



Commissions & Committees: Overview & Expectations

Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

Purpose:

- To promote bicycle and pedestrian and other nonmotorized travel (wheelchairs, rollerblading, skateboarding, etc.) via engineering, education, encouragement, evaluation, and planning activities within the Township of Grosse Ile. We will enhance, maintain, and promote nonmotorized facilities and related policies. Additionally, we will develop relevant educational and public outreach programs. We will act in the best interest of the Township, working with the Township Staff, Board of Trustees, Township Commissions & Committees, Township Schools, local residents, and others as appropriate. We will create a safer and more user-friendly environment for walking and wheeling.

Duties:

- Advise the Township on bicyclist and pedestrian issues.
- Analyze routing, operation and safety of all bicycle & pedestrian facilities.
- Review and make recommendations regarding the Township's Capital Improvement Plan, Township ordinances, and other planning documents and policies, based on bicycle and pedestrian issues.
- Evaluate and make recommendations for an action plan for biking and walking facilities (on-street and off-street bikeways, shared-use paths, sidewalks, bicycle racks, crossings, signage and signalization).
- Coordinate with internal and external agencies on maps and regional connections.
- Develop education and public outreach programs on bicycle and pedestrian issues.
- Assist the Township in the development and maintenance of bicycle and pedestrian systems within the community.

Meetings Held:

- Every third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Township Board Room.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Members should have an interest in the promotion of nonmotorized transit and willing to attend BPAC monthly meetings + events held by the committee.

Commerce Park Commission

Authority:

- The Commission is created pursuant to Section 133 of the Michigan Aeronautics Code and Chapter 67, Article I, General Commission Guidelines, of the Grosse Ile Township Municipal Code, and is vested with the authority for the construction, enlargement, improvement, maintenance, equipment, operation, and regulation of the Grosse Ile Airport and the Commerce Park.

Duties:

- Shall consult and cooperate with the Township Board, the Planning Commission, the Police Department, the Fire Department, the Department of Public Services and other Township officials, and any conflict between the Commission and such other commissions, departments, boards and officials shall be resolved by the Township Board, whose decision shall be final.
- Shall plan, construct, improve, operate and maintain and promote the economic development of the Grosse Ile Township Commerce Park and its facilities, including the building and grounds within the Airport Commerce Park and the Landing Area of the Grosse Ile Municipal Airport.
- Shall represent the Township in all economic, financial, and development matters affecting the interests of the Grosse Ile Municipal Airport and Commerce Park.
- May with the prior approval of the Township Board, in the name of the Township, take and hold by purchase, gift, devise, bequest or otherwise such real and personal properties as may be needed for carrying out the intents and purposes for which it has been established..
- May lease any of the buildings or land under its control, in conformity with the master deed of the Township as approved by the Township Board; provided, however, that no occupancy or use shall be permitted until the Township has issued an appropriate certificate of occupancy.
- May make contracts necessary to carry out its purposes and duties. Any contract, not involving a capital expenditure, which involves the expenditure of funds in excess of \$5,000, must receive prior approval of the Township Board.
- Shall recommend ordinances and amendments to the Township Board involving Grosse Ile Municipal Airport and Airport Commerce Park and its facilities.
- May not change geographical boundaries of the Airport Commerce Park without the approval of the Township Board. Requests shall be submitted to the Board for final approval.
- Shall adopt, with the approval of the Township Board, rules and regulations governing the operation of Airport Commerce Park and its facilities to protect the public health, safety and welfare arising from operation of the Grosse Ile Municipal Airport and Airport Commerce Park with the Township.
- Shall recommend approval of the Grosse Ile Municipal Airport and Commerce Park five-year plan and annual budget to the Township Board.
- Shall recommend and review, including but not limited to, capital improvements, grant applications, special events, and the business aspects of a fixed base operator and T-hangars.

Meetings Held:

- Every third Monday of the month at 6:00 pm in the Township Board Room.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Members should have an interest or demonstrated experience with economic development, airports, real estate, engineering, construction or similar fields.

Communications Commission

Duties:

- Request sufficient funds and resources to facilitate the broadcast of access channels, to further develop the public sector uses of the cable television system (hereafter referred to as "GITV"), to maintain an effective and professional Township website and social media pages of the highest quality, and to utilize these and other developing capabilities as efficient means of communication between Township government and the community.
- Recommend a detailed budget for the Communications Department to the Township Finance Director for presentation to the Township Board.
- Provide oversight of the Cable Television Regulatory Ordinance, Chapter A293 of the Grosse Ile Municipal Code of Ordinances, and propose revisions to ensure compliance with current Michigan statutes.
- Establish standards of quality, performance and continuous improvement for all Township communication media.
- Provide support for all Township departments with respect to their communication needs through consultations.
- Ensure that Township communication media remain politically neutral and unbiased in content.
- Encourage equitable access to publicly owned communication media by appropriate institutions, groups and individuals within the Township.
- Assist the Administrator in providing quality programming for broadcast via Township communication media.
- Ensure that a timely, accurate schedule for such broadcast events is widely available, included on but not limited to GITV and the website.
- When appropriate, to foster cooperation and/or collaboration with other municipalities to maximize cost effective usage of assets.
- Review and recommend cell tower contracts for township board approval.

Meetings Held:

- Meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the Month at 6:00 pm in the Township Boardroom

Preferred Qualifications:

- Commission members should have a strong background in one or more of the following areas: communications, telecommunications, marketing, public relations, and/or business.

Community Recreation Commission

Authority:

- The Community Recreation Commission shall have general supervision over the maintenance and operation of the Recreation Department, Water's Edge Restaurant, Water's Edge Marina, Water's Edge Golf Course, Water's Edge Driving Range, Water's Edge Swimming Pool, Centennial Farm, Playscape, Airport Recreation Area, and any property owned or leased by the Township that the Township Board delegates to the Commission's charge.
- The Commission shall have the authority to impose all necessary rules and regulations governing the Recreation Department, Water's Edge Restaurant, Water's Edge Marina, Water's Edge Golf Course, Water's Edge Driving Range, Water's Edge Swimming Pool, Centennial Farm, Playscape, Airport Recreation Area, and any property owned or leased by the Township that the Township Board delegates to the Commission's charge.
- The Commission shall have specific oversight authority of the restaurant operations to ensure compliance by the contractor with Township policy and specific contractual obligations.

Duties:

- The Commission shall act as an advisory commission to the Township Board.
- The Commission shall consider, study and make recommendations relative to the development of new programs and shall also consider, study and make recommendations for improvements of existing programs.
- The Commission shall include in its recommendations proposals for the use and/or improvement of the properties within its charge.
- The Commission shall also perform such other acts and duties in connection with the operation of its programs as authorized or directed by the Township Board.

Meetings Held:

- Meetings are the 1st Thursday of the Month @ 6:00 pm at the Township Boardroom.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Members should have an interest or demonstrated experience with community event planning and programming, and must be a Grosse Ile resident.

Downtown Development Authority

Authority/Duties:

- Prepare an analysis of economic changes taking place in the downtown district.
- Study and analyze the impact of metropolitan growth upon the downtown district.
- Plan and propose the construction, renovation, repair, remodeling, rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, or reconstruction of a public facility, an existing building, or a multiple-family dwelling unit which may be necessary or appropriate to the execution of a plan which, in the opinion of the Board, aids in the economic growth of the downtown district.
- Plan, propose, and implement an improvement to a public facility within the development area to comply with the barrier-free design requirements of the State Construction Code promulgated under the State Construction Code Act of 1972, Act No. 230 of the Public Acts of 1972, being §§ 125.1501 to 125.1531 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.
- Develop long-range plans, in cooperation with the Township Planning Commission, designed to halt the deterioration of property values in the downtown district and to promote the economic growth of the downtown district, and take such steps as may be necessary to persuade property owners to implement the plans to the fullest extent possible.
- Implement any plan of development in the downtown district necessary to achieve the purposes of this act, in accordance with the powers of the Authority as granted by this act.
- Make and enter into contracts necessary or incidental to the exercise of its powers and the performance of its duties.
- Acquire by purchase or otherwise, on terms and conditions and in a manner the Authority deems proper, or own, convey, or otherwise dispose of, or lease as lessor or lessee, land and other property, real or personal, or rights or interests therein, which the Authority determines is reasonably necessary to achieve the purposes of this act, and to grant or acquire licenses, easements, and options with respect thereto.
- Improve land and construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, restore and preserve, equip, improve, maintain, repair, and operate any building, including multifamily dwellings and any necessary or desirable appurtenances thereto, within the downtown district for the use, in whole or in part, of any public or private person or corporation, or a combination thereof.
- Fix, charge, and collect fees, rents and charges for the use of any building or property under its control or any part thereof, or facility therein, and pledge the fees, rents, and charges for the payment of revenue bonds issued by the Authority.
- Lease any building or property under its control, or any part thereof.
- Accept grants and donations of property, labor, or other things of value from a public or private source.
- Acquire and construct public facilities.
- Any other act permitted by law.

Meetings Held:

- Meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of the Month @ 6:30 pm at the Township Boardroom.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Members should have an interest or demonstrated experience with architecture, landscape architecture, building construction, civil engineering, land use planning, real estate development, business management, economic and community development, event and community planning.

Festival and Community Events Commission

Duties:

- The Festival and Community Events Commission shall be responsible for the establishment of an annual festival promoting Grosse Ile's economic, social, cultural, and recreational welfare. The Festival and Community Events Commission shall provide oversight, coordination, and direction for the annual Township-sponsored festival and other special events approved by the Township Board. In addition, the Commission shall carry out the functions and responsibilities that the Township Board may delegate to the Commission from time to time.

Meetings Held:

- Meetings are held on an annual basis prior to each Island Fest event.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Members should have an interest or demonstrated experience in event and community planning.

Fire Commission

Establishment/Membership & Terms:

- A Fire Commission for the Township of Grosse Ile is established. The Commission shall consist of five residents of the Township to be appointed by the Township Board, one of which shall be a member of the Township Board. Terms of office of Fire Commissioners shall be for six years ending on April 3 in the year of expiration, except for the Township Board member of the Township Board, provided, however, that nothing herein shall prohibit the Township Board from removing and/or replacing the Township Board member from time to time during his or her tenure of office on the Township Board.

Meetings Held:

- Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm at Township Hall.

Preferred Qualifications:

- No member of the Fire Commission shall be a member of the Fire Department of the Township.

Greenways and Open Space Commission

Duties:

- Duties of the Commission is to maintain and protect all Greenways/Open Space areas within Grosse Ile. This includes managing Open Space Millage funds for maintenance of designated Open Space areas, trail management, and conserve soil, vegetation, water, fish and wildlife.

Meetings Held:

- Meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at Township Hall.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Members have an interest or demonstrated experience in conservation or sustainability.

Planning Commission

Duties:

- The Township Planning Commission is created pursuant to the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, Public Act 33 of 2008. In accordance with Section 83 of Public Act 33 of 2008, the Planning Commission shall have all the powers and duties provided for zoning commissions created pursuant to the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, Public Act 110 of 2006

Meetings Held:

- Meetings are held on the 1st or 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm at Township Hall.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Members should have an interest in or demonstrated experience in architecture, landscape architecture, building construction, civil engineering, land use planning, or real estate development.

Police Commission

Duties:

- The Police Commission is delegated the responsibility of the overall and continuous development of the proficiency and professionalism of the Police Department of the Township of Grosse Ile and of the individual members thereof through the development, planning and institution of public safety and educational programs; through the development, planning and institution of educational training and other programs within the Township's Police Department which are designed to develop the overall capabilities and professionalism of the Department and its personnel; and through the development, planning and institution of Departmental procedures designed to develop the overall efficiency of the Department and of its individual members. The Commission shall continually analyze and determine the current needs of the Police Department and shall communicate such information to the Township Board.

- Rules and regulations governing the operation of the Police Department and establishing the standards of the conduct and work performance of members of the Police Department shall be prepared, modified and amended in concert with the Chief of Police. Such rules and regulations (including proposed amendments thereto) shall be submitted by the Township Administrator to the Police Commission for its approval. After the rules and regulations have been approved by the Police Commission they shall be submitted to the Township Board for final approval. Upon adoption by the Township Board, such rules and regulations shall be the rules and regulations of and which shall govern the operation of the Township's Police Department and the conduct and work performance of the members thereof.
- The Police Commission is delegated the responsibility for and shall prepare and submit to the Township Board an organizational structure for the Township's Police Department, detailing all positions within the Department and the duties and the responsibilities associated with each such position. Upon adoption by the Township Board, such organizational structure shall be the organizational structure of the Township's Police Department and the Commission shall thereafter periodically review such organizational structure and make recommendations for additions, modifications, and deletions, if any, with respect thereto to the Township Board for possible action thereon. The Chairman of the Commission with respect to the organizational structure of the Police Department shall be submitted to the Township Board.
- The Police Commission is delegated the authority to hire personnel for available positions within the organizational structure of the Township's Police Department; provided, however, that the appointment or promotion of all other officers of the Township's Police Department above the rank of sergeant shall be by the Township Board after recommendation thereon has been received by the Township Board from the Police Commission with respect to such appointment or promotion.

Meetings Held:

- Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at Township Hall.

Preferred Qualifications:

- No member of the Police Commission shall be a member of the Police Department of the Township.

Public Services Commission

Establishment:

- A Public Services Commission is hereby established as a result of consolidating the former Public Works Commission, Road Committee, and the Drainage Task Force.
- The Commission shall initially consist of members who served on the former Public Works Commission, Road Committee, and Drainage Task Force. The Commission shall consist of 10 residents, including the Township Board liaison, who are voting members and a Wayne County Department of Public Services liaison who is a nonvoting member.
- Terms of membership are for three years, ending on April 3 in the year of expiration, except for the Township Board member whose term shall be limited to the term he or she is a member of the Township Board; provided, however, that nothing herein shall prohibit the Township Board from removing and/or replacing the Township Board member from time to time during his/her tenure of office on the Township Board.

Duties:

- The Public Services Commission is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the water supply and sewer systems of the Township of Grosse Ile, and for the pickup of garbage and other forms of solid waste within the Township and for the disposal thereof.
- The Commission shall administer and have general supervision over the operation of the Grosse Ile Department of Public Services.
- The Commission shall have the authority to manage, improve, extend, maintain, equip, operate, and regulate the water supply and sewer systems of the Township.
- The Commission shall have the power to make all necessary rules and regulations governing the Department of Public Services and pertaining to the operation and maintenance of the water supply and sewer systems of the Township including lateral sewer systems; provided, however, that all such rules and regulations shall be subject to approval by the Township Board before they shall become effective.
- The Commission shall recommend to the Township Board from time to time any changes in sewer, water and/or refuse rates and any extensions or improvements needed to such systems; provided, however, that no rate shall be effective unless approved by the Township Board.
- Whereas the Department of Community Development and Department of Public Services have been consolidated, Public Services Commission responsibilities shall include oversight of planning, zoning, ordinance enforcement, and building services.
- Whereas the former Road Committee has been consolidated with the Public Services Commission, responsibilities shall include oversight of roads and bike paths.
- Whereas the former Drainage Task Force has been consolidated with the Public Services Commission, responsibilities shall include oversight of drainage issues and stormwater management.

Meetings Held:

- Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at Township Hall.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Members should have an interest in or demonstrated experience in architecture, landscape architecture, building construction, civil engineering.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Establishment:

- The ZBA is created pursuant to the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, Public Act 110 of 2006.

Duties:

- The ZBA shall act on all questions as they may arise in the administration of the Zoning Chapter, including the interpretation of the Zoning Chapter and zoning district maps. The ZBA shall also hear and decide appeals from and review any order, requirements, decision, or determination made by an administrative official or body charged with enforcement of this chapter. The ZBA shall also hear and decide matters referred to it or upon which it is required to pass under this chapter. In doing so, the ZBA may reverse or affirm, wholly or partly, or may modify the order, requirement, decision, or determination as in its opinion ought to be made in the premises, and to that end shall have all the powers of the officer or body from whom the appeal is taken.
- In acting on appeals or requests for variances, the ZBA shall comply with the provisions of Article 23. While the ZBA may grant dimensional or other site plan related variances for special land uses, the ZBA shall not have the power to reverse the Township Board decision to approve or deny a special land use permit nor reverse special land use standards or conditions of approval. The ZBA shall not have the power to alter or change the zoning district classification of any property.
- A member of the ZBA who is also a member of the Planning Commission or the Township Board shall not vote on an appeal of a decision that the member voted on as a member of the Planning Commission, or the Township Board. However, that member may vote on variance requests involving the same property, including any variances that were made a condition of approval by the Planning Commission, or the Township Board.

Meetings Held:

- Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at Township Hall.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Members should have an interest in or demonstrated experience in architecture, landscape architecture, building construction, civil engineering.