THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Regular Board Meeting
June 23, 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- joined online in Oshtemo
Treasurer Clare Buszka
Trustee Neil Sikora
Trustee Kristin Cole
Trustee Michael Chapman

ABSENT:
Trustee Zak Ford

Also present were Township Attorney James Porter, Public Works Director Anna Horner, and approximately 40 interested people.

Approval of the Agenda

Supervisor Bell requested that item 15 be moved to immediately following the consent agenda, and add a Metro presentation from Sean McBride.

Motion by Cole, second by Chapman to approve the agenda as discussed. Motion carried 6-0, with one absent.

Public Officials and Community Partner Updates

Kalamazoo County Road Commissioner Larry Stehouwer was present for questions.

Presentation: 2026-2029 Strategic Plan

Peter Dams presented the strategic plan to the Board.

Presentation: Public Works Construction Update

Public Works Director Anna Horner and Project Manager Zach Pearson walked the Board through the updates. USDA Phase 2 is the largest project, and about 3000 feet of sewer has been installed so far. 9th Street sidewalks are going well and within budget. There will also be non-motorized segment replacement and repair on West Main St and H Ave. There will also be infill for gaps from the Asset Management Plan along West Main and 9th St. One speed table has been installed on Green Meadow, and two more speed humps are scheduled for installation. The PAR projects will be completed later this season. Resurfacing is underway for 9th St from KL Ave to West Main and is expected to be complete August 1. West Michigan Ave from Venture to Drake will also be resurfaced later this year. There will be two Safe Streets 4 All projects in 2027 on Almena and Stadium.

Discussion: PA 233 and Renewable Energy

This is an ongoing agenda item.

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. June 9, 2026 Meeting Minutes
b. Second Reading: Ordinance 692
c. Election Commission Appointment

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

Consideration: 2026-2029 Strategic Plan

Supervisor Bell opened public comment.

Motion by Sikora, second Cole to adopt the 2026-2029 Strategic Plan. Motion carried 6-0, with one absent.

Presentation: Metro Transit

Metro Executive Director Sean McBride and KCTA/CCTA Board Chair Curt Artema were present for discussion.

Consideration: Culture and Connection Committee Policy Update

Paralegal Manager Sierra Lucas presented to the Board. The new Culture and Connection policy would repeal the previous Sunshine Fund Committee. This new committee, which is employee funded, would coordinate employee engagement initiatives.

Motion by Cole, second by Sikora to approve the Culture and Connection Committee Policy, repealing the Sunshine Fund Committee Policy dated July 23, 2024. Motion carried 6-0, with one absent.

Consideration: AI Usage Policy

Sierra Lucas presented to the Board about the importance of an AI Usage Policy.

Supervisor Bell opened public comment.

Motion by Chapman, second by Cole to adopt the AI Usage Policy. Motion carried 6-0, with one absent.

Presentation: Fire Department Monthly Report

Fire Chief Greg McComb presented the monthly report to the Board.

Consideration: Public Sanitary Sewer Hardship Financing or Deferment Policy Amendments

Project Manager Zach Pearson presented to the Board.

Supervisor Bell opened public comment.

Motion by Chapman, second by Sikora to adopt the policy and accept for first reading amendments to sections 233.004 and 233.995 of the Sewer Hardship Financing or Deferment Policy, and set for second reading on July 14. Motion carried 6-0, with one absent.

Public Comment

Supervisor Bell opened public comment.

Supervisor Bell adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:40 PM.

Prepared by	Dusty Farmer Township Clerk	Attested	Cheri Bell Township Supervisor