

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Board Meeting (Virtual)
February 23, 2021
6:00 PM

The Oshtemo Township Public Meeting was held virtually using the Zoom platform. Residents were able to join the meeting through both the Zoom application and by phone. Residents were able to give public comment through email, the Zoom platform, and by phone during the meeting. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.

PRESENT:

Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell- Oshtemo Township
Clerk Dusty Farmer- Oshtemo Township
Treasurer Clare Buszka- Oshtemo Township
Trustee Kristen Cole- Oshtemo Township
Trustee Zak Ford- Oshtemo Township

ABSENT:

Trustee Cheri Bell- Oshtemo (joined shortly after closed session began)
Trustee Kizzy Bradford- Oshtemo (joined shortly after closed session began)

Also present were Township Attorney Jim Porter, Public Works Director Marc Elliott, and approximately 4 interested people.

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

WORK SESSION ITEMS

Resolution to Enter Closed Session

Motion by Ford, second by Buszka to adopt a resolution to enter closed session at approximately 6:08 PM to hear opinion of counsel for information purposes only and not for the purpose of trial or litigation. Roll call. Resolution adopted 5-0, with Bell and Bradford absent. Trustee Bradford and Trustee Bell joined closed session shortly after it began.

Motion by Ford, second by Farmer to exit closed session at approximately 7:03 PM. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

REGULAR SESSION ITEMS

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Minutes – February 9th, 2021
- b. Receipts & Disbursements Report
- c. Kalamazoo Hazardous Materials Response Team Federal Grant
- d. 2021 Budget Amendments
- e. Sewer & Water Installment Agreement Refinancing Policy
- f. Fire Dept Lexipol Policies

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell asked if anyone wished to remove an item from the consent agenda.

Motion by Ford, second by Cole to approve the consent agenda. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

Consideration of Zoning Amendment for Nonconforming Uses - First Reading

Planning Director Iris Lubbert presented the amendment for Nonconforming Uses.

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

Motion by Ford, second by Bell to approve the zoning amendment for nonconforming uses for first reading and set second reading for March 9, 2021. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

Consideration of 2021 Road Maintenance Projects

Public Works Director Marc Elliott presented the proposed road maintenance projects for 2021. Road Commission Director Joanna Johnson and Mark Worden from the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC) were also present to provide information regarding the selection process and funding.

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

Motion by Ford, second by Cole to approve the 2021 PAR Road Maintenance Projects for a total of \$631,803, with a Township contribution of \$315,902 and the remaining balance paid by the RCKC. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

Consideration of Revisions to Oshtemo Township Fire Code Ordinance – First Reading

Attorney Porter presented the revisions that would amend all pertinent sections to reflect the NFPA-1 2021 addition.

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

Motion by Ford, second by Bell to accept the NFPA-1 2021 revisions for first reading and set second reading for March 9, 2021. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

Consideration of Request to DNR to Add No-discharge of Bow Arms to the No Discharge of Firearms Existing District in the Township

Attorney Porter presented the resolution to submit to the DNR as requested by the Township Board. The request is for the DNR to hold a hearing to use the existing discharge area in Oshtemo but add the no-discharge of bow arms.

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

Motion by Ford, second by Cole to adopt a resolution to request that the DNR hold a hearing to include bow arms in the non-discharge area that currently exists. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

Update on 2021 Sidewalk Construction Projects

Public Works Director Marc Elliott presented the proposed non-motorized projects for 2021 as recommended by the Capital Improvements Committee. The Board discussed the projects, particularly how to best move forward for the KL Ave project that is tied closely to the MDOT 131 bridge project in 2024, and how a non-motorize trail south of KL Ave on 11th Street might be constructed sooner. Mark Worden of the Road Commission shared that the RCKC and Amtrak have been in discussion regarding a safety project at that railroad crossing, and that he ensures that they are aware that the Township intends to move forward with a sidewalk project as soon as possible.

Public Comment

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

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:45 PM.

Prepared by: Dusty Farmer
Township Clerk

Attested: Libby Heiny-Cogswell
Township Supervisor