

APPROVED

**CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2020**

The January 9, 2020 meeting of the Township Board was called to order at 6:30 PM by Supervisor Bunte, Dudiak, Rettig, Marske and Sullivan present. Also, present Attorney Charles Hilmer, John Gooch, of the Harbor Country News, Francesca Sagala, of the New Buffalo Times, along with several members of the community.

Supervisor Bunte led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Consent Agenda was given to the board, Marske moved, Sullivan supported to approve the Consent Agenda.

All ayes, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

Union Pier Project Update:

The engineering details are approximately 90% complete. There will be an open meeting February 12, 2020 at New Buffalo Township Hall at 6:00 P.M.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Rettig to accept a request to buy back 4 plots at Lakeside East cemetery from Steve Edwards. The total cost for 4 plots would be \$450.00 or \$112.50 per plot.

All ayes, motion carried.

A dangerous building hearing was held November 14, 2019, for a home on property located at 14280 Three Oaks Rd. The home is in extreme disrepair. The property owner had not complied with an order from Brian Kern, Chikaming Township's Dangerous Building. The recommendation was to demolish the home.

Roger Dehne property owner of the home was present to ask the board if he could have a contractor demolish the home. He has a verbal contract with Oselka Construction to begin the demolition next week. The board accepted his fee for the demolition permit and asked that the contractor Paul Oselka contact the office tomorrow to confirm his has a contract to do the work for Mr Dehne.

A motion was made by Bunte, supported by Marske to accept \$50.00 for a demolition permit from Roger Dehne along with requesting a phone call from Paul Oselka verifying the work will be done by January 17, 2020 and within 30 days the rest of the debris will be removed.

All ayes, motion carried.

A Public Flood Risk Open House will take place Tuesday, January 14, 2020, from 4:30 – 6:30 P.M. at the Benton Harbor Public Library in Benton Harbor.

A motion was made by Rettig, supported by Marske to allow the Supervisor and the Clerk to sign final closing documents for the sale of Three Oaks property.

All ayes, motion carried.

Chikaming Park Board presented their 5 Year Plan to the board for approval. A motion was made to approve the Five Year Community Park and Recreation Plan of the Chikaming Township park board as amended, moved by Bunte, supported by Marske.

By roll call vote:

Marske

Dudiak

Bunte

Rettig

Sullivan

All ayes, motion carried.

A request from the Best Practices committee was presented asking each municipality to participate in the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day and green communities.

There will be two meetings of the Board of Determination of the Berrien County Drain Commission on January 16, 2020 on the Union Pier Drain #535 and the Streed Drain #503 at 10:00 A.M and 2:00 P.M. at the Township Center.

DISCUSSION TOPIC – WHAT’S AHEAD IN 2020 FOR CHIKAMING

The Union Pier Project timeline and dates for the potential closing of Red Arrow Hwy at Union Pier Road for sewer replacement starting in March were discussed.

Red Arrow Hwy from Cherry Beach Rd to Union Pier may be reduced to three lanes in the spring for sewer line replacement. After July 4th Red Arrow Highway repaving will begin from Community Hall to Berrien Street.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Dennis from Bridgman Public Library advised everyone to stop in at the library to see the renovations the library has done. The website has been completely overhauled.

February 11, 2020, Tuesday from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. they are hosting the biography of Bob Seger.

Chikaming Township Park board will be hosting activities at Harbert Park & Preserve for Earth Day.

John Gooch Site Manager of River Valley Senior Center advised that their mascot dog (Chance) is missing. If anyone spots him please let them know.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Happy Birthday to Supervisor Bunte.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 P.M., by Rettig, supported by Marske. All ayes, Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by,

**Paula Dudiak
Chikaming Township Clerk**