

**Lake Charter Township Planning Commission Meeting
December 4, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman John Murphy 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 November 6, 2017 minutes, with the change to the statement: "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 without fail." was made by Gaylord Rochefort; second by: Nancy Mensinger, all ayes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Christin Rice; seconded by: William Geukes, all ayes, motion carried.

TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT – Nancy Mensinger reported:

1. The water main break on October 18, 2017 flooded a resident's basement with 3' of water. Damage costs came to \$5,278.87 and personal property came to \$4,200.00. Payment was made to the resident and a hold harmless from further liability was signed.
2. Adopted the 2018 budget for 4.6 million, with 1.4 million in capital improvements. Estimated income for the general fund is 4.4 million.
3. Authorization to transfer \$1,400,000 in funds from the General fund to Water fund and \$100,000.00 from general to sewer fund for the capital improvements.
4. Deputy Zoning Administrator /Building Official appointment to Ross Rogen during the absence of Jim Gast on his medical leave. Ross will be paid \$30.00/hr. and will be issued a 1099 at the end of the year. Ross's office hours will be Tuesday and Thursday.
5. Approved the resolution for a 3% salary increase for board members.
6. Approved holiday pay for full and part-time employees and active police and firemen. Holiday pay of \$50.00 after taxes.
7. Police department hired a part-time office Tiffany Peterson, who also works for Berrien County Animal Control. The department has had 2,374 call year to date.
8. Special meeting was held for the Dura Mold tax abatement. They are adding on to their industrial plant. An abatement was approved for 12 years for the 8,000 square foot building; for a total of \$900,000.00 and \$500,000.00 for personal property taxes for a total of 1.4 million, 50% following completion of the project.

ZBA REPORT – Nancy Mensinger reported:

Will meet in the New Year, February 2018.

OLD BUSINESS

1. None

NEW BUSINESS

1. None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Open for public comments at 7:12 p.m.

Jim Gast reported that there is 1 new building construction in wildwood and that this has been a good year for building permits in the township.

Close public comments 7:20 p.m.

DISCUSSION - DECISION OF PLANNING COMMISSION - RECOMMENDATIONS

Nancy Mensinger stated that she plans to contact or check with the MTA on the signage ordinance. Jim Gast suggested forming a committee to investigate and study and possibly hold a workshop on the signage issue.

Christin Rice asked if there had been any further inquiries from the public on whether the Township would have a marijuana ordinance. Jim Gast stated that 2 inquiries had been made, but no one with serious intentions.

Nancy Mensinger reminded the members of the Holiday Village being held by the City on December 16, 2017.

REVIEW ITEMS FOR DECEMBER 4, 2017 MEETING

None at this time.

ADJOURN

Motion by Gaylord Rochefort, seconded by William Geukes to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Christin Rice - Secretary

Date