

**MINUTES
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
September 15, 2020
7:00 p.m.**

Electronic meeting via zoom, per Governor Whitmer's Order

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

There was a total of ninety-eight (98) guests attending via Zoom.

Supervisor Gast read the agenda and meeting procedure. (A copy of this is attached).

ROLL CALL

Clerk Payne called the roll. Board members present were John Gast, Supervisor; Gloria Payne, Clerk; Robert Clark, Treasurer; John Wilk, Trustee; Nancy Mensinger, Trustee; James Stine, Jr., and Pat Heyn, Trustee. A quorum of the board was declared to be present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Supervisor Gast asked the board if there were any additions/deletions to the agenda. Two additional agenda items were added. It was moved by Stine seconded by Clark to accept the addition of two agenda items. Roll Call Vote: Gast yes; Payne yes; Clark yes; Heyn yes; Stine yes; Mensinger yes; Wilk yes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

For public comment, please access the attached link via Zoom.

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/zo7LWEmQmovn-p_gYcBipU7zxJPU09sPW5DTtXlyj0MYIsbeFg78K25pjr7aTaVD.9JDwSWLyRM56sZ2n

Password: #E\$M6C=T

The following individuals spoke regarding the State of Michigan applications for construction of revetments within Lake Charter Township and requests to EGLE.

Ruth Skidmore, Representing the nine (9) home owners installing revetments on their personal property.

Scott Howard, 420 East Front Street, Traverse City, Michigan a lawyer for the Lake Front Preservation Group.

Ken and Sarah Woods, 9162 Hemlock Lane, Bridgman, MI 49106

Jon Fox, 5027 Basswood, Bridgman, MI 49106

John Kins, 4997 Oak Lane, Bridgman, MI 49106

John Immel, 5797 Wildwood Drive, Bridgman, MI 49106

John Froberg, 9176 Hemlock Lane, Bridgman, MI 49106

Arthur Hahn, 8750 Poplar Lane, Bridgman, MI 49106

Michael Callahan, 9520 Hillside, Woodland Shores, Bridgman, MI 49106

Lisa Hadesman, 9698 Shore Road, Bridgman, MI 49106

Lisa Radko Roome, 8650 Livingston Hills, Bridgman, MI 49106

Michelle Helmkamp, 9660 Lakeway Lane, Bridgman, MI 49106

Stacy Stine, 10310 Hickory Creek Road, Bridgman, MI 49106

Mary Kay Steele, 4535 Wildwood, Bridgman, MI 49106

Steve Hermer, Lakeview Drive, Bridgman, MI 49106

Marian Macsai, 9455 Big Beach Trail, Bridgman, MI 49106

Ben Zimont, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy EGLE

Nick Magaritis, Environmental Health Manager, Berrien County, Benton Harbor, Michigan.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 18, 2020

It was moved by Mensinger seconded by Heyn to approve the August 18, 2020 meeting minutes. Roll Call Vote: John Gast, Supervisor Yes; Gloria Payne, Clerk Yes; Robert Clark, Treasurer Yes; John Wilk, Trustee Yes; Nancy Mensinger, Trustee Yes; James Stine Jr., Yes; and Pat Heyn, Trustee Yes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

After an explanation to the August bills, it was moved by Clark seconded by Mensinger to approve the August bills in the amount of \$386,096.58. Roll Call Vote: John Gast, Supervisor Yes; Gloria Payne, Clerk Yes; Robert Clark, Treasurer Yes; John Wilk, Trustee Yes; Nancy Mensinger, Trustee Yes; James Stine Jr., Yes; and Pat Heyn, Trustee Yes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE PACKET

Lake Charter Township account balances for August 2020.

Michigan Townships Insights.

Copy of a letter from Blossomtime Festival thanking us for the use of the park pavilion.

Thank you note from Kloee Kelsey for the use of the park pavilion.

Thank you note from Melanie Reynnells regarding water usage.

A Herald Palladium newspaper article regarding seawalls, and their impact on the great lakes after water recedes.

Supervisor's Report

Attached.

Clerk's Report

Attached.

Treasurer's Report

Attached.

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

GRSD Sewer Authority meeting minutes of July 22, 2020 are attached.

Police Department

Baroda-Lake Township Police Board meeting minutes of May 12, 2020.

Fire Department Report

None.

Park Committee Report

Attached.

Library Report

Bridgman Public Library board meeting minutes of August 18, 2020 are attached.

Cemetery Committee Report

Attached.

Building Department Report

Attached.

Lake Township Economic Growth Alliance Report

Attached.

Medic One Report

Medic One meeting minutes of July 23, 2020 are 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

Trick or Treat

Supervisor Gast included in board members' packet the safety of Trick or Treating during this time of the pandemic. Since most of the area uses the method of trick or treating outdoors, the rules are going in shifts, avoiding big parties, stay in your neighborhood, wear a mask, make sure the costumes are comfortable, practice good hand hygiene, only eat candy that is individually wrapped and lastly, get a flue shot.

For candy givers, keep the candy in individual baggies, stay behind a storm door, sit outside behind a table, put out hand sanitizer. Should you wish not to participate at all, shut off your lights and post a sign.

Since the township is already getting phone calls as to when we will be holding trick or treat it is best we determine the date and time. We briefly discussed this at the Fifth Monday meeting with the City of Bridgman and decided both communities would hold trick or treat on October 31, 2020 from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

It was moved by Heyn seconded by Clark to approve the Trick or Treat for Lake Charter Township is scheduled for Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Roll Call Vote: John Gast, Supervisor Yes; Gloria Payne, Clerk Yes; Robert Clark, Treasurer Yes; John Wilk, Trustee Yes; Nancy Mensinger, Trustee Yes; James Stine Jr., Yes; and Pat Heyn, Trustee Yes. Motion carried.

Laptop Computers for Lake Charter Township Board Members

Supervisor Gast presented board members with a quote from Double K Enterprises, Inc., for seven (7) Dell Latitude laptops, for \$7,344.68, to replace the tablets. Using the laptops would streamline the meeting board packet and the use of zoom more efficiently.

It was moved by Payne, seconded by Wilk to purchase seven (7) Dell Latitude laptops for \$7,344.68 from Double K Enterprises, Inc. Roll Call Vote: John Gast, Supervisor Yes; Gloria Payne, Clerk Yes; Robert Clark, Treasurer Yes; John Wilk, Trustee Yes; Nancy Mensinger, Trustee Yes; James Stine Jr., Yes; and Pat Heyn, Trustee Yes. Motion carried.

Park Pavilion Plumbing and Drains Upgrade

Supervisor Gast reported, the Park Committee discussed putting plumbing and drains, as well as hot water heaters in the north and south pavilions at the Park. Quotes were obtained and the scope of work includes 470' of 4" sewer pipe, clean-outs, stainless steel counter tops, sinks, mini hot water heaters and miscellaneous connections. After discussion, it was moved by Payne seconded by Wilk to move forward with the work not to exceed \$20,000.00. Roll Call Vote: John Gast, Supervisor Yes; Gloria Payne, Clerk Yes; Robert Clark, Treasurer Yes; John Wilk, Trustee Yes; Nancy Mensinger, Trustee Yes; James Stine, Jr., and Pat Heyn, Trustee Yes. Motion carried.

Water Ordinance Amendment

Supervisor Gast brought to board members' attention the amendment to the water ordinance specifically regarding the cross connection inspections of residential properties hooking into the township water system. This document will need to be passed to the Lake Charter Township Planning Commission for their review, comments and recommendations.

It was moved by Payne seconded by Clark to approve forwarding the water ordinance to the Lake Charter Township Planning Commission to discussion, review and comment on the cross connection inspections of residential properties hooking into the township water system. Roll Call Vote: John Gast, Supervisor Yes; Gloria Payne, Clerk Yes; Robert Clark, Treasurer Yes; John Wilk, Trustee Yes; Nancy Mensinger, Trustee Yes; James Stine Jr., Yes; and Pat Heyn, Trustee Yes. Motion carried.

Sewer Extension Request

Supervisor Gast presented to board members, a request from a property owner on Holden Road for the sewer extension south of Shawnee Road. The township does have water servicing this area, but not sewer. Merritt Midwest, Inc., provided a preliminary opinion of cost in the amount of \$198,550.00. This will need to be forwarded to the Lake Charter Township Planning Commission for their discussion, review and comment.

It was moved by Payne seconded by Gast to forward to the Lake Charter Township Planning Commission the request for sewer extension on Holden Road, south of Shawnee Road. Roll Call Vote: John Gast, Supervisor Yes; Gloria Payne, Clerk Yes; Robert Clark, Treasurer Yes; John Wilk, Trustee Yes; Nancy Mensinger, Trustee Yes; James Stine Jr., Yes; and Pat Heyn, Trustee Yes. Motion carried.

Resolution Concerning Proposed Private Revetment Improvements Along the Shoreline of Lake Michigan

Supervisor Gast read the Resolution Concerning Proposed Private Revetment Improvements Along the Shoreline of Lake Michigan. He asked each board member to comment their position. (A copy of the Resolution is attached).

Supervisor Gast commented that this is an emotionally charged topic

Nancy Mensinger commented that she loves our beaches and any alternatives to the rocks would be great.

John Wilk commented he visited sites and collected information and there are better alternatives that include both soft and hard solutions. EGLE and the Army Corp. of Engineers should make sure all should be served.

Robert Clark commented EGLE has the expertise and would make the determining decision better than I.

Gloria Payne commented that many sleepless nights have been had over this issue. I feel unqualified to make these decisions, as one homeowner commented and suggested we remain neutral. I remain neutral.

James Stine jr., commented he is a big proponent of property rights, that we could be trading one problem for other problems, hopefully there is newer technology, we might end up in court voting against hard revetments. I defer to EGLE to make the decision.

Patricia Heyn commented she knows they are doing what we all would do, and that is protect their home. Just as John and Bob mentioned, she is not an expert and refers to EGLE for their decision. Further she asked questions of Nick Magaritis of the Berrien County Health Department to get clarification on what is allowed in regards to the sewer septic systems that are in danger.

It was moved by Gast seconded by Payne to approve the Resolution Concerning Proposed Private Revetment Improvements Along the Shoreline of Lake Michigan. Roll Call Vote: John Gast, Supervisor Yes; Gloria Payne, Clerk Yes; Robert Clark, Treasurer Yes; John Wilk, Trustee Yes; Nancy Mensinger, Trustee Yes; James Stine Jr., Yes; and Pat Heyn, Trustee Yes. Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Planning Commission is scheduled for October 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals is scheduled for November 12, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., Lake Charter Township Hall, Bridgman, Michigan.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further objection and no further business it was moved by Payne seconded by Clark to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call Vote: John Gast, Supervisor Yes; Gloria Payne, Clerk Yes; Robert Clark, Treasurer Yes; John Wilk, Trustee Yes; Nancy Mensinger, Trustee Yes; James Stine Jr., Yes; and Pat Heyn, Trustee Yes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Dated: _____

Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

Dated: _____

John Gast, Supervisor