

**THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO**  
**Township Board Meeting**  
**February 10, 2015**

Township Board work session was held at the Township Hall. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell  
Clerk Deb Everett  
Treasurer Nancy Culp  
Trustee Nancy Carr  
Trustee Dusty Farmer  
Trustee Lee Larson  
Trustee Grant Taylor

Also present were Township Attorney James Porter, Township Engineer Marc Elliott, Planning Director Greg Milliken, and 6 interested people.

**Update – Kalamazoo County** – Commissioner Julie Rogers advised she has been in communication with KCRC regarding concerns about plowing on Venture Park/Court; the County Board search for a new Administrator is underway.

**Discussion – Telephone System** – Treasurer Culp advised the voice mail system failed a few weeks ago and investigation into a new system brought the attention that the phone system needs updating as well. She advised a committee consisting of herself, Fire Chief Barnes, Capt. Chip Everett, and IT consultant Jon Gibson had been exploring options and obtaining information from vendors. At this time a final conclusion has not been arrived at; there are many complex variations to consider. The committee has determined the price range for a new phone/voice mail system will be approximately \$50,000 to include integrating Fire Station No. 2 into the system, adding the E911 component which will be mandatory on all phone systems in 2016, conferencing abilities and other features. She advised since the negotiations are not complete and the install time frame once a system is selected will be four to six weeks, the committee is requesting the Board approve up to \$50,000 for the project. This item will be taken up for action on the regular agenda.

**Discussion – Operational Amendments – Capital Improvement Committee Review** – Engineer Elliott reviewed items on the consent agenda regarding standard specifications for sidewalks, inspection fees, and proposing that sewer/water forms no longer require approval by Board resolution for content.

The Board work session adjourned at approximately 6:50 p.m.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the regular meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell  
Clerk Deb Everett  
Treasurer Nancy Culp  
Trustee Nancy Carr  
Trustee Dusty Farmer  
Trustee Lee Larson  
Trustee Grant Taylor

Also present were Township Attorney James Porter, Township Engineer Marc Elliott, Planning Director Greg Milliken, Fire Chief Mark Barnes, and 12 interested people.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Tom Doxzon, 6868 Mandy Lane, commented he is a member of the Disability Network, he uses Metro Transit and drives, doesn't think voices were heard, would like a bus stop, and the Board should considering opting in.

Andrew Alm, 511 South Rose, commented more people are without vehicles and rely on public transportation, Precincts 3 and 9 need to be included, how can the service expand to the library or Township Hall in they are not opted in.

Anisah Haynes, 3452 Parkside, commented she works at Meijer and takes the bus to work.

Pat Sanders, Program Coordinator for Gryphon Place mediation services commented bus service is needed for clients who come to the facility.

Jonathon Fritz, 306 South Drake, commented he relies on the bus to get to Gryphon Place and for shopping.

Judy Whitehurst, speaking on behalf of Gryphon Place, commented they relocated in 2011, a tough decision due to transit issues, they need to make sure people have access, the bus comes to 9<sup>th</sup> Street and is an asset.

Michelle Davis, representing Housing Resources, owners of Pinehurst Apartments, commented she sees people walking on Stadium Drive, this is a safety issue, is concerned if 9<sup>th</sup> Street stop is eliminated, transit impacts working with the homeless for housing and employment.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Items on the consent agenda were:

- a) Minutes of the January 13<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.
- b) Receipts & Disbursements Report.
- c) Update on Flesher Field Phase II Construction – Pavilion, Gazebo & Playground Equipment
- d) Non-Motorized/Sidewalk Ordinance Amendments – First Reading – set Second Reading for February 24<sup>th</sup>
- e) Updated Utility Connection Forms (Water & Sewer)
- f) Wastewater Service Ordinance Amendment – First Reading – set Second Reading for February 24<sup>th</sup>
- g) Water Service Ordinance Amendment – First Reading – set Second Reading for February 24<sup>th</sup>
- h) Job Description Amendment – Public Works Director

Trustee Carr requested Item C be removed.

Motion by Taylor, second by Farmer to approve the consent agenda as amended. Carried 7-0.

#### **Consent Agenda Item C – Update on Flesher Field Phase II Construction Pavilion, Gazebo & Playground Equipment**

Trustee Carr inquired if items noted in the memo were included in the original budget. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised they were.

### **CCTA POLICY RESPONSE**

A joint draft response with Texas Township regarding the Central County Transportation Authority policy recently adopted regarding the boundaries of the transit authority and availability of service for precincts that were opted out was tabled at the January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Board member comments included a poor decision was made and the Township should opt back in, do not support another option, Oshtemo & Texas are asking for special exception, there should be further discussion, inquiries were made in advance for expansion plans with no answers, still no information from CCTA that service will be expanded, transit is a critical infrastructure, the CCTA policy is saying no service, the letter is an invitation for discussion.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell commented she is concerned with information provided by speakers during Citizen Comments since the Stadium Drive/9<sup>th</sup> Street area is included in the precincts opted in.

Jack Urban, representing Friends of Transit, suggested CCTA could be persuaded to extend service to the library and Township Hall.

Michelle Davis commented she appreciated the comments if she was misinformed, she will attempt to gain clarity on the information and thanked the Board for the discussion.

Motion by Culp, second by Heiny-Cogswell to send the letter to request discussions with the CCTA. Carried 4-3 with Farmer, Larson, and Taylor voting no.

**PHONE SYSTEM EQUIPMENT/SOFTWARE IMPROVEMENTS**

As discussed at the work session, Treasurer Culp advised the voice mail system failed a few weeks ago and investigation into a new system brought the attention that the phone system needs updating as well. She advised a committee consisting of herself, Fire Chief Barnes and IT consultant Jon Gibson had been exploring options and obtaining information from two vendors. At this time a final conclusion has not been arrived; there are many complex variations to consider. The committee has determined the price range for a new phone/voice mail system will be approximately \$50,000 to include integrating Fire Station No. 2 into the system, adding the E911 component which will be mandatory on all phone systems in 2016, conferencing abilities and other features. She advised since the negotiations are not complete and the install time frame once a system is selected will be four to six weeks, the committee is requesting the Board approve up to \$50,000 for the project to expedite the process.

Motion by Farmer, second by Larson to approve the expenditure up to \$50,000 and amend the budget accordingly for a new phone/voice mail system. Carried 7-0.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:05 p.m.

**DEBORAH L. EVERETT**  
Township Clerk

**Attested: ELIZABETH HEINY-COGSWELL**  
Supervisor