

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO  
Board Work Session  
February 11, 2020  
6:00 PM

The Oshtemo Township Board Work Session was held at the Township Hall. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell  
Clerk Dusty Farmer  
Treasurer Grant Taylor  
Trustee Cheri Bell  
Trustee Deb Everett  
Trustee Zak Ford  
Trustee Ken Hudok

Also present were Township Attorney Jim Porter, Public Works Director Marc Elliott, Assistant to Supervisor Josh Owens, and approximately 70 interested people.

**Public Comment**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. Approximately 16 people spoke.

**Update from Kalamazoo County**

Postponed.

**Discussion on Zoning Ordinance Amendments**

Postponed.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell adjourned the work session at approximately 6:57 PM.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO  
Regular Board Meeting  
February 11, 2020  
6:00 PM

The Oshtemo Township Board Work Session was held at the Township Hall. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the meeting to order at approximately 7:21 PM.

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell  
Clerk Dusty Farmer  
Treasurer Grant Taylor  
Trustee Cheri Bell  
Trustee Deb Everett  
Trustee Zak Ford  
Trustee Ken Hudok

Also present were Township Attorney Jim Porter, Public Works Director Marc Elliott, Assistant to Supervisor Josh Owens, and approximately 42 interested people.

### **Public Comment**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. No one spoke.

### **Consent Agenda**

- a. Approve Minutes – January 14, 2020 and January 28, 2020
- b. Receipts and Disbursements Report
- c. Oshtemo Downtown Development Authority Budget Amendment
- d. Public Water Mandatory Connection Summary
- e. Public Water Connection Fees Amendment
- f. Fire Department SUV Response Vehicles Purchase
- g. Update on Fire Bay Door Repairs

Trustee Bell requested the removal of item c.

Motion by Ford, second by Taylor to approve the consent agenda without item c. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Discussion on Public Sewer Debt Service Fee**

Bendzinski & Co. presented the schedule of connections fees, debt service requirements, and coverage. No action necessary from the Board.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. Four people spoke.

### **Discussion on Sewer Hardship Policy**

Attorney Porter presented a draft public sanitary sewer deferment and abatement ordinance and a hardship exemption or deferment application for sewer. Many Board members expressed an interest in increasing the guidelines for abatement or deferment.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. Approximately seven people spoke.

The Board gave feedback to raise the poverty guidelines and expand the opportunity to finance the private side connections with the USDA rate. Attorney Porter will aim to bring back another draft at the next Board meeting.

### **Village Theme Development Plan – Public Hearing**

Postponed.

### **2020 Sidewalk and ADA Parking/Access Routes Inspection Fees**

Public Works Director Marc Elliott presented the recommendation for an increased inspection fee and an additional charge for a third inspection.

Motion by Taylor, second by Ford to approve the inspection fee increase to \$60 and the third inspection fee to \$30. Motion carried 6-1.

### **Other Township Business**

Item C- Downtown Development Budget Amendment: Requested dollars were approved in 2019 and not spent due to weather. It was noted that these are tax capture dollars that would have been sent outside of Oshtemo, and not general fund dollars.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. One person spoke.

Motion by Bell, second by Ford to approve the presented Downtown Development Authority amendment for \$380,000 for dollars that were approved in 2019 but not spent. Motion carried 7-0.

**Public Comment**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. Two people spoke.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:31 PM.

Prepared by: Dusty Farmer  
Township Clerk

Attested: Libby Heiny-Cogswell  
Township Supervisor