approve the resolution of determination on the Richardson Show Cause hearing, as presented. Les Andersen seconded. Roll call vote: Donovan—yes; Witkowski—no; Lowe—yes; Lloyd—yes; Beal—yes; Andersen—yes; Fenton—yes. **Motion carried 6-1**.

Bill Fenton motioned to approve the resolution of determination on the Gall Show Cause hearing, as presented. Les Andersen seconded. Roll call vote: Beal, Andersen, Donovan, Witkowski, Lowe, Lloyd, Fenton—all yes. **Motion carried 7-0**.

UPDATED DARAKJIAN PURCHASE AGREEMENT

No new information on this agenda item. The attorney is working on it and will present it at the next meeting. Sandy Donovan motioned to table this item. Les Andersen seconded. **Motion carried**.

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT FOLLOW-UP

Bill Fenton updated the board members on this agenda item. He said over fifty violations have been documented. The board members discussed the process for new violations and current/existing violations. Jim Witkowski suggested putting a moratorium on the zoning ordinance. Les Andersen said a lot of work has been put into the ordinance and that would be foolish.

Jim Witkowski motioned to start the process to remove the home-based business ordinance from the zoning ordinance. **Motion failed due to lack of second.**

Scott Lloyd suggested continuing with a complaint-driven approach. Dan Lowe said if it's visible, that's one thing; if it's contained within the house/structure, and doesn't create issues for other residents, then it should be fine.

The attorney suggested that the worst four or five violations on the complaint list could be addressed.

Tammy Beal said many of the home-based businesses have been in the township for 35+ years, and she wouldn't want to shut them down. The attorney said the ordinance wasn't in effect back then.

CORRESPONDENCE & UPDATES

Parking Lot: Two quotes were received for expand the handicap parking: Livingston Asphalt and Concrete for \$14,075, and Edwards Masonry for \$11,025. Dan Lowe questioned the 4" of concrete; Phil Westmoreland said the standard would be 6". Les Andersen motioned to get an updated quote from Livingston Asphalt and Concrete with 6" instead of 4", not to exceed 10%. Motion failed due to lack of second. Sandy Donovan motioned to solicit a quote from DeBottis for this project, not to exceed \$14,000. Tammy Beal seconded. Roll call vote: Andersen—no; Lowe—yes; Witkowski—yes; Beal—yes; Donovan—yes; Lloyd—yes; Fenton—yes. Motion carried 6-1.

Park & Ride Lighting: There is no lighting at the park & ride at D-19 and I-96. Board members discussed having solar lights installed; Jim Witkowski will check to see if a proposed roundabout will impact that area.

Sandy Donovan said that legislation has been introduced that would eliminate the statutory state revenue sharing; for Marion Township, that would be \$19,000 per year.

Dan Lowe and Les Andersen will continue to work with the complainant regarding the used tire violation.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Rick Haslock, 5225 W. Coon Lake Road, said he was given permission for his business many years ago by the township.

Cory Grover, 5240 Bentley Lake Road and Andy Refrew, 1640 County Farm, spoke in support of Mr. Haslock.

Catherine Dyer, 2715 High Meadows, said people move out here for the rural environment and she doesn't want the township to become an "HOA".

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Tammy L. Beal, Township Clerk

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>
Les Andersen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 pm. Tammy Beal seconded. Motion carried .
Submitted by: S. Longstreet
Submitted by. S. Longstreet

Date

William Fenton, Township Supervisor Date