

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Meeting
August 28, 2007

The Oshtemo Township Board public comment session 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, Senior Planner Mary Lynn Bugge, and 2 interested people.

Request for GIS Maps – Senior Planner Bugge advised a request had been received from Kalamazoo County Planning Department for the Township's commercial and industrial zoning and use maps for inclusion on a countywide GIS map. Discussion included this would be an economic development tool in providing an overall view of the county.

Motion by Grace, second by Rakowski to release the commercial and industrial zoning and land use GIS layers to Kalamazoo County. Carried.

Meeting Room Update – Trustee Bushouse advised the two options available to correct the unacceptable painting were the room can be repainted at no cost or vinyl wall covering provided for \$1,700. Consensus was to select a vinyl wall covering.

Trustee Sikora requested when information is distributed, the sender should provide an explanation if needed and their identity.

Attorney Porter advised the Alamo Township Board met in closed session on August 29th then directed their attorney to proceed as they discussed without disclosing their intent.

The public comment session was adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.

Supervisor VanDyke called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Also present was James Porter, Township Attorney, Marc Elliott, Township Engineer, Senior Planner Mary Lynn Bugge, Building Official Bob Horton, Acting Fire Chief Paul Karnemaat and 14 interested people.

Motion by Grace, second by Sikora to approve the August 14th regular meeting minutes. Carried.

Income to the General and Fire Funds of \$103,470.59 and disbursements of \$286,720.25 were reported. Motion by Grace, second by Sikora to accept the receipts and disbursements report. Carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Richard Hertzell, 2484 Isle Harbor Court, inquired why the mast traffic light arms were not installed at West Main and Drake Road. He was advised the project was under the jurisdiction of MDOT.

FINAL APPROVAL OF A PRELIMINARY PLAN – STEP 2 – OLD SAVANNAH SITE CONDOMINIUM

Senior Planner Bugge presented the Old Savannah Site Condominium for Step 2, Final Approval of a Preliminary Plan. She advised the proposed development consists of 49 single family sites on 27 acres located on the north side of West H Avenue west of the existing Savannah development, zoned R-2, public water and sewer will be provided, all individual sites meet the dimensional requirements, provisions for sidewalks and street lights are indicated on the plan, and all streets will be public.

She further advised stormwater basins will be private, owned and maintained by the condominium association with some stormwater flowing to the existing basin in the adjacent Savannah development with appropriate easements documents necessary.

Motion by Culp, second by Grace to grant Final Approval of a Preliminary Plan to Old Savannah subject to the conditions stated in the Township Engineer's letter of August 1, 2007 and the letter from the Kalamazoo County Road Commission dated August 22, 2007. Carried.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT VEHICLE

A request from Building Official Bob Horton was tabled at the August 14th meeting for more information. Mr. Horton provided his justification for purchase of a vehicle. Discussion centered on the need and use of other Township vehicles. Consensus was if other vehicles are used to their maximum potential, another vehicle would be justified; Board members commented employees doing field work should be using a Township vehicle, for identification and liability purposes. Trustee Sikora noted the Employee Handbook indicates a log shall be kept for each vehicle. Mr. Horton was asked to provide the quotes for the proposed vehicle in an itemized form.

TEXT AMENDMENTS – TRUCK ROUTE ORDINANCE

Attorney Porter presented proposed text amendments to the Truck Route Ordinance that would prohibit use of engine brakes in certain areas of the Township as determined by the Board. It was noted the prohibition of use would not apply to emergency vehicles.

Mr. Porter advised the matter of posting the recently defined no truck routes is still pending with the Kalamazoo County Road Commission.

Motion by Grace, second by Sikora to accept the text amendments for First Reading and set Second Reading for September 11th. Carried.

TEXT AMENDMENTS – CEMETERY ORDINANCE – SECOND READING

The proposed text amendments to the Cemetery Ordinance that remove references to a sexton, and clarify regulations regarding markers, interments, and burial containers was before the Board for Second Reading.

Motion by Everett, second by Sikora to adopt the text amendments. Carried.

TEXT AMENDMENTS – PARK ORDINANCE – SECOND READING

The proposed text amendments to the Park Ordinance to include all properties owned by the Township used or to be used for park purposes to describe the Oshtemo Township Park, Flesher Field, the Oshtemo Community Center, the Drake House, the Grange Hall, the Old Township Hall, parcel on West KL Avenue west of the landfill, and the property on Stadium Park Way was before the Board for Second Reading.

Motion by Sikora, second by Culp to adopt the text amendments. Carried.

CEMETERY FENCING – WEST OSHTEMO & HILL CEMETERIES

Clerk Everett presented three proposals for installation of new fencing at West Oshtemo and Hill Cemeteries. She advised former Trustee Grace Borgfjord who coordinated the project last year for the Genesee Prairie Cemetery fence project had graciously agreed to do the same again and thanked her for her work on this project. Low bid was from The Post Man at \$28,770 for both cemeteries. Ms. Everett noted the Genesee Prairie fence was also done by this company and we were very pleased. She also presented a proposal from Handley's Tree Service in the amount of \$2,000 for the necessary tree removal and trimming that would be required before the fence installation.

Motion by Everett, second by Rakowski to accept the proposals from The Post Man and Handley's Tree Service as presented. Carried.

KALAMAZOO REGIONAL WATER/WASTEWATER AUTHORITY DUES

Supervisor VanDyke presented a recommendation to pay the requested dues of \$1,500 to the Kalamazoo Regional Water/Wastewater Authority. Attorney Porter noted progress is being made on the water contract negotiations.

Motion by Grace, second by Culp to pay the dues. Carried with Bushouse voting no.

TEXT AMENDMENTS – SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE

Proposed draft language for an amendments to the Solid Waste Reduction Ordinance was before the Board. Supervisor VanDyke advised a committee of Supervisors had been working on this issue for some time, the intent being to encourage recycling to reduce the amount of solid waste with a concern that if the entities within the county do not promote recycling it could have a negative impact should another landfill be proposed in the future.

Trustee Bushouse commented he was opposed to the requirement of charging for recycling, the waste haulers make money on the recycling and the consumer should have the choice.

In response to other questions, there was discussion that some units are considering a single hauler, and the ordinance does not apply to other than single family residential creating a double standard by not requiring recycling for multiple family and/or commercial sites.

Motion by Everett, second by Sikora to direct the Township Attorney to prepare the draft language in ordinance format and consider how the ordinance can be applied to multiple family and commercial sites. Carried with Bushouse voting no.

**OTHER BUSINESS
FIRE CHIEF RESIGNATION**

Attorney Porter advised a letter had been received from Fire Chief Ken Howe advising he was resigning effective September 1st.

Motion by Rakowski, second by Grace to accept the resignation, appoint Deputy Chief Paul Karnemaat as Interim Fire Chief and direct the Personnel Director and Personnel Committee to begin the process of filling the position. Carried.

ST. CHARLES SEWER PUMP STATION ABANDONMENT

Engineer Elliott presented a proposal from James E. Fulton & Sons in the amount of \$51, 889.10 for the abandonment of the sanitary sewer pump station located in the LaSalle Plat which has been replaced by the recently installed station near the Pinehurst and Village Place developments. He advised the proposal also includes installation of drainage structures for future use by the LaSalle drainage district in the amount of \$6,159.50 and noted this may be reimbursed at a later date when the Kalamazoo County Drain Commission Office is able to complete the project.

Motion by Grace, second by Rakowski to accept the proposal as presented. Carried.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:10 p.m.

DEBORAH L. EVERETT
Township Clerk

Attested: John VanDyke
Supervisor