

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Minutes

February 11, 1997

The Oshtemo Township Board held its regular meeting at the Township Hall. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Fleckenstein at 7:05 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Ron Fleckenstein Trustee Marvin Block
 Treasurer Lois Brown Trustee David Bushouse
 Trustee Norman Anderson

ABSENT: Clerk Elaine Branch
 Trustee Fred Johnson

Also present was Richard Reed, Township Attorney, along with 6 interested people.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Motion made by Brown, seconded by Anderson, to approve the minutes of our last meeting, January 14, 1997, as prepared. Carried.

Income to the General Fund of \$22,502.09 and disbursements of \$132,772.73 were reported. Fire Fund income was \$258.45 with disbursements of \$94,549.53. Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Block to approve the report and pay the bills. Carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

SEWER MAIN CONNECTION CHARGES

Supervisor Fleckenstein presented a resolution recommended by the Sewer and Water Committee to change the sewer main connection fees. The new fees would be as follows:

Assessable front foot - \$20.00
 Connection fee - \$2,000.00
 Benefit unit fee - \$1,000.00

Treasurer Brown noted that the language on page 1, item #4 of the resolution should be changed to read "shall continue to be due" as the fees relate to special assessment districts.

Vincent Bianco, 5093 West Michigan, addressed his particular situation.

Trustee Bushouse questioned if users are billed by number of benefit units, and was advised by Treasurer Brown users are billed by volume use.

Motion made by Brown, seconded by Block to approve the resolution with the correction of item #4, page 1, striking "shall be required" and inserting "shall continue to be due". Roll call vote showed all Board Members voting "aye".

CABLEVISION RATE INCREASE REQUEST

Supervisor Fleckenstein presented a resolution to approve a rate increase for Cablevision of Michigan. He advised the board that the rates are regulated by the FCC who establishes the guidelines for rate increases. The Township can ensure the increase is within the guidelines which has been done by our auditing firm.

Motion made by Brown, seconded by Block to approve the resolution. Roll call vote showed all Board Members voting "aye".

YOUNG OFFENDERS ALCOHOL and DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM

Supervisor Fleckenstein advised the board that the Township's Legal Counsel has been approached by 8th District Court Judge Vincent Westra, proposing that the Township support the use of the Young Offenders Alcohol and Drug Awareness Program. Kalamazoo County Sheriff Tom Edmonds also supports use of this program.

Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Brown to support adopting the program. Carried.

WEST MAIN REZONING

The Planning Commission recommended denial of a rezoning request from Jack Hamilton for property located at 6297 West Main. Lara Meeuwse presented the Planning Commission report, indicating the original request for this parcel was expanded by the commission to include several adjoining parcels, as is their practice to look at the overall area being considered. Siting concerns of the proposed rezoning as it relates to the Master Land Use Plan and the 9th Street Focus Area Development Plan, the commission recommended denial.

Trustee Block indicated he supported the Planning Commission recommendation and that there were other possibilities for development. Wilfred Dennie, Chairman of the Planning Commission agreed, stating for example a Planned Unit Development (PUD) would allow development without the need to rezone.

Jack Hamilton, 3861 North 2nd Street, indicated he and other property owners in the area had discussed putting together a conceptual plan for development but it would be a very expensive undertaking with no guarantee of approval from the Township. He further commented his original request was for his parcel only, not the expanded area.

After further discussion, motion made by Block to approve the Planning Commission recommendation and deny the rezoning request. Motion died for lack of support.

Motion made by Bushouse to refer the rezoning request back to the Planning Commission. Motion died for lack of support.

Motion made by Bushouse to refer Mr. Hamilton's original request of his parcel only, back to the Planning Commission to consider for rezoning to "R-3". Motion died for lack of support.

Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Brown to table this matter until the March 11th meeting. Carried 4 to 1 with Block voting "no".

RESCIND APPROVAL - PROPOSED OAK PARK PLAT

Supervisor Fleckenstein advised the board that the developer of the proposed Oak Park Plat, James Buford, has requested the board rescind their approval as he has decided to pursue this project as a site condominium project rather than a traditional plat. That process would not involve Township Board action.

Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Block to approve this request. Carried.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Bushouse inquired if Supervisor Fleckenstein had responded to the Oshtemo Business Association regarding the installation of American flags. Mr. Fleckenstein responded he had not but was still seeking a way to accomplish the project.

Trustee Bushouse also commented he thought the MTA conference was a very good experience.

Treasurer Brown distributed to the board a percentage breakdown of tax dollar distribution for 1996.

Trustee Block commented he felt the MTA conference was very helpful and a good experience.

There was no further business. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Deborah L. Everett
DEBORAH L. EVERETT
Deputy Township Clerk

Ron Fleckenstein
Attested: **RON FLECKENSTEIN**
Supervisor