

**Erie Township Board
Special Meeting
Erie, Michigan**

July 29, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

The special meeting of the Erie Township Board was held Monday, July 29, 2024 at the Erie Township Hall, 2065 Erie Rd. Erie, Michigan. Township Supervisor Michael Grodi called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. The roll was called, and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Michael Grodi, Supervisor – Present
Cindy Wisbon, Treasurer- Present
Kimberly Cousino, Clerk- Present
Steve Mishka, Trustee – Present
Paul Perry, Trustee – Present

Also present was Township Attorney Phil Goldsmith and Building & Zoning Official Michael Demski.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1) Discuss Initiation of Legislation Petition Received:

Phil Goldsmith explained to the board that attorney Anderson Grandstaff, representing Erie Township YES 2024, a ballot question committee formed for the purpose of enacting the initiated ordinance repeal of marihuana prohibition, filed petitions with township clerk, Kim Cousino, on July 23, 2024, for the question to appear on the November 5, 2024 ballot. If approved by the majority of the electors of Erie Township, the ordinance would repeal Erie Township’s prohibition on marihuana and permit the operation of marihuana establishments in a manner consistent with the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, MCL 333.27951. Clerk Cousino confirmed the petitioner has collected sufficient number of valid signatures, but the petitioner failed to provide ballot language. Discussion was held.

Paul Perry moved supported by Steve Mishka to reject the initiation of legislation petition from attorney Anderson Grandstaff and his client, Erie Township YES 2024, on the fact that they did not submit appropriate ballot language, and to direct Erie Township legal counsel, Phil Goldsmith, to contact petitioners legal counsel to inform them of the

board's action. Roll called; M. Grodi – yes, P. Perry – yes, C. Wisbon- yes, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes. Motion carried.

Paul Perry moved supported by Steve Mishka to direct the Erie Township Planning Commission to initiate discussion on creating an ordinance allowing the operation of recreational marijuana establishments in Erie Township, if the ballot question, Erie Township YES 2024, were to pass by the majority of the electors of Erie Township. Motion carried.

2) Electric Vehicle Charging Station:

Supervisor Grodi stated he has received verbal commitment of \$15,000 each from Jeff and Joanie Benore and Republic Services to fund an electric vehicle charging station at the Erie Township Hall. Supervisor Grodi stated he has also been in contact with a representative from Temperance Solar, they are willing to contribute but have not committed to an amount. Discussion was held.

Paul Perry moves supported by Cindy Wisbon to initiate proper contracts for the electric vehicle charging station, provided funding commitments are received, the township will contribute \$2,500 contingency. Roll called; M. Grodi – yes, P. Perry – yes, C. Wisbon- yes, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENT:

Supervisor Grodi informed the board that he authorized Tim Evans to complete the appraisal of the township property on Telegraph Rd., in the amount of \$900; the Delta Institute revised the contract to complete a water and sewer expansion survey in Ottawa Shores; individuals who have property parked/stored at Morin Point FD have been advised to remove their belongings by September 1st, this will also be an agenda item for the board on August 13; Erie Rd. & Dixie Hwy. and Erie Rd. & Summit St. intersections continue to be sites of traffic accidents he will contact Dave Leach at MCRC to discuss intersection safety enhancements.

ADJOURNMENT:

Paul Perry moved, supported by Cindy Wisbon to adjourn at 10:01 a.m. Meeting adjourned.

Kimberly Cousino, Clerk