

MINUTES
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
May 16, 2023
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Zach Carson 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; Nancy Mensinger, Trustee; Mike Essig, Trustee. John Wilk, and Amanda Drew, Trustees were absent. A quorum of the board was declared to be present.

OTHERS PRESENT

Jeff Burkhard, Lake Charter Township Water Plant Supervisor
Sarah Skinner, Bridgman Public Librarian

VISITORS PRESENT

Julie Strating
Daisy Davis
Shirley Myers
Kyle Weich
2 Bridgman High School Students

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Mensinger seconded by Payne to add one item to the agenda. Five ayes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Shirley Myers inquired how residents would be informed of a Special Meeting.

Julie Strating reported on the process of the Courtyard Project in the City of Bridgman.

Daisy Davis informed board members' of the proposed trail from Warren Dunes to the City of Bridgman and encouraged Lake Charter Township to be in support of it.

Kyle Weich inquired about getting water and sewer hooked up to his residence in Baroda Township on Holden Road.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 11, 2023

It was moved by Payne seconded by Essig to approve the April 11, 2023 meeting minutes. Five ayes, motion carried.

May 9, 2023

It was moved by Carson seconded by Essig to approve the May 9, 2023 special meeting minutes. Five ayes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

It was moved by Clark seconded by Mensinger to approve the April bills in the amount of \$395,176.56. Five ayes, motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE PACKET

Lake Charter Township account balances for April 2023

Supervisor's Report

Attached.

Clerk's Report

Attached.

Clerk Payne informed board members they are all invited to Greenwood Cemetery on Sunday, May 28, 2023 at 12:30 p.m. for the Memorial Day Service.

Treasurer's Report

Attached.

Planning Commission Report

Supervisor Carson reported that Daniel Birochak will be replacing Jason Kaeding on the Planning Commission.

Minutes of the Planning Commission meeting are placed on file in the Township Hall offices.

Water Plant Report

Attached.

Superintendent Jeff Burkhard reported that 32.87 million gallons of water were pumped in the month of April. The roof project at the Lake Station is underway and there is an ongoing study of the clarifier.

Galien River Sewer District Authority Report

Minutes of the March 22, 2023 meeting attached.

Supervisor Carson reported the GRSD is rebuilding a pump and motor at Lift Station #6 and the flow meter is being replaced in Lift Station #1.

Police Department

Baroda-Lake Township Police report is attached.

Fire Department Report

Attached.

Park Committee Report

Attached.

Library Report

Sarah Skinner reported that they were two visitors short of 3,000 last month. The new hire, Kyle, provided programs for 38 different activities, and also planned the summer reading program.

Donations are being accepted for Pokemon cards, as well as items of Dungeons and Dragons. A detailed Bridgman Public Library report is attached.

Cemetery Committee Report

Attached.

Building Department Report

Attached.

Lake Township Economic Growth Alliance Report

Attached.

Medic One Report

8,810 calls were handled in the month of April of which Lake Township's write off was \$1,573.33. Medic One meeting minutes of March 23, 2023 attached.

Utility Committee Report

Attached.

Capital Improvement Report

No meeting.

Zoning Board of Appeals Report

Trustee Essig reported the board is looking at the bylaws.

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

AGENDA ITEMS

Bridgman Public Library Services Agreement

Supervisor Carson brought board members attention to the Library Services Agreement that was approved December 20, 2022. This agreement needs to be renewed.

It was moved by Payne seconded by Clark to approve the renewal of the Bridgman Library Services Agreement between the Bridgman Public Library and Lake Charter Township. Five ayes, motion carried. (Attached.)

Conditional Offer of Employment

Supervisor Carson reported that Jeff Burkhard, Lake Charter Township Water Plant Superintendent, along with Toban Riley, Lake Charter Township Assistant Water Plant Superintendent, has interviewed a candidate for Water Plant Operator to replace Mayo Roth, who is retiring.

A conditional Offer of Employment was made to John Miller for Water Plant Operator, a full time employment, as an "at will" employee. Pay Grade 8 Minimum which is \$24.15 per hour. After successful completion of a six-month probationary period passing the Michigan EGLE F-4 Certification, he would advance to Pay Grade 8, Year 1. His tentative start date will be May 22, 2023, pending the results of his drug screening conducted by All Cities Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

It was moved by Wilk seconded by Payne to offer John Miller, the conditional offer of employment as a Water Plant Operator for Lake Charter Township at Pay Grade 8 Minimum \$23.00 per hour. Six ayes, motion carried.

It was moved by Essig seconded by Mensinger to offer employment to John Miller, Water Plant Operator, position, at Grade 8, Year Minimum \$24.15 per hour, pending the results of his drug screening. Five ayes, motion carried.

Adoption of Resolution to Support Berrien County Trails Master Plan

Supervisor Carson turned the floor over to Robert Clerk, Treasurer who reported the trail will be developed on Red Arrow Highway to Sawyer Road. Twenty-one (21) municipalities and Berrien County have already passed resolutions of support. The goal is to have every municipality in Berrien County to pass the resolution. It is critical when obtaining funding through grants, MDOT and others that the municipalities are in favor of trails.

It was moved by Clark seconded by Mensinger to approve the Resolution to Support the Berrien County Trails Master Plan. Five ayes, motion carried. (Copy attached).

Moratorium on Green Energy Projects

Supervisor Carson brought board members' attention to Ordinance 23-516 An Ordinance to Impose a Moratorium on the Issues of Permits, Licenses, or Approvals for, Or For Any Construction of Wind, Energy Conversion Systems, MET Towers, and Solar Energy Facilities.

This is moratorium does not have to be placed before the Planning Commission, and Lake Charter Township wishes to craft an Ordinance to cover many issues that these green energy projects entail. The Planning Commission will go to work on language and what should be included in the Ordinance.

It was moved by Mensinger seconded by Essig to approve Ordinance 23-516, An Ordinance to Impose a Moratorium on the Issues of Permits, Licenses, or Approvals for, Or For Any Construction of Wind, Energy Conversion Systems, MET Towers, and Solar Energy Facilities. Five ayes, motion carried. (Copy attached).

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Planning Commission is scheduled for June 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals is scheduled for June 8, 2023 at 6:30 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

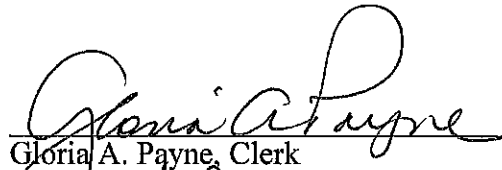
ADJOURNMENT

With no further objection and no further business it was moved by Carson seconded by Payne to adjourn the meeting. Five ayes, motion carried. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07.m.

Dated: May 18, 2023

Dated: 5/18/2023


Gloria A. Payne, Clerk


Zach Carson, Supervisor