

1MINUTES
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
April 16, 2012
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; , Betty Korcek, Treasurer, Trustees Terry Eichler, Patricia L. Heyn, James Stine Jr., and Tom Carson. Twelve visitors were present in the audience.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Korcek seconded by Heyn to add two items to the agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 20, 2012 Meeting Minutes

With one addition, it was moved by Stine seconded by Korcek to approve the March 19, 2012 meeting minutes. All ayes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Vonk asked to change his comments in the Public Comment section of the minutes. Clerk Payne asked that he write it out and the change would be made.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

After comments, explanations, and clarifications, it was moved by Heyn seconded by Korcek to approve the bills of March 2012 in the amount of \$414,178.39. All ayes, motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE PACKET

The following information was included in board members packets: copy of DeFrancesco, O'Dowd and Dienes billing; Lake Charter Township Planning Commission meeting minutes of April 2, 2012; Galien River Sanitary Sewer Authority Agenda and meeting minutes; Fund Balances as of March 2012; Bridgman Public Library meeting minutes; Lake Charter Township Water Filtration Plant report; Lake Charter Township Parks Committee meeting minutes; Bridgman/Lake Township Economic Growth Alliance meeting minutes; Medic One meeting minutes; 2011 Tax Collection summary; First Quarter 2012 Expense Budget; Quarterly Southwest Michigan Planning Commission newsletter.

Copy of a letter from Comcast regarding digital network enhancement; Copy of a letter from Bridgman Public Library regarding Community Wide Garage Sale; Copy of a revised 2012-2013 general fund budget for Baroda Lake Township Police Department.

REPORTS

A. Supervisor's Report

- a. Attended Board of Review;
- b. Attended Medic One meeting;
- c. Met with Water Plant personnel four times;
- d. Met with Galien River Sanitary District Association;
- e. Attended exit meeting with Auditors;
- f. Attended Cellular Tower meeting.

B. Clerk's Report

Clerk Payne reported as follows:

- a. Attended exit meeting with Auditors;
- b. Attended Special Police Board meeting;

c. Attended the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission meeting.

C. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Betty Korcek reported as follows:

- a. Settled all the taxes with the County of Berrien;
- b. Attended EGA meeting;
- c. Attended Park Committee meeting;
- d. Met with Park Fall Festival Committee to plan the September 15, 2012 event;
- e. Attended exit meeting with Auditors.

D. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Heyn reported the Planning Commission continued the process of reviewing Chapters 7 and 8 of the Master Plan.

E. Water Report

Water Plant Operator, Mayo Roth reported pumpage is down due to the Cook Nuclear Plant outage. Replaced four valves. The telemetry project is ahead of schedule. Clarifiers sediment pumps have been installed. The traveling screen project is scheduled to begin May 1, 2012.

F. GRSD Sewer Authority Report

Supervisor Gast reported the GRSD approved purchasing a replacement truck from Siemens Ford. The life insurance policy is now in place for the Authority Manager, Ron Sanford. The sewer district has sewer back-up insurance and the \$1,000.00 deductible will be approved and split between the Sewer District Authority and Lake Charter Township, then Brian Jannert will be paid for his sewer back-up on 11884 California Road.

G. Police Department

Trustee Terry Eichler reported the Baroda-Lake Township Police Department board held a special meeting to interview and hire Stacy Allen for the Secretary/Receptionist position.

H. Fire Department/Fire Chief

Fire Chief Harold Heyn reported twenty-two calls were answered, sixteen medical, one car fire, one controlled burn and two fire alarms. A blitz training was also held.

I. Park Report

Treasurer Betty Korcek reported soccer practice has begun. There is a drainage problem in the woods. Discussion is on the agenda for the building of the last two dug-outs. Pat Heyn, Betty Korcek and Nancy Mensinger have been meeting monthly on the Fall Festival scheduled to be held September 15, 2012.

J. Library Report

John Maryanski, Bridgman Public Library Board Member reported two major projects are underway, the \$70,000.00 replacement of the skylights scheduled to begin in May and the Community Gardens kick-off April 21, 2012 and beds are up for rent.

K. Cemetery Committee Report

Clerk Payne reported three burials and one cremation took place in the month of March 2012.

L. Building Department Report

James Gast reported he issued six residential building permits, nine electrical permits, one plumbing permit and one mechanical permit, one water tap, one sewer tap, one lot split and went on medical calls, handled complaints.

M. Lake Township Economic Growth Alliance

James Stine, Jr., reported the Economic Growth Alliance discussed the redesign of Exit 16 to include placement for seven signs. Signs cost from \$2,000 - \$3,000, the first sign to be placed in May 2012. They discussed creating a brand specific to the Bridgman/Lake Township area and possible use someone from Andrews University to create it.

AGENDA ITEMS

Fifth Monday Meeting

Supervisor Gast asked if board members had any suggestions for the fifth Monday meeting scheduled for April 30, 2012. It was discussed to check on a presentation from the Expo Arena project in Berrien Springs.

Compact Excavator

Supervisor Gast presented four quotes for a compact excavator that would be used by the Water Plant personnel, Cemetery personnel and Park personnel. The quotes were as follows: \$42,021.23 from MacAllister Equipment; \$43,143.00 from McDonald Sales; \$43,525.00 from H.F.S. Tractor Sales and \$49,700.00 from West Side Tractor Sales. After discussion, it was suggested to look into used equipment and get rid of old equipment.

Tire Replacement - Fire Truck #1126

Supervisor Gast reported Fire Truck #1126 needed replacement of tires from Wingfoot Commercial Tire in the amount of \$2,769.50. It was moved by Stine seconded by Gast to approve purchase of the replacement tires from Wingfoot Commercial Tire for \$2,769.50 for Lake Charter Township Fire Truck #1126. All ayes, motion carried.

Queen Committee Donation

Supervisor Gast introduced Dustin Zebell Mr. Bridgman 2012, who asked for support for The Miss Bridgman Queen Committee who represent our community in the Blossomtime Grand Floral Parade. After discussion, no action was taken and board members indicated they would donate individually.

Park Dug-Out

Supervisor Gast brought before board members two proposals for the construction of the Lake Charter Township Park dug-outs. TimberRise Construction \$28,500.00 and Robert Svoboda, Jr., for \$27,690.00. Betty Korcek indicated that the Park Committee recommends the proposal from TimberRise, due to Robert Svoboda not being able to get to the project until later in the year.

Trustee Carson questioned why the Park Committee is opening the bids and not the township board. He felt that bids should be let and printed in the newspaper. Treasurer Korcek responded that the process has been handled in the same manner for the construction of the park dug-outs for the last eight years and there did not seem to be an issue then.

It was moved by Korcek seconded by Heyn to accept the proposal of TimberRise Construction for \$28,500.00, for the construction of two dug-outs at the Lake Charter Township Park. Roll call vote: Gast yes; Payne yes; Korcek yes; Heyn yes; Eichler yes; Stine yes; Carson no, due to the process in the way the bids were handled. Motion carried.

Employee Study

Supervisor Gast turned the floor over to Trustee Carson who indicated that the employee study be done soon, that an assessment be made on the current personnel and local municipalities be contacted as to what they are currently doing. There was also a suggestion in contacting the Michigan Townships Association for assistance. Discussion regarding the water and sewer rates be sent to Tom Traciak for his assessment of rates and lastly, that the sale of the Michigan State Police Post be advertised in the Chicago area, on Craig's List and on the various area web sites.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Loren Berndt complimented the Park Committee on the way the Park looks. He did, however, present pictures of the cemetery from September 2011 and said that the cemetery had an image problem and hoped it would not occur again.

Nicole Carson Anderson commented that in the Michigan Township News an article addressed Section 2 (3) of the Standards of Conduct for Public Officers and Employees Act township property such as its computer system, cell phones, postage, must be used solely for the township and cannot be used for personal gain or benefit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Planning Commission is scheduled for May 7, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals May 10, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further objection and no further business it was moved by Heyn seconded by Korcek to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Dated: _____

Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

Dated: _____

John Gast, Supervisor