

PROPOSED

Synopsis of a Work Session
Pittsfield Charter Township Board of Trustees, April 28, 2021
E.A. Jackson Morris Hall, The Robert A. Lillie Service Center
6201 W. Michigan Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108

Members Present: Grewal, Anzaldi, Scribner, Jaffer, Krone, Urda-Thompson
Members Absent: Edwards-Brown
Others Present: Deputy Clerk Lyn Sebestyen, Director Denig, Director Tracy Watkins, Director Barb McDermott, Hillary Venier

Call Working Session to Order

Working Session was called to order at 7:45 p.m.

Agenda Items to be Discussed:

1. Discussion of Pittsfield Township's Draft DEI Plan

Supervisor Grewal shared background information on how this plan was developed and solicited Board feedback.

Trustee Krone expressed his desire to form a committee that could implement recommendations, and would like to see a consulting firm that exercises good practices.

Clerk Anzaldi would like to see a committee formed, and under direction of the Supervisor, decide what the next steps and direction will be. She would like to see the committee be diverse on many levels.

Supervisor Grewal asked the Board for committee recommendations.

Director Denig added that she and Director Harshberger recently attended training and they are both excited to make systemic changes for the Township and the community. They both agree that using a consulting firm would be beneficial to the Township.

2. Draft Purchasing Policy

Clerk Anzaldi explained that this policy is coming to the working session because without a purchasing policy, it may affect the Township's ability to receive grants in

the future. While a purchasing policy is not required by law, it is best practice to have parameters and guidance for all involved.

Supervisor Grewal recommended that Township Department Heads have a chance to look over the policy to allow for flexibility and feasibility of process.

Trustee Krone agreed Department Heads should have the opportunity to review the policy.

3. Tax Abatement Discussion

Clerk Anzaldi discussed Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption (IFT) philosophies, how they work, and the current Township process for IFTs. She would like the Board to consider how the Township handles and understands IFTs going forward.

Supervisor Grewal expressed appreciation to Clerk Anzaldi for this presentation.

Trustee Krone stated he dislikes tax abatements but recognizes that most other taxing authorities grant them, and some businesses prefer jurisdictions that offer tax abatements. He has worked with a jurisdiction that used a point system to determine the amount and length of the tax abatement. He added that in the past, the Township attempted to develop a system for determining IFTs.

Supervisor Grewal explained there are many levels companies use to determine where to establish businesses and she believes that tax abatements are a determining factor.

Trustee Urda-Thompson commented that she is generally not in favor of tax abatements and wondered if there is any follow-up to ensure companies are abiding by the outlined criteria.

Treasurer Scribner would like the Township to look at other entities that use a point-based system.

Clerk Anzaldi replied she will be following up with companies in the future and will also follow up with the Board with suggestions made tonight.

The working session adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

PITTSFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP
Board of Trustees
Minutes for a Working Session
Held April, 28, 2021

Jill Mitchell, Recording Clerk
Pittsfield Charter Township

Michelle L. Anzaldi, Clerk
Pittsfield Charter Township

Mandy Grewal, Supervisor
Pittsfield Charter Township

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