

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO

Board Meeting (Virtual)

July 27, 2021

6:00 PM

The Oshtemo Township Public Meeting was held virtually using the Zoom platform. Residents were able to join the meeting through both the Zoom application and by phone. Residents were able to give public comment through email, the Zoom platform, and by phone during the meeting. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell- Oshtemo Township  
Clerk Dusty Farmer- Oshtemo Township  
Treasurer Clare Buszka- Oshtemo Township  
Trustee Zak Ford- Oshtemo Township  
Trustee Cheri Bell- Jackson County  
Trustee Kizzy Bradford- City of Kalamazoo  
Trustee Kristin Cole- Oshtemo Township

Also present were Township Attorney Jim Porter, Public Works Director Marc Elliott, Deputy Public Works Director Anna Horner, and approximately 5 interested people.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment on non-regular session items. No public comment.

**WORK SESSION ITEMS**

**Discussion on Ordinance Priorities**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell informed the Board that the legal opinion of the Township Attorney is that the Planning Commission is an independent entity that sets their own priorities.

**Request to Enter Closed Session to Discuss Ongoing Litigation – Solarek et al v Kellison Woods Condominium Association et al; Circuit Court Case #2019-0338CH**

Attorney Porter presented a resolution to enter closed session to discuss ongoing litigation because discussing such information in a public forum would be detrimental to the Township.

Motion by Ford, second by Buszka to adopt a resolution to enter closed session at 6:25 PM to discuss ongoing litigation. Roll call. Resolution adopted 7-0.

Motion by Ford, second by Buszka to exit closed session at 6:42 PM. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Ford, second by Farmer to proceed with recommendation A as discussed in closed session. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Other Updates & Business**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell presented the agreement with Consumers Energy to upgrade an increase lighting on Maple Hill and Croyden.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. No public comment.

Motion by Farmer, second by Ford to adopt a resolution to enter into agreement with Consumers Energy to upgrade streetlighting on Maple Hill Drive and to increase lighting on both Maple Hill and Croyden. Roll call. Resolution adopted 7-0.

### **REGULAR SESSION ITEMS**

#### **Consent Agenda**

- a. Approve Minutes – July 13th, 2021 Regular Meeting
- b. Receipts & Disbursements Report
- c. Zoning Section 57.90 Sidewalks Text Amendment
- d. DDA Budget Amendment
- e. Grange Hall Fee
- f. Grange Hall Grandfathered Fees
- g. Board/Committee Appointment
- h. Fire Department Policies (Continued)

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell asked if anyone present wished to remove anything from the consent agenda. Clerk Farmer request to remove items e and f.

Motion by Ford, second by Bell to approve the consent agenda without e and f. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **Consideration of 2022 Township Road Millage**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell presented the request to approve a road millage for Oshtemo Township. Deputy Public Works Director Anna Horner presented information from previous public meeting discussions that led to this recommendation.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. Two people spoke.

Motion by Ford, second by Cole to adopt a resolution to establish a Road Millage of 1.08 mills for tax year 2022 to fund local road construction and maintenance. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **Consideration of Public Media Network Agreement Amendment**

Attorney Porter presented an amendment to the Public Media Network agreement (Urban Cooperation Act) to add the City of Galesburg as a member and to remove the City of Portage as a member.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. No public comment.

Motion by Farmer, second by Ford to accept the 6<sup>th</sup> amendment to the Urban Cooperation Act to add the City of Galesburg and removing the City of Portage as Public Media Network members. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **Consideration of Township Website Consultant**

Deputy Supervisor Josh Owens presented the request to approve OpenCities as the website developer for the Township.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. Three people spoke.

Motion by Ford, second by Farmer to approve OpenCities as the vendor to develop a new Township website. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **Consideration of Amendment 2 to the County's Solid Waste Plan**

Attorney Porter presented the recommendation to adopt amendment 2 to the County's Solid Waste Plan. The amendment would approve a Type B transfer station on Miller Rd.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. One person spoke.

Motion by Ford, second by Buszka to approve amendment 2 to the County's solid waste plan to allow a Type B transfer station on Miller Rd. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **Other Township Business & Question Updates**

##### **Items E and F from consent agenda:**

Clerk Farmer requested that the issue of bulk rates return to the Parks Committee for further recommendation for rates and cancellation policy.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. One person spoke.

Motion by Farmer, second by Bell to approve the applicant recommended by the Parks Committee to receive a reduced rate for long term rental. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **Public Comment**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell opened public comment. 3 people spoke.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:03 PM.

Prepared by: Dusty Farmer  
Township Clerk

Attested: Libby Heiny-Cogswell  
Township Supervisor