

**SUMPTER TOWNSHIP**  
**23480 SUMPTER ROAD, BELLEVILLE, MI 48111**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 27TH, 2026**  
**6:00 P.M.**

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Roll Call:** LaPorte, Bowman, Patterson, Frazier, Oddy, Rush and Honey. Also in attendance were Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Herman, Township Manager Marten, Chief Luke, Chief Goode, Finance Director Campbell, and DPW Director Tabor.
3. **Agenda:** Motion by Rush supported by Patterson to approve the agenda.  
Yay: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion Carried.  
Motion by Rush, supported by Patterson to **AMEND** the motion to add Item 14.  
Closed Session: Under MCL 15.268(c) for the Board to be brought up to date and discuss Township labor negotiation strategy with the negotiation group as to the AFSCEE, FOP and COAM Labor Unions. Item 2: Discuss Township Attorney's Opinion Letter. Yay: All. Nay: None. Motion Carried
4. **Public Comment:** Two (2) attendees spoke.
5. **Minutes:**
  - A. Motion by Rush supported by Oddy to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2026. Yay: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
6. **Warrants:** Motion by Rush supported by Frazier to approve warrants \$1,985,637.00.  
Roll Call Vote: Yay: Bowman, LaPorte, Patterson, Fraizer, Oddy, Rush, and Honey.  
Nay: None. Motion Carried.
7. Motion by Rush, supported by honey to receive & file Parks & Recreation report. Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
8. Motion by Rush, supported by honey to receive & file the Finance report. Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
9. Motion by Rush, supported by honey to receive & file the Water and Sewer report. Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
10. Motion by Rush, supported by honey to receive & file Township Manager report.  
Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

11. Motion by Rush supported by Oddy to receive and file the Treasurer's Report. Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion Carried.

12. Board Response: None.

13. New Business:

A. Motion by Patterson, supported by Oddy to approve to develop a Tri-Community Planning Commission with the City of Belleville and Van Buren Charter Township. Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

B. Motion by Fraizer, supported by Rush to approve the Text Amendment to Section 5.3, Accessory Buildings, Structures, and Uses.

Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

C. Motion by Frazier, supported by Rush to approve the Township Planning Commission's recommendation to rezone 24473 Sumpter Rd. Belleville, MI 48111 from C-2 General Commercial to R-1, Country Home Residential.

Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

D. Motion by Rush, supported by Patterson to approve to post, accept applications and conduct interviews for a part-time Ordinance Officer.

Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

E. Motion by Rush, supported by Patterson to hire Darrin Moore as a paid-on-call firefighter, contingent upon his passing a physical and drug test.

Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

F. Motion by Fraizer, supported by Rush to hire Landon Hall as a paid-on-call firefighter, contingent upon his passing a physical and drug test.

Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

G. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to hire Wyatt Behrendt as permanent part-time DPW/Water department employee at \$23.80 per hour and to work no more than a maximum of 29 hours a week.

Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

H. Motion by Fraizer, supported by Rush to approve the proposal for sale of Township owned properties: 81-122-99-0007-701 (Rawsonville Road) for \$300,000; 81-102-99-0006-000 (Martinsville Road) for \$200,000.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: LaPorte, Bowman, Rush, Honey and Fraizer. Nay: Oddy and Patterson. Motion Carried.

I. Motion by Rush, supported by LaPorte to approve the Employment Contract for Jamie Goode, Sumpter Township Fire Chief with the amendment of ensuring 8% employee and 15% employer MERs contributions.

Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

J. Motion by Patterson, supported by Oddy to approve Chief Luke and three command officers to attend the MACP Winter Professional Development Conference in Grand Rapids, February 4-6, 2026. Cost of conference covered by state-provided training funds.

Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

#### **Closed Session:**

Pursuant to MCL 15.268(h) to consider attorney-client privileged material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal law;

14. **ADDED\*** Motion by LaPorte supported by Patterson to go to *Closed session* at 7:03 p.m. under MCL 15.628c and MCL 15.628h for the following:

1. Under MCL 15.628c - Discuss contract negotiations for AFSCME, FOP and COAM Unions.
2. Under MCL 15.628h - Review & discuss Twp Attorney's Opinion Letter.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: LaPorte, Bowman, Rush, Honey, Oddy, Patterson and Fraizer. Nay: None. Motion Carried.

K. **ADDED\*** Motion by Rush supported by Patterson to rejoin the open meeting at 8:32 p.m. and approve and direct the Township Attorney to address and take recommended actions on the issues discussed in the Closed Session.

Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk LaPorte, Treasurer Patterson; Trustees: Rush, Oddy, Honey and Frazier. Nay: None. Motion carried.

15. **Announcements:** None.

**16. Adjournment:** Motion by Patterson supported by Rush to adjourn at 8:36 p.m.  
Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Donald LaPorte, Clerk

Minutes prepared by:  
Deputy Clerk S. Herman  
Sumpter Township

\_\_\_\_\_  
Samantha Herman, Deputy Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Don La Porte, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date