

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING  
DECEMBER 12, 2024  
PROPOSED MINUTES  
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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The special meeting of the Charter Township of Superior Board was called to order by the Supervisor Emily Dabish Yahkind at 6:00 p.m. on December 12, 2024, at the Superior Charter Township Hall, 3040 North Prospect, Superior Charter Township, Michigan.

**2. ROLL CALL**

The members present were Supervisor Emily Dabish Yahkind, Clerk Angela Robinson, Treasurer Lisa Lewis, Trustee Dana Greene, Trustee Brenda Mckinney and Trustee Ken Schwartz.

Absent: Trustee Sarah Devereaux

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Supervisor Dabish Yahkind and supported by Trustee Ken Schwartz to adopt the agenda.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

**A. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- Bernice Lindke commended Supervisor Dabish Yahkind for revising the November 20, 2024, budget and preventing significant depletion of the undesignated fund balance. She suggested the 1.0 FTE supervisor assistant position be compensated similarly to other assistants. Lindke noted that during her tenure, an assistant was brought on as needed, and neither Supervisor Schwartz nor McFarlane had a full-time deputy or assistant. Lindke also addressed the financial commitment of the Rock Property, with annual principal and interest payments of \$190,000, and emphasized the need to balance this expense with benefits to the community. She also urged attention to the Tree Preservation Fund.
- Rickey Harding, Supervisor of the Superior Township Utilities Department, addressed income discrepancies between regular employees and other staff, noting that a promised 3.5% increase was impacted by budget issues beyond their control. He requested that trustees visit the department to better understand how utility funds, such as water and sewer tap fees, are managed, stressing that the utility department should be separated from other budget categories. Harding also suggested exploring union representation for employees.

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**5. PUBLIC HEARING ON TRUTH AND TAXTION**

It was moved by Supervisor Yahkind and supported by Treasurer Lewis to open the public hearing.

- Bernice Lindke resident addressed several financial matters, starting with the Rock Property budget, which exceeds \$189,000. She suggested directing the equity from this funding to the Parks and Recreation Department to benefit the community, like the previous use of ARPA funds. Lindke also emphasized the need to review the Tree Preservation Fund and track its allocations.

Lindke discussed the importance of having a controller who can educate the board on the Law Enforcement Fund, which currently holds nearly \$3 million in undesignated funds, and help the board better understand and utilize these resources.

Additionally, Lindke proposed creating an administrative cost allowance or cost center to allocate administrative expenses across other funds, potentially alleviating pressure on the general fund. She also noted the township controller's pay rate and suggested that previous board spending on pathways should be considered when evaluating employee salary increases and potential wage cuts.

**A. RESOLUTION 2024-58, ADOPTING GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT  
MILLAGE RATES FOR 2025**

The resolution was moved by Trustee McKinney and supported by Trustee Schwartz.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR  
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT  
MILLAGE RATES FOR 2025**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2024-58**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

**WHEREAS:** The Charter Township of Superior Board of Trustees has carefully reviewed the Township's current and projected financial needs, and

**WHEREAS:** The Board of Trustee's recognizes its responsibility to the citizens of the Charter Township of Superior to carefully monitor the Township funds and provide necessary revenue to offset proposed expenditures, and

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**WHEREAS:** The auditors suggested that millage rates for revenue should be by resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Charter Township of Superior Board of Trustees adopts the millages on the attachment by Resolution.

	TAXABLE VALUE	MILLAGE	TOTAL TAX REVENUE
<b>GENERAL</b>			
REG	\$897,591,028	0.7974	\$715,739
IFT	\$25,954,008	0.3987	\$10,348
<b>FIRE</b>	Voter-Approved		
REG	\$897,591,028	3.4933	\$3,135,555
IFT	\$25,954,008	1.7466	\$45,331
<b>LAW</b>	Voter-Approved		
REG	\$897,591,028	2.7447	\$2,463,618
IFT	\$25,954,008	1.3723	\$35,617

**CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

I, Angela Robinson, the duly qualified Clerk of the Charter Township of Superior, Washtenaw County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a special meeting of the Charter Township of Superior Board held on December 12, 2024 and that public notices of said meeting were given pursuant to Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended.

  
 Angela Robinson, Township Clerk

12.12.24  
 Date Certified

Roll Call:  
 Ayes: Supervisor Dabish Yahkind  
 Trustee Greene  
 Treasurer Lewis  
 Trustee McKinney  
 Clerk Robinson  
 Trustee Schwartz  
 Nays: None.

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The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**B. RESOLUTION 2024- 59, ADOPTING GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT: 2025  
BUDGETS FOR ALL FUNDS**

The resolution was moved by Trustee McKinney and supported by Trustee Schwartz.

- Supervisor Dabish Yahkind addressed concerns regarding the current budget, explaining that the initial proposal was not intended to impact the anticipated 3.5% raise for staff. However, during the end-of-year adjustments, it was discovered that the general fund reserve was significantly lower than expected—around \$300,000.00 instead of the projected \$1.6 million. This discrepancy raised serious concerns, especially considering that the November budget presented a \$400,000.00 deficit spending, which was deemed unsustainable. Despite efforts to balance the budget, the township continues to face deficit spending. Supervisor Dabish Yahkind highlighted significant cost increases, including a 14.1% rise in healthcare and a 38% increase in liability insurance due to ongoing claims, which have not been fully reflected in the budget. With the annual tax base growth limited to 2-4%, and 47% of the general fund already allocated to salaries and associated health services, there is limited flexibility for a contingency fund or public programming. In September, the township controller indicated adjustments to the general fund reserve would be necessary, and it is now projected that the reserve, which was \$1.6 million last year, will be closer to \$300,000 by year-end. The proposed budget still reflects a \$50,000.00 deficit, which will rise to approximately \$60,000.00 once healthcare costs are fully accounted for. The 2% employee raises align with federal employee increases. In collaboration with the controller, Supervisor Dabish Yahkind explored creative solutions, such as adjusting utility billing, rent, and building costs across departments, to manage the budget and stabilize reserves. While the spending on various special projects contributed to the current financial position, these efforts have helped mitigate further strain, resulting in the budget proposal presented.
- The controller, available by phone, outlined the following key points: At the beginning of 2023, the projected deficit was \$1.8 million, with a current projection of \$1.3 million deficit, reserves are expected to total \$500,000 by year-end. The healthcare savings plan will increase from \$300 to \$316. Healthcare premiums and liability insurance have risen by 38.8%. Significant spending has occurred on special projects, as well as large increases for some employees and trustees, including benefits and certifications previously not provided by the township. The education bonus, which affects staff salaries, will remain unchanged. He clarified that the budget does not reflect increases of the insurance, and the situation may be more severe than previously projected.
- Trustee McKinney confirmed that the current balance of the general fund at the end of the year stands at \$500,000, following projected losses. Trustee McKinney also inquired whether any cuts could help reduce the deficit.

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- The Controller advised that a potential area for cost reduction would be to reassess future hires.
- Trustee McKinney recommended that the board implement a freeze on hiring and salary increases, except for fire, for all salaries affecting the general fund until a comprehensive evaluation could be completed, noting the current township deficit.
- Clerk Robinson reminded the board of the budget deadline, December 15, 2024.
- Trustee Dana Greene acknowledged COLA expense cuts and questioned why non-union employees, despite the Utilities Department's independent operation, have been treated uniformly. He explained that the Fire Department's 5% raise, compared to the 2% for other employees, was due to their contract employee status. He inquired about the \$680,000 in grant funds, which was explained to be receivable for the pathways project.
- Trustee Schwartz underscored the importance of effectively managing expenditures. On the revenue side. He explained the tax base experienced a 7.2% growth. Additionally, the completion of Woodside Village and Prospect Pointe West should contribute approximately \$300,000 to the tax roll, with expectations for continued growth throughout the year.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR  
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT: 2025  
BUDGETS FOR ALL FUNDS**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2024-59**

**DATE: DECEMBER 12, 2024**

**WHEREAS**, the Charter Township of Superior Board of Trustees has carefully reviewed the Township's current and projected financial needs, and

**WHEREAS**, the Charter Township of Superior Board of Trustees recognizes its responsibility to the citizens of Superior Township to carefully monitor the Township funds and provide for the needs of the Township, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Superior has carefully considered the projected revenues and expenditures for the coming year, and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Charter Township of Superior Board of Trustee's adopt the proposed budgets for the 2025 calendar year: the General Fund Budget by activity dated December 12, 2024, the Fire fund Budget dated December 12, 2024, the Building Fund budget dated December 12, 2024, the Law Fund budget dated December 12, 2024, the Park Fund Budget dated December 12, 2024, the Utility Fund Budget dated December 12, 2024, The Streetlight Budget dated December 12, 2024, and the Side Street Maintenance fund budget dated December 12, 2024. The Board agrees to approve the following table:

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Fund	Revenues	Expenditures	Transfers	Appropriations
General	\$2,776,004	\$2,425,485	\$412,338	\$61,819
Fire	\$3,462,486	\$2,879,002	\$583,484	-0-
Law Enforcement	\$2,980,769	\$2,124,033	\$856,736	-0-
Building	\$571,100	\$387,532	\$183,568	-0-
Parks	\$437,538	\$522,538	-0-	\$85,000
Streetlights	\$26,500	\$26,500	-0-	-0-
Side Street Maint.	\$93,700	\$93,700	-0-	-0-
Amer. Rescue Plan	\$703,413	\$703,413	-0-	-0-
Utilities	\$5,144,861	\$4,879,800	\$265,061	-0-
Legal Defense	-0-	20,000	-0-	\$20,000

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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Angela Robinson, Township Clerk

12.12.24  
 Date Certified

Roll Call:

- Ayes: Supervisor Dabish Yahkind
- Trustee Greene
- Treasurer Lewis
- Trustee McKinney
- Clerk Robinson
- Trustee Schwartz

Nays: None.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

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**6. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Clerk Robinson supported by Treasurer Lewis that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:56p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Robinson, Clerk

Emily Dabish Yahkind, Supervisor

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