

Charter Township of Portage
Regular Board of Trustees Meeting
October 8, 2018

The Charter Township of Portage held a Regular Board of Trustees Meeting on Monday, October 8, 2018 at the Portage Township Hall.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Bruce Petersen at 7:00 PM

Pledge Allegiance: Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bruce Petersen

In attendance were Supervisor Bruce Petersen, Clerk Tressa Alvarado, Treasurer Betsy Smith and Trustees Peggy Anderson, Bill Bingham, and John Ollila. Absent: Trustee Bill Fink

Additions or Changes to the Meeting Agenda: Added to Old Business: FEMA Projects, Michealson Lien Release, 425 Monies. New Business: Jewish Synagogue Cemetery Lot Purchase. Zoning Admin Report: Water/Sewer resolution regarding rates and water meter installation. Public Comment: U.S. Geological Survey streamflow gauges. A motion was made by Ollila and seconded by Anderson to accept the agenda with these additions. Motion carried by voice vote.

Approval of the Bd. of Trustees Previous Minutes: A motion was made by Ollila and seconded by Bingham to approve the September 10, 17 and 26, 2018 meeting minutes. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Approval of the Bills: Charter Township of Portage should be \$159.78, instead of \$159.38. Car Quest was not approved for \$255.16, only a slip for \$31.17. Received a penalty for from City of Houghton \$284.37 for going over on sewage. Peterson has contacted Crane for a warranty on the pumps and has not received any response. A motion was made by Anderson and seconded by Ollila to approve the bills as audited. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Review Clerks' Report: 205 Absentee Ballots have been mailed out so far compared to 144 in the Primary Election. Election committee meeting on October 10th at 3pm. The pre-accuracy test is tentatively scheduled for 10/16 at 1pm and public accuracy test on 10/30 at 2pm.

Review Treasurers' Report: Taxes have ended, just some late payments coming in. Training with Carol Little has been going well and is almost complete.

Review Zoning Adm. Report (John/Bill) for (September 2018): Distributed. Attached. 27 lots have been developed off of Denton Rd. behind the golf course. Trying to determine who the developer is.

Review Fire Departments:

OLFD: 0 Fires, 0 EMS.

Budget changes for OLFD were presented:

501-705 Salaries increase from \$0 to \$2200

501-708 Medicare increase from \$0 to \$35

501-709 FICA increase from \$0 to \$115

501-713 Workers Comp – Accident Fund decrease from \$1400 to \$503.90

Eliminate 501-726 First Responder Supplies and 501-727 OLFD – First Responders. Then increase 501-740 Supplies from \$2800 to \$5000.

501-751 Fuel decrease from \$2000 to \$800

501-801 Contractual Services increase from \$5000 to \$6500

501-810 Insurance – Hannula decrease from \$3500 to \$1668.75

501-860 Travel Expense increase from \$500 to \$800

501-920 Lights decrease from \$1500 to \$800

501-923 Heat increase from \$2000 to \$2350

501-958 Membership & Dues decrease from \$350 to \$50

501-977 Equipment and Repairs decrease from \$5000 to \$4500

A motion was made by Alvarado and seconded by Ollila to accept these budget changes. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Karvakko is asking \$180,000 and the appraisal came in at \$190,000. He wanted at least 20% down if we do a land contract. Township Assessor is going to go look at the property on Wednesday to give an estimate. Meeting scheduled for October 11th at 6:30pm.

Review Assessors' Report: Distributed. Attached.

Public Comments: U.S. Geological Survey solar powered streamflow gauge on Pilgrim River was washed away in the flood. Costs \$15,000 per year with a 3 year commitment. The trying to get through grants and donations to reestablish and maintain the Pilgrim River streamflow gauge. Township will discuss possibly contributing at next budget meeting.

Correspondence:

MI Dept. of Treasury – AMAR Review/Crystal Letter

MI DEQ Permit

UPPCO (1) Street Light Removed

OSHA Training – Marquette

BCBS – 2.1% Rebate to Twp.

Little Brothers

PAAR Plan Newsletter

Old Business:

A. Green Acres Rd. Sewer & Infiltration R. D. – Application Progress Complete. – Application is in RD Apply. Survey will be completed now before it snows. Waiting on approval for funds.

DEQ stormwater grant available that township could apply for to put towards “shopping cart creek” that flows into Huron Creek to help reduce runoff with a sediment basin. A motion was made by Petersen and seconded by Ollila to submit an application for DEQ stormwater grant. Motion carried by voice vote.

B. 141 Sew. & Water Ord.– Sec. Reading Sewer and Water Fees by Resolution. 141 Sewer and Water Ordinance distributed – Public hearing TBD.

C. KRB Land Swap Adjacent to DPW Office for (3) Valve Installations. – Will be installed per agreement

D. DNR 2018 Trust Fund Supplemental Info. Submitted on Oct. 2, 2018. – Scored 280 out of 530, it was the highest score in the area. Waiting on final point total.

E. Meijer’s 425 Conditional Transfer of Property – With Property Reverter Clause - if Meijer doesn’t build in 10 years, the property reverts back to the township.

F. AMAR Follow-up – Crystal Morgan will Represent Us. (See Assessor Report)

G. FEMA Project – Provided documentation of projects Emergency Protective Measures, Sewer Utilities and Impacts, Parks and Cemetery Damages. To get FEMA grant, have to meet a \$3100 benchmark to be eligible to apply. Only Sewer Utilities met the benchmark. Will be informed shortly whether it can be submitted.

H. Release Lein – On Michealson property struck in 1990, cannot sell the house until we sign off on the release, has been long since paid back. A motion was made by Bingham and seconded by Anderson to sign off on lein release. The motion was carried by a voice vote.

I. Karen and Jack Reiss representing the synagogue in Hancock would like to purchase the remaining lots in the Jewish portion on the cemetery so that they will control it.

14. New Business:

A. B.O.R. Vacancy – John Quinn Resigned – Any Suggestions for filling. Next meeting in December.

B. P.C. New Member Nomination – Jeff Koski of Air Care – P.E. Nominated by Petersen seconded by Smith. The motion was carried by a voice vote. 2 year appointment.

C. MTA – “On-The-Road” – Houghton – October 9, 2018 (Tues.)

D. Troy Colombe – Twp. Property for Sale? Interested in purchasing lot 8 in Village of Perkinsville. Need to look at property would need to bid it out to sell.

E. Use Dodgeville Ice Rink – Large Garage Sale. Maybe in the spring?

15. Meetings:

A. P.C. Meeting on October 11, 2018 – Great Lakes Minerals Sp. Use Application. – Questions public had wanted to have answered in writing.

B. Water & Sewer Comm. – Discussed Ord.#141 – Sept. 19, 2018.

C. FEMA – September 18 & 25, and October 3, 2018 – Emergency Money.

D. OHM – KRB Land Swap Near DPW Bldg. – September 26, 2018.

E. REMINDER – MTA On the Road – October 9th .

16. Other Business:

A. New Water Meter Installation – Put in newspaper to get bids/quotes

B. Budget Review – November 13 @ 3 P.M.

C. 425 Monies – A motion for a resolution as made by William Bingham and seconded by John Ollila that 1 mill from 425 money be allocated to the Hurontown Fire Department and Otter Lake Fire Department. 1 mill to be distributed 60% to Hurontown Fire Department and 40% to Otter Lake Fire Department. Effective with revenues received by December 31, 2018. Upon roll call vote, the following voted

Aye: Tressa Alvarado

Peggy Anderson

Bill Bingham

John Ollila

Bruce Petersen

Betsy Smith

Nay: None

Absent: Bill Fink

Resolution adopted.

D. W/S committee meeting double checking the sewer bills not going out

17. Public Comment:

Reminder that campaign materials/buttons are not allowed to be worn by township employees or elected officials inside the township office.

Reducing speed limit in Tapiola – A speed study was done by road commission.

Comment that special public meetings scheduled at 3PM makes it difficult for public to attend.

18. Adjourn: A motion was made by Bingham and seconded by Ollila to adjourn at 8:45 PM. All in favor, motion carried by voice vote.

Public Attendance:

Linda Rulison

Dave Rulison

Chris Holmes

Kevin Skewes

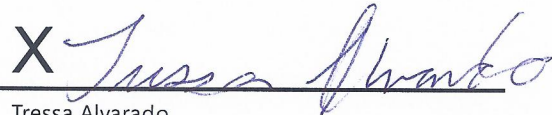
Amy Skewes

Emily Shaw

Ted Soldan

X 

Bruce Petersen
Supervisor

X 

Tressa Alvarado
Clerk