

**MINUTES
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
UTILITY BOARD MEETING
May 2, 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; James Stine, Jr., Trustee; Betty Korcek, Treasurer and Trustee Tom Carson. One visitor was present in the audience.

OTHERS PRESENT

Stewart Beach, Lake Charter Township Water Plant Superintendent
Mike Peters of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber
Larry Merritt and Robert Andrew of Merritt Engineering

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Carson seconded by Eichler to add three items to the agenda. The agenda was approved with three additions. All ayes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Eichler seconded by Korcek to approve the Minutes of the April 4, 2006 Utility Board meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

AGENDA ITEMS

Update on Tank Inspection

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Lake Charter Township Water Plant Superintendent Stewart Beach who showed a video taken by Intek of the March 22, 2006 tank inspection. The tank is in good shape inside and outside. There are a few areas that show pitting and streaking, but overall the tank is in good shape. A written report will be distributed to the Board.

Update on Intake Inspection

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Stewart Beach, Lake Charter Township Water Plant Superintendent who reported that there were zebra mussels attached to the cribs, a large amount of sand was on the inside approximately one foot from the top of the first elbow pipe. A lot of municipalities up and down the Michigan coast are experienced the influx of sand due to the low water levels of Lake Michigan. A written report will be distributed to the Board.

Flow Test Results

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Lake Charter Township Water Plant Superintendent, Stewart Beach, who reported that the result of the flow test was 5.84 million gallons per day with no cavitation, but sand in all three of the funnels was prevalent. 5.84 million gallons per day is still less than what it should be, so there is still suspicion as to why its so low.

Mike Peters of Fishbeck, Thomas Carr and Huber reported that it would be best to have the intake videotaped. Think about having the intake pigged, starting out with a smaller pig and working upwards from there. The "C" factor is in the mid 70's. It should be in the 100's. Raise the chlorination in the intake, possibly have Sea Brex install extensions to the Intake cones.

Pulling out the chlorine line and keeping it out will be expensive, and will need a permit, further it must be encased. Secondly, an easement might be needed from the State of Michigan.

It was discussed to have the line pigged yet this year, and do the extensions next year. Stewart Beach will have quotes from vendors for the May 15, 2006 board meeting.

After the pigging, whatever the numbers are in the way of gallons per day, that's what it is and we need to accept that. If we need to plan for a new intake, then we can go that route. If capacity reaches 80%, the State of Michigan will red flag you and something will have to occur anyway.

Flow tests will be taken every April.

Membrane pilot study was submitted and reviewed by Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr and Huber. The Memcor results are fine. We are down to a meeting with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, they are recommending aggressively using their units. These units work well in the warm weather, but not in winter due to the temperature of the water. So that is something that will have to be considered.

Merritt Engineering Pay Request/Metallurgical Testing

Supervisor Gast presented to board members the bill from Merritt Engineering for the Snow Road Watermain replacement project, for the metallurgical testing of the ductile iron pipe for November 13, 2005 through March 20, 2006, in the amount of \$3,820.00. It was moved by Eichler seconded by Carson to approve payment of the bill in the amount of \$3,820.00 for the Snow Road Watermain replacement project, for the metallurgical testing of the ductile iron pipe for November 13, 2005 through March 20, 2006. All ayes, motion carried.

Hydraulic Analysis of System Upgrade

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Robert Andrew of Merritt Engineering. Based on their evaluations, it is recommended that the areas outlined for potential improvements should be upgraded. Increasing the size of Area C (Snow Road between California and Gast) to 16 inch pipe offers the largest increase in available flow at nearly 200 gallons per minute. Increasing of the other areas to either 12 inch or 16 inch pipe offers additional improvements. Although the difference between the 12 inch and the 16 inch seems small in some cases, we recommend 16 inch pipe for all of the areas, to promote reliability in the event of watermain breaks and to allow for further future improvements in other areas.

Trustee Stine asked how many entry points are there into Chikaming Township. There are two.

Trustee Geukes asked whether Chikaming could handle the incoming water once is it send to them, beyond Lake Township. It is recommended they up size some of their pipes from 8 inch to 10 inch and then they can handle it.

Lastly, a meeting with Chikaming Township to discuss future improvements is in order. It was discussed that Merritt Engineering facilitate this meeting.

Auma Actuators

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Stewart Beach, Lake Charter Township Water Plant Superintendent. A valve for the filter system is needed. There are two options available, either get a new valve at a cost of \$2,120.00 or repair the old one at a cost of \$1,980.00. The existing universal flange and machined coupling can be reused. It was moved by Carson seconded by Eichler to purchase a new valve for the filter system from Auma Actuators, Inc., for \$2,120.00. All ayes, motion carried.

Chloroform Incubator

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Stewart Beach, Lake Charter Township Water Plant Superintendent. A new chloroform incubator is needed for the lab. The pump burned up and the casing has developed a hole. The unit is twelve years old. Two quote were presented. Fisher Scientific for \$1,025.00 and Thomas Scientific for \$1,498.85. It was moved by Payne seconded by Stine to purchase a new chloroform incubator from Fisher Scientific for \$1,025.00. All ayes, motion carried.

Ordinance Amendment Discussion

Supervisor Gast reported to board members, that the recent increase for the water rates, recommended by Tom Traciak, of ACI Finance needs to be amended in the water ordinance. The process will entail directing the Planning Commission to review and set a public hearing date. The "numbers" will be removed from the new ordinance and a clause will be added that states that the rates will be handled by Resolution of the Township Board instead of included in the ordinance.

This will be a three-month process so the rate increase will not occur until September of 2006.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next utility board meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2006 at 12:00 Noon.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further objection and no further business it was moved by Carson seconded by Eichler to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Dated: _____

Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

Dated: _____

John Gast, Supervisor