

Z E E L A N D

CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Zeeland Charter Township
6582 Byron Rd.
Zeeland, MI 49464

July 21, 2026

Ottawa County Commissioners
12220 Fillmore Street
West Olive, MI 49460

Dear Ottawa County Commissioners:

On behalf of Zeeland Charter Township and the community we serve, we respectfully encourage Ottawa County to intervene in the contested case proceedings regarding the proposed Silver Maple Solar Facility.

While opinions on energy policy may differ, we can all agree that local governments are best positioned to make decisions on matters of local concern. This concept of local control and decision making is fundamental to our system of government and reflects the long-established principle that decisions affecting a community should be made by the elected officials who know that community best.

The proposed Silver Maple Solar Facility would have significant impacts on the residents, infrastructure, farmland, economy, and long-term future of Ottawa County. As such, it is a matter of substantial local concern that deserves meaningful participation.

We therefore respectfully urge Ottawa County to join Zeeland Charter Township in intervening in the contested case proceedings before the Michigan Public Service Commission. By intervening, the Commission would demonstrate its commitment to protecting local control and decision making and ensure that the voices of Ottawa County residents are heard on this important matter.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued service to the residents of Ottawa County.

Respectfully,

Kerri Bosma, Supervisor



Scott Beute, Trustee



Jeff Salisbury, Trustee



Melissa Veldheer, Treasurer



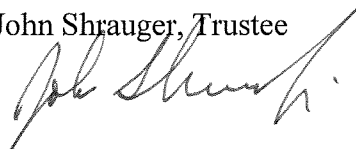
Dave Barry, Trustee



Brian VanDussen, Clerk



John Shrauger, Trustee



TOWNSHIP BOARD
ZEELAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY, MICHIGAN

(Resolution No. 1038)

Minutes of a meeting of the Township Board of Zeeland Charter Township, Ottawa County, Michigan, held in the Township Hall, 6582 Byron Rd., Zeeland, MI 49464 on July 21, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. local time.

PRESENT: Bosma, Veldheer, VanDussen, Salisbury, Beute, Barry, Shrauger

ABSENT: None

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Barry and supported by Member Veldheer.

A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING LOCAL CONTROL OVER PLANNING AND
ZONING DECISIONS

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has long embraced the principle of local control, recognizing that local governments—those closest to the people they serve—are best positioned to make decisions on matters of local concern; and

WHEREAS, this principle reflects the long-established understanding that decisions affecting a community are best made by the officials who know that community and its unique needs; and

WHEREAS, planning and zoning decisions are most effectively made at the local level, where elected officials and planning commissions possess the greatest understanding of community character, infrastructure, natural resources, and long-term development goals; and

WHEREAS, local planning and zoning decisions are consistent with a community's master plan and best promote the public health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, Public Act 233 of 2023 and other proposed legislation preempts or seeks to preempt local authority over planning and zoning decisions; and

WHEREAS, the continued erosion of local planning and zoning authority undermines the ability of communities to plan responsibly for their future, protect property rights, and address the unique needs and priorities of their residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township Board hereby:

1. Affirms its opposition to Public Act 233 of 2023 and any legislation that preempts or diminishes local authority over planning and zoning decisions.

2. Urges the Michigan Legislature to preserve and protect the authority of local governments to make planning and zoning decisions that reflect the unique needs, priorities, and long-term interests of their communities.
3. Directs that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Michigan and to the State Senator and State Representative representing the Township's residents.
4. Declares that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

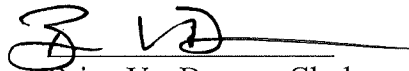
RECORD OF VOTE:

Yeas: Bosma, Beute, Salisbury, Shrauger, Veldheer, VanDussen and Barry

Nays: None

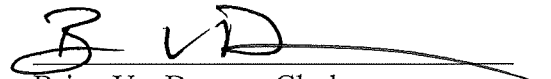
RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.


Kerri Bosma, Supervisor


Brian VanDussen, Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board at a meeting held on July 21, 2026, at which meeting a quorum was present.


Brian VanDussen, Clerk