

**MINUTES
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING**

March 16, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Electronic meeting via zoom, per Governor Whitmer's Order

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88143223094?pwd=MDZhWU0Y25BV2ExYWFnYW5zTGZkdz09>

Meeting ID: 881 4322 3094

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CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Gast read the meeting procedure.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor John Gast at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Clerk Payne called the roll. Board members present were John Gast, Supervisor; Gloria Payne, Clerk; Robert Clark, Treasurer; Zach Carson, Trustee; Mike Essig, Trustee; Nancy Mensinger, Trustee and John Wilk, Trustee who joined zoom at 7:28 p.m. A quorum of the board was present.

GUESTS

Twenty-four visitors were present, via zoom.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Clark seconded by Essig to add one agenda item, Site Development Policy Update, to the agenda. Roll call vote: Six yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Immel, 5797 Wildwood Drive, Bridgman, Michigan

Mr. Immel, President of Wildwood Association, asked that with regard to the revetment issue, the Shoreline Ordinance be added to the joint City/Township Fifth Monday meeting on March 29, 2021.

Ellen Reagan, 9182 Hillcrest, Bridgman, Michigan commented that 445 residents are affected by the lake issue and that we cannot depend on the State of Michigan. She asked that we be proactive instead of reactive.

Ellen Walsh, 9326 Dunewood, Bridgman, Michigan commented that we have a unique shoreline, a lot of beach walking and alternatives to rock revetments exist. Protect our shoreline.

Sally Bogart, 14227 Swift Lake, Lakeside, Michigan commented she is proud of the Chikaming Township board who passed hard armories. Please put this item for discussion on the joint City/Township Fifth Monday meeting on March 29, 2021.

Gene Schoon, 4977 Woodland Shores, Bridgman, Michigan commented the shoreline doesn't know the political borders, and we need to work together toward a common goal.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 16, 2021

It was moved by Mensinger seconded by Clark to approve the February 16, 2021 meeting minutes. Roll Call Vote: Six yes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

It was moved by Payne seconded by Carson to approve the February 2021 bills in the amount of \$330,850.36. Roll Call Vote: Six yes, motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE PACKET

Lake Charter Township account balances for February 2021.

Supervisor's Report

Attached.

Clerk's Report

Attached.

Treasurer's Report

Attached.

Treasurer Clark reported another tax season is in the books. Total collection was \$40,477,349.51. The numbers have been balanced with Berrien County. Lake Charter Township only has one property on the list to be foreclosed on if the past due taxes are not paid by March 31, 2021.

Planning Commission Report

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

Water Plant Report

Attached.

GRSD Sewer Authority Report

Galien River Sewer District Authority meeting minutes attached.

Police Department

Baroda-Lake Township Police Board meeting minutes are attached.

Fire Department Report

Attached.

Park Committee Report

Attached.

Treasurer Clark reported the fencing project is wrapping up and the recreation fund approved paying 40% or \$19,092.80 toward the project. Baseball and softball are planning to have spring seasons, but soccer is not. The recreation fund is also providing an AED at the park that will be installed in the common area.

Library Report

Dennis Kreps, Bridgman Public Library Director reported programs and activities will most likely be virtual. A "Reading as you Walk" reproduction is in the works on a trial basis.

The Library can be helpful with unemployment issues and where to get Covid-19 vaccines.

Cemetery Committee Report

Attached.

Building Department Report

Attached.

Lake Township Economic Growth Alliance Report

Attached.

Medic One 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.

AGENDA ITEMS

Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Dates

Supervisor Gast reported that on the occasion that a request for a variance needs to be heard within thirty (30) days, and the meetings being bimonthly, this creates a special meeting call to address the request. Changing the Zoning Board of Appeals meetings to monthly will eliminate the call for a special meeting. If no business is on the agenda, the meeting will be canceled.

It was moved by Gast seconded by Payne to approve the Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals begin to meet on a monthly basis. Roll call vote: Seven yes, motion carried.

Resolution in Support of Restaurants

Supervisor Gast brought board members attention to the Resolution in support of “Restaurant Month” and encourages its citizens to frequent area restaurants with dine-in or take-out business.

It was moved by Gast seconded by Wilk to approve the Resolution in support of “Restaurant Month” and encourage its citizens to frequent area restaurants with dine-in or take-out business. Roll Call Vote: All Yes, motion carried. (Copy attached).

Water Plant Distribution System Operator

Supervisor Gast asked board members to review the Water System Distribution Operator job description and allow for posting of the position to explore resumes and hold interviews for hiring of a candidate. It was suggested that it be posted internally for one week and then post externally.

It was moved by Payne seconded by Mensinger to post the Water System Distribution Operator job internally for one week and then externally to explore resumes and hold interviews for hiring of a candidate. Roll Call Vote: All yes, motion carried.

Replacement of Ceiling Tile in Administrative Township Hall

Supervisor Gast asked board members to review the quote from 1-Wolverine Construction for replacement of the ceiling tiles in the administrative portion of the township hall, in the amount of \$31,300.00. 1-Wolverine Construction repaired the ceiling in the township hall and did a great job. He showed up in a timely fashion and completed the work. There are ceiling tiles left over and can be used to finalize the administrative portion.

Other contractors have been contacted for bids and there were none.

It was moved by Mensinger seconded by Clark to accept the quote from 1-Wolverine Construction for replacement of the ceiling tiles in the administrative portion of the township hall, in the amount of \$31,300.00. Roll Call Vote: All yes, motion carried.

Emergency Management Liaisons for Lake Charter Township

Supervisor Gast asked board members to review the Resolution for Emergency Management Liaisons for Lake Charter Township, which coordinates with the County Emergency Management Division.

It was moved by Gast seconded by Essig to approve the Resolution for Emergency Management Liaisons for Lake Charter Township, which coordinates with the County Emergency Management Division. Roll Call Vote: All yes, motion carried. (Copy attached).

Fifth Monday Meeting

Supervisor Gast reported that in discussions with Juan Ganum, Bridgman City Manager, items to be placed on the agenda for discussion include the sidewalk on Gast Road to Lake Township Park and joint Trash/Recycling event being held October 9, 2021 in Lake Charter Township.

Hearing no other items to be placed on the agenda, it is likely we will meet, via zoom, on Monday, March 29, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Site Development Policy Update

Supervisor Gast asked board members to review the Site Development Policy Update which was adopted by the Lake Charter Township board on May 5, 2000. The policy is still viable and is being used, the names need to be changed since individuals previously named are retired.

It was moved by Clark seconded by Carson to approve the update of the Site Development Policy. Roll Call Vote: All yes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Planning Commission is scheduled for April 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals is scheduled for April 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township/City of Bridgman Joint meeting is scheduled for March 29, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. with Lake Charter Township as the host.

Township Hall Offices will be closed April 2, 2021 in observance of Good Friday.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further objection and no further business it was moved by Payne seconded by Wilk to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call Vote: All yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Dated: _____

Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

Dated: _____

John Gast, Supervisor