

**Lake Charter Township Planning Commission Meeting  
November 6, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice-Chairman Gaylord Rochefort called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Board members present were: John Murphy, Gaylord Rochefort, Nancy Mensinger, William Geukes and Christin Rice

Zoning Administrator Jim Gast was absent

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve the October 2, 2017 minutes was made by William Geukes; second by: Nancy Mensinger, all ayes, motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion to approve the agenda eliminating items #1 & 2 under New Business was made by William Geukes; seconded by: Nancy Mensinger, all ayes, motion carried.

**TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT** – Nancy Mensinger reported:

1. Approved the new health insurance renewal for 2018; Representative Kurt Buursma presented an option that was a 9.47% increase, the old policy was a 19.23% increase.
2. The Water Department yearly maintenance on 2 air compressors was approved. Air Technologies will perform the services for \$4,678.20.
3. Approved the replacement of the Township Sign in front of the Township Hall office with a new digital sign. Art & Image has been contracted to do the work in the amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.
4. Cemetery rates for 2018 will change. The costs on the columbarium niche plaques have increased from the supplier and the Township will increase its costs to \$300.00 per plaque.
5. Approved the liability insurance for 2018 for \$56,885.00, this reflected a \$1,085.00 increase for the new vehicle for the Cemetery.
6. The Lake Township Park has a new disc golf course that goes into the newly purchased property. On October 28<sup>th</sup> the disc golf league held a fundraiser to raise money for the new tee pads and to try out the new course. They raised \$500.00 on a cold and rainy day.
7. October 30<sup>th</sup> was the fifth Monday of the month for the joint meeting with the City of Bridgman, the Township, the school district, CGA and Library.

**ZBA REPORT** – Nancy Mensinger reported:

The ZBA held a special meeting on October 12 and approved a variance for the new message board for the Township Hall. The next meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2017.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. None

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. None

Chairman John Murphy stated that Attorney Dienes had to attend another meeting at Lincoln Charter Township. Attorney Dienes suggested that the Planning Commission members form a committee to research and discuss concerns regarding signs for 2018. In the meantime more information on Federal Laws is required before this committee meets.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Open for public comments at 7:13 p.m.

Township Trustee John Wilk remarked on a comment made at the recent joint fifth Monday meeting by School Superintendent Peters; 1/3 of the school are school of choice kids and 52% of the school are at the below poverty level.

Chairman John Murphy mentioned concerns about the line of traffic that is backed up when picking up the kids at the Reed Middle School and that hopefully something would be done before someone gets hurt or hit.

Close public comments 7:20 p.m.

**DISCUSSION - DECISION OF PLANNING COMMISSION - RECOMMENDATIONS**

Due to the illness of Jim Gast a motion to table the public hearing on Chapter 3, Section 3.01, titled: Accessory Buildings, structures and uses, subsection A thru M of the Lake Charter Township Zoning Ordinance; until February 5, 2018 was made by William Geukes, seconded by Nancy Mensinger. 4 Ayes, 1 opposed.

Gaylord Rochefort requested, due to his opposition, that the Township Board look into a temporary replacement in Jim Gast's absence so that any issues can be properly noticed, information provided, and continue with fail.

**REVIEW ITEMS FOR DECEMBER 4, 2017 MEETING**

None at this time.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by William Geukes, seconded by Gaylord Rochefort to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Christin Rice - Secretary

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Date