

**TALLMADGE CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday April 21, 2026, At 6:00pm  
O-1451 Leonard NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49534

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – At 6:00pm, Mark Bennett called the meeting to order, and Joel Terpstra opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: Supervisor Mark Bennett, Trustee John Bronkema, Trustee Michael Eppink, Clerk Karina Rollenhagen, Treasurer Valdyne Schwallier and Trustee Joel Terpstra. Members Absent: Trustee Kent Bollinger. Also present: 9 members of the community.
  
- II. **CONSENT AGENDA**  
Joel Terpstra moved, Kent Bollinger approved the minutes of the March 10, 2026, regular meeting, and to approve the bills to be paid in April 2026, as presented, and to accept as information the treasurer’s report, revenue and expenditures report, legal update and correspondence if any. Motion CARRIED.
  
- II. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**
  - a. Mike Zemaitis - commented on the potential rezone of 10116 Linden Drive.
  - b. Jay VanBorst – commented that he posted the agenda for the board meeting on Facebook because Tallmadge Charter Township doesn’t have a Facebook page.
  - c. Cindy Duimstra – commented that she is having water issues with her driveway because of the new ditch dug to the west of her property.
  
- IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – none.
  
- V. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. **FIRST READING-MAP AMENDMENT REZONE**- Pursuant to Chapter 22 – Ordinance Amendment of the Tallmadge Charter Township Zoning Ordinance, attached is a requested zoning map amendment (rezoning) to the Zoning Ordinance Map from Carol Vriesema on behalf of the Jessie Zemaitis Trust to rezone approximately 10.9 acres from the Rural Preserve (RP) Zoning District to the R-1 Single-Family Residential Zoning District (R-1). The property is located at 10116 Linden Drive, parcel number 70-10-33-100-007, and currently contains a single-family dwelling and several accessory buildings.
    - a.) Joel Terpstra stated that the Planning Commission recommends the request because it meets the Three C’s - Consistency, Compatibility, and Capability.

- B. SOCIAL MEDIA INFORMATION PLATFORM-** Discussion on the possible implementation of a social media account that would allow the township another resource to provide information to our citizens. The board agreed to gather more information on this topic to discuss at a future meeting.
- C. RENEWAL OF METRO ACT PERMIT-** Discussion regarding the request from Uniti Co to renew telecommunications permit for right-of-way until August 13, 2028. **Joel Terpstra moved, Michael Eppink supported to renew the Metro Act Permit as presented. Motion CARRIED.**

## **VI SUPERVISOR AND COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

### **+ Supervisor – Mark Bennett:**

1. MDOT is working to repair a potential sink hole developing by Aman Park on Lake Michigan Drive. They will put a new pipe under Lake Michigan Drive. This project costs over \$1,000,000 and the State of Michigan is paying for it. This project will be under construction for a while.
2. Trash Day – Saturday from 7am-11am. We are including electronic disposal.
3. Tallmadge Meadows – approximately half of the park has no water. The owner is working with Ottawa County to mitigate a plan to fix the water system which includes all new plumbing in the park. There is a court order that lays out the time frame they are required to follow to update the water system, and in the meantime, they must also provide bottled water and facilities for showers and laundry for the residents.

### **+ Clerk – Karina Rollenhagen:**

1. An election will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, for Coopersville Area Public Schools. This is only for township residents who reside in the Coopersville Public School district. Voting will be at the Township Hall.
2. We will have a State Primary on August 4, 2026, for all precincts. The list of candidates and offices to be nominated may be found on the Ottawa County website at [miottawa.org](http://miottawa.org).
3. We are currently working on our schedule for Election Inspectors who will work during Early Voting from July 25 – August 2. Early Voting will be at the Township Hall for Tallmadge residents during the hours of 8am – 4pm.
4. If you are interested in working as an Election Inspector, please contact the Clerk's office – this is a paid position.
5. During March, I attended Year 2 of the Clerk's Institute presented by the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks. I have one more year

of Institute and then I will qualify for the MiPMC Certification.  
(Michigan Professional Municipal Clerk)

6. I am working with the Treasurer on finalizing Year End financial statements for FYE March 31, 2026.
7. Township Hall Rentals are busy! Please check our website, [www.tallmadge.com](http://www.tallmadge.com), to view our calendar for availability if you would like to rent the hall.

**+ Treasurer – Valdyne Schwallier:**

1. Balanced with Ottawa County for 2025 taxes.
2. Working on tax rolls for 2026 and the summer tax bills will go out on July1, 2026.

**+ Planning Commission – Joel Terpstra:**

1. They approved the proposed rezone for the Jessie Zemaitis Trust.
2. An applicant came back from the February meeting with a material change on a commercial building that they approved.
3. They will look at the Master Plan. Fresh Coast Planning will share a power point summarizing comments from the Master Plan Open House last fall.

**+ Zoning Board of Appeals – John Bronkema:** They had an individual seeking a variance between two R-1 properties.

**+ Wright Tallmadge Fire Board – Michael Eppink:** They have 10 new firefighters they recently did training with on how to use all the equipment. It was fun to give a hand and share his 40 plus years of experience with the new firefighters.

**+Supervisor - Mark Bennett:**

1. We received a newly submitted Tallmadge Pointe plan. The developer removed 8 units from the original plan. Zoning, the Fire Department, and the township engineer will have to write off on it before it can be presented to the Board. The Township will publicly post when it will be presented to the Board, and the neighboring residents will be notified before we meet on this item.
2. Park – The new bathroom needs some last-minute plumbing, exterior paint and landscaping done before it can open.

**VII. Adjournment: Joel Terpstra moved, Valdyne Schwallier supported to adjourn the meeting.** Meeting adjourned at 7:02pm.