

APPROVED

CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

June 10, 2021

Due to a State of Emergency Order enacted by the Berrien County Board of Commissioners, this meeting will be held virtually and in person

The June 10, 2021, meeting of the Township Board was called to order at 6:30 PM by Supervisor Bunte, Dudiak, Rettig, Marske and Sullivan present at Chikaming Township Center. Also, present Attorney Hilmer and 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.

By roll call vote:

Marske, Dudiak, Bunte, Rettig, Sullivan

All ayes, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letters and email were presented to the board for review and put on file.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dennis Krepps Bridgman Public Library reminded the public they are continuing to expand opening in several areas, supplying notary and small meeting rooms. Many events happenings, please go to the website for recent information.

Concern about being treated fairly in regard to trash removal within a 24 hour period in and around Gowdy Streed Beach Association.

There was a presentation on possible future plans for the River Valley School District during the meeting. Representing the schools were Acting Superintendent Brian Brown and School Board member Phil Bender. The information included that if a consolidation plan is determined to be the best future path to take, it is hoped to have that in place by 2023-24 school year. Added by Supervisor Bunte that the key to a successful plan was to inform the public and welcome their feedback.

OLD BUSINESS:

MDNRTF Lake Michigan Forest and Public Beach Expansion Project update:

The appraisal has been approved. Final appraisal was 4.2 mil. Closing document package is being prepared and sent to MDNRTF for review and hopeful closing mid-August.

Union Pier/Red Arrow Improvements Project Update:

All major work has been completed. Final details are being attended to. A Ribbon cutting was held on May 28, 2021, by the Berrien County Road Department. The trailhead will be a few more months. A main celebration/ribbon cutting thanking the Pokagon Fund will be mid-August.

Waste Management Services update:

Supervisor Bunte has contacted several local waste management companies asking to meet and discuss service requirements and expectation. The following have expressed interest Michiana Recycling, Republic Services and Lakeshore Recycling.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief Taylor presented for hire Jeremiah Mansfield to the position of police officer with Chikaming Township Police Department. Mr. Mansfield will work well in our community and is receptive to training and education and eager to learn and do good police work. He has passed his psychological and medical physical. A motion was made by Marske, supported by Dudiak to hire Jeremiah Mansfield as a full-time officer for Chikaming Township.

By roll call vote:

Dudiak, Bunte, Rettig, Sullivan, Marske

All ayes, motion carried.

Chief Taylor presented the board with documentation regarding the Creation of a seasonal Parking Enforcement officer position. A motion was made by Marske, supported by Bunte to approve a Chikaming Township Police Department Parking Enforcement Officer.

By roll call vote:

Bunte, Rettig, Sullivan, Marske, Dudiak

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Dudiak, supported by Sullivan to approve an application and permit from Ace Pyro, LLC for a Fireworks display on July 3rd, 2021 at Chikaming Country Club.

By roll call vote:

Rettig, Sullivan, Marske, Dudiak, Bunte

All ayes, motion carried.

A Dangerous Building Hearing was held on 4/22/2021 for 7322 Harbert (11-07-0016-0028-11-1), the owner was ordered to demolish all structures and remove all debris on the property. A motion was made by Rettig, supported by Marske to move forward on the on demolition. Allowing sixty days (60) for completion.

By roll call vote:

Sullivan, Marske, Dudiak, Bunte, Rettig

All ayes, motion carried.

A Dangerous Building Hearing was held on 4/22/2021 for 7312 Harbert, the owner was required to obtain permits by 4/29/21, work on roof and make structure safe. A motion was made by Rettig, supported by Marske to allow the owner to obtain a building permit by 6-18-2021 to complete work on roof and make the structure safe, have completed by July 8, 2021. Owner to advise Township if not near completion date.

By roll call vote:

Bunte, Rettig, Marske, Sullivan, Dudiak

All ayes, motion carried.

A Dangerous Building Hearing was held on 4/22/2021 for 6169 Elm Dr., the owner was ordered to demolish an accessory dwelling and remove all debris.

A motion was made by Dudiak, supported by Rettig to comply with demolition and modify date to August 1, 2021, due to verbal contract with Oldenburg.

By roll call vote:

Rettig, Sullivan, Bunte, Dudiak, Marske

All ayes, motion carried.

A Dangerous Building Hearing was held on 4/22/2021 for 7260 East Rd, the owner was ordered to demolish an accessory structure and remove all debris.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Dudiak for a permit to be obtained by 6-18-2021 followed with completion in 60 days.

By roll call vote:

Sullivan, Marske, Dudiak, Rettig, Bunte

All ayes, motion carried.

A proposal submitted by Techxperience LLC, for \$8,029.00 for additions and changes to make the meeting room into hybrid. The proposal was put on hold until September to determine what will be required by the state with holding zoom meetings and in person meetings.

The board agreed that starting July 2021 the Township meeting would be in person only meeting and will be communicated to each board and commission chair by Supervisor.

A draft nondiscrimination ordinance was submitted to the board at the request of the residents of the community. After discussion, the board has decided to postpone any decision until further information is given on the subject. Supervisor Bunte will see if he can get someone in to answer questions for clarity.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Bunte to pass a resolution on HB 4722 opposing legislation disallowing local municipality from regulating short term rentals. The resolution will be sent to our local representatives.

By roll call vote:

Dudiak, Bunte, Rettig, Sullivan, Marske

All ayes, motion carried.

Resolution adopted.

A motion was made to accept the resignation of Jocelyn VerLee, an appointed Park Board member who had submitted her resignation to the Park Board. Dudiak moved supported by Rettig.

By roll call vote:

Bunte, Rettig, Sullivan, Marske, Dudiak

All ayes, motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Comments from the public letting the board know that they prefer hybrid meeting, giving everyone the ability to zoom, if not able to attend. Also, Park Board chair would like to see both in person and zoom meetings for all.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Congratulation to Sergeant Jones and his wife on the birth of their son.

Reminder Flag Day weekend, enjoy have fun and be mindful of others.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Rettig, supported by Marske to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM.

By Roll Call Vote:

Dudiak, Marske, Bunte, Rettig, Sullivan,

All ayes, Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by,

**Paula Dudiak
Chikaming Township Clerk**