

APPROVED

CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

May 13, 2021

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

The May 13, 2021 meeting of the Township Board was called to order electronically at 6:30 PM by Supervisor Bunte, Dudiak, Rettig, Marske and Sullivan present at Chikaming Township Center. Also Attorney Hilmer and a few members of the community.

Supervisor Bunte led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Bunte asked to amend the Agenda under new business to remove the Carpenter's lot split application for 13868 Jane Way, Harbert for 30 days or sooner per a request via email from their attorneys until the clients decide which direction they would like to proceed.

Motion was made by Bunte, supported by Marske.

By roll call vote:

Sullivan, Marske, Rettig, Bunte, Dudiak

All ayes, motion carried.

The Consent Agenda was given to the board, Marske moved, Rettig 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:

There were several comments opposing the Park Board's request for dogs on the beaches, five reasons were presented by former Park Board members and the public. No research, public was not asked, no input, increase in people on beach and safety were huge issues that need to be addressed.

Others commented on their opposition to dogs on the beach, feeling it would be a mistake and a trial period is a bad idea.

A current Park Board member request the board to entertain a motion to approve the resolution to allow dogs on the beach to serve our public.

OLD BUSINESS:

MDNRTF Lake Michigan Forest and Public Beach Expansion Project update:

The appraisal has been approved. We have received the \$250,000.00 Carls Foundation matching grant that will be applied to the purchase.

Possibly 60 days to closing, with additional follow up on the project hopefully completion will be mid July 2021.

Union Pier/Red Arrow Improvements Project Update:

Sidewalks continue to be poured and are almost completed. Asphalt for roadway and non-motorized path began this week. Landscape install is scheduled to begin May 17, 2021. Followed up with Right of way restoration seeding being completed from Union Pier Road to Brown Road.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Dudiak, supported by Marske to approve the purchase of a plaque to acknowledge the volunteers and donors that built the Harbert Beach stairs for approximately \$250.00. A huge thank you to all the helpers from the Board was given.

By roll call vote:

Dudiak, Bunte, Rettig, Sullivan, Marske

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Sullivan, supported by Rettig to deny the resolution as presented by the Park Board for a temporary variance to Ordinance #126 permitting dogs on beaches.

By roll call vote:

Bunte, Rettig, Sullivan, Dudiak, Marske

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Dudiak, supported by Sullivan to approve Special Land Use #205 for David and Mandi Buckland on 5366 Sawyer Road. Per the Planning commission's recommendation with conditions to allow 4 tents, maximum of 16 visitors, no recreational vehicles and is only valid under the ownership of the Bucklands.

By roll call vote:

Rettig, Sullivan, Dudiak, Marske, Bunte

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Rettig, supported by Sullivan to approve the boundary line adjustment for Kent Swanson at 15992 Lakeshore Rd., Union Pier, Mi.

By roll call vote:

Sullivan, Marske, Dudiak, Bunte, Rettig

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Rettig to approve a Summer internship with Katherine Almquist from Skidmore College on Lakefront Resiliency.

By roll call vote:

Rettig, Bunte, Dudiak, Marske, Sullivan

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Rettig to use surplus funds from the Road Department fund and approve Arnt Asphalt Sealing Inc. proposal for Riverside Cemetery in the amount of \$66,300.00.

By roll call vote:

Dudiak, Bunte, Marske, Sullivan, Rettig

All ayes, motion carried.

A donation program and Procedures for the Park Board was brought to the Board for discussion by Supervisor Bunte. After discussion, the board agreed to send the information to the Park Board for approval and implementation.

Night Magic Displays submitted an application for fireworks July 3, 2021 on Woodlawn Beach. Motion was made by Dudiak, supported by Marske to approve the application.

By roll call vote:

Rettig, Dudiak, Bunte, Marske, Sullivan

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Rettig to approve the application for the Deputy Grant through Berrien Community Foundation, in partnership with New Buffalo Township for Union banners, hardware and installation in the amount of \$7,460.00.

By roll call vote:

Dudiak, Bunte, Rettig, Sullivan, Marske

All ayes, motion carried.

Discussion for direction regarding Zoning Ordinance Section 7.14 Trash Removal and Collection for Chikaming Township residents was brought before the board.

The increase in short term rentals in the Township and seasonal ownership has resulted in trash receptacles being left on the roadside for longer times than our zoning ordinance allows. This has created safety and aesthetic issues for the township and a challenging situation for code enforcement. By consensus, the board would like to gather information, research having a township wide waste management hauler, cost of fines and other options to bring to the public for recommendations.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Dudiak to approve, and sign a loan contract and assignment to purchase MHZ800 radios with Berrien County in the amount of \$9,707.35 excluding interest.

By roll call vote:

Marske, Dudiak, Bunte, Rettig, Sullivan

All ayes, motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Removal of trash cans has been much better in Union Pier area after code enforcement started putting stickers on the cans advising people to comply with the ordinance.

A recommendation to have a single carrier was brought up, having four different garbage trucks going down one road destroys the new roads and cost additional monies to the township.

Trustee Marske advised the Board that the Chikaming Township signs are in need of repair. The board will investigate replacing all the signs soon with a more durable material the wood ones were great at the time but are a lot of maintenance now.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made Rettig, supported by Marske, to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 PM.

By Roll Call Vote:

Sullivan, Rettig, Bunte, Dudiak, Marske

All ayes, Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by,

**Paula Dudiak
Chikaming Township Clerk**