

**THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO**  
**Township Board Meeting**  
**October 23, 2012**

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

**PRESENT:**

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

Also present was Township Attorney James Porter and Parks Administrator Karen High.

**Discussion - Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department** – Capt. William Timmerman was present and advised the Township is KCSD's busiest jurisdiction in number of calls for service. He also noted the consultant contracted by Kalamazoo County has begun a feasibility study for a central dispatch.

**Discussion** – Parks Administrator Karen High reviewed revised and updated rules for the Township's parks use as recommended by the Parks Committee. A final draft will be brought back to the Board as a text amendment to the Park Ordinance.

**Update – Grange Playground** – Parks Administrator High also advised one bid was received for the small playground at the Grange Hall; upon review it was much higher than the donations available therefore, the Parks Committee will revisit this in the spring.

The public comment session was adjourned at approximately 6:35 p.m.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

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

Also present was Township Attorney James Porter, Planning Director Greg Milliken and 1 interested people.

Motion by Culp, second by Larson to approve the October 9<sup>th</sup> regular meeting minutes. Carried.

Income to the General, Building, Fire, and Sewer & Water Funds of \$65,870.70 and disbursements of \$113,306.07 were reported. Motion by Borgfjord, second by Culp to accept the receipts and disbursements report. Carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

**LANDSCAPING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS – SECOND READING**

A recommendation from the Planning Commission to amend the Zoning Ordinances related to landscaping and land clearing, requiring in subdivisions and site condominiums trees be planted along internal streets and greenspace and landscaping be provided on external roadways to provide screening for rear yards, that some of the plantings be native to lower Michigan, incentive for preserving trees and native vegetation, a clear cutting permit would be required for one or more acres of land with the exceptions of residential parcels of two acres or less, developments required to go through the site plan review process, and clearing for roads, drives, and utility easements, and would require erosion and sediment controls and a 20 foot buffer of undisturbed vegetation along roadways and property lines was before the Board for Second Reading.

Motion by Heiny-Cogswell, second by Borgfjord to adopt the text amendments. Carried.

### **GRANGE PLAYGROUND**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised as discussed at the earlier session, one bid was received for the small playground at the Grange Hall; upon review it was much higher than the donations available therefore, the Parks Committee will revisit this in the spring.

### **INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER FRANCHISE AGREEMENT – SECOND READING**

A request from Indiana Michigan Power to renew a franchise agreement, first issued in 1982 was before the Board for Second Reading. Attorney Porter advised one change had been requested to add language referencing compliance with requirements of the ordinance “that are enforceable under Michigan law”; he felt this was acceptable.

Motion by Borgfjord, second by Everett to adopt the ordinance as amended. Carried.

### **US 131 BUSINESS ROUTE INTERCHANGE PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING STUDY MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell presented a resolution to enter into an agreement with Kalamazoo Township, the City of Parchment and the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) to proceed with a preliminary engineering study of the US 131 Business Route Interchange noting the project is now ready to go forward. She noted the Township had in 2009 authorized \$5,000 toward this effort, as had the other entities involved. In response to Board Members questions, she advised the time line should be about six months to complete the study.

Motion by Everett, second by Ernestes to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the agreement.

### **NON MOTORIZED FACILITIES SNOW PLOW CONTRACT**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised one bid was received for snow removal for the non-motorized facilities in the Township from DeVisser Landscape Service in the amount of \$9,090.00 per season or \$505.00 per plow, the same prices as the last two seasons. She noted twelve vendors were invited to bid. Consensus was to approve the per plow bid.

Motion by Everett, second by Borgfjord to accept the per plow bid of \$505.00. Carried.

### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Trustee Ernestes advised this would be his last board meeting, he will be absent November 13<sup>th</sup>. He commented he has enjoyed his time on the Board and working with fellow board members, especially that there are no politics involved in working for the citizens. Board members thanked Trustee Ernestes for his service and encouraged him to stay involved.

Trustee Bushouse commented others running for office should have been attending Board meetings and checking the facts where some of the information being distributed is concerned.

Trustee Borgfjord encouraged all to exercise the freedom to vote.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately at 7:25 p.m.

**DEBORAH L. EVERETT**  
Township Clerk

**Attested: LIBBY HEINY-COSGWELL**  
Supervisor