

**MINUTES
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
April 21, 2008
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, Trustees William "Bill" Geukes, Terry Eichler, James Stine, Jr. and Tom Carson. Betty Korcek, Treasurer was absent. Seven visitors were present in the audience.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda stands as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 17, 2008 Board Meeting

It was moved by Eichler seconded by Geukes to approve the Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2008. Six ayes, motion carried.

March 27, 2008 Special Board Meeting

It was moved by Stine seconded by Geukes to approve the Special Board Meeting Minutes of March 27, 2008. Six ayes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Siebenmark, 21st District State Senator Ron Jelinek's representative updated board members on what is happening in Lansing. He reported that the budget is nearly complete. Unemployment is at an all time high of 7.2%, but not as bad as the national average. They are continuing to look at the business package that was passed to see where they can reduce the new tax burden placed on the business owners.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

After a few explanations, and one fund change, it was moved by Geukes seconded by Stine to approve the March 2008 Lake Charter Township bills in the amount of \$573,015.47. Six ayes, motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE PACKET

The following information was included in board members packets: MTA Weekly Legislative Report; Lake Charter Township Planning Commission meeting minutes of April 14, 2008 and March 10, 2008; Galien River Sanitary Sewer Authority Agenda; Lake Township Park Committee meeting minutes; Bridgman Public Library meeting minutes; Medic 1 meeting minutes; Lake Charter Township Water Filtration Plant report; Baroda-Lake Township cash account register for Jan - Mar 2008; a copy of the Library Contract; Lake Charter Township Cemetery meeting minutes; Lake Township Fire and Rescue meeting minutes; Lake Charter Township First Quarter Budget. A listing of fund balances as of March 31, 2008; 2007 Earnings Report and Summary of Lake Charter Township 2007 property taxes.

Copy of a letter from Friends of the Bridgman Library regarding the Annual Community Wide Garage Sale May 17 and 18, 2008.

REPORTS

A. Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Gast reported as follows:

- a. Finished up Board of Review;
- b. Attended Medic One meeting;
- c. Attended Galien River Sewer District Authority meeting;
- d. Attended Utility Board meeting;
- e. Attended Special Board meeting;
- f. Met with Tom Traciak;

- g. Attended ribbon cutting ceremony for Beachside Bakery;
- h. Attended Cemetery Committee meeting;
- i. Attended Southwest Michigan water authority meeting;
- j. Attended Economic Growth Alliance meeting;
- k. Toured the Harbor Shore project;
- l. Helped with the Tire Collection.

B. Clerk's Report

Clerk Payne reported as follows:

- a. Attended the Bridgman Chamber of Commerce breakfast;
- b. Met with Tom Traciak;
- c. Interviewed candidate for the Park position;
- d. Attended the Special Board meeting;
- e. Attended the Utility Board meeting;
- f. Attended and chaired the Cemetery Committee meeting;
- g. Attended Precinct Chair training;
- h. Attended Economic Growth Alliance meeting;
- i. Attended State of Michigan Election training;
- j. Attended the Southwestern Michigan Commission meeting;
- k. Attended the Berrien County Clerks Association meeting;
- l. Helped with the Tire Collection.

C. Treasurer's Report

The Lake Charter Township Treasurer was absent.

D. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Geukes reported the Planning Commission approved a special land use permit for 9300 Red Arrow Highway.

E. Water Superintendent's Report

Water Plant Superintendent Stewart Beach reported seasonal accounts are being turned on. Browntown Road curb boxes are in. Taps for Weesaw Township residents are being installed. Work on the construction site has more activity since the weather is a bit better and work at the park will begin soon.

F. GRSD Sewer Authority Report

Supervisor Gast reported a temporary employee has been hired. Replaced motor starters and thermal trips at Lift Station #35.

G. Police Department

Trustee Eichler there was no meeting in March.

H. Fire Department/Fire Chief

Fire Chief Harold Heyn reported 26 calls were handled in the month of March. 20 medical, 4 smoke alarms. Chief Heyn reported the Department of Natural Resources will hold a wild fire training and the Michigan State Police will hold a program regarding explosive devices.

I. Park Report

In the absence of Treasurer Korcek no Park report was given.

J. Library Report

In the absence of Carol Siewert no Library report was given.

K. Cemetery Committee Report

Clerk Payne reported that three burials took place since our last board meeting. The cemetery committee met and discussed, trees, equipment and moles.

AGENDA ITEMS

Mole Control

Supervisor Gast presented to board members a proposal from Arrow Pest Control for treatment of moles at Lake Township Park, Greenwood and Graceland Cemeteries. The cost for the park is \$1,200.00. The cost for Greenwood Cemetery is \$1,500.00 and the cost for Graceland Cemetery is \$1,200.00. After discussion, it was moved by Payne seconded by Geukes to accept the proposal from Arrow Pest Control for treatment of moles at Lake Township Park for \$1,200.00, for Greenwood Cemetery for \$1,500.00 and for Graceland Cemetery for \$1,200.00. Six ayes, motion carried.

Fire Department Training

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Fire Chief Harold Heyn. He is asking for permission to send two Township fire fighters to training with the Cook Plant fire personnel. The training is scheduled for June 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2008. The training includes confined space, HAZMAT Decontamination, hose hazard and foam application. The only cost to Lake Township would be the meals for each fire fighter. The training is in Windsor Canada and Lake Township will check with Dave Koop, our insurance carrier to be sure insurance coverages follow the fire fighters. It was moved by Stine seconded by Payne to allow two Lake Charter Township fire fighters to attend trainings with Cook Plant personnel in Canada and pay for meals. Six ayes, motion carried.

Lake Charter Township Water Plant Master Plan

Supervisor Gast reminded board members that if they have comments, suggestions or concerns regarding the Lake Charter Township Water Plant master plan, they forward those to either John Wilemin or Supervisor Gast for review and revision.

Tire Collection

Supervisor Gast reported that 1,041 automobile tires were collected, along with 172 light truck, 79 semi-truck tires, 51 tractor tires and 4 oversized tires. The cost is \$3,411.25 for the tire collection that was held on April 19, 2008. The cost is \$3,411.25 payable to Earl Maxwell. It was moved by Geukes seconded by Eichler to approve payment of \$3,411.25 to Earl Maxwell for the tire collection held on April 19, 2008. Six ayes, motion carried.

Poverty Exemption Guidelines

Supervisor Gast presented to board members a Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test, along with a Hardship Exemption Application. Lake Charter Township Assessor, Scott Cunningham has reviewed the documents and suggested that Lake Charter Township adopt the Resolution and these guidelines. The Lake Charter Township Board of Review will have to use these guidelines to grant the exemption. The exemption must be applied for each year. Supervisor Gast asked to forego the reading of the Resolution. After discussion and comment, it was moved by Payne seconded by Geukes to adopt the Resolution for Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test, along with the Hardship Exemption Application. Roll Call Vote: Gast Yes; Payne Yes; Korcek absent; Carson Yes; Stine No; Eichler Yes, Geukes Yes. Motion carried.

Pump Repair

Supervisor Gast turned board members attention to the repair or replacement of the existing Pumpex K102. They are proposing the cost to repair would be \$4,797.00. This price assumes new o-rings, seal, bearing, new control and power cables with new seals for the cables, and rewinding the motor. The cost for a new pump is \$5,912.70. This particular pump is 13 years old and has already been repaired once before. After discussion, it was moved by Eichler seconded by Stine to purchase the new pump for \$5,912.70 which includes the adapter flange. Six ayes, motion carried.

Weesaw Township Water Extension

Supervisor Gast indicated that the work has been completed by Southwest Transport for the California Road/Weechick Road/Maple Street watermain project. The underground construction needs to be accepted. After a lengthy discussion, it was moved by Payne seconded by Geukes to accept the underground construction of the California Road/Weechick Road/Maple Street watermain project. Six ayes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Loren Berndt expressed his concerns regarding the Lake Charter Township website, an election newspaper publication, the sign at Mikey’s Drive-In, the ordinance review update, the agricultural exemption, legal/illegal businesses, parking in residential areas and water run-off.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Planning Commission is scheduled for May 12, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Utility Board meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2008 at 12:00 Noon, Lake Charter Township Conference Room, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals is May 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further objection and no further business it was moved by Stine seconded by Payne to adjourn the meeting. Six ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Dated: _____

Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

Dated: _____

John Gast, Supervisor