

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Minutes

March 11, 1997

The Oshtemo Township Board held its regular meeting at the Township Hall. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Fleckenstein at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Ron Fleckenstein Trustee Marvin Block
 Clerk Elaine Branch Trustee David Bushouse
 Trustee Norman Anderson Trustee Fred Johnson

ABSENT: Treasurer Lois Brown

Also present was Richard Reed, Township Attorney and Robert Snell, Township Engineer, along with 19 interested people.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion made by Block, seconded by Johnson, to approve the minutes of our last two meeting, February 11 and February 18, as prepared. Carried.

Income to the General Fund of \$14,058.38 and disbursements of \$117,885.80 were reported. Fire Fund income was \$99.85 with disbursements of \$91,820.70. Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Johnson to approve the report and pay the bills. Carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER - LAFONTANELLA

A request was received to recommend approval of the transfer of a Class C Liquor License from John and Starla Coffey, former owners of the LaFontanella restaurant, located at 678 Maple Hill Drive, to LaFontanella, Inc. John A. Kelley is corporate owner of the restaurant.

Mr. Kelley was present and assured the Board that the operation and lay out of the business would be unchanged.

Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Johnson to accept the application and recommend approval of the transfer. Roll call showed:

Anderson - yes Johnson - yes Bushouse - yes Block - yes Branch - yes Fleckenstein - yes

1997 LAWN MAINTENANCE BIDS

Bids were received from the five following lawn care companies:

NAME	WEEKLY RATE
Earth Works	\$ 535
Hadaway & Sons	940
JP's	560
Naylor	1,272
Niewoonder	1,070

Supervisor Fleckenstein reported that Earth Works had the contract in 1996 and did a good job for the township. He recommended awarding the 1997 contract to Earth Works, who had the low bid. Motion made by Johnson, seconded by Branch to have Earth Works for lawn maintenance in 1997. Carried.

REZONING WEST MAIN - HAMILTON

The request to rezone property located at 6297 West Main had been tabled at the February 11 meeting, in order to wait for a full board.

Trustee Anderson stated that in fairness to Treasurer Brown, he felt we should table action again. Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Johnson to table the item until March 25. Carried 5 to 1, with Block voting "no".

TRANSFER OF TRIAX CABLE FRANCHISE

Triax Associates I, L.P. and Triax Midwest Associates, L.P. recently combined their assets into Triax Midwest. As a result, a legal transfer of their cable franchise would be needed. A resolution had been received to approve the transfer of the cable franchise from Triax Associates I, L.P. to Triax Midwest.

Motion made Branch, seconded by Anderson to adopt the resolution approving the transfer and to urge them, in the cover letter, to consider expansion in our township. Roll call showed:
Branch - yes Anderson - yes Bushouse - yes Block - yes Johnson - yes Fleckenstein - yes

POVERTY EXEMPTION STANDARDS

Our Poverty Exemption Standards guidelines were in need of amending to reflect the correct income rates. A resolution had been prepared by Attorney Reed after researching the rate of increase. These guidelines are used by the Board of Review for those persons eligible for an exemption in whole or in part from taxation.

Motion made Block, seconded by Anderson to adopt the new Poverty Exemption Standards guidelines. Roll call showed:

Block - yes Anderson - yes Branch - yes Johnson - yes Bushouse - yes Fleckenstein - yes

BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS

Trustee Johnson asked if a decision had been made regarding the flags for the village area, that the Oshtemo Business Association wants to purchase, provided the township puts them up. Supervisor Fleckenstein replied not yet.

Trustee Bushouse questioned if the agenda could be prepared to allow the public to comment on agenda items. He was concerned because there were people present to speak on the rezoning item that was tabled.

He also stated he would like some research done on the fire department policy for emergency response to water line breakages in homes. He was aware of an eighty- some year old lady who had her pipes break and she had 8 inches of water in her basement.

Supervisor Fleckenstein stated that Board of Review was going well. It was not a heavy year and the Board and Marci Betts were doing a good job.

There was no further business. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Elaine J. Branch
ELAINE J. BRANCH, CMC
Township Clerk

Ron Fleckenstein
Attested: RON FLECKENSTEIN
Supervisor

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