

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Minutes
Special Meeting
November 16, 2011

The Oshtemo Township Board held a special meeting at the Oshtemo Township Hall. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell
Clerk Deb Everett
Treasurer Nancy Culp
Trustee Grace Borgfjord
Trustee Dave Bushouse
Trustee Scott Ernestes
Trustee Lee Larson

Also present was Township Attorney James Porter and 13 interested people.

UTILITY CONTROL ORDINANCE AMENDMENT – FIRST READING

Attorney Porter presented for Board consideration an amendment to the Utility Control Ordinance which would require any utility wishing to construct utility lines, wires and related equipment and facilities to provide a detailed description of their proposed project including explanation of why the location was chosen, a description of any alternate locations considered and why not selected, an analysis of the Zoning Ordinance as to compliance and any such utilities would be required to be placed underground within the public road right-of-way and to a point within 250 feet either side of the right-of-way. The Township could also choose to hold a public hearing on any such application and the utility would be required to attend. Mr. Porter noted the amendments are based on State law that provides local jurisdictions with authority over the public right-of-way.

Micki Maxwell, 3020 South 6th Street, inquired and was advised the underground requirement would not apply to the Rural Residential zoning district.

Ward Squires, 4301 Carver Drive, inquired if the ordinance could be overturned by State or Federal law. Mr. Porter advised any ordinance can be challenged but he believes a recent Attorney General opinion says the Township has authority as described in the proposed ordinance language.

Motion by Ernestes, second by Borgfjord to accept the ordinance amendments for First Reading. Carried.

Motion by Larson, second by Borgfjord to set Second Reading for a special meeting to be held on November 22nd. Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

TOWNSHIP LIABILITY, PROPERTY, & VEHICLE INSURANCE RENEWAL

As discussed at the November 9th Board work session, the Township's liability, property and vehicle insurance package was due for renewal. Attorney Porter advised he would recommend adding the sewer back up coverage available.

Motion by Heiny-Cogswell, second by Everett to renew the policies with EMC Insurance Companies with the addition of sewer back up coverage as recommended by Attorney Porter, at an annual premium of \$57,445.00. Carried.

2012 ROAD PROJECTS

A list of recommended chip seal road projects from the Capital Improvement Committee was before the

Board:

- 1st Street – Alma to M-43
- 3rd Street
- H Avenue – 2nd Street to VanKal
- GH Avenue – (partial)
- ML Avenue – 4th Street to 6th Street
- Sunnywood Drive – 2nd Street to Springwood Drive

Brekke Lane (partial)
Nature Way (partial)
Crystal Lane
Highland View Drive & Kullenbrooke Drive (partial)
Quail Run Drive
Vienna Street (partial)
Valley Industrial Drive (partial)
Maple Hill Drive (partial)
Croyden Avenue (partial)
Chadd's Ford Way (if water extension is resolved)

It was noted residents must petition for and be assessed for the "seal layer" for the chip seal projects; an informational letter will be mailed to those affected.

Motion by Borgfjord, second by Everett to approve the list of projects as presented. Carried.

DRAKE ROAD SIDEWALK – CONSULTANT

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised that staff and the Capital Improvements Committee (CIC) reviewed proposals from four consultants for the study of and conceptual design for sidewalks on the west side of Drake Road from Stadium Drive to Croyden Avenue, a top priority for non-motorized facilities identified by the Park Committee in 2010 and budgeted for in 2011. She noted the consultant would consider the appropriateness of sidewalks by segment, develop a conceptual plan, designed with public input detail and cost estimates required by grant agencies so the plans can be used to pursue grant opportunities. Based upon staff review, the CIC recommends the proposal from Williams & Works in the amount of \$14,200 be accepted.

Motion by Borgfjord, second by Larson to accept the proposal from Williams & Works as presented. Carried.

TOWNSHIP PARK PROJECT CHANGE ORDER

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised due to insufficient soil compaction for the basketball court area in the Township Park, the recommendation is to undercut and install a sand sub-base at an additional cost of \$3,600.

Motion by Everett, second by Larson to approve the additional work at \$3,600 as presented. Carried.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:35 p.m.

DEBORAH L. EVERETT
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Attested: LIBBY HEINY-COGSWELL
SUPERVISOR