

**TALLMADGE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday June 9, 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 Kent Bollinger opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: Supervisor Mark Bennett, Trustee Kent Bollinger, Trustee John Bronkema, Trustee Michael Eppink, Clerk Karina Rollenhagen, and Treasurer Valdyne Schwallier. Members absent: Trustee Joel Terpstra. Also present: approximately 10 members of the community.

- II. **CONSENT AGENDA**
Valdyne Schwallier moved, John Bronkema approved the minutes of the May 7, 2026 and the May 12, 2026, regular meetings, and to approve the bills to be paid in June 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. Patrick Kapenga spoke about leadership roles.
 - b. James VanBorst is interested in seeing progress on the Facebook page for Tallmadge Township.
 - c. Brian Supeda from Comcast shared that he wanted to put a face with the name on the Comcast Franchise renewal.

- IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – none.

- V. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **FIRST READING-ZONING MAP AMENDMENT-** Pursuant to Chapter 22 – Ordinance Amendment of the Tallmadge Charter Township Zoning Ordinance, a requested zoning map amendment (rezoning) to the Zoning Ordinance from Gary Johnson to rezone approximately ten acres of his existing property located at 4080 Johnson Street, parcel number 70-10-07-200-026, from the Agricultural Zoning District (AG) to the Rural Preserve Zoning District (RP). The property to be rezoned currently has a house and agricultural building on it. The board had a quick discussion on the location of the property and the current zoning in the neighborhood.

 - B. **IRS MILEAGE RATE CHANGE-** Discussion and action to move the mileage reimbursement rate to 72.5 cents per mile to align with the IRS guidelines.

Karina Rollenhagen moved, Valdyne Schwallier approved to make the Tallmadge Charter Township mileage reimbursement rate commiserate with the current IRS rate as it changes. Motion CARRIED.

- C. PRESENTATION OF STORAGE BUILDING PLANS-** Discussion and action regarding the plans submitted by Omega Architects. Joe Grochowalski presented reviewed plans for the storage buildings and reviewed changes made to decrease the original cost. **Valdyne Schwallier moved, John Bronkema approved supporting the storage building plans as presented and to move forward to the Planning Commission for review. Motion CARRIED.**
- D. AUDITORS CONTRACT-** Discussion was held regarding the need for a new auditor and the recommended firms that we received proposals from. **Kent Bollinger moved, John Bronkema approved to contract with Vredeveld Haefner, LLC for a term of five years. Motion CARRIED.**

VI SUPERVISOR AND COMMITTEE COMMENTS

+ Supervisor – Mark Bennett:

1. Tallmadge Meadows – Ottawa County has taken lead with the legal battle regarding the water supply at Tallmadge Meadows. The court order has not been followed by the property owner. The owner has not provided running water, just bottled water. The judge moved to move forward with a receivership and use of ARPA funds to fix the water lines. The property owner has declared bankruptcy on three previous mobile home parks in the past and may likely do so again.
2. Land Gift – We are working with the donor of a gift of 13.5 acres of land to be used as a nature preserve. The Title search is ongoing. Feenstra donated the survey. Then we will need to sign the contract with the donor. The purpose of the gift is to preserve the property naturally for recreational use by Tallmadge residents.
3. New HVAC in Fire Department training room – we need to replace the unit and will spend approximately \$15,000 from the building maintenance fund.
4. Lake Michigan Drive is currently down to one lane eastbound near 24th Avenue. There was a sink hole and MDOT is waiting for the company contracted to bore a hole under the roadway to complete the repair. This is a \$2 million dollar project covered by MDOT.
5. Pickleball Courts – we are aware of the need to repair the pickleball courts. This summer we will be making some cosmetic repairs as we can. We plan to make significant improvements next year.

+ Clerk – Karina Rollenhagen:

1. We will have a State Primary on August 4, 2026, and voters will vote at their precinct. We will host Early Voting for this election from

Saturday, July 25 – Sunday, August 2, 2026, at the township hall for all Tallmadge Township residents. Hours will be 8am – 4pm each day. Absentee Voter Ballots will be mailed on June 26, 2026. If you need to have your ballot mailed to a secondary address, let me know because election mail cannot be forwarded.

- + **Treasurer – Valdyne Schwallier** – Property Tax Bills will be mailed the first of July. The due date will be 9/14/26.
- + **Planning Commission** – no update.
- + **Zoning Board of Appeals** – no update.
- + **Wright Tallmadge Fire Board** – no update.

VII. Adjournment: Kent Bollinger moved, Valdyne Schwallier supported to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karina Rollenhagen
Tallmadge Charter Township Clerk

Mark Bennett
Tallmadge Charter Township Supervisor