

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Meeting
June 26, 2007

The Oshtemo Township Board regular meeting was held at the Township Hall. Supervisor John VanDyke called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Supervisor John VanDyke
Clerk Deb Everett
Treasurer Nancy Culp
Trustee Dave Bushouse
Trustee James Grace
Trustee Stan Rakowski
Trustee Neil Sikora

Also present was James Porter, Township Attorney, Marc Elliott, Township Engineer, and Senior Planner Mary Lynn Bugge.

Motion by Grace, second by Sikora to approve the June 12th regular meeting minutes. Carried.

Income to the General and Fire Funds of \$165,317.99 and disbursements of \$244,438.38 were reported. Motion by Grace, second by Culp to accept the receipts and disbursements report. Carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None.

RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE HOUSE BILL 4780

A resolution requesting the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners oppose legislation that would take tax collection, assessing, and election administration away from townships and transfer them to the county with requirements the township compensate the county for the services was before the Board.

Motion by Grace, second by Sikora to adopt the resolution. Roll call showed Bushouse-yes, Culp-yes, Everett-yes, Grace-yes, Rakowski-yes, Sikora-yes, VanDyke-yes.

MEETING ROOM CHAIRS

A proposal from West Michigan Office Interiors to supply 100 new audience chairs for the meeting room in the amount of \$10,027.00 was before the Board.

Motion by Grace, second by Everett to approve the expenditure. Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

PROPOSED REZONING – ALMENA TOWNSHIP

Senior Planner Bugge advised notice was received from Almena Township of a rezoning request for a parcel at the northwest corner of West Main and VanKal Street requesting it be rezoned from Residential to Commercial. She noted the request is not supported by Almena Township's Master Land Use Plan and our MLUP calls for rural residential on the Oshtemo side of the area. Consensus was to send a letter to Almena Township expressing our opposition to the request.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Grace commented in light of the proposed legislation to take away Township duties, he would be interested in investigating the pros and cons and process to become a city. Consensus was to support Mr. Grace's suggestion.

Trustee Bushouse advised he met with Mike Lutke of Kalamazoo Pool regarding the use of the Oshtemo Community Center property for access and advised him the previous permission given for temporary use has expired. Supervisor VanDyke advised he has also spoken with Mr. Lutke.

Supervisor VanDyke commented he had received a complaint regarding a fence placed behind a lot on Rupal Street. Discussion included the fence is 12 to 14 feet high and constructed of metal, the Township does not have any ordinances that address fence height or materials nor does the building code which only requires a permit if a fence is over six feet tall and more than 50% solid. It was noted a proposed fence ordinance brought to the Township Board in 2002 by the Planning Commission was not accepted. Discussion included looking at such language again. Consensus was to request the Planning Commission revisit the issue and make a recommendation.

Supervisor VanDyke also commented the Kalamazoo City Water Department is requesting voluntary sprinkling rationing due in part to the new tower on Beech Street being under construction.

Trustee Grace advised the Building Department has advised the Safety Committee an exterior door cannot be installed in the break room or utility closet as suggested; other avenues will be explored.

Attorney Porter advised the Township has been removed from the Phase II Stormwater program.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m. to enable the Board to attend the Alamo Zoning Board meeting regarding the proposed gravel pit at West G Avenue and North 10th Street.

DEBORAH L. EVERETT
Township Clerk

Attested: John VanDyke
Supervisor