

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Meeting
March 11, 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 (arrived at 5:30), Township Engineer Marc Elliott, Planning Director Greg Milliken, Fire Chief Mark Barnes, and 5 interested people.

Kalamazoo County Update – Commissioner Julie Rogers advised the developer of the Costco site has requested assistance from the County Brownfield Authority. Commissioner Phil Stinchcomb, County Board liaison to the Kalamazoo County Road Commission was also present and advised the Drake Road non-motorized maintenance agreement was approved by KCRC. There was discussion with the commissioners regarding the KCRC not being receptive to funding non-motorized projects.

911 Dispatch Update – Fire Chief Barnes advised the study group has been expanded to include decision makers to facilitate moving forward.

Discussion – Purchasing Policy – The Board reviewed the Township Purchasing Policy, suggestions for amendments and clarifications were discussed. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell will bring it back to the Board for review with changes as discussed.

The Board work session adjourned at approximately 6:45 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
Trustee Dave Bushouse
Treasurer Nancy Culp
Trustee Nancy Carr
Trustee Dusty Farmer
Trustee Lee Larson

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda were:

- a) Minutes of the February 18th joint meeting, February 25th regular meeting, March 4th special meeting
- b) Receipts & Disbursements Report
- c) Kellison Woods Site Condominium Phase II Lot Combinations, Lot 14 & 15, Lot 19 & 20
- d) Drake Farmstead Barn Demolition
- e) Computer Replacements

Trustee Carr requested item d be removed. Motion by Culp, second by Farmer to approve the consent agenda as amended. Carried.

DRAKE FARMSTEAD BARN DEMOLITION

Trustee Carr had questions regarding the contractors who bid on the demolition. It was noted all three are demolition contractors; the recommendation from Township staff is to authorize the Supervisor to enter into a contract with A & B Sewer & Septic Tank Service for \$3,800 plus \$2,000 for asbestos removal if necessary. It was noted that if the building does not contain asbestos, it could be burned by the Fire Department as a training exercise with an expense estimated at \$600 for removal of the remains.

Motion by Larson, second by Everett to accept the low bid from A & B Sewer for demolition if needed due to asbestos; otherwise proceed with burning by the Fire Department as discussed. Carried 7-0.

UPDATE – TOWNSHIP PARK RAIN GARDEN

Parks Administrator Karen High advised a water run off problem in the Township Park is proposed to be corrected with the construction of a rain garden. She further advised a \$750 grant has been received from the Michigan Wildflower Association towards the plants, Friends of the Parks Chair Peggy Warlick is coordinating students from the Edison Elementary Environmental Studies School to help with the planting, excavation and mulching is planned for the spring with the planting in the fall.

**RESOLUTION FOR GRANT APPLICATION
GRANGE PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS**

Parks Administrator Karen High advised the Park Committee has been working toward a plan for a small playground at the Grange Hall. She noted private donations have been received in the amount of \$10,000 and designated for a playground at the Grange Hall. There is now an opportunity to apply for a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant, this meeting is the opportunity for public comment. She advised the project would include replacing existing play equipment that was removed due to safety concerns along with grading and installation of a concrete edge, underground drainage, accessible sidewalk and safe play surface. Improvements would also include an accessible sidewalk to the existing basketball court, accessible picnic table and bike rack. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$40,000 and would be funded as follows:

- \$30,000 – MNRTF Trust Fund Grant
- \$10,000 – required 25% match (of \$40,000) match received from private donations
- \$40,000 – Total Project Cost

Motion by Larson, second by Farmer to adopt the resolution approving application for a MNRTF grant for the Grange Hall playground. Roll call showed Bushouse-yes, Carr-yes, Culp-yes, Everett-yes, Farmer-yes, Heiny-Cogswell-yes, Larson-yes.

**NORTH DRAKE ROAD NON-MOTORIZED FACILITY
KCRC CONTRACT**

The Non-Motorized Facility Agreement regarding maintenance, between the Kalamazoo County Road Commission and the Township for North Drake Road was before the Board for consideration. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised this agreement is separate from the design approval the Board considered and approved at the February 25th meeting, with the clarification language discussed at that meeting still to be resolved by Township and Road Commission staff.

In response to Board members questions, Attorney Porter advised he is comfortable with the agreement given the process is so far along.

Motion by Heiny-Cogswell, second by Larson to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Non-Motorized Facility Agreement with clarification language noted regarding design approval. Carried 7-0.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised a special meeting will be held on March 18th at 4:00 p.m. to consider the establishment of the Corridor Improvement Authority.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised Board of Review is being held this week.

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised the Friends of the Parks will be holding an appreciation luncheon on March 12th for the various groups who use and support the parks.

In response to an inquiry from Trustee Bushouse, Attorney Porter advised the Michigan Townships Association and the Michigan Municipal League will be submitting briefs to the Court of Appeals in support of the Township’s position on the ITC issue.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:50 p.m.

DEBORAH L. EVERETT
Township Clerk

Attested: ELIZABETH HEINY-COGSWELL
Supervisor