

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO  
Board Work Session  
January 28, 2020  
6:00 PM

The Oshtemo Township Board Work Session was held at the Township Hall. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell  
Clerk Dusty Farmer  
Treasurer Grant Taylor  
Trustee Cheri Bell  
Trustee Deb Everett  
Trustee Zak Ford

**ABSENT:**

Trustee Ken Hudok

Also present was Township Attorney Jim Porter, Public Works Director Marc Elliott, Assistant to Supervisor Josh Owens, and approximately 60 interested people.

**Public Comment**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. Approximately 21 people spoke.

**Sanitary Sewer Communications**

Public Works Director Marc Elliott presented the updated Frequently Asked Questions to the Board. Board consensus was to update the FAQs as needed and to put the newest version on the website as soon as possible.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened discussion regarding the proposed changes to the Amended and Restated Sewer Main Connection Charges. Board consensus was to offer the USDA rate plus 1% for sewers to be installed for the Phase 1.

Motion by Heiny-Cogswell, second by Bell to offer Fannie Mae plus ½% to existing and new development of sewer installation outside of bonds, state, or federal loans. Motion carried 4-2, with Hudok absent.

Attorney Porter presented ideas to assist those residents who cannot afford the sewer connection requirement. He will provide a written draft ordinance for review at the February 11 meeting.

**Purchasing Policy Amendments**

Motion by Ford, second by Bell to adopt the amended Purchasing Policy. Motion carried 6-0, with Hudok absent.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell designated her Assistant as her designee to approve purchase orders and invoices for 2020.

**Police Protection Policy**

Assistant to the Supervisor Josh Owens presented the recommendation to increase the number of Sheriff's Deputies in the Township rather than add a Lieutenant. Board consensus was to move in this direction.

**Public Water Mandatory Connection Policy**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell presented a request from a resident for the Board to reevaluate the mandatory connection policy for the Township. Board consensus was to have the Supervisor's office write a summary memo to present to the Board with Legal and Public Works opinions.

**Right of Way Control**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell reminded the Board that there are ongoing issues with right of way control that will continue hindering the Board vision for future development.

The Board discussed how to proceed with Board attendance at neighborhood sewer meetings. Attorney Porter advised that an announcement be made before each meeting that the purpose of the meeting is for resident information and questions, not Board deliberation.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:22PM.

Prepared by: Dusty Farmer  
Township Clerk

Attested: Libby Heiny-Cogswell  
Township Supervisor