

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO  
Regular Board Meeting  
January 13, 2026  
5:30 PM

The Oshtemo Township Board Meeting was held in person at the Township Hall. Residents were able to give public comment during the meeting. Supervisor Bell called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 PM.

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor Cheri Bell  
Clerk Dusty Farmer  
Treasurer Clare Buszka  
Trustee Neil Sikora  
Trustee Michael Chapman  
Trustee Zak Ford

**ABSENT:**

Trustee Kristin Cole- present online, Zoom failure

Also present were Township Attorney James Porter, Public Works Director Anna Horner, Planning Director Jodi Stefforia, Fire Chief Greg McComb, Deputy Fire Chief Eric Burghardt, and approximately 17 interested people.

**Approval of the Agenda**

Motion by Farmer, second by Sikora to approve the agenda. Motion carried 6-0, with one absent.

**Public Officials and Community Partner Updates**

Road Commissioner Larry Stehouwer was available for questions and comments.

**Work Session: Fire Department Strategic Planning Update**

Chief McComb and Deputy Chief Burghardt presented the Fire Department quarterly update to the Board.

**Work Session: Battery Energy Storage System Discussion**

The Board discussed the options for addressing Battery Energy Storage Systems in the community, and the direction to give the Planning Commission. Board consensus was to direct the Planning Commission to create a Workable Incompatible Ordinance.

**Public Comment**

Supervisor Bell opened public comment.

Supervisor Bell asked if anyone present wished to remove an item from the consent agenda.

**Consent Agenda**

- a. December 23, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- b. Receipts and Disbursements
- c. 2026 Cemetery Fees

- d. 2025 Maintenance Dept Request Recap
- e. Annual Reports
  - a. Planning
  - b. Downtown Development Authority
  - c. South Drake Road Corridor Improvement Authority

Motion by Sikora, second by Ford to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 6-0, with one absent.

**Consideration: Board and Committee Appointments**

Motion by Ford, second by Sikora to approve the Board and Committee appointments. Motion carried 6-0, with one absent.

**Consideration: Budget Amendments**

Maintenance Director Greg Fountain was available for questions.

Supervisor Bell opened public comment.

Motion by Farmer, second by Ford to approve a budget amendment for \$22,000 for HVAC replacement at Grange Hall and a budget amendment for \$5597 to complete the generator installation at Drake Farmstead. Motion carried 6-0, with one absent.

Public Works Director Anna Horner presented to the Board and was available for questions.

Supervisor Bell opened public comment.

Motion by Sikora, second by Ford to approve the budget amendment for \$85000 for the Seeco Dr. property acquisition. Motion carried 6-0, with one absent.

**Consideration: Job Descriptions**

Human Resources Director Sara Feister presented to the Board and was available for questions.

Supervisor Bell opened public comment.

Motion by Ford, second by Sikora to approve the job descriptions as presented. Motion carried 6-0, with one absent.

**Discussion: Text Amendments to Parks Regulation Ordinance**

Board consensus was to move this forward and bring back for first reading at a future Board meeting.

**Resolution: Closed Session**

Motion by Ford, second by Sikora to adopt a resolution to enter closed session at 8:21 PM to discuss purchase of real estate. Roll call. Resolution adopted 6-0, with Cole absent.

Motion by Ford, second by Sikora to exit closed session at 8:38 PM. Motion carried 6-0, with one absent.

Motion by Ford, second by Sikora to proceed as discussed in closed session. Motion carried 5-1, with one absent.

**Public Comment**

Supervisor Bell opened public comment.

Supervisor Bell adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:05 PM.

Prepared by   Dusty Farmer  
                  Township Clerk

Attested

Cheri Bell  
Township Supervisor