

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Meeting
September 26, 2006

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

PRESENT:

Supervisor John VanDyke
Clerk Deb Everett
Treasurer Nancy Culp
Trustee Grace Borgfjord
Trustee Dave Bushouse
Trustee Neil Sikora

Also present was James Porter, Township Attorney, Bob Snell and Marc Elliott, Township Engineers, and Jodi Stefforia, Planning Director.

Planning Director Stefforia advised a grant had been awarded from MDOT for a bike path on the north side of West Main between 9th and 10th Streets in addition to the grant already received for the south side. Discussion included how the local portion should be funded. Ms. Stefforia also advised a grant could be sought for a bike path in conjunction with the road project scheduled for South 9th Street.

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

Also present was James Porter, Township Attorney, Bob Snell and Marc Elliott, Township Engineers, Jodi Stefforia, Planning Director, Ordinance Enforcement Officer Scott Paddock and 3 interested people.

Motion by Culp, second by Borgfjord to approve the September 12th regular and September 19th special meeting minutes. Carried.

Income to the General and Fire Funds of \$34,398.67 and disbursements of \$334,978.86 were reported. Motion by Sikora, second by Borgfjord to accept the receipts and disbursements report. Carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mike Lutke, owner of Kalamazoo Pool at 3357 South 9th Street, advised the traffic situation on South 9th Street has become very difficult for employees, customers and deliveries to his business. He requested permission to use access to the back of his property through Township owned property. It was noted traffic has increased on 9th Street due to the current road projects on I-94, US-131, and Stadium Drive.

Motion by Culp, second by Bushouse to direct the attorney to prepare a document allowing for use of a temporary easement for property owners on South 9th Street through Township owned property between Parkview Avenue and Atlantic Street. Carried.

Leatrice Swander, 3133 South 6th Street, presented a copy of the Kalamazoo County Democratic Party newsletter noting the information provided regarding Kalamazoo County Commission candidate John Niewenhuis was erroneous.

REZONING 8TH STREET – SECOND READING

A recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve the rezoning of six acres of a 10 acre parcel located on the west side of South 8th Street immediately behind the development known as Emberly Acres from “C” Local Business to “R-2” Residential was before the Board for Second Reading.

Motion by Culp, second by Sikora to approve the rezoning. Roll call showed Borgfjord-yes, Bushouse-yes, Culp-yes, Everett-yes, Sikora-yes, VanDyke-yes.

SIGN ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENTS – SECOND READING

A recommendation from the Planning Commission for approval of text amendments to the Sign Ordinance was before the Board for Second Reading.

Motion by Everett, second by Sikora to adopt the text amendments. Roll call showed Bushouse-yes, Culp-yes, Everett-yes, Sikora-yes, VanDyke-yes, Borgfjord-yes.

ZONING ENABLING ACT – SECOND READING

A recommendation from the Planning Commission for approval of text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance necessary to comply with the new Zoning Enabling Act adopted by the State effective July 1st to replace the Township Zoning Act was before the Board for Second Reading.

Trustee Bushouse commented he has concerns regarding deviations being granted by the same body that implements the requirements and feels such requests should be heard by the Zoning Board of Appeals and requested the Township Attorney provide an opinion on the issue to the Board.

Motion by Culp, second by Borgfjord to adopt the text amendments. Roll call showed Culp-yes, Everett-yes, Sikora-yes, VanDyke-yes, Borgfjord-yes, Bushouse-no.

NOISE ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

Ordinance Enforcement Officer Paddock presented proposed amendments to the Township’s Noise Ordinance regarding barking dogs, hours allowed for construction to occur including emergency construction, hours for race tracks to operate and generators for emergency power.

Motion by Borgfjord, second by Everett to accept the proposed amendments for First Reading and set Second Reading on October 10th. Carried.

RECEIVING BOARD RESOLUTION

Clerk Everett presented a resolution to establish a receiving board for the November 7th election advising the State requires the local unit to adopt such a resolution.

Motion by Culp, second by Borgfjord to adopt the resolution establishing a receiving board for the November 7th election. Roll call showed Everett-yes, Sikora-yes, VanDyke-yes, Borgfjord-yes, Bushouse-yes, Culp-yes.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Supervisor VanDyke commented Kalamazoo County is interested in compiling county wide GIS information for a web site.

Trustee Bushouse commented he and Engineer Elliott had walked the property adjacent to the landfill and feel a fence will be needed due to the slopes being left.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:50 p.m.

DEBORAH L. EVERETT
Township Clerk

Attested: John VanDyke
Supervisor