

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Meeting
October 28, 2008

The Oshtemo Township Board public comment session was held at the Township Hall. Supervisor VanDyke called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Supervisor John VanDyke
Clerk Deb Everett
Treasurer Nancy Culp
Trustee Dave Bushouse
Trustee James Grace
Trustee Stan Rakowski
Trustee Neil Sikora

Also present was James Porter, Township Attorney, Marc Elliott, Township Engineer, and 4 interested people.

Trustee Grace provided an update on the expansion of AT&T cable service into the Township; he noted the issue of providing PEG channels still not resolved.

Motion by Grace, second by Rakowski to hold any fees received from AT&T in escrow until a determination is made regarding delivery of the PEG channels.

Discussion was held concerning the security of Township investments given the current economic conditions. Treasurer Culp advised a new program is available which allows a local bank to invest funds in other institutions which keeps the funds protected under the FDIC; the legislation authorizing the program is awaiting approval at the State level. Consensus was the program would be worthwhile to consider.

Closed Session – Motion by Grace, second by Sikora to adjourn to closed session pursuant to a resolution regarding closed session dated October 28, 2008 for purpose of discussing pending litigation. Roll call showed Bushouse-yes, Culp-yes, Everett-yes, Grace-yes, Rakowski-yes, Sikora-yes, VanDyke-yes.

Motion by Grace, second by Rakowski to return to open session at approximately 6:35 p.m.

Motion by Everett, second by Grace to direct the Attorney to proceed as discussed in the closed session and authorize release of insurance counsel. Carried.

The public comment session was adjourned at approximately 6:50 p.m.

Supervisor VanDyke called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Supervisor John VanDyke
Clerk Deb Everett
Treasurer Nancy Culp
Trustee Dave Bushouse
Trustee James Grace
Trustee Stan Rakowski
Trustee Neil Sikora

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

Motion by Grace, second by Rakowski to approve the October 14th regular meeting minutes. Carried.

Income to the General and Fire Funds of \$52,353.07 and disbursements of \$127,578.55 were reported. Motion by Grace, second by Sikora to accept the receipts and disbursements report. Carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None.

LOT RECONFIGURATION – OSHTEMO BUSINESS PARK

Senior Planner Bugge presented a request for unit split and combination concerning Units 5 and 6 of the Oshtemo Business Park condominium development. She advised approval is sought to relocate a property line to reduce the size of Unit 6 to 130,700 square feet and increase the size of Unit 5 to 140,766 square feet, with each resulting site having frontage on a public or private street, access to public utilities, and conforms to requirements of the Land Division Act and Township Ordinances. She commented should the split be approved it should be subject to the master deed executed by all required owners, reviewed and approved by the Township and recorded with the Kalamazoo County Register of Deeds and filed with the Township prior to issuance of any building permits.

Motion by Grace, second by Rakowski to approve the unit split and combination subject to the master deed executed by all required owners, reviewed and approved by the Township and recorded with the Kalamazoo County Register of Deeds and filed with the Township prior to issuance of any building permits. Carried.

SNOW PLOW BIDS

Supervisor VanDyke advised this item would be removed from the agenda and referred to the Park Committee for recommendation. Trustee Bushouse requested the committee be authorized to review and award the bid as the next Board meeting is scheduled for November 18th.

Motion by Bushouse, second by Grace to authorize the Park Committee to review and award the bid for snow plowing. Carried.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK UPDATES

A recommendation from the Personnel Committee regarding an amendment to the flex time policy and establishing a department staffing policy were presented

Attorney Porter advised the flex time policy change would allow employees to continue to accrue flex time so long as it does not exceed a total of 80 hours; all other restrictions would remain. He also advised a policy stating each department will strive to maintain appropriate staffing at all times by staggering PTO, flex time and seminar participation is recommended.

Motion by Grace, second by Rakowski to amend the Employee Handbook regarding the flex time policy and department staffing policy as presented. Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS HEALTH PLAN ORDINANCE – TEXT AMENDMENT – SECOND READING

A recommendation from the Personnel Committee to amend the retiree health plan to allow for one dependent a text amendment to the health care plan ordinance was before the Board for Second Reading.

Motion by Grace, second by Rakowski to adopt the text amendment. Carried.

LAW LIBRARY

Attorney Porter presented a recommendation to acquire the necessary law library materials through an on line service rather than paper copies. He advised there would be a cost savings with the on line service at \$42.00 per month.

Motion by Grace, second by Rakowski to approve changing the law library to the on line service. Carried.

POLICE PROTECTION AGREEMENT – 2009

Attorney Porter advised that as discussed previously, a six month extension through June 30, 2009, of the current police protection agreement with Kalamazoo County had been received. He noted the amount of \$223,763.30 reflects a 3% increase as provided for in the current agreement.

Motion by Grace, second by Culp to approve the six month agreement as presented. Carried.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Grace advised a list of items had been received from Pierce regarding Fire Engine No. 521; he and Chief Barnes will review and bring a recommendation to the Board.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:20 p.m.

DEBORAH L. EVERETT
Township Clerk

Attested: John VanDyke
Supervisor