

# Oakland Township Sentinel

## Newsletter

Sunday, March 20, 2022

Bob Yager – Editor

[https://oaklandtownshipsentinel.org/  
yagerra@comcast.net](https://oaklandtownshipsentinel.org/yagerra@comcast.net)

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## Board of Trustees (BOT)

### March 22, 2022 Special Meeting Agenda – 6 PM

Note that you have an opportunity to make public comments before the Board votes to go into closed session. We do not get to see any of the background material to be considered by the Board.

### Charter Township of Oakland

4393 Collins Road, Rochester, Michigan 48306-1670

Telephone: (248) 651-4440

Fax: (248) 651-1510

www.oaklandtownship.org



### BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOTICE AND AGENDA

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

#### 6:00 PM - OAKLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL CLOSED SESSION

- I. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Roll Call**
- II. **Announcements and Proclamations**
- III. **Public Comment for items not on the Agenda**
- IV. **PENDING BUSINESS**
  - 1. Closed session: Pursuant to MCL 15.268(c), closed session to discuss negotiations regarding a Collective Bargaining Agreement.
  - 2. Pursuant to MCL 15.268(h), closed session to discuss a confidential legal opinion regarding engineering proposal.
  - 3. Pursuant to MCL 15.268(h), closed session to discuss a confidential legal opinion regarding utility extension.
  - 4. Pursuant to MCL 15.268(h), closed session to discuss a confidential legal opinion regarding budget amendment.
- V. **Public Comment for items not on the Agenda**
- VI. **Adjournment**

### March 22, 2022 Regular Meeting Agenda – 7 PM

- VII. **PENDING BUSINESS**
  - 1. Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment-Section 16-109 Administration, Zoning Compliance and Enforcement 40
  - 2. Historic District Commission (HDC) Logging Wheel Restoration Work 46
  - 3. 2022 Budget Approval 54
  - 4. 2021/2022 Budget Amendments 85
  - 5. 2022 Meeting Schedule 88

### Township Manager's Report

Township Manager Adam Kline further explains the above five agenda items in his report on page 89; which is copied below. See also supporting materials in the board packet (link below) at page number listed above <https://ecode360.com/documents/OA3183/public/651242641.pdf>

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## Memo



**To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Adam Kline, Township Manager  
**Date:** March 18, 2022  
**Re:** Manager's Report

The following items are scheduled for the March 22 meeting agenda:

**Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment- Section 16-109 Administration, Zoning Compliance and Enforcement:** Planning Coordinator Don Mende will be at the meeting to present this item.

**Historic District Commission (HDC) Logging Wheel Restoration Work:** HDC Planner Barb Barber will be at the meeting to present this item.

**2022 Budget Approval:** The board has held several budget workshops and a noticed public hearing. The 2022 budget and resolution are presented for approval.

**2021/2022 Budget Amendments:** The Finance and Accounting Administrator recommends these amendments before the township closes out the current fiscal year.

**2022 Meeting Schedule:** It is appropriate for the board to approve a meeting schedule and adjust as preferred by the BOT.

### **Other Township Business:**

**Assessing:** The Board of Review met on March 8, 10, 14, 16 and 17. Appointments were light. Many thanks to the Board of Review members and our Oakland County Assessor for their time.

**Planning Commission:** No cases were submitted by the publishing deadline and, as a result, the April 5, 2022 Planning Commission meeting will not be held.

**Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA):** The ZBA met on March 15, 2022. They elected the following officers:

John Boville - Chairperson

Kathy Thomas - Vice-Chairperson

Bill Jandeska - Secretary

**Commission Appointments:** The township has several appointments open for boards and commissions this year. The township has received two applications as of today. These items will be on future BOT agendas. There is also one candidate for the Parks and Recreation Commission election to be held in August 2022.

**Lawn Service:** The township is soliciting bids and considering options for lawn service for the 2022 summer season. This will be on the next BOT agenda for approval.

**Water Resources Commission (WRC):** Quarterly financial reports are attached.

**Community Outlook Breakfast:** The Supervisor participated in the Rochester Community Outlook Breakfast. The video can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4x-p11DgHoM>

**Rochester Area Youth Assistance (RAYA):** RAYA is hosting a pancake breakfast at the Rochester Fire Station on Sunday, April 10, 2022.

**Oakland County West Nile Program:** The Assistant Manager will attend this annual meeting next week which allows the township to provide mosquito repellent to township residents at no cost.

**Upcoming Items:**

Next Regular BOT Meeting: April 12

No Haz: April 30, Oakland County Service Center Complex

Clean Scene: May 7

## **March 8, 2022 Meeting Synopsis:**

You can see the synopsis on page 4 of the March 16-22 issue of *“The Record”*. It is essentially the minutes (link below) with voting records removed.

## **March 8, 2022 Meetings Draft Minutes**

### **Special Meeting (Closed Session)**

<https://ecode360.com/documents/OA3183/public/649519353.pdf>

### **Regular Meeting**

<https://ecode360.com/documents/OA3183/public/650520273.pdf>

# **Fire Department**

## **Severe Weather Awareness Week - March 20-26**

- Sign up for Oak-alert
- Think about what to do in case of a tornado
- Do your kids know what to do at school, etc.?
- More info at the link below

[Oakland County, Michigan | News \(oakgov.com\)](https://www.oakgov.com/news)

On Palm Sunday 1965 a tornadoes took out many homes in the Midwest. One hit my hometown of Strongsville, Ohio, took out 17 homes, damaged 50, and killed a baby. Then it went on to severely damage St. Joseph's Catholic School. After that, I've had a healthy respect for these killer storms. More info on 1965 tornado outbreak:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1965\\_Palm\\_Sunday\\_tornado\\_outbreak](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1965_Palm_Sunday_tornado_outbreak)

## Historic District Commission (HDC)

### Recent Meeting

The last meeting was March 16, 2022. This link takes you to agenda, meeting packet and minutes from February 16, 2022 meeting. We will post 3/16/22 minutes when they are available.

<https://ecode360.com/documents/OA3183/public/649889124.pdf>

### Activities Email from Barbara Barber

*“We are offering a variety of spring programs at Cranberry Lake Farm -flyers of each program attached!”*

(Editor’s note: link here):

<https://oaklandsentinel.files.wordpress.com/2022/03/spring-programs-2022-clf.pdf>

- *Storytime reading program and planting spring flower activity on March 31 at 1 to 2pm*
- *Fruit Tree workshop April 2 from 10am to noon (prepping the soil, planting dwarf trees, pruning and maintenance)*
- *Tight/ Tone Tend; six weeks to strengthen, Tuesdays April 19-May 24 9:30-10:30am in the barn*
- *Beekeeping; from bees to honey workshops starting in May for four months*

*Please sign up for any of interest! We also have many other programs and activities of interest coming summer and fall – outdoor painting workshops, 5k run, music in the garden, The Ruffwater Stringband square dances, croquet, and of course Down on the Farm!”*

### Barbara Barber, Historic Preservation Planner

Charter Township of Oakland

Historic District Commission

Mail: 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, MI 48306

Office Location: 4480 Orion Road, second floor Paint Creek Cider Mill

Cranberry Lake Farm: 388 West Predmore, Oakland 48363

Office 248-608-6807

[bbarber@oaklandtownship.org](mailto:bbarber@oaklandtownship.org)

## **Board Accepting Applications for HDC Appointment**

Apply to be appointed. Two HDC members' terms expire 5/22. See application at this link:

[https://cms4files1.revize.com/oakland/docs/BOARDS\\_AND\\_COMMISSION\\_APPLICATION.pdf](https://cms4files1.revize.com/oakland/docs/BOARDS_AND_COMMISSION_APPLICATION.pdf) According to the township website direct any questions to [mail@oaklandtownship.org](mailto:mail@oaklandtownship.org)

## **Parks and Recreation Commission**

### **March 3, 2022 Meeting Draft Minutes:**

<https://ecode360.com/documents/OA3183/public/649497153.pdf>

### **March 9, 2022 Meeting Summary:**

This 2-1/2 hour meeting had numerous agenda items. The packet for this meeting was in two parts for a total of 739 pages. I will report after I read the draft minutes and then watch the meeting video.

### **Run for Parks and Recreation in August Primary, Filing Deadline April 19 or run as an Independent (little chance of success) filing deadline July 21.**

There is one opening due to the resignation of Maryann Whitman, elected in 2020 and replaced until December 2022 by Board appointment of Judy Workings.

Historically only Republican party candidates will win Oakland Township elected office in the November election, so the August primary is where all is decided; by as little as 10% of voters. (20% vote, 10-20% determines winner)

Partisan candidates must file their nominating petitions and affidavit of identity not later than 4:00 p.m., April 19, 2022. (168.349). Candidates without political party affiliation must file qualifying petitions and affidavit of identity not later than 4:00 p.m., July 21, 2022. (168.590c).

See more details on the township website here:

<https://cms4files1.revize.com/oakland/docs/UPDATED%20Candidate%20Info%20Parks%20and%20Rec%20Comm.%20PARTIAL%20TERM%202022.pdf>

This office pays \$70 per meeting with about 1.3 meetings per month.

## Planning Commission (PC)

### Board Accepting Applications for PC Appointment

Apply to be appointed. Two PC members' terms expire 9/1/22. See application at this link:

[https://cms4files1.revize.com/oakland/docs/BOARDS\\_AND\\_COMMISSION\\_APPLICATION.pdf](https://cms4files1.revize.com/oakland/docs/BOARDS_AND_COMMISSION_APPLICATION.pdf) According to the township website direct any questions to [mail@oaklandtownship.org](mailto:mail@oaklandtownship.org)

For more information about PC, see their webpage:

[http://www.oaklandtownship.org/boards\\_and\\_commissions/planning\\_commission/index.php](http://www.oaklandtownship.org/boards_and_commissions/planning_commission/index.php)

## Safety Paths and Trails Committee (SPTC)

### Board Accepting Applications for SPTC Appointment

Apply to be appointed. Two SPTC members' terms expire 5/22. See application at this link:

[https://cms4files1.revize.com/oakland/docs/BOARDS\\_AND\\_COMMISSION\\_APPLICATION.pdf](https://cms4files1.revize.com/oakland/docs/BOARDS_AND_COMMISSION_APPLICATION.pdf) According to the township website direct any questions to [mail@oaklandtownship.org](mailto:mail@oaklandtownship.org)

For more info about SPTC see their webpage:

[http://www.oaklandtownship.org/township\\_departments/safety\\_paths\\_and\\_trails.php](http://www.oaklandtownship.org/township_departments/safety_paths_and_trails.php)

## Schools

**A Parent of two students is Suing Rochester Community Schools to Obtain Course Materials for “History of Ethnic and Gender Studies” course after her Freedom of Information Act Requests were not completely honored. Mackinac Center Legal Foundation (Midland, MI) is providing the legal help.**

An alert resident showed me some information on Nextdoor and then the same day this headline appeared on page 1 of the March 16, 2022 Oakland Press -

***“Parent files lawsuit against school district Filing: District ‘stonewalled’ request for info on racial, gender studies class”***

The article went on to say –

***“The Mackinac Center Legal Foundation is suing the Rochester Community School District alleging it withheld curriculum materials for a course on ethnic and gender studies as requested by a parent, as well as records related to its diversity, equity and inclusion training.”***

A parent claims that requested information requested about these classes was refused even after making a \$418.45 deposit to cover expenses for providing copies of the requested information.

This parallels my recent experience with non-response to a FOIA request for meeting records showing evidence of adherence to the School-Police Liaison Program Agreement. (See pages 6 and 24-27 in attached letter here: <https://oaklandtownshipsentinel.org/2022/02/13/rochester-community-schools-police-school-liaison-program-does-not-appear-to-have-the-required-annual-goal-setting-and-reporting/>)

I had decided not to make a big deal about the FOIA problem, as I did not want it to detract or cause diversion from the main issue. Now I see that RCS FOIA may be a more serious problem than I thought.

For more information about the Mackinac Center's views on this case see this: <https://www.mackinac.org/pressroom/rochester-parent-sues-district-for-not-providing-curriculum-documents>

The 22 page court filing spells out the case in detail - [Microsoft Word - 2022.03.14 Rochester Schools Complaint \(final\) \(mackinac.org\)](#)

The stated purpose of the Mackinac Center from their website <https://www.mackinac.org/about> is:

### *“Our Purpose*

*The Mackinac Center for Public Policy is a nonprofit research and educational institute that advances the principles of free markets and limited government. Through our research and education programs, we challenge government overreach and advocate for free-market approaches to public policy that free people to realize their potential and their dreams.*

*Since 1987, we have been a champion for freedom for the residents of Michigan and beyond, from hot dog stands and food trucks ... to parents seeking education choice ... to workers exercising union rights ... to overtaxed business owners and entrepreneurs fighting for a level playing field. With them and others, we work to advance a freer and more prosperous state.”*



## **Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)**

**Next meeting,** Tuesday March 15, 2022, 7 PM, Township Hall Board Room, 4393 Collins Rd.

**Agenda and meeting packet:** nothing on agenda but election of officers

<https://ecode360.com/documents/OA3183/public/649505351.pdf>

**Most Recent Minutes:** Feb. 22, 2022 [647146016.pdf](#).

### **Board Accepting Applications for ZBA Appointment**

Apply to be appointed. Two ZBA members' terms expire 9/1/22. See application at this link:

[https://cms4files1.revize.com/oakland/docs/BOARDS\\_AND\\_COMMISSION\\_APPLICATION.pdf](https://cms4files1.revize.com/oakland/docs/BOARDS_AND_COMMISSION_APPLICATION.pdf) According to the township website direct any questions to [mail@oaklandtownship.org](mailto:mail@oaklandtownship.org)

For more information about ZBA see their webpage:

[http://www.oaklandtownship.org/boards\\_and\\_commissions/zoning\\_board\\_of\\_appeals/index.php](http://www.oaklandtownship.org/boards_and_commissions/zoning_board_of_appeals/index.php)