

GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
Regular Meeting
April 20, 2026

MINUTES

Call to Order

Supervisor Spicher called the regular meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board to order at 6:48 pm at the Township Hall.

Invocation

Supervisor Spicher led the invocation for the Board and the members of the public.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

The following members were present constituting a quorum for the transaction of business: Kevin Spicher, Candie Hovarter, Robin Hunt, Bill Reiber, Rick Soucy, Jodie Valenti, and Todd Walker.

Also present was Township Manager Kelly VanMarter and six people in the audience.

Call to the Public

The call to the public was opened at 6:50 pm.

Mr. Jim Carpenter of 4715 Stillmeadow Drive asked about the internal investigation regarding Ms. Deaton's leaving. Is it complete? It should be made public.

The call to the public was closed at 6:51 pm.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Mr. Reiber questioned the wage study that was done. Ms. Hunt stated that the DPW paid for the study and it is not complete yet. Supervisor Spicher stated there were 11 municipalities used for the study and he reviewed the items that are being compared.

Needed changes to the minutes were noted.

Moved by Hunt, supported by Walker, to approve the Consent Agenda with the noted corrections to the April 6, 2026 regular meeting minutes. **The motion carried unanimously.**

- 1. Payment of Bills: April 20, 2026**
- 2. Request to approve the April 6, 2026 regular meeting minutes.**

Approval of Regular Agenda:

Moved by Soucy, supported by Walker, to approve the Regular Agenda as presented. **The motion carried unanimously.**

- 3. Consideration of a request for approval of a proposal from NSG, LLC for the upgrade and redesign of the Genoa Charter Township website including ADA compliance at a cost not to exceed \$15,600 from General Fund #101-261-752-000 for website maintenance & upgrades.**

Supervisor Spicher provided a review of the selection process that was conducted for this work. The website will be completely redone.

There was a discussion regarding the addition of live streaming of certain parts of the Genoa Township Park being proposed. It was noted that this has been requested by residents.

Ms. Hunt stated that MHOG uses NSG for their website so it would be good to have both managed by the same company. Mr. Walker stated they have a full staff that can address issues quickly.

Mr. Reiber would like to have the broken links report feature added to NSG's scope of work while maintaining the same price.

Mr. VanTassell noted that a portion of this redevelopment will be to ensure that the township's website is ADA compliant.

Moved by Soucy, supported by Valenti, to approve the proposal from NSG LLC for the upgrade and redesign of the Genoa Township website for \$15,600 from Fund Line Item 101-261-752-000. **The motion carried unanimously.**

- 4. Request for approval of a fireworks display on Lake Chemung on Saturday, June 27, 2026 as submitted by Celebrate Lake Chemung and AMS Displays, LLC.**

Moved by Hunt, supported by Soucy, to approve a fireworks display on Lake Chemung scheduled for Saturday, June 27, 2026 as submitted by Celebrate Lake Chemung and AMS Displays, LLC. **The motion carried unanimously.**

- 5. Consideration of a recommendation to remand proposed ordinance number Z-26-01 regarding zoning ordinance text amendments to Article 13 back to the Planning**

Commission to review the comments from the Township attorney and resubmit a recommendation to the Township Board.

Ms. VanMarter stated that the Township Attorney has recommended additional changes to this ordinance amendment. Ms. Ruthig, the Planning Director, would like to have the Planning Commission review these changes prior to the Township Board taking action.

Moved by Reiber, supported by Hovarter, to remand Article 13 back to the Planning Commission to review the comments from the Township attorney. **The motion carried unanimously.**

6. Consideration of a recommendation to approve the per diems and hourly rate for Election workers and to confirm the Election Commissioners' meeting stipend remains unchanged at \$150, as recommended by the Election Commission.

Moved by Hunt, supported by Hovarter, to approve the per diems and hourly rate for Election workers and to confirm the Election Commissioners' meeting stipend remains unchanged at \$150, as recommended by the Election Commission. **The motion carried unanimously.**

7. Consideration of a request from Township Treasurer Robin Hunt to authorize the purchase of a large Adirondack chair to be installed as a park amenity, at a cost not to exceed \$1,800 from Parks and Recreation Fund #208-906-956-000.

Ms. Hunt stated that Howell Parks and Recreation Authority installed a large chair on one of their properties and she would like to have one at the Genoa Township Park. She showed an example of the proposed chair. Mr. Soucy was able to find this one, which is very inexpensive as these are typically \$8,000 plus. He noted that the company who has this particular chair is in Pinckney. They have a yellow one in stock that they are willing to sell to the township for \$1,800.

There was a discussion regarding where the chair will be located.

Ms. Hovarter suggested having a business sponsor the cost of the chair. Ms. VanMarter stated that the township has never actively solicited sponsorships to avoid the appearance of a conflict if a company that sponsors township-related projects later seeks township approval for other matters. She stated there are sponsors specific to Survivor Park because they donated to the high school, which raised funds for the park. Ms. VanMarter stated staff can reach out to one of the utility companies in the area to see if they would like to contribute. Ms. Hunt agrees. She would prefer it to not be a commercial business. She noted there is money available in the Parks and Recreation Fund.

Moved by Soucy, supported by Walker, to authorize the purchase of a large Adirondack chair to be installed as a park amenity, at a cost not to exceed \$1,800 from Parks and Recreation Fund

#208-906-956-000. **The motion carried with a roll call vote. (Reiber - yes; Hunt - yes; Valenti - yes; Hovarter - no; Walker - yes; Soucy - yes; Spicher - yes)**

Board Comments

Mr. Soucy stated the election inspectors training went well. Eleven people have been trained. There will be another training session next Saturday. The township hall will be open on Saturday, May 2 for election business.

Ms. Valenti stated there has been misinformation about the school bond on social media. If anyone wants information on the bond, check the website or contact the schools.

Ms. VanMarter stated the upper soccer field parking lot needs repaving. The board budgeted \$120,000 and she is receiving quotes of approximately \$150,000. The existing pavement is three inches thick, and the recommendation from contractors is that the new pavement be four inches. She recommended the board members drive past this area after tonight's meeting to see the condition of the lot.

Supervisor Spicher and Mr. Soucy attended the grand opening of US Representative Tom Barrett's office located in the Grand River Annex at 1900 Grand River Avenue.

Ms. Hovarter attended the open house for the new Trinity Hospital.

Supervisor Spicher stated that tomorrow is the deadline to file to run in the August Primary or November General Election.

Mr. Reiber stated that the last CPR/AED training course is next Monday. Supervisor Spicher is not available so he asked that another board member attend.

Mr. Soucy stated the internal investigation regarding Ms. Deaton's leaving has not started. Proposals will be presented to the board at their next meeting.

Adjournment

Moved by Walker, supported by Hunt, to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 pm. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Genoa Charter Township Board Meeting
April 20, 2026
Unapproved Minutes

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Thomas, Recording Secretary

Approved: Rick Soucy, Clerk
Genoa Charter Township

Kevin Spicher, Supervisor
Genoa Charter Township

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