

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Meeting
August 26, 2014

The Oshtemo Township Board held a special meeting at the Oshtemo Township Hall. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

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

Also present were Township Engineer Marc Elliott and 2 interested people.

The purpose of the meeting was the first budget workshop for the 2015 budget. Items discussed included review of revenue sources, appropriate COLA and performance based salary increase amounts, bids received for auditing services, and future organizational needs.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately at 2:45 p.m.

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 Dave Bushouse
Trustee Nancy Carr
Trustee Dusty Farmer
Trustee Lee Larson

Also present was Township Attorney James Porter, Township Engineer Marc Elliott, and 3 interested people.

Public Comment – Tom Doxzon, 6868 Mandy Lane, commented he works with the disability community and Friends of Transit; noticed the current survey regarding Metro Transit service and has concerns that residents without access to a computer would not be able to participate. He also commented he knows there are residents in Fountain Springs who would benefit from having access to bus service. Clerk Everett advised she would mail him a paper copy of the survey.

Discussion – North Drake Road Project – Trustee Farmer requested a review of the North Drake Road project. Engineer Elliott commented it has not gone as well as had been hoped; it would have been better to have one contract and contractor for the entire project but with multiple entities with varying rights and obligations it has, at times, been a difficult process.

Dick Hertzell, 2484 Isle Harbor Court, commented it seems unreasonable to close the road for so long.

The public comment session was adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.

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

PRESENT:

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

Also present was Township Attorney James Porter, Township Engineer Marc Elliott, and 8 interested people.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Laura Keeler presented written information to the Board for their consideration, noting her application for a liquor license would be back before the Board on September 9th.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) August 12th Regular Meeting Minutes
- b) Receipts & Disbursements Report

Motion by Larson, second by Farmer to approve the consent agenda. Carried 7-0.

MDOT PERFORMANCE RESOLUTION

Attorney Porter advised the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) requires any governmental agency performing work in their right of way to agree to conditions regarding claims, contractor responsibility, restoration, and insurance; by adopting the resolution, the Township agrees to adhere to MDOT requirements. The resolution will be retained on file by MDOT for any future projects that occur in their right of way.

Motion by Everett, second by Larson to adopt the resolution as presented. Roll call showed Larson-yes, Bushouse-yes, Carr-yes, Culp-yes, Everett-yes, Farmer-yes, Heiny-Cogswell-yes.

NORTH DRAKE ROAD SIDEWALK CONTRACT – CHANGE ORDER

Engineer Elliott presented a change order to address driveway grades across the new sidewalk segment from Beech to Grand Prairie. He noted the original cost estimates included unit pricing for retaining wall material, tree removals, and drive replacements but the amount that would be required was underestimated by the engineering consultant. The engineers' schedule relied on plans and surveys by others, which were not sufficiently detailed for the proposed sidewalk area. Engineer Elliott explained the need for additional work which is estimated to range from \$35,000 to \$112,200, with best estimate at \$70,000. He requested the Board approve up to \$112,200 so that the project work is not delayed. He noted funding is available in the 2014 budget due to some non-motorized expenditures provided for in the budget that will not be realized this year.

John Denhartigh, owner of Metro Bedding Plants, 1603 North Drake, commented now is the time to install sidewalk while the road construction is underway; he feels it will be used by area residents and students.

Dick Hertzell, 2484 Isle Harbor Court, inquired if there would be sidewalk from Grand Prairie to H Avenue. It was noted the road project used all the available right of way and easements could not be obtained from the property owners to install sidewalk; there will be crosswalk signals at Grand Prairie.

Motion by Bushouse, second by Larson to approve a change order up to \$112,200 to complete the sidewalk segment from Beech to Grand Prairie. Carried 6-1 with Carr voting no.

UPDATE – SOUTH DRAKE ROAD NON-MOTORIZED PROJECT

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised the City of Kalamazoo passed resolution in support of the project. The Township's proposed changes to the Kalamazoo County Road Commission Non-Motorized Policy agreement had been rejected, therefore the Transportation Alternatives Grant application for South Drake Road is not able to be submitted as yet. The situation is of concern, given the significant grant dollars which could otherwise be available to the Township and the community for the construction work.

CENTRAL COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (CCTA) BOARD APPOINTMENT

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners has approved the Articles of Incorporation to establish the new CCTA which will begin the process of merging the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority and Metro Transit, creating a county wide transit system. She noted the Township will have one seat on the new board and recommended Clerk Everett be appointed to represent the Township, noting she has been doing so at the current KCTA.

Motion by Farmer, second by Heiny-Cogswell to approve the appointment. Carried 7-0.

OTHER BUSINESS
LETTER OF AGREEMENT - KALAMAZOO COUNTY
SOUTH DRAKE ROAD CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY (SoDA)

Attorney Porter advised since Kalamazoo County has adopted a policy for tax increment financing (TIF) requests, a letter has been prepared requesting they accept a letter from the Township and SoDA as a letter of agreement to recognize the County's policy, rather than requiring the required noticing/hearing process be repeated.

Motion by Larson, second by Farmer to authorize the Supervisor to sign the letter of agreement recognizing the County's TIF policy. Carried 7-0.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Carr inquired when the results of the police protection study by the consultant would be available. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised the report would be presented in September.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell noted the Board held the first 2015 budget workshop earlier in the day, the next workshop dates are September 9th and 23rd both from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

She also noted the estimated attendance the Oshtemo Rotary Fun Day on August 16th at Flesher Field was 5,000.

Trustee Bushouse commented appreciation is extended to Langeland Funeral Home for their participation in Oshtemo Fun Day by allowing the Fire Department to set up in their parking lot due to Flesher Field not being completed.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:10 p.m.

DEBORAH L. EVERETT
Township Clerk

Attested: ELIZABETH HEINY-COGSWELL
Township Supervisor