



## GOVERNMENT LAW SECTION

### REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

January 6, 2024 – 10:00 AM

Via Zoom (Courtesy of Plunkett Cooney)

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Chair Forbush at 10:00 a.m. on January 6, 2024

1. **Attendance and Excused Absences**

**Present:** *Bluhm; Brown; Chubb; Fisher; Forbush; Forsyth; Joppich; King; Kolb; McGee ;Mills; Pastula Sluggett ;So; Steele; Tamm; Thomas; Watz; Williams* **Absent:** *Forsythe; Nettleton*

**Motion to excuse absences:** Chubb; **Second:** Mithani

**Council approved by unanimous vote.**

2. **Approval of Agenda**

**Motion to approve agenda :** Mithani **Second:** Fisher

**Council approved by unanimous vote.**

3. **Approval of Minutes of December 2, 2023, Regular Meeting (Attachment A and B)**

Fisher proposed an amendment to minutes regarding the section's Zoning and Local Land Use committee's purpose to include to maintain local control. Mithani proposed amendment for clarification of role Judge Clement as speaker at summer conference; Fisher responded that Judge Clemente may help or assist with the preparation of amicus briefs.

**Motion to approve Minutes(as amended) :** Fisher **Second:** Kolb

**Council approved by unanimous vote.**

4. **Treasurer's Report (Attachment C)** Kolb presented – section in good position.

5. **Amicus Committee**

*Jostock v Mayfield Twp., et al-* Williams: *still waiting for response from MAC[Michigan Association of Counties]; Fisher /Williams: There is authorization from LDF, MML will pay half, but need survey of law and not take sides. Fisher : GLS & MML interested in receiving drafts; Forbush: asked what is the dollar amount requested from GLS? Fisher/ Williams : \$7,500 (1/2 of \$15,000)*

**Motion** to authorize the \$7,500 - Chubb **Second:** Joppich Williams and Fisher abstained.

**Council approved by unanimous vote.**

*Sakorafos v Charter Twp. of Lyon (Attachment D) Williams: The township is out of the case, but the private party is requesting the amicus. It is questionable to have GLS involved without the township providing more input; Awaiting a response from MTA; MML is interested, but not favorable of the current position where there is not a government entity unless GLS gets involved. Request a short summary and provide to the committee laying out applicable law and key points. Forbush: suggested putting over decision until February.*

Fisher: motion to defer matter to February Second: Joppich Council approved by unanimous vote

6. **Briefly** – Mithani : *an issue went out in December, on target; issues go out three times per year and it is stable now with a good group of people; more to be added in the future.* Joppich - *it was a great issue/great job;* Forbush – *suggestions for topics;* Joppich – *topic could include seminar articles for those who can't attend . Next Briefly will come out in April.* Mithani : *promote the summer conference.* Forbush: *article re: red flag laws*

7. **Old Business**

8. **New Business**

a. 2024 Winter Conference – Confirmed 2/9/24 :

Forbush:

Brown/Chubb: *eBlast will be sent on Monday; topics: Red flag laws/ FOIA/OMA/elections.* Chubb: *AARPA /federal grants; clock is winding down;* Brown: *federal guidance is changing; doing away with local preferences.*

b. Approval of Contract for Zingerman's (Attachment E)

Forbush: " Zingerman's quote is \$7854.35.

**Motion to accept** - Joppich; **Second** : Fisher;

Forbush: still waiting for the Zingerman contract. Kolb: will follow up,

Also discussed the monthly meeting after the conference. Kolb- to meet after conference we will need to reserve time/ extend the reservation. Bluhm: meeting more like social hour in the past, making it easier to invite conference attendees. Brown: better to have Happy Hour on site of the conference include a Happy Hour. Kolb: additional costs \$800- \$1000

Mithani: add Happy Hour to the invoice. Kolb- there is a liquor license at the location.

Amend motion to include Happy Hour- **motion** Bluhm; **second** Thomas.

**Council approved by unanimous vote.**

c. 2024 Summer Conference

Forbush – Liability; CBAs and labor relations; Fisher to contact Justice Clement.  
Forsythe will report topic to M.A.M.A., Next MAMA meeting is January 19

d. Zoning, Land Use and Local Control Committee: Fisher: no report at this time;

9. **Council Comments** So: legislation adopted re: wind and solar projects. Fisher: There is an exaction case before supreme court re: excessive permit fee and imposition of fees for general government. There will be an upcoming ruling. Watza: asked about the fee and did they cite purpose for fee. Fisher will share /distribute Information.

10. **Adjournment** at 10:42 a.m.