

**MINUTES  
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
BOARD MEETING  
March 19, 2007  
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; Terry Eichler, Trustee; William "Bill" Geukes; James Stine, Jr., Trustee and Trustee Tom Carson. Betty Korcek, Treasurer was absent. Six visitors were present in the audience.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA & AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

It was moved by Geukes seconded by Stine to add one additional item to the agenda. Six ayes, motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Stine seconded by Geukes to approve the Minutes of the February 19, 2007 Board meeting. Six ayes, motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

It was moved by Payne seconded by Eichler to approve the February 2007 Lake Charter Township bills in the amount of \$252,719.11. All ayes, motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE PACKET**

The following information was included in board members packets: MTA Weekly Legislative Report; Medic I meeting minutes; Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals meeting minutes; Lake Charter Township Planning Commission meeting minutes; Lake Charter Township Fire and Rescue meeting minutes; Lake Charter Township Park Committee meeting minutes; Lake Charter Township Water Plant Construction meeting minutes; MTA training opportunities for Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and Trustees; Berrien County Road Commission Twin Cities Area Transportation 2008 - 2011 call for projects; Newsletter articles regarding Phase II Storm Water; Galien River Sanitary Sewer Authority Agenda and meeting minutes; Baroda Township bills; Bridgman Public Library meeting minutes and Lake Michigan Mailers Postage Savings Statement.

Copy of a letter from Paul Maddox, of Indiana Michigan Power regarding construction of three-phase tie-line in Lake Township. Copy of letter from Comcast adding three channels.

**REPORTS**

**A. Supervisor's Report**

Supervisor Gast reported as follows:

- a. Attended Galien River Sanitary District Authority meeting;
- b. Attended Chamber of Commerce Visioning Session;
- c. Met with Tom Traciak of ACI regarding bond issue;
- d. Attended Bridgman Public Schools Board of Education Town Hall meeting;
- e. Attended appreciation breakfast at Bridgman Elementary School;
- f. Attended Supervisor's CEO meeting;
- g. Attended Construction Water Plant Construction meeting;
- h. Held Board of Review Organizational meeting;
- i. Attended Park Meeting;
- j. Attended Growth Alliance Visioning Session;
- k. Held Board of Review.

B. Clerk's Report

Clerk Payne reported as follows:

- a. Attended groundbreaking of 1.0 million gallon storage tank;
- b. Attended Utility Board meeting;
- c. Attended Growth Alliance meeting;
- d. Attended Election training by the State for the May 8, 2007 school board election;
- e. Attended Growth Alliance Visioning Session;
- f. Met with Tom Traciak of ACI regarding bond issue;

C. Treasurer's Report

In the absence of Treasurer Korcek, Supervisor Gast reported as follows:

- a. Attended the Berrien County Treasurer's Association meeting;
- b. Attended breakfast at the Bridgman Elementary School;
- c. Attended Park Committee meeting;
- e. Attended Growth Alliance meeting;
- f. Attended Growth Alliance Visioning session.

D. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Geukes reported the Planning Commission discussed possibly having an alternate on the board. An application for a land division for David and Colleen Currie of Wildwood, has been pulled from the table due to the sale of the land.

E. Water Superintendent's Report

None.

F. GRSD Sewer Authority Report

Supervisor Gast reported the casino is hooked-up and on line. The 45 day clock for the bonding is in process. Lift Station #40 needs repairs, due to the switch needing to be manually tripped. Both IBID and Johnson Controls are working on correcting the situation.

G. Police Department

Trustee Eichler reported the 2007-2008 budget was approved, with a 1% increase overall.

H. Fire Department/Fire Chief

Trustee Eichler reported the Fire Department will hold a pancake breakfast on June 3, 2007. A Weather Spotter Training was held at Lake Township Hall. Indiana and Michigan Power (Cook plant) is offering training classes in Peoria, Illinois May 9, 10 and 11, 2007. A grant for pagers was awarded. 20 pagers need to be purchased for \$120.00 per pager, instead of the \$450.00 they regularly cost. A mutual aid agreement was signed with Indiana and Michigan Power (Cook plant) which is an Nuclear Regulatory Commission requirement. Architectural bids will be opened on March 29, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. for the Public Safety Building. Chief Heyn reported 22 calls were made, of which 1 was a mobile home fire.

I. Park Report

In the absence of Treasurer Korcek, Supervisor Gast reported a request by the girls softball teams to put 4x8 banners on the fence from May through June was discussed. They discussed things that need immediate attention. Requested the board complete the new dugout and building another dugout this year for the same field.

Loren Berndt asked when the Park employee would be hired. Supervisor Gast reported that he had selected certain candidates to be interviewed and pending return phone calls from these candidates, the Board possibly would interview, Thursday night, March 22, 2007.

Loren Berndt asked Trustee Carson when the gazebo would be ready. Trustee Carson responded "soon."

J. Library Report

Lillian Svitil reported election of officers were held and the same board remains in place. A pre-construction meeting was held March 19, 2007.

K. Cemetery Committee Report

Clerk Payne reported that two burials were conducted since last month. The carburetor on the pressure washer has been repaired and the sealing of the benches will begin on Wednesday.

AGENDA ITEMS

Maintenance Resolution McDaneld #352 Drain

Supervisor Gast read and brought before board members the Maintenance Resolution of the McDanel #352 drain. The drain runs to the east off of California Road. There are 17 properties in this drainage district. The request to authorize expenditures for the work includes 615 feet of 12" pipe not to exceed \$7,500.00. The project will be projected over a two-year period and split among the drainage district properties. It was moved by Gast seconded by Eichler to authorize expenditures for 615 feet of 12" pipe of the McDanel #352 drain not to exceed \$7,500.00. Roll call vote: Gast yes; Payne yes; Korcek absent; Carson yes; Eichler yes; Geukes yes and Stine yes. Motion carried.

#### Repair of Township Hall CAT Generator

Supervisor Gast presented the \$1,780.60 repair bill to the board from MacAllister for the Township Hall CAT generator. Ice and snow built up on the radiator and when the weekly generator test fan kicked in, it damaged the radiator. It was moved by Eichler seconded by Geukes to pay the \$1,780.60 repair bill to MacAllister for the Township Hall CAT generator. Six ayes, motion carried.

#### Distribution of Proposed Master Plan

Supervisor Gast brought board members the draft copy of the Lake Charter Township Master Plan. Authorization is needed to distribute the proposed plan to surrounding municipalities and the County Planning Commission for comment. A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission for final changes. It was moved by Payne seconded by Stine to authorize distribution of the Lake Charter Township Master Plan to surrounding municipalities and the County Planning Commission. Six ayes, motion carried.

#### Approval of Attendance to Maximum Impact Seminar

Supervisor Gast brought before board members a local opportunity to attend a leadership seminar at the Woodland Shores Baptist Church on May 11, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., live via satellite. The speakers include John Maxwell, Terry Bradshaw, Herman Boone, Tim Sanders, Malcolm Gladwell, Jackie Freiberg, Bill Strickland and Mark Sanborn. Due to the fact that we are Bridgman Area Chamber of Commerce members the cost is \$55.00 per person before April 15, 2007. After April 15, 2007 the cost is \$75.00 and \$90.00 at the door. It was moved by Payne seconded by Geukes to approve the \$55.00 per person fee, for any board members wishing to attend the Maximum Impact Seminar, which includes snacks and meals. Six ayes, motion carried.

#### Replacement of Light Fixtures in the Claricone Area

Supervisor Gast presented to board members a quote from Ibid County Electric in the amount of \$2,472.00 for the proposed cost to replace six light fixtures in the claricone area. While working on painting the clarifyer, damage was done to one light which exposed rust and corrosion to the internal fixture. Upon inspection of the other fixtures in the area, the same condition existed. It was moved by Payne seconded by Geukes to approve replacement of six light fixtures, not to exceed \$2,472.00. Six ayes, motion carried.

#### Roof Repairs to Existing Park Pavilions

Trustee Geukes asked that he be allowed to abstain from making a decision on this issues, since he worked for and was involved in Vorrath Classic Homes. It was moved by Gay seconded by Payne to allow Trustee Geukes to abstain from this agenda item. Five ayes, motion carried.

Supervisor Gast brought before board members two bids for roof repairs to the existing park pavilions. Robert Svoboda \$15,200.00 and Vorrath Classic Homes \$15,113.64. After discussion, it was moved by Payne seconded by Stine to table this agenda item until April 16, 2007 to find out who initially worked on the roof and see if there is a warranty. Six ayes, motion carried.

#### Display of Banners at the Park on the Ball Field Fence

Supervisor Gast indicated that the softball and the baseball organizations have requested permission to display banners on the fence at the Park in the ballfield area. It was moved by Payne seconded by Geukes to allow 4'X8' banners to be displayed on the fence at the Park in the ballfield area from May through July, excluding tobacco and alcohol signs. Six ayes, motion carried.

Large Trash Pick-up

Supervisor Gast asked board members to set the date for large trash pick-up. He spoke with reliable and they suggested April 21, 2007. Tire collection will be scheduled for 2008. It was moved by Geukes seconded by Stine to approve April 21, 2007 for Lake Charter Township-wide large trash pick-up.

Supervisor Gast asked if he could have approval to add one additional item to the agenda, that being the discussion of having an alternate to the Planning Commission. It was moved by Payne seconded by Geukes to add to the agenda Planning Commission Alternate. Six ayes, motion carried.

Planning Commission Alternate

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Trustee William "Bill" Geukes. At their last planning commission meeting they discussed asking for an alternate to be placed on the Planning Commission, due to the fact that they are a five-member board. This person would have to be paid per diem, attend all the meetings and be a silent participate ready to act in times of any absent planning commission board member. Trustee Carson indicated he thought the Planning Commission did not need an alternate, since the Zoning Board of Appeals doesn't have one. Trustee Eichler said an alternate isn't needed. Trustee Stine indicated he did not have enough background to make a decision on the matter. Clerk Payne asked Trustee Geukes if the Planning Commission is requesting it be granted, or if they were in the discussion stages. Trustee Geukes responded they discussed an alternate. The overall opinion of the board was to leave the Planning Commission as it is.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

THERE WAS NONE!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Planning Commission is scheduled for April 9, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Utility Board meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2007 at 12:00 Noon, Lake Charter Township Conference Room, Bridgman, Michigan.

City of Bridgman/Lake Charter Township joint board meeting is April 30, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., Bridgman City Hall

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further objection and no further business it was moved by Payne seconded by Geukes to adjourn the meeting. Six ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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John Gast, Supervisor