

SPRINGFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP



SEAN R. MILLER, CLERK

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Dennis Stacherski Project Manager Interview

Springfield Township

12000 Davisburg Road, Davisburg, MI 48350

February 16, 2026

2:00 PM

PRESENT:

- Richard L. Davis, Township Supervisor
- Greg Need, Township Attorney
- Gerald Fisher, Township Special Council
- Dennis Stacherski, Resident
- Amanda Gruzin, Resident
- Chris Todd, Resident
- Kevin Sclesky, Township Trustee
- Lori Beatty, Township Trustee
- Danielle Sink, Supervisor's Assistant/Recording Secretary

Supervisor Davis opened the meeting by acknowledging Mr. Stacherski's earlier correspondence and explaining that the township is still in the early stages of the project.

Mr. Dennis Stacherski explained his background at General Motors in detail, describing decades of experience managing major industrial projects. He highlighted his involvement in large scale tooling installations, major plant conversions, and coordination with contractors and engineering firms. He also discussed his interactions with union leadership and the role of internal approvals within a corporate environment. His career history was extensive, and he provided several examples of working on long, complex projects requiring coordination across multiple teams.

As the discussion moved into how Mr. Stacherski would handle public sensitivity and the nature of township projects, Supervisor Davis began asking more situational questions.

Mr. Stacherski acknowledged that he had no direct experience working in the public sector. He stated that aspects of the role concerned him, including the level of public scrutiny, the likelihood of criticism, and the overall stress that comes with community involvement. He noted that at his age and stage of life, he takes these factors seriously. When asked about maintaining neutrality, he admitted that doing so would be difficult, as the Ormond Road project directly affects him. He explained that he sees the project as

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having a negative personal impact, raising questions about whether he could separate his own perspective from the responsibilities of the role.

Throughout the interview, Supervisor Davis and other board members took time to clarify the township's obligations, explaining that unlike private companies, local governments must follow strict due process requirements. They emphasized that the township cannot take a predetermined position, guide a project toward a specific outcome, or shape decisions based on internal goals the way a corporation might. They also explained that public projects must remain open, transparent, and neutral, and that the board must allow information to develop before conclusions are drawn.

These explanations revealed gaps in Mr. Stacherski's understanding, particularly regarding how public sector projects differ from private industrial ones. Several times, Mr. Stacherski framed his responses around private sector decision making, suggesting that the township should establish an internal goal and work toward it, which board members explained was not legally permissible.

When asked about how he would establish schedules and manage project dependencies, Mr. Stacherski described general practices used in industrial project management. He outlined the need to identify an end date, list all required tasks, meet with the involved parties, and assign time frames. While his explanations covered the basics of schedule building, they did not address the complexities unique to working with regulatory agencies, public meetings, environmental reviews, or residents with differing views. When discussing early warning signs of schedule delays, he emphasized adherence to the schedule but did not provide examples relevant to the township's environment. In some areas, his responses remained vague, and he noted several times that he would need more information about the township's goals before determining whether he would even consider accepting the position.

During the interview, Supervisor Davis intervened when appropriate to guide the discussion back to relevant topics and to ensure that all remaining questions were addressed. His approach helped keep the interview grounded and moving efficiently, allowing other board members to raise their concerns as well.

Multiple members explained that Mr. Stacherski's experience, although significant, did not seem to align with the governmental setting of the project. They noted that his comments suggested misunderstandings about the township's process and about the stage the project is currently in. They also shared concerns that his private sector background had not prepared him for the legal, procedural, and public facing aspects of the role.

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As these points became clearer, the board reached a general consensus that Mr. Stacherski did not demonstrate the fit needed for a public sector project manager. They acknowledged his decades of experience and thanked him for his honesty, but the discussion made it evident that he lacked familiarity with due process requirements, the need for complete neutrality, and the unique expectations of public sector project oversight.

Mr. Stacherski stated that he understood their position and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to interview.

Supervisor Davis concluded the meeting respectfully, with no further action taken regarding his candidacy.

Danielle Sink, Recording Secretary/Supervisor's Assistant

3/11/24

Date

Approved By Ric Davis, Township Supervisor

3/11/24

Date