THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Budget Board Meeting
August 25, 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. Trustee Zak Ford called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 PM.

PRESENT:
Treasurer Clare Buszka
Trustee Neil Sikora
Trustee Michael Chapman
Trustee Zak Ford
Trustee Kristin Cole

ABSENT:
Supervisor Cheri Bell
Clerk Dusty Farmer

Also present were Public Works Director Anna Horner, Township Attorney James Porter, and approximately 20 interested people.

Appoint Meeting Chair

Motion by Buszka, second by Sikora to appoint Zak Ford as the meeting chair. Motion carried 5-0, with two absent.

Approval of the Agenda

Although not a change to this agenda, Trustee Sikora said that he expects the issue of burning on 6th St to be an agenda item at the next meeting.

Motion by Sikora, second by Cole to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0, with two absent.

Public Officials and Community Partner Updates

Presentation: Winter Shelter Funding Request

Willa DiTaranto, Deputy Director of the Kalamazoo County Housing Department, presented the request to the Board. She provided an update to the 4-year performance and outcomes of the county housing millage, and a request for additional funding for winter shelter for those experiencing homelessness.

Presentation: Oshtemo Fire Department Monthly Report

Chief Greg McComb presented to the Board.

Public Comment

Trustee Ford opened public comment.

Trustee Ford asked if anyone wished to remove anything from the consent agenda.

Consent Agenda

a. August 11, 2026 Meeting Minutes
b. Appointment to Friends of the Parks Committee
c. Second Reading: Ordinance No. 208 – Section 232.000

Motion by Buszka, second by Sikora to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0, with two absent.

Discussion: Oshtemo Energy Ordinance

Attorney Porter shared with the Board that the Planning Commission is working through the ordinance line by line, and they are taking public comment as they work through the review process. Public comment is helping shape the new energy ordinance. He cautioned the Board against interfering in this process as the Planning Commission completes their statutory work. When they complete their first draft it will elevate to Board consideration. There is currently concern that the moratorium is under scrutiny in Michigan, and Attorney Porter will follow the case closely.

As the Board liaison to the Planning Commission, Trustee Chapman shared that he believes the Planning Commission review is productive and will be a long process. Public comment is important and welcome during this process.

Consideration: Budget Amendments

Chief Greg McComb introduced the request to reallocate $6,000 in leftover funds from the window install at station 5-1 to contract a ground pad and enclosure for a new dumpster at station 5-2. He also introduced the request to reallocate $4500 in funds for training needs. Finally, he introduced a request to reallocate $20,000 in funds from Operations to Fuel, Oil, and Grease to make up for the increase in fuel costs that have more than doubled this budget year.

Motion by Chapman, second by Buszka to approve the amendments as presented. Motion carried 5-0, with two absent.

Consideration: Winter Shelter Funding Request

The Board discussed the request for $25,000. Consensus was to take no action at this time.

Consideration: Liquor License- Nosh Restaurant & Bar

Trustee Ford opened public comment.

Motion by Cole, second by Chapman to approve the liquor license request for Nosh Restaurant & Bar LLC at 7000 Stadium Dr. Motion carried 5-0, with two absent.

Resolution: Consumers Energy Streetlight Contract

Project Manager Zach Pearson presented the reconciliation to the number of street lights that requires a change to the current contract. This change is still projected to be within the current budget. There will be more changes to the contract in the coming months.

Motion by Sikora, second by Buszka to adopt a resolution authorizing Consumers Energy to make changes to the standard lighting contract for Oshtemo Township. Roll call. Resolution adopted 5-0, with Bell and Farmer absent.

Public Comment

Trustee Ford opened public comment.

Trustee Ford adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:52 PM.

Prepared by	Dusty Farmer Township Clerk	Attested	Cheri Bell Township Supervisor