

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Meeting
January 14, 2014

Township Board work session was held at the Township Hall. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

PRESENT:
Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell
Clerk Deb Everett
Treasurer Nancy Culp
Trustee Dave Bushouse
Trustee Nancy Carr
Trustee Dusty Farmer
Trustee Lee Larson

Also present were Township Attorney James Porter, Township Engineer Marc Elliott, Planning Director Greg Milliken, and 4 interested people.

KCSD Activity Report – Capt. William Timmerman was present and provided information on KCSD activity in the Township for December and an annual report for 2013.

Kalamazoo County Update – Commissioner Julie Rogers was present and provided information on activity of the County Board.

Non-Motorized Facilities – Draft Policy – A draft policy from the Capital Improvements Committee regarding assessing for non-motorized facilities was reviewed.

Discussion – Sanitary Sewer – Information was provided to Board members for future discussion of a Sanitary Sewer Strategic Plan.

The Board work session adjourned at approximately 6:55 p.m.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the regular meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:
Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell
Clerk Deb Everett
Treasurer Nancy Culp
Trustee Dave Bushouse
Trustee Nancy Carr
Trustee Dusty Farmer
Trustee Lee Larson

Also present were Township Attorney James Porter, Township Engineer Marc Elliott, Planning Director Greg Milliken, and 9 interested people.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda were minutes of the December 10th regular meeting and Receipts & Disbursements Report.

Motion by Larson, second by Farmer to approve the consent agenda. Carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

County Commissioner Brandt Iden commented he would be supportive of the proposed Corridor Improvement Authority, and provided information on activity of the County Board.

KCTA STRATEGIC PLAN

Sean McBride, Executive Director of the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority (KCTA) updated the Board on the progress of establishing a county wide public transit system and requested the Board consider adopting a resolution in support of the effort.

Motion by Farmer, second by Larson to adopt a resolution supporting the KCTA process to establish a county wide public transit system. Roll call showed Bushouse-yes, Carr-yes, Culp-yes, Everett-yes, Larson-yes, Farmer-yes, Heiny-Cogswell-yes.

PUBLIC HEARING – CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY (CIA)

A public hearing was held on the proposed Corridor Improvement Authority for properties abutting the west side of Drake Road within 500 feet from West Main to Stadium Drive and properties abutting the north and south sides within 500 feet of KL Avenue between Drake Road and South 11th Street.

Ann Rohrbaugh, Director of the Kalamazoo Public Library, commented the Library cannot support diverting taxes voted for library services, and library revenues have decreased over the last five years. She further commented the library values the partnerships it has established with the Township with programs in the new Township Park, and providing a voting site, and while supporting having the non-motorized path, does not support using funds intended for library services.

Greg Dobson, American Village Builders, commented they have been involved throughout the State with this type of initiative and see the benefit; it is an opportunity for business and municipal long term investment.

Attorney Porter commented while distributing the notices of the public hearing, he talked with several business owners who were supportive. He noted the public hearing begins a 60 day waiting period for objections; the next step would take place at a special meeting of the Township Board on March 18th to adopt a resolution establishing the authority.

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES APPLICATION – SOUTH DRAKE ROAD

Engineer Elliott provided information regarding a change in scope to the Drake Road non-motorized facility advising the project has been integrated into a single project extending from Stadium Drive to West Main and a request to approve staff moving forward with a Transportation Alternatives grant application. He noted a significant portion of the project is to be obtained as a private contribution by the developer of the upcoming project at Stadium Drive and Drake Road, and revenues from the proposed Corridor Improvement Authority could be used as a principal source of funding for the required Township match.

Motion by Larson, second by Farmer to authorize proceeding with the Transportation Alternatives grant application. Carried.

2014 ROAD PROJECTS

Engineer Elliott presented a proposed list of road projects for 2014 noting it is anticipated PAR funds from the Kalamazoo County Road Commission are currently estimated at \$185,000, the 2014 Township budget for road projects is \$200,000; projects have been prioritized by the Capital Improvements Committee with input from KCRC. Included on the list are North 5th Street, Big Rock Drive, Holiday Terrace, Beech Street, Chime Street, 8th Street (Stadium Drive to KL Avenue), Crimson Lane, Mandalay Drive, Cross Country, Oak Highland, Driftwood Avenue, Skyridge Avenue, Westview Street, Wendalyn Way, Killington Drive, Breckenridge Drive, Breezy Point Lane, Bluffton Avenue, Brogan Hill, Sanfield, Shugarbush Trail, Saybrook Drive, Torrington Road, Wild Cherry Lane, Signal Hill, Cutty Sark Drive, Nightingale Avenue, Trundel Lane, Bunker Hill Drive, Old Log Trail, Lamplighter Lane, Powderhorn Lane, Whitegate Lane, Northstar, Walker Trail, and Wyndham Drive.

Motion by Everett, second by Culp to approve the list of road projects subject to final cost estimates, not to exceed budgeted amount and authorize the Supervisor to execute the necessary contracts. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – KELLISON WOODS SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

A public hearing was held on a petition from residents of Kellison Woods Phase II to establish a special assessment district and contract with the Kalamazoo County Road Commission for the top coat of asphalt on a currently unfinished private road.

There was no public comment.

Motion by Heiny-Cogswell, second by Farmer to adopt a resolution setting the special assessment district and set the public hearing for the assessment roll for February 11th. Roll call showed Farmer-yes, Larson-yes, Everett-yes, Culp-yes, Carr-yes, Bushouse-yes, Heiny-Cogswell-yes.

JOB DESCRIPTION - FIREFIGHTER

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell presented a proposed job description for a full time Firefighter who will also be assigned administrative assistant duties. She noted the position was approved in the 2014 budget.

Motion by Larson, second by Culp to approve the job description as presented. Carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS
PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell presented a recommendation to appoint Pamela Jackson to the Planning Commission with a 3 year term expiring December 31, 2016.

Motion by Farmer, second by Everett to approve the appointment. Carried.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Carr inquired on the status of the litigation with the Kalamazoo County Road Commission. Attorney Porter advised the case is now at the Michigan Supreme Court.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Culp, second by Larson to adjourn to closed session to discuss a proposal for purchase of real estate because doing so in open meeting could have a detrimental effect upon the Township's position. Roll call showed Bushouse-yes, Carr-yes, Culp-yes, Everett-yes, Larson-yes, Farmer-yes, Heiny-Cogswell-yes.

The Board adjourned to closed session at approximately 8:35 p.m.

Motion by Culp, second by Farmer to return to open session at approximately 8:55 p.m.

Motion by Everett, second by Farmer to approve the purchase of property on North 3rd Street, amend the Fire Department Budget and authorize the Supervisor to execute the necessary documents. Carried.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:55 p.m.

DEBORAH L. EVERETT
Township Clerk

Attested: ELIZABETH HEINY-COGSWELL
Supervisor