

**MINUTES
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
February 20, 2006
7:00 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to Order by Supervisor John Gast at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Clerk Payne called the roll. Board members present were John Gast, Supervisor; Gloria Payne, Clerk; Betty Korcek, Treasurer; Terry Eichler, Trustee; William "Bill" Geukes, Trustee; Fritz Wolf, Trustee and Trustee Tom Carson. Fifteen visitors were present in the audience.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA & AGENDA AMENDMENTS

It was moved by Eichler seconded by Korcek to allow one addition to the Public Comment section of the agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Geukes seconded by Carson to approve the Minutes of the January 16, 2006 Board meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

It was moved by Carson seconded by Wolf to approve the Minutes of the January 23, 2006 Special Board meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Gast introduced Kevin Ivers, Bridgman Public Schools Superintendent who gave Lake Charter Township Board members a State of the Schools Report.

Supervisor Gast introduced Agnes Conway, New Buffalo Township Supervisor. Their attorney David Peterson addressed the Lake Charter Township Board asking whether Lake Charter Township Water Plant could supply additional water to Chikaming Township which in turn would supply the northern part of New Buffalo Township.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

It was moved by Geukes seconded by Wolf to approve the January 2006 bills totaling \$305,228.21. All ayes, motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE PACKET

The following information was included in board members packets: Two Special Meeting Notices for February 21, 2006 and March 14, 2006; MTA Faxes; Lake Township Water Filtration Plant monthly report and maintenance schedule; Twin Cities Area Transportation Technical & Policy Committee meeting minutes; Medic I Agenda and meeting minutes; Lake Charter Township Planning Commission meeting minutes; Galien River Sanitary Sewer Authority Agenda and meeting minutes; Park Committee meeting minutes; Baroda Township bills; Bridgman Public Library meeting minutes.

Memorandum for scheduling of March Board of Review; Letter from Comcast reporting Franchise Fee amounts; Press Release regarding cougar public hearing; Lake Michigan Mailers postage savings statement; Letter from Scott Dienes with Mangold update; Lake Charter Township Fund Balances as of January 31, 2006 and Summer Tax Collection spreadsheet.

REPORTS

B. Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Gast reported as follows:

- a. Attended Michigan Township's Association Educational Conference in Grand Rapids;
- b. Attended Growth Alliance meeting;
- c. Attended Galien River Sanitary District Authority business and organizational meeting;
- d. Attended Drain Commission Meeting;
- e. Attended Utility Board meeting;
- f. Attended Fairmount Mineral Summit.

B. Clerk's Report

Clerk Payne reported as follows:

- a. Attended Southwestern Michigan Commission meeting;
- b. Met with Tom Traciak of ACI regarding water rate study;
- c. Attended the Michigan Townships Association Education Conference in Grand Rapids;
- d. Attended Special Board Meeting;
- e. Attended Utility Board Meeting;
- f. Attended Growth Alliance Meeting.

Clerk Payne reported that the last day to register for School Board was February 2, 2006, one candidate has applied, the election is scheduled for May 2, 2006.

C. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Korcek reported as follows:

- a. Attended Growth Alliance meeting;
- c. Attended Utility Board meeting;
- d. Met with representatives of Land Bank at Treasurer's Office;
- e. Attended the Michigan Township's Association Educational Conference in Grand Rapids;
- f. Attended Utility Board Meeting;
- g. Met with Tom Traciak of ACI regarding water rate study.

D. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Wolf reported the Planning Commission recommended approval for two zoning amendments.

E. Water Superintendent's Report

Water Superintendent Beach reported we are waiting for the final report on the pilot study from Memcor. Cooper and Carlson assessed the furnaces at the water plant and reported that only one is to be replaced.

F. GRSD Sewer Authority Report

Supervisor Gast reported the GRSDA Board for 2006 consists of Jerry Kohn as Chairman, Aaron Anthony, Vice Chair, Jeanne Dudeck, Secretary, Ruby Ritz Treasurer and John Gast, Deputy Treasurer. The sludge tank still needs to be put together. Payment #23 was approved in the amount of \$61,238.08. Lake Township normal weekly inspections, monitoring, general maintenance of lift stations and Miss Digs inspections have occurred. Installed a new motor starter at Lift Station #42.

G. Police Department

Trustee Eichler reported the 2006/2007 Budget is being worked on.

H. Fire Department/Fire Chief

Trustee Eichler reported the Chevrolet Suburban is three years old and the warranty is running out, this is on the agenda for tonight's board meeting. The fire department is planning a pancake breakfast. Chief Harold Heyn reported sixteen fire calls, 14 of them medial and two fire alarms.

VIII. Park Report

Trustee Wolf reported the work on the garage doors and the ceilings has begun, as well as the conduit and electricity. There needs to be something done about the moles.

J. Library Report

In the absence of Lillian Svitil, Carol Siewert reported the board is now complete with the addition of a new member from the City of Bridgman. The 40th Anniversary and dedication of the new addition to be celebrated in the summer of 2006. On March 1, 2005, the Bonding Company will send an inspector to assess the roof issue.

K. Cemetery Committee Report

Clerk Payne reported that seven burials were conducted in the month of January 2006. Two signs were placed at each cemetery citing under video surveillance and two autumn blaze maple trees were planted in Graceland Cemetery.

AGENDA ITEMS

2005 Year-End Water/Sewer Report

Supervisor Gast presented the 2005 year-end water/sewer billing report. This document was reviewed and approved for placement on file. Unaccounted water was less than 3%. It was moved by Korcek seconded by Carson to place on file the 2006 Year-End Water/Sewer report. All ayes, motion carried.

Write-Offs for 2005 Water Billings

Supervisor Gast brought before board members a letter from Water Billing Clerk Sandi Denman citing \$78.00 worth of uncollectible 2005 water/sewer accounts. Sandi Denman was praised for her tenaciousness in collecting past due accounts. It was moved by Payne seconded by Carson to write-off the amount of \$78.00 as a loss and close accounts permanently. All ayes, motion carried.

Extended Service Warranty on Fire Department Chevrolet Suburban

Supervisor Gast presented to board members two warranty options to place on the Fire Department's Chevrolet Suburban. This vehicle is three years old and the existing warranty is due to expire April 2006. It was discussed that since the Suburban is used intermittently and not the same person drives the vehicle, it would be best to secure an extended warranty on this vehicle. The Maxi Care is a \$100.00 deductible seven years or 50,000 mile warranty for \$1,075.00. The Added Care Plus is a \$100.00 deductible seven years or 50,000 miles for \$875.00. It was moved by Payne seconded by Carson to approve the Maxi Care \$100.00 deductible seven years or 50,000 miles for \$1,075.00. All ayes, motion carried.

Pump Rebuilding/Repairs

Supervisor Gast presented to board members a letter from Peerless Midwest, Inc., offering rebuilding and repairing Pump #1 estimated in the range of \$11,000.00 - \$14,000.00. This is a one million-gallon pump. The estimate for the overhaul of Pump#4 would be in the range of \$13,000.00 - \$16,000.00. This is a two million-gallon pump. It was moved by Gast seconded by Eichler to repair and rebuild Pump#1 not to exceed \$14,000.00 and repair Pump #4 not to exceed \$16,000.00. Work to be done by Northern Electric. All ayes, motion carried.

2006 Trash Contract

Supervisor Gast brought to board members a letter he received from Reliable Disposal extending the current Rubbish and Garbage Disposal Agreement for consideration. They will continue residential waste collection per the original contract for a period of three additional years, April 1, 2006 \$8.65 per residence, April 1, 2007 \$9.08 per residence and April 1, 2008 \$9.35 per residence. This is the second extension of the current contract with Reliable. We currently are paying \$9.35, so this is rolling the prices back to 2003. Further, they would place a recycling container at the Lake Township Water Treatment Plant parking lot on a full-time basis.

Discussion ensued as to whether to continue with what we have, or let the trash contract for bids. However, if we do, Reliable's current proposal would be not honored.

Supervisor Gast also received a letter from The Garbage Company who is locally owned and operated, representing 30 years of experience. They are willing to bid on Reliable's proposal. It was moved by Eichler seconded by Wolf to extend the current contract with Reliable Disposal. Roll call vote: Eichler yes; Carson yes; Geukes yes; Wolf yes; Payne No, citing she wanted to see what else is available. Gast No, citing that he wanted to see a five-year contract. Motion carried.

Approval of Medic One Budget for 2006-2007

Supervisor Gast directed board members' attention to the Medic One 2006/2007 Budget reflecting no increase to Lake Township. It was moved by Geukes seconded by Carson to approve the Medic One Budget for 2006/2007. Motion carried.

Baroda/Lake Township Police Budget Adjustment

Supervisor Gast reported that Chief Gary Ruhl presented a request for an amendment to the Lake Charter Township police protection expense to be increased from \$162,000.00 to \$165,000.00 due to increased health insurance, payroll and fuel costs. It was moved by Payne seconded by Korcek to approve amending the Lake Charter Township police protection expense from \$162,000.00 to \$165,000.00. All ayes, motion carried.

Mole Control Proposal

Supervisor Gast asked this agenda item be tabled to contact a local mole patrol control specialist who is local. The only bid received is from Arrow Pest Control out of South Bend, Indiana. It was moved by Carson seconded by Korcek to table this agenda item. All ayes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Jasper asked why the agenda was not posted on the website. Supervisor Gast responded that the webmaster was out of town for the weekend and did not communicate his absence to the board, consequently the agenda did not get posted on the website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Planning Commission is scheduled for March 13, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Utility Board is scheduled for March 7, 2006 at 12:00 Noon, Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Master Plan Update Organizational Meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan

Board of Review Organizational Meeting is scheduled for Mach 7, 2006 at 5:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan

Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals meeting is March 9, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

Special Meeting of the Township Board on the water rate study is scheduled for March 14, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall

Board of Review meets March 20, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall

Board of Review meets March 21, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall

ADJOURNMENT

With no further objection and no further business it was moved by Korcek seconded by Geukes to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Dated: _____

Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

Dated: _____

John Gast, Supervisor