

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Meeting
December 8, 2009

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 Grace Borgfjord
Trustee Dave Bushouse
Trustee James Grace
Trustee Scott McCormick

Also present were Township Attorney James Porter, Township Engineer Marc Elliott, Township Maintenance Department Head Bill Sams, KCSD Sgt. Troy Faulk and 3 interested people.

Public Comment

Tom Kakabeeke, 2910 North 5th Street, asked for clarification on the status of health insurance benefits for trustees. He commented that he understands the need for health insurance; the Township cannot afford to provide it at the current level.

Sgt. Faulk Report

Sgt. Faulk provided November activity information.

Parking Lot Lighting

Discussion was held with Bill Sams, Township Maintenance Department, regarding participation in Consumers Energy Rebate Program to replace fixtures and bulbs in the parking lot lights at Township facilities. Proposals from three electrical contractors were presented along with information that the program could be expanded to include other lighting fixtures such as the fire department bay. Consensus was the Board would like to consider a complete proposal for all possible locations.

Board Member Comments

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell inquired if Board members would be available for a special meeting on December 17th to consider Second Reading of the ordinance amendment to change the Township pension plan. She advised the regular meeting on December 22nd would be cancelled if possible. All board members except Trustee McCormick advised they were available.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised while the 2010 Police Protection Contract was on the regular agenda, the document has not been received, however, information from the County indicates a 3% increase over the current contract amount.

Trustee James Grace commented he is not in favor of approving the agreement with the increase until the requested information regarding actual costs has been received, noting this information has been requested numerous times and suggested a month to month agreement be considered for now. This item will be taken up for action on the regular agenda.

The Board work session adjourned at approximately 6:25 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 Grace Borgfjord
Trustee Dave Bushouse
Trustee James Grace
Trustee Scott McCormick

Also present were Township Attorney James Porter, Township Engineer Marc Elliot, and 7 interested people.

Motion by Borgfjord, second by James Grace, to approve the November 23rd Special and November 24th Regular Meeting minutes. Carried.

Income to the General and Fire Funds of \$19,644.03 and disbursements of \$135,407.16 were reported. Motion by James Grace, second by Borgfjord, to accept the receipts and disbursements report. Carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Lorence Wenke introduced himself as a candidate for the 60th State Senate District.

PARKING LOT ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHT REPLACEMENT

As discussed at the work session, this item was tabled for further information.

2010 BUDGET

POLICE PROTECTION SPECIAL ASSESSMENT 2003-1 PUBLIC HEARING

There was no public comment.

Motion by Grace, second by Everett to adopt the Police Protection Special Assessment 2003-1 Resolution for 2010. Roll call showed McCormick-yes, Bushouse-yes, Everett-yes, Culp-yes, Borgfjord-yes, James Grace-yes, Heiny-Cogswell-yes.

FIRE PROTECTION SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PUBLIC HEARING

There was no public comment.

Motion by Borgfjord, second by Culp to adopt the Fire Protection Special Assessment Resolution for 2010. Roll call showed James Grace-yes, Borgfjord-yes, Culp-yes, Everett-yes, Bushouse-yes, McCormick-yes, Heiny-Cogswell-yes.

STREET LIGHT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PUBLIC HEARING

There was no public comment.

Motion by Culp, second by James Grace to adopt the Streetlight Special Assessment Resolution for 2010. Roll call showed James Grace-yes, Borgfjord-yes, Bushouse-yes, Culp-yes, Everett-yes, Bushouse-yes, McCormick-yes.

GENERAL FUND PUBLIC HEARING

There was no public comment.

Motion by Borgfjord, second by James Grace to adopt the 2010 General Fund Budget. Roll call showed McCormick-yes, Bushouse-yes, Everett-yes, Culp-yes, Borgfjord-yes, James Grace-yes, Heiny-Cogswell-yes.

RESOLUTIONS - OFFICIALS SALARIES

Motion by James Grace, second by Borgfjord to adopt the resolution establishing the Supervisor salary at \$63,379.00 for 2010. Roll call showed McCormick-yes, Bushouse-yes, Everett-yes, Culp-yes, Borgfjord-yes, James Grace-yes, Heiny-Cogswell-abstain.

Motion by James Grace, second by Culp to adopt the resolution establishing the Clerk salary at \$63,379.00 for 2010. Roll call showed James Grace-yes, Borgfjord-yes, Culp-yes, Everett-abstain, Bushouse-yes, McCormick-yes, Heiny-Cogswell-yes.

Motion by James Grace, second by Everett to adopt the resolution establishing the Treasurer salary at \$63,379.00 for 2010. Roll call showed McCormick-yes, Bushouse-yes, Everett-yes, Culp-abstain, Borgfjord-yes, James Grace-yes, Heiny-Cogswell-yes.

Motion by Culp, second by Everett to adopt the resolution establishing the Trustees salary at \$2400.00 per year plus \$50.00 per meeting for 2010. Roll call showed James Grace-no, Borgfjord-yes, Culp-yes, Everett-yes, Bushouse-yes, McCormick-yes, Heiny-Cogswell-yes.

POLICE PROTECTION AGREEMENT FOR 2010

As discussed at the work session, Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised while the 2010 Police Protection Contract document has not been received, information from the County indicates a 3% increase over the current contract amount.

Trustee James Grace commented he is not in favor of approving the agreement with the increase until the requested information regarding actual costs has been received, noting this information has been requested numerous times. Discussion included options of a month to month basis or six month renewal.

Motion by James Grace, second by Culp to continue a month to month payment of the current contract amount until actual cost figures are received. Carried.

CELL PHONE/COMPUTER USE POLICY DURING PUBLIC MEETINGS

Attorney Porter presented a proposed policy regarding use of cell phones and/or computers by board members during public meetings as discussed at the November 24th meeting. He advised the policy would include all public bodies of the Township and address communication between board members and between board members and any third party having an interest in an agenda item.

Motion by Everett, second by James Grace, to adopt the cell phone/computer use policy. Carried.

2009 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Adjustments to the 2009 budget prepared by Clerk Everett were presented.

Motion by James Grace, second by Culp to approve the 2009 budget adjustments. Carried.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell presented recommendations for appointments to the following boards:

Planning Commission –

Reappoint Bob Anderson to a second 3 year term expiring December 31, 2012.

Reappoint Carl Benson to a second 3 year term expiring December 31, 2012.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised it had been brought to her attention just prior to the meeting that an error had been made in the record and current PC member Terry Schley is actually eligible to remain for another year and Millard Loy had already been asked to fill the position it was thought was open. Consensus was to have discussion with both candidates and finalize the appointment at a later meeting.

Zoning Board of Appeals –

Appoint current Alternate Michael Smith to a first 3 year term expiring December 31, 2012.

Appoint Jim Sterenberg as an Alternate to a first 3 year term expiring December 31, 2012.

Appoint Neil Sikora as an Alternate to a first 3 year term expiring December 31, 2012.

Building/Fire Code Board of Appeals –

Reappoint George Marion to a second 2 year term expiring December 31, 2011.

Reappoint Jerry Stirton to a second 2 year term expiring December 31, 2011.

Reappoint Rick Herter to a second 2 year term expiring December 31, 2011.

Reappoint Dick Skalski to a second 2 year term expiring December 31, 2011.

Downtown Development Authority Board –

Reappoint Bruce Betzler to a second 4 year term expiring December 31, 2013.

Reappoint Jack Siegel to a second 4 year term expiring December 31, 2013.

Appoint Kathleen Garland-Rike to a first 4 year term expiring December 31, 2013.

Motion by Culp, second by Borgfjord to approve the slate as presented with the exception of the third PC position as discussed. Carried.

AMEND TOWNSHIP PENSION PLAN ORDINANCE

Attorney Porter advised that in order to change the contribution amount by the Township to the pension plan, based on changes in the Township budget, the ordinance establishing the pension plan must be amended.

Motion by Everett, second by Borgfjord to accept the pension plan ordinance amendment for First Reading and set Second Reading for a December 17th special meeting at 8:30 a.m. Carried.

APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANTS FOR 2010

The annual appointment of accounting and engineering consultants was before the Board.

Motion by Borgfjord, second by James Grace to retain Siegfried, Crandall P.C. as Township auditor, Prein & Newhof as primary Township Engineer and Williams & Works as secondary Township Engineer. Carried.

MEETING DATES FOR 2010

Township Board 2010 Meeting Dates - 2nd Tuesdays - 5:00 p.m. Board Work Session, 7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting and 4th Tuesdays - 6:00 p.m. Public Comment Session, 7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting except there will be no second meeting in January or July.

Joint Meetings with Planning Commission and ZBA - 6:00 p.m. on February 16, May 18, and September 21.

Motion by Heiny-Cogswell, second by Everett to set the meeting dates for 2010 as presented. Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee James Grace announced the public is invited to the "christening" of the new fire truck to be held on December 12th at 2:00 p.m. at Fire House No. 2, located at 3500 South 6th Street.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised the regular meeting on December 22nd is cancelled.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised the bid opening for water service contractors would be held on Friday, December 11th at 11:00 a.m. at the Township Hall.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee McCormick introduced Tom Batten as a candidate for the 61st State House Rep seat.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40 p.m.

DEBORAH L. EVERETT
Township Clerk

Attested: LIBBY HEINY-COGSWELL
Supervisor