

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BROWNSTOWN REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD
MEETING OF JULY 6, 2026**

The Charter Township of Brownstown regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held in the Event Center at 23345 King Road (due to lack of power at Township Hall) on Monday, July 6, 2026.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Berez at 6:01 p.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL BY CLERK BRINKER:

PRESENT: Supervisor Berez, Clerk Brinker, Treasurer Eberth, and Trustees: Allen, Chapman, Jones, and Killian. Also in attendance were Township Manager Peters; IT Director Martin; Fire Chief Raumen; Police Chief Watson; Deputy Police Chief Starzec; Parks and Recreation Director Graves; Director of Economic and Community Services Kibby; Building Official Brandau; DDA Director Trussell; Township Attorney Robinette; and DPW Director Danosky at 6:06 p.m.

MINUTE ACCEPTANCE:

Motion of Jones, supported by Chapman, to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 15, 2026, as presented with one correction to amend the title of Ordinance 141-86 to state section 15.01 instead of 151.01 and update all subsequent references in the minutes with the correct section number. All voting aye.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

Motion of Chapman, supported by Allen, to approve the agenda of July 6, 2026, as submitted. All voting aye.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

CREATION OF A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR A ROAD MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR MILL CREEK SUBDIVISION:

Motion of Chapman, supported by Jones, to open the Public Hearing to consider the Creation of a Special Assessment District for a Road Maintenance and Improvement Program for Mill Creek Subdivision at 6:04 p.m. Roll call vote: Allen, aye; Chapman, aye; Jones, aye; Killian, aye; Brinker, aye; Eberth, aye; and Berez, aye. Motion carried.

Public comment was received from the following residents:

Barry Nixon, 27383 Winchester Terrace stated his opposition to the Creation of the Special Assessment District for a Road Maintenance and Improvement Program for Mill Creek Subdivision. Nixon is concerned about the potential financial commitment of having the assessment listed on the taxes and what happens to those who are unable to pay that amount. He also expressed concern about how two of the households who originally signed the petition are now up for sale and asked how that affected the number of signatures on the petition.

Jessica Zilka, 27322 Mill Creek Dr. spoke in favor of the Special Assessment District for a Road Maintenance and Improvement Program for Mill Creek Subdivision. Zilka serves as president of the subdivision's HOA and provided background information about the steps that have been taken to explore possible fixes to the subdivision's roads. She felt this is the most viable option for a small neighborhood to get the roads repaired for a couple of reasons. First, it is unlikely ability to obtain a loan from a financial institution for this type of project. Second, if it was added to the HOA dues instead of the special assessment the estimated cost would be significantly higher to the residents..

Roger Phillips, 27563 Winchester Terrace spoke in favor of the Road Maintenance and Improvement Program for Mill Creek Subdivision. Phillips stated that he has lived in the subdivision for a long time and has seen how the road conditions have deteriorated over time. He considers the special assessment a blessing to allow the subdivision to get the much-needed repairs, even if it means he must tighten his own financial belt to contribute to the project.

Brent Ritchardson, 27533 Winchester Terrace spoke in favor of the Road Maintenance and Improvement Program for Mill Creek Subdivision. Ritchardson stated that he has lived in the subdivision a long time and would like to see this project move forward so that the roads can be improved. He stated that while no one wants to pay more taxes, he felt it was his civic duty to contribute to this project.

Craig Farrand, 21316 Mill Creek Dr. spoke in favor of the Special Assessment District for Mill Creek Subdivision. Farrand stated he has been a resident of the subdivision since the very beginning and that while patching the road was an option in the past, that is no longer the case with the road's current condition. He acknowledges that while it is a financial hit, it is also an investment in the future of the subdivision as well as a well paved road being an asset to the community.

Motion of Chapman, supported by Killian, to close the Public Hearing to consider the Creation of a Special Assessment District for a Road Maintenance and Improvement Program for Mill Creek Subdivision at 6:23 p.m. All voting aye.

PROPOSED MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND LAND CONVERSION:

Motion of Jones, supported by Eberth, to open the Public Hearing to consider a Proposed Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Land Conversion at 6:23 p.m. Roll call vote: Chapman, aye; Killian, aye; Eberth, aye; Allen, aye; Jones, aye; Brinker, aye; and Berecz, aye. Motion carried.

No public comment was received.

Motion of Allen, supported by Chapman, to close the Public Hearing to consider a Proposed Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Land Conversion at 6:24 p.m. All voting aye.

PUBLIC FORUM: Public Forum was held at 6:24 p.m. There was no public comment.

RESOLUTION 2026-22 CREATION OF A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR A ROAD MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR MILL CREEK SUBDIVISION:

Motion of Chapman, supported by Eberth, to approve and adopt Resolution 2026-22 for the Creation of a Special Assessment District for a Road Maintenance and Improvement Program for Mill Creek Subdivision in accordance with the provisions of MCL 41.721 as amended. As part of this program, it is estimated that the amount of \$1,307.83 will be annually levied against the 84 parcels which make up this subdivision. The resolution also directs the Supervisor to prepare a Special Assessment Roll for the affected parcels and that upon filing of that roll, a second public hearing shall be held to confirm the roll in accordance with Act 188 P.A. 154, as amended. Notice of the public hearing will need to be published as well as sent to residents in accordance with the public act. Roll call vote: Brinker, aye; Eberth, aye; Allen, aye; Jones, aye; Killian, aye; Chapman, aye; and Berecz, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-23 TO EXTEND THE TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE ESTABLISHMENT, CONSIDERATION, APPROVAL, PERMITTING, LOCATION, CONSTRUCTION, AND/OR INSTALLATION OF DATA CENTERS WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP FOR A PERIOD OF SIX (6) MONTHS:

Motion of Jones, supported by Brinker, to approve and adopt Resolution 2026-23 to extend the temporary moratorium on the establishment, consideration, approval, permitting, location, construction, and/or installation of data centers within the Township for a period of six (6) months. Previously the Township Board approved a temporary moratorium on Data Centers which was effective beginning March 4, 2026, and would be in place until September 4, 2026. This resolution requests an extension of this moratorium until March 1, 2027, or until the Township adopts a regulatory ordinance governing Data Centers located within the Township. This extension allows the Township Administrators and Township Planners more time to continue gathering information as to whether Data Centers require additional local regulation. Roll call vote: Killian, aye; Allen, aye; Chapman, aye; Brinker, aye; Jones, aye; Eberth, aye; and Berecz, aye. Motion carried.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 307-1 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 307 SECTION 113.001 TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL COSTS THAT MAY BE RECOVERED, PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, AND EFFECTIVE DATE:

Motion of Eberth, supported by Jones, to approve the first reading of Ordinance 307-1 an ordinance to amend Ordinance 307 Section 113.001 to include additional costs that may be recovered providing for repealer, severability, and effective date. Specifically, section 113.001 (f) will be amended to state:

“(f) Costs incurred by any specialized unit organized under the Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MI-MABAS) or other authorized mutual aid organization, including but not limited to Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Teams, Technical Rescue Teams (TRT), Trench Rescue Teams, Confined Space Rescue Teams, High-Angle/Rope Rescue Teams, Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Teams, and Water/Ice Rescue Teams.”

Roll call vote: Jones, aye; Brinker, aye; Allen, aye; Chapman, aye; Eberth, aye; Killian, aye; and Berecz, aye. Motion carried.

ADOPT TOWNSHIP FUND BALANCE AND RESERVE POLICY:

Motion of Eberth, supported by Brinker, to adopt a Township Fund Balance and Reserve Policy to establish a formal framework for the maintenance, use, and replenishment of Township Reserves. This policy will allow the Township to plan for future capital needs, infrastructure demands, economic uncertainty, and long-term liabilities by providing guidance on reserve levels and the circumstances under which reserves can be used. Additionally, this policy will establish companion reserve guidance for the following funds:

- Police Operation Fund
- Fire Protection Fund
- Water and Sanitary Sewer Funds
- Rubbish and Garbage Fund

All voting aye.

APPROVE SCHEDULING THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BROWNSTOWN TOWNSHIP BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ON AUGUST 20, 2026:

Motion of Eberth, supported by Allen, to approve the scheduling of the organizational meeting of the Brownstown Township Brownfield Redevelopment Authority on Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 12:30 p.m. or immediately following the regularly scheduled meeting of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Additionally, besides this organizational meeting the Authority will hold an annual

meeting during the second quarter of each fiscal year. Any additional meetings that the authority needs will be special meetings in accordance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act. All voting aye.

RENEWAL OF THE COOPERATIVE LIBRARY SERVICES AGREEMENT:

Motion of Killian, supported by Jones, to approve the renewal of the Cooperative Library Services Agreement effective from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2028. Upon approval of this renewal, this agreement will automatically renew every two years until it is terminated by any party with a 12-month advance notice of each two-year extension of the agreement. Additionally, this agreement appoints Clerk Maureen Brinker as the Township’s Library Board Member and Trustee David L. Chapman as an alternate with a term expiring June 30, 2028. All voting aye.

SUPERVISOR:

FIRE: REQUEST TO HIRE HOMESPUN FURNITURE TO REPLACE FLOORING AT FIRE STATION NO. 1 - \$30,423.92 (PLUS FREIGHT AND TARIFF FEES):

Motion of Eberth, supported by Brinker, to approve to hire Homespun Furniture to replace the flooring at Fire Station No. 1. This project was bid out through MITN purchasing system and four bids were received. The cost of this project is \$30,423.92 plus additional freight and tariff fees. Funds are available in the Capital Improvement Building and Grounds Improvement account number 252.336.975.100. All voting aye.

POLICE: REQUEST APPROVAL TO UPGRADE THE BROWNSTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT’S LIVESCAN FINGERPRINT SCANNER - \$10,035.00:

Motion of Allen, supported by Chapman, to approve to upgrade the Brownstown Police Departments LiveScan Fingerprint Scanner through the department’s current vendor ID Networks. Due to compatibility requirements, continuity of operations, and cost effectiveness it is being requested to waive the bid process for this project. The total amount for this project is \$10,035.00, and the funds are available in the Capital Computer Equipment Fund account number 251.301.980.100. All voting aye.

CLERK:

BUDGET AMENDMENT 2026-09 TO ACCURATELY REFLECT DEBT SERVICE PAYMENT TO AXON ENTERPRISE FOR INSTALLMENT PURCHASE AGREEMENT - \$157,881.60:

Motion of Eberth, supported by Chapman, to approve Budget Amendment 2026-09 to accurately reflect debt service payment to Axon Enterprise for an installment purchase agreement. This project was originally budgeted for in the Police Improvement Funds (251) in error and should have been budgeted for in Debt Service Funds (395) instead. The requested amendment is outlined below:

FUND/DEPT. ACCOUNT NO.	ACCOUNT NAME	CURRENT BUDGET	AMENDMENT	AMENDED BUDGET
<u>Debt Service Fund:</u>				
<u>Revenues:</u>				
395.931.699.251	Transfer In - Police Improvement	17,940.00	157,881.60	175,821.60
<u>Expenses:</u>				
395.906.991.251	Police - Installment Purchase	17,940.00	157,881.60	175,821.60

Roll call vote: Eberth, aye; Killian, aye; Chapman, aye; Brinker, aye; Jones, aye; Allen, aye; and Berecz, aye. Motion carried.

BOARD INFORMATION:

Motion of Killian, supported by Jones, to accept the Clerk's report which consists of two sets of disbursements: one for the meeting of July 6, 2026, in the amount of \$1,875,903.84 and one from July 6, 2026, for the payment of utilities due prior to the Board Meeting of July 20, 2026, which were received after the first set of disbursements was already ran, in the amount of \$21,156.59. All voting aye.

TREASURER:**DISBURSEMENTS FOR JULY 6, 2026: \$2,604,864.80**

Motion of Jones, supported by Killian, to approve disbursements for July 6, 2026, as follows: Disbursements in the amount of \$1,897,060.43; Retirees Insurance in the amount of \$54,906.72; and Payroll in the amount of \$652,897.65; bringing the total amount to \$2,604,864.80. Roll call vote: Allen, aye; Killian, aye; Jones, aye; Eberth, aye; Chapman, aye; Brinker, aye; and Berecz, aye. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY SERVICES:**BOARD INFORMATION:**

Motion of Allen, supported by Chapman, to accept the Community Services report, which consists of a brief Building Department Update; Downtown Development Authority meeting minutes from May 21, 2026, and Planning Project Statuses. All voting aye.

RECREATION: No report submitted.

PUBLIC WORKS: No report submitted.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER UPDATE:

Township Manager Peters provided a brief update on several ongoing projects that may be of interest to Brownstown residents:

- With approval of the Creation of the Special Assessment District for Road Improvements in Mill Creek, the next step will be finalizing the numbers for the total cost of the project, as what was approved tonight was an initial cost estimate.
- Township Manager Peters discussed the recent storms and widespread damage throughout the Township and surrounding communities.
 - DPW Staff was working 24/7 since the storm to ensure the lift stations and storm sewer pumps kept running and clearing roads.
 - Township Manager Peters also thanked the police and fire departments for all their work in the community during the aftermath of the storms.
 - Regarding the power outages, the Township was constantly reaching out to DTE for updates as the outages lasted longer than anyone anticipated. In the future the Township will be requesting a sit down with DTE to see what can be done to address the issues that were encountered.
 - With no power at Township Hall, staff have been working remotely as much as possible to try to return calls. Residents were urged to reach out to the Township Hall during business hours or after hours to reach out to the police department's non-emergency number at 734-675-1300.
 - Once power is restored to Township Hall, additional announcements about clean-up assistance will be made on our web site.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion of Chapman, supported by Jones, to adjourn the regular Township board meeting at 6:42 p.m.
All voting aye.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maureen Brinker". The script is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Maureen Brinker, Clerk
Charter Township of Brownstown
MB/slm