

**MINUTES
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
UTILITY BOARD MEETING
March 7, 2006
12:00 Noon**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to Order by Supervisor John Gast at 12:00 noon.

ROLL CALL

Board members present were John Gast, Supervisor; Gloria Payne, Clerk; Terry Eichler, Trustee; William "Bill" Geukes, Trustee; Fritz Wolf, Trustee. Betty Korcek, Treasurer and Trustee Tom Carson were absent. One visitor was present in the audience.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Peters of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented. Five ayes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Eichler seconded by Geukes to approve the Minutes of the February 14, 2006 Utility Board meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

AGENDA ITEMS

Sump Pump Electrical Installation

Supervisor Gast had board members review the cost estimate of the electrical installation of the sump pump. IBID County Electric, Inc., suggested two options, one to add a 30-horsepower sump pump with new feed or replace the existing disconnect transfer switch. After discussion, it was moved by Payne seconded by Geukes to approve option one which consisted of adding a 30-horsepower sump pump with new feed for \$9,682.00. Five ayes, motion carried.

Piping for Reclaim Basin to Ponds

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Stewart Beach, Lake Charter Township Water Plant Superintendent who reported that the cost estimate from Etna Supply Company for 260 feet of 4 X 20 feet of PVC 80 pipe to connect and install piping from the reclaim basin to the ponds, would cost approximately \$1,170.00 to install. The township employees could do the work. The driveway would have to be cut. The cost of coring could be done by a contractor for approximately \$500.00. It was moved by Eichler seconded by Wolf to purchase from Etna Supply Company for \$1,170.00 for 260 feet of 4 X 20 feet of PVC 80 pipe to connect and install piping from the reclaim basin to the ponds. Five ayes, motion carried.

Cleaning of Retention Ponds Update

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Lake Charter Township Water Plant Superintendent, Stewart Beach, who reported that when he contacted the Benton Harbor airport regarding the sludge, he was told they would have a problem with the capacity of accepting the sludge. It would have to be totally dried out. It was moved by Payne seconded by Wolf to contract with Fred M. Ott & Sons to remove the roadway between the two ponds for \$700.00 per day, not to exceed two days. This would allow Lake Charter Township employees to put the sludge from the first and second ponds on the roadway between the first and second ponds to dry. Five ayes, motion carried.

Fishbeck, Thompson Carr & Huber, Inc., Update

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Mike Peters of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber who reported that the pilot project has been pulled from the water plant. A final report with recommendations is forthcoming. He further reported no membranes should be installed in the basement. They need to be on ground level.

Another topic that was discussed is the water plant currently does not have enough water storage and that possibly the board should consider adding a 700,000 gallon storage facility. Mike Peters to meet with Stewart Beach on this issue and discuss.

Maintenance Update Schedule

Supervisor Gast brought board members attention to the maintenance schedule. The list was discussed and reviewed.

Water Line Replacement

Supervisor Gast asked board members to review the map and discuss suggested improvements to the next water main upgrade/improvements. The area on Snow Road heading south to Browntown was discussed. It was determined that after a hydraulic analysis of 12" pipe versus 16" pipe, replacing approximately 1,000 to 1,200 feet of pipe would be obtained. Larry Merritt would need to supply cost estimate figures and further, we could possibly ask Chikaming Township if they would consider sharing in the cost since this is the route we supply them with water.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Jasper asked that should an upgrade occur on Browntown Road, the township take into consideration scheduling the work either before or after the Niagara grape harvest. He would hate to lose 20 acres of income.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next utility board meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2006 at 12:00 Noon.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further objection and no further business it was moved by Geukes seconded by Wolf to adjourn the meeting. Five ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

Dated: _____

Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

Dated: _____

John Gast, Supervisor