

**MINUTES**  
**LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP**  
**UTILITY BOARD MEETING**

January 2, 2007

12:00 NOON

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting called to order by Supervisor John Gast at 12:04 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Board members present were John Gast, Supervisor; Gloria Payne, Clerk; Betty Korcek, Treasurer, Trustees Terry Eichler, Tom Carson, William "Bill" Geukes and James Stine, Jr.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Stewart Beach, Water Plant Superintendent  
John Wilemin, Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Stine seconded by Payne to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2006 utility board meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Eichler seconded by Geukes to approve one addition to the agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Supervisor Gast updated board members on the sewer back-up on 11884 California Road. There are conversations between insurance companies and if it is in fact a lift station problem, the sewer authority insurance would be liable. The claim is being turned into the homeowners insurance, the township insurance and the sewer district's insurance. Discussion included trying to inform homeowners, to have their contractors install back flow preventer's so that future back-ups can be avoided, especially in the wet low-lying areas in Lake Township.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

*Update on Water Plant Projects*

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to John Wilemin of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2007 to accept bids for the construction of the water storage tank. The deadline to accept bids is January 23, 2007. Blueprints and specification information is finalized and will be available at the Township Hall. In looking at the site the water storage tank will be constructed, there are some soil conditions that need to be addressed. The clearing of the clay and bringing in sand. Secondly, the electrical service may be right on top of the construction site and plans to speak with Indiana and Michigan Electric Company are underway. This project has a groundbreaking of March 1, 2007 with a completion date of June 1, 2007.

The membrane filtration project is in the process of getting the floor plans put together. The electrical service issue needs to be addressed as to how big does it have to be. John Carlson of AEP has held conversations with Township personnel about changing out chlorine for liquid bleach. He will be invited to meet with Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber regarding that process. The 6,000 gallon tank needs to be in a place where if it floods, it can be contained. A report should be forthcoming within three to four weeks.

#### *Approval of Engineer Billing*

Supervisor Gast brought before board members the engineering invoices from Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber. The model of the Lake Township Water System Master Plan is up to the calibration phase and the engineers are waiting for good weather to finalize it. A meeting of all water customers might be in order to bring all issues to the table with discussion. It was moved by Carson seconded by Korcek to approve payment of Invoice 168419 in the amount of \$2,394.10 for the Lake Township System Master Plan. All ayes, motion carried.

Supervisor Gast brought before board members the engineering invoices from Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber for the Lake Township Membrane Preliminary Design. It was moved by Stine seconded by Eichler to approve payment of Invoice 168421 in the amount of \$6,163.77 for the Lake Township Membrane Preliminary Design. All ayes, motion carried.

Supervisor Gast brought before board members the engineering invoices from Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber for the Lake Township 1 million gallon storage tank. It was moved by Eichler seconded by Korcek to approve payment of Invoice 168423 in the amount of \$27,160.00 for the Lake Township 1 million gallon storage tank. All ayes, motion carried.

#### *Approval of Cooper-Carlson Billing*

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Water Plant Superintendent, Stewart Beach who informed board members that three draft motors for the large overhead heaters are needing to be replaced. These heaters were installed in 1978 and are in a highly corrosive environment. After discussion, it was moved by Stine seconded by Geukes to purchase from Cooper-Carlson, three draft motors in the amount of \$1,584.00. All ayes, motion carried.

#### *Approval of Training Cost for Building Official*

Supervisor Gast informed board members that Lake Charter Township's building official, in order to keep up his license, needs 72 hours of training in the amount of \$648.00, a workbook in the amount of \$38.95 and annual dues of \$35.00. Southwest Michigan Inspectors Association will hold these prices until January 16, 2007. This takes the place of going to Lansing for the yearly training, saving on lodging and travel. It was moved by Payne seconded by Geukes to approve payment to Southwest Michigan Inspectors Association for \$721.05 for training, workbook and dues. All ayes, motion carried.

#### *2006 Sanitary Survey*

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Stewart Beach, Lake Township Water Plant Superintendent who brought before board members the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's 2006 Sanitary Survey. There were 13 minor concerns that water plant personnel has already or is in the process of handling. Item 12 regarding the inspection of the emergency risers is a concern, in that, if we open the emergency risers, with the lake being as volatile as it is, it could end up filling the drains with more sand, causing a more severe problem. Since we are going to be inspecting the water intake, we can have a "set of eye's on it at that time and open one emergency risers and see what is taking place. Overall the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality found the Lake Charter Township's water system as satisfactory.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.

**NEXT MEETING**

February 6, 2007 at 12:00 Noon.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Carson seconded by Korcek to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m. All ayes, motion carried.

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

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

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John Gast, Supervisor