

MINUTES
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
October 18, 2022
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Zach Carson, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Clerk Payne called the roll. Board members present were Zach Carson, Supervisor; Gloria Payne, Clerk; Robert Clark, Treasurer; John Wilk, Trustee; Mike Essig, Trustee; Amanda Drew, Trustee and Nancy Mensinger Trustee. A quorum of the board was declared to be present. There were eight visitors.

While Amanda Drew was seated at the board table, she was not voting on the agenda items, since she was on the agenda to be appointed to the vacant Trustee position, as item #7.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Supervisor Carson called for additions or deletions to the agenda. It was moved by Payne seconded by Clark to add one item to the agenda. Item #7, the appointment of Amanda Drew to the unexpired term of Trustee vacated by Zach Carson, elected Supervisor in the August 2, 2022 Primary Election. Six ayes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 20, 2022 Board Meeting

It was moved by Wilk seconded by Essig to approve the Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2022. Six ayes, motion carried.

September 27, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Clark seconded by Mensinger to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2022. Six ayes, motion carried.

October 6, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Clark seconded by Carson to approve the October 6, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes. Six ayes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

After explanations, it was moved by Mensinger seconded by Essig to approve the September 2022 Lake Charter Township bills in the amount of \$542,455.24. Six ayes, motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE PACKET

Lake Charter Township account balances for September 2022.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Carson reported he is still getting to know the lay of the land. He attended the Galien River Sewer District Authority meeting. Attended a Michigan Townships Association training on October 11, 2022, the Utility Committee meeting and the Special Meetings of September 27, 2022 and October 6, 2022.

Clerk's Report

Attached.

Treasurer's Report

Attached.

Planning Commission Report

Work is continuing on the Master Plan.

Lake Charter Township Planning Commission Meeting minutes are on file in the Township Hall offices.

Water Plant Report

Attached.

Supervisor Carson reported 3.3 million gallons in pumpage. To date, the Water Plant has done 862 cross connections.

GRSD Sewer Authority Report

John Wilk reported a presentation was given by Andy Campbell of Baker Tilly to set rates with regard to the catch flow and make billing more even for all entities.

Medic 1 Report

Meeting Minutes attached, as well as July 2022 Medic 1 Ambulance Report

John Wilk reported Jack Fisher is on paid leave while they sort out the sale of a vehicle. It was discovered the bylaws do not address the sale of Medic I vehicles. The Medic I Attorney is drafting a set of bylaws for the board to review. Allen Weich has been named as Chair and Michael Hildebrandt, Oronoko Township Supervisor, as Vice Chair.

Police Department

Treasurer Clark reported the Baroda-Lake Township Police Department began developing their 2023 budget. The next Baroda-Lake Police board meeting is October 25, 2022

Fire Department Report

Harold Heyn, Lake Charter Township Fire Chief reported that the firefighters have been attending training on the new Fire Truck.

Park Committee Report

Attached.

Library Report

Sarah Skinner, the newly hired Bridgman Public Librarian was present, and was welcomed. She reported on the Halloween puppet show, truck or treat and the Holiday Village.

Cemetery Committee Report

Attached.

Building Department Report

Attached.

Lake Township Economic Growth Alliance Report

Attached.

Utility Committee Report

Attached.

Capital Improvement Report

No meeting.

Zoning Board of Appeals Report

The Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals meeting minutes are on file in the Township Hall offices.

AGENDA ITEMS

Third Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Map of the Zoning Ordinance

Supervisor Carson made a motion, seconded by Wilk to continue to table this agenda item in an effort to obtain further information. Six ayes, motion carried.

Renewal of Health Insurance

Supervisor Carson turned the floor over to Robert Clark who reported that the board met with Kurt Buursma our health insurance agent. He brought board members' attention to the increase of approximately 9% for the existing Priority Health plan, our current carrier.

It was decided to increase the amount each employee would pay for the cost of health insurance. For Single it would be raised from \$20.00 bi-weekly to \$40.00 bi-weekly. For Double it would be raised from \$50.00 to \$70.00 bi-weekly and for Family it would be raised from \$65.00 bi-weekly to \$85.00 bi-weekly. These are all pre-tax rates. By increasing these bi-weekly rates, the increase would be 7% instead of 9%.

Further the HSA would continue to be funded \$2,000.00 for Single and \$4,000.00 for Double.

It was moved by Carson seconded by Essig to renew the existing health insurance for Priority Health, for November 1, 2022 through November 1, 2023. Further, increase the amount each employee would pay for the cost of health insurance. For Single it would be raised from \$20.00 bi-weekly to \$40.00 bi-weekly. For Double it would be raised from \$50.00 to \$70.00 bi-weekly and for Family it would be raised from \$65.00 bi-weekly to \$85.00 bi-weekly. These are all pre-tax rates. Lastly, the HSA would continue to be funded \$2,000.00 for Single and \$4,000.00 for Double. By increasing these bi-weekly rates, the increase would be 7% instead of 9%. Six ayes, motion carried.

Renewal of Liability Insurance

Supervisor Carson turned the floor over to Clerk Payne who reported that the renewal of the liability insurance with EMC Insurance, was in board members' packet. The liability insurance is up by \$9,000.00, due to the purchase of the new fire truck. We would continue to stay with Dave Koop of EMC Insurance for \$60,959.00 for November 1, 2022 - November 1, 2023.

It was moved by Payne seconded by Wilk to approve the renewal of the Liability Insurance with EMC, Insurance for \$60,959.00 for November 1, 2022 - November 1, 2023.

Purchase Four (4) Scott 60 Minute Air Carbon Cylinders

Supervisor Carson turned the floor over to Harold Heyn who reported these cylinders would hook onto the Air Paks and provide more air for firefighters. The cost is \$5,668.00 from West Shore Fire.

It was moved by Mensinger seconded by Essig to approve purchasing from West Shore Fire four (4) Scott 60 Minute Carbon Cylinders for \$5,668.00. Six ayes, motion carried.

Replacement of Six (6) Generator Batteries for Generators and One Control Panel

Supervisor Carson turned board members' attention to the quotes from MacAllister for the replacement of six (6) generator batteries in the amount of \$9,281.24 and one control panel for the Park generator.

It was moved by Clark seconded by Payne to approve the purchase of six (6) generator batteries and one control panel for the Park generator from MacAllister for \$9,281.24. Six ayes, motion carried.

2023 Meeting Calendar

Supervisor Carson turned the floor over to Clerk Payne who reported that by law, the 2023 Public Notice of Township meetings be set and posted in compliance with PA 265 of 1976 Open Meetings Act.

It was moved by Wilk seconded by Mensinger to approve the 2023 Public Notice of Township meetings. (Copy Attached). Six ayes, motion carried

Appointment of Amanda Drew, to vacant Trustee Position

Supervisor Carson reported that the board interviewed interested candidates for the position of Lake Charter Township Trustee. This Trustee position was left vacant by Zach Carson who was elected to fill the unexpired term of Lake Charter Township Supervisor on August 2, 2022.

It was moved by Clark seconded by Carson to approve the appointment of Amanda Drew to the Lake Charter Township Trustee board position. Six ayes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Terry Freehling reported that Lake Charter Township has 500 parcels unserved by broad band. Berrien County is appropriating \$6 million and encouraged us to apply for the grant to get service our Township that is under served.

Jack Bauer inquired about the John Gast Memorial Trail. He is experiencing drainage issues. Treasurer Clark reported it is still undecided as to which side of the road it will be on. That we can be mindful of his situation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Planning Commission is scheduled for November 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals is scheduled for November 10, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Baroda-Lake Township Police Board meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

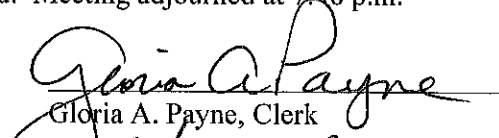
Lake Charter Township Hall Offices will be closed November 11, 2022 in Observance of Veteran's Day.

Lake Charter Township Hall Offices will be closed November 24 and 25, 2022 in Observance of Thanksgiving.

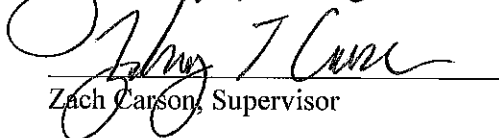
ADJOURNMENT

With no further objection and no further business it was moved by Payne seconded by Essig to adjourn the meeting. Seven ayes, motion carried. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Dated: October 25, 2022


Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

Dated: 10/25/22


Zach Carson, Supervisor