

MINUTES
LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
November 20, 2020
2:00 p.m.

VIA Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86317902108?pwd=dGlhWkdMVWgwN1VnaFdScjNTcDRDQT09>

Meeting ID: 863 1790 2108
Passcode: 758608

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to Order by Supervisor John Gast at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board members present were John Gast, Supervisor; Gloria Payne, Clerk; Robert Clark, Treasurer; Trustees Zach Carson, Mike Essig, Nancy Mensinger and John Wilk.

VISITORS PRESENT

None.

AGENDA ITEMS

Reinstate Captain Mike Essig as a paid on-call Firefighter for Lake Charter Township

Supervisor Gast brought before board members the following Michigan Compiled Laws 15.183:

If the township is ***under 40,000*** in population, a township board member may then serve, with or without compensation, in an emergency medical services position (MCL 15.183(4)(a)), or as a firefighter, police chief, fire chief, police officer or public safety officer in that township, as long as they are not a person who negotiates a collective bargaining agreement with the township on behalf of the firefighters, police chiefs, fire chiefs, police officers or public safety officers. (MCL 15.183(4)(b))

Supervisor Gast further explained that, even though a sitting board member could serve as an EMT, firefighter or police officer, and a township EMT, firefighter or police officer could be appointed to fill a township board vacancy without having to resign, **a township EMT, firefighter or police officer elected to township board office must resign under MCL 15.403(2) before taking the oath and then the board in a township of under 40,000 may hire them back in their previous position under the Incompatible Offices Act, MCL 15.183.**

And the township board in a township *under 40,000* in population may vote to authorize a board member to perform, with or without compensation, other types jobs with the township as **additional services** for the township that would otherwise be incompatible. (MCL 15.183(4)©)

Captain Mike Essig, of the Lake Charter Township Fire Department, being newly elected to the Lake Charter Township Board, in the November 3, 2020 General election, presented a letter to Lake Charter Township Chief Harold Heyn. This letter was read by Supervisor Gast, wherein Mike Essig temporarily resigned from the Lake Charter Township Fire Department, effective November 19, 2020. (Copy of letter attached).

It was moved by Supervisor Gast seconded by Clerk Payne to have Mike Essig abstain from voting on this agenda item. Roll Call Vote: Gast yes; Payne yes; Clark yes; Essig yes; Carson yes; Mensinger yes; Wilk yes. Motion carried.

After brief discussion, it was moved Supervisor Gast seconded by Trustee Wilk to reinstate Mike Essig as Captain of the Lake Charter Township Fire Department and allow him to continue to serve in that capacity. Roll Call Vote: Gast yes; Payne yes; Clark yes; Essig abstained; Carson yes; Mensinger yes; Wilk yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Essig thanked the board for reinstating him to the Lake Charter Township Fire Department.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further objection and no further business it was moved by Payne seconded by Clark to adjourn the special meeting. Roll Call Vote: Gast yes; Payne yes; Clark yes; Essig yes; Carson yes; Mensinger yes; Wilk yes. Motion carried Meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

Dated: _____

Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

Dated: _____

John Gast, Supervisor