

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Meeting
April 24, 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, Fire Chief Mark Barnes, Deputy Fire Chief Rick Griffin, and 1 interested person.

PRESENTATION – TORNADO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Lt. Paul Baker, Kalamazoo County Emergency Management Director, provided information on severe weather patterns and history, methods of public notification and the role of his office during weather events.

Anne Howley-O'Brien, American Red Cross Regional Director, provided information on locations designated as Red Cross emergency shelters, sheltering at home and recommended items for an emergency kit.

Fire Chief Barnes provided information on tornado sirens, effectiveness, number that would be needed for the Township and partial cost information.

The public comment session was adjourned at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the regular meeting to order at 7:10 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, Fire Chief Mark Barnes, Deputy Fire Chief Rick Griffin, Planning Consultant Greg Milliken, and 5 interested people.

Motion by Ernstes, second by Borgfjord to approve the April 10th regular meeting minutes. Carried.

Income to the General, Building, Fire, and Sewer & Water Funds of \$41,279.39 and disbursements of \$256,081.12 were reported. Motion by Borgfjord, second by Culp to accept the receipts and disbursements report. Carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

UPDATES

ITC TRANSMISSION LINE

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised there has been no contact from ITC and the NICE group has learned easements have been negotiated with four or five property owners. Attorney Porter advised NICE has contacted Attorney Bill Fahey regarding representing them at the Michigan Public Service Commission; he has experience at that level. Attorney Porter noted that while Mr. Fahey represents the Township regarding the truck route litigation, he does not feel there would be a conflict with him representing NICE.

KALAMAZOO AREA BUILDING AUTHORITY (KABA)

Township representative Trustee Larson advised the KABA Board has adopted a budget and fee schedule which will be going to the respective units for approval within the next month. He also advised thirteen applications were received for the part time director position; the Board will be making the selection in the next few weeks.

MEIJER EAST ENTRY DRIVE

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised she had received information that MDOT is recommending a modification to the West Main Meijer East entry drive, making it right in, right out only through the construction of a triangular island in the drive approach, thus preventing a left turn from that drive onto M43, and also preventing a left turn into Meijer’s drive from eastbound M43 traffic; the redirected traffic would use Meijer entry drives on 9th Street via the signalized intersection at 9th and M43, MDOT is in the process of developing cost estimates and options for funding which could include MDOT safety, local, or private monies, or some combination therein. She advised although safety projects are committed five years hence, “left over” monies, if any exist in any given year, could be used for the project.

Trustee Bushouse commented he has the same concerns for the western most Meijer drive onto West Main.

SKY KING MEADOWS 2 – STEP 1 PRELIMINARY PLAN

A request was before the Board for Step I tentative preliminary plan approval for Sky King Meadows 2 Open Space community. Planning Consultant Greg Milliken advised the Planning Commission had reviewed the request and recommends approval subject to the final preliminary plan submitted within one year, appropriate legal documents and conveyances necessary for permanent protection of the dedicated open space are provided with final site plan approval, number of units in a cluster reduced from four to two and side yard setback reduced from 10 feet to 5 feet is found to satisfy the intent of the open space requirements, the stormwater system will require review by the Township Engineer for final site plan approval and shall comply with all county requirements, details as to proposed street lighting are required to be in compliance with Township policy and ordinance standards, and final preliminary plan shall be reviewed and approved by the Township Engineer and Fire Department.

Motion by Borgfjord, second by Larson to grant Step I Preliminary Plan approval subject to the conditions of the Planning Commission recommendation. Carried.

FIREWORKS PERMIT APPLICATION

Fire Chief Barnes presented a fireworks permit application from Andy Webb representing Wolverine Fireworks, Inc. to conduct a fireworks show on June 29th (rain date June 30th) at the Prairies Golf Course on West Main. He advised the application was in order and a certificate of liability insurance had been provided with the Township named as an additional insured.

Motion by Borgfjord, second by Everett to approve the fireworks permit. Carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

Fire Chief Barnes advised in preparation for the upcoming Insurance Services Office (ISO) inspection some deficiencies have been found regarding some mandated equipment and recommended purchasing needed items in the amount of \$15,176.76. He noted due to cost, limited point value from ISO and available space on the apparatus, other items were not being recommended for purchase.

Motion by Bushouse, second by Larson to approve an expenditure of \$15,176.76 for needed items. Carried.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Borgfjord commented the recent tree sale coordinated by the Friends of the Parks with the Kalamazoo Soil Conservation District was successful, they advised an increase in orders from the west side of the County.

Trustee Borgfjord also commented volunteers are needed for the Township Park dedication on May 19th.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately at 8:00 p.m.

DEBORAH L. EVERETT
Township Clerk

Attested: LIBBY HEINY-COSGWELL
Supervisor