

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Regular Board Meeting
November 14, 2023
5:30 PM

The Oshtemo Township Public Meeting was held in person at the Township Hall. Residents were able to give public comments during the meeting. Supervisor Bell called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 PM.

PRESENT:

Supervisor Cheri Bell
Clerk Dusty Farmer- remote (Oshtemo Township)
Treasurer Clare Buszka
Trustee Zak Ford
Trustee Neil Sikora
Trustee Kristin Cole
Trustee Michael Chapman

Also present were Attorney James Porter, Planning Director Iris Lubbert, HR Director Sara Feister, Public Works Director Anna Horner, Fire Chief Greg McComb, and IT Director Jon Gibson.

Public Comment

Supervisor Bell opened public comment. No public comment.

Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Office Update

Kalamazoo County Sheriff Richard Fuller presented information regarding the ongoing work of the Sheriff Department within Oshtemo Township.

Master Plan Update

Planning Director Iris Lubbert reviewed the goal of the Master Plan update, and shared the implementation of the committee of community stakeholders that will provide valuable input to guide this work.

Building Department Update

HR Director Sara Feister provided an update to the Board regarding the creation of an internal Building Department when the Southwest Michigan Building Authority dissolves next month. The Board was able to ask clarifying questions regarding the job descriptions included on the regular agenda.

Public Comment

Supervisor Bell opened public comment. No public comment.

Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes of Regular Meeting October 24, 2023
- b. Receipts and Disbursements

- c. Re-Survey of Fruit Belt Trail
- d. Budget Amendments
- e. 2024 Depositories
- f. Second Reading re: Amended Private Roads/Streets General & Zoning Moratorium Ordinances

Treasurer Buszka requested to remove items C and D for discussion.

Motion by Ford, second by Buszka to approve A, B, E, and F from the consent agenda. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Hearing: 5303 West Main Golf Liquor License Request

Supervisor Bell opened public comment. No public comment.

Motion by Ford, second by Chapman to approve the liquor license request. Roll call. Resolution adopted 7-0.

First Reading: Conditional Rezoning of 8469 Stadium Dr (EZ Mart)

Supervisor Bell opened public comment. No public comment.

Motion by Ford, second by Sikora to accept the Planning Commission recommendation for approval of the conditional rezoning of the subject property from the current dual zoning of C and RR to a conditional rezoning of C for first reading and set second reading for December 12, 2023. Motion carried 7-0.

Consideration of 2024 Benefits/Open Enrollment

HR Director Sara Feister presented the changes to benefits and open enrollment, including life insurance, disability insurance, FSA, HAS, HRA, dental insurance, vision insurance, voluntary life insurance, supplemental insurance, and health insurance.

Motion by Ford, second by Cole to approve the 2024 employee benefit package. Motion carried 7-0.

Consideration of 2024 Police Contract Renewal

This item will be brought back to the Board at a later date so that the contract language can be clarified.

Consideration of Building Department Job Descriptions & Independent Contracted Inspector Agreement

Supervisor Bell opened public comment. No public comment.

Motion by Sikora, second by Ford to approve the job descriptions and agreements with the changes discussed.

Consideration of Media & Communications and Human Resources Job Descriptions

Motion by Ford, second by Buszka to approve the job descriptions. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Hearing: Special Assessment for Fire & Safety Protection District No.1

Supervisor Bell opened the public hearing. No public comment.

Motion by Buszka, second by Ford to adopt a Fire Protection Resolution Fire District 1 as submitted. Roll call. Resolution adopted 7-0.

Public Hearing: Special Assessment Roll for Fire & Safety Protection District No. 2

Supervisor Bell opened the public hearing. Two letters were received prior to the meeting. Three people spoke.

Motion by Ford, second by Cole to adopt the Special Assessment Roll and Fire Protection Resolution Fire District 2 as submitted. Roll call. Resolution adopted 7-0.

Public Hearing: Road Maintenance & Improvement Levy

Supervisor Bell opened the public hearing. No public comment.

Motion by Buszka, second by Ford to adopt the Road Maintenance & Improvement Levy as submitted. Roll call. Resolution adopted 6-0, with Sikora absent.

Public Hearing: Special Assessment for Police Protection Districts 2004-1 & 2009-1 Levy

Supervisor Bell opened the public hearing. No public comment.

Motion by Ford, second by Buszka to adopt the Police Protection Districts 2004-1 & 2009-1 Levy. Roll call. Resolution adopted 6-1, with Chapman voting No.

Public Hearing: 2024 General Fund Budget/General Tax Levy

Supervisor Bell opened the public hearing. No public comment.

Motion by Chapman, second by Buszka to adopt the 2024 General Fund Budget/General Tax Levy as submitted. Roll call. Resolution adopted 6-0, with Cole absent.

Consideration: 2024 Township Officers' and Trustees Compensation

Supervisor Bell opened public comment. No public comment.

Motion by Ford, second by Buszka to adopt the resolution for the 2024 Officers' and Trustees Compensation. Roll call. Resolution adopted 6-1, with Chapman voting No.

Consideration: 2024 Routine Expenditures & Purchases

Supervisor Bell opened public comment. No public comment.

Motion by Ford, second by Chapman to adopt a resolution of 2024 Routing Expenditures and Purchases. Roll call. Roll call. Resolution adopted 7-0.

Items C and D from the Consent Agenda

ITEM C:

Attorney Porter explained to the Board the necessity for the re-survey of the Fruit Belt Rail Trail.

This item will come back to the Board at a later date.

ITEM D:

Motion by Buszka, second by Sikora to approve the budget amendments with the Fruit Belt Re-survey removed. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comment

Supervisor Bell opened public comment. No public comment.

Supervisor Bell adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:40 PM.

Prepared by: Dusty Farmer
Township Clerk

Attested: Cheri Bell
Township Supervisor