

APPROVED

**CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
November 14, 2019**

The November 14, 2019 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, Rettig moved, Marske supported to approve the Consent Agenda.

All ayes, motion carried.

The October 10, 2019 minutes were pulled out of the consent agenda to be approved separately. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Marske, supported by Sullivan.

Sullivan, Rettig, Bunte, Marske, ayes

Dudiak abstained due to absence from meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

All correspondence was given to the board and placed on file as read.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Deborah Hall-Kayler, Chikaming Park Board Chair presented an update to the board.

The Harbert Community Park is coming to end of the construction phase 1 with a ADA platform down to the pavilion.

The Park Board five year plan will go live Saturday the 16th of November and will be available for the public to view for 30 days starting November 16th. A hard copy will be in the township and on the website.

A meeting will be held regarding Harbert Beach closing of the stairs on Saturday, November 16th at 11:00 AM during a special meeting at the Township Hall.

December 7th there will be ribbon cutting and caroling at the Lakeside Park.

New Buffalo choir will be there to help us, along with cookies and hot chocolate

OLD BUSINESS:

An update on the Red Arrow Highway/Union Pier Improvement Project;

Wightman will be at 90% on the engineering of the project by early December. Street Scaping decisions have been made and landscaping selection have been recommended.

A website has been developed for the public to track updates and construction timetable as the process continues. There will one more Public Meeting on this project sometime mid-January. This project will continue into the summer months due to the amount of work being completed.

An update from our Assessor;

A quarterly report was given to the board reporting the data collected from SW MI Assessing LLC as previously requested. Over one hundred and fifty properties have already been visited with a number of improvements that have been made to several properties and have now been evaluated. The approximate increase in taxable dollar at this time is \$1,419,238. They will continue and submit an overview to the board on a quarterly basis showing a progress report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief Taylor presented Officer Lyster and Officer Wyman with Lifesaving Awards for their efforts in saving a life, which took exceptional courage and performance, on September 15th, 2019. The quick actions of the officers along with Three Oaks Police Department Officer Taylor, saved the life of Mrs. Denis Newcome Denis and her family were present and shared their gratitude for saving her life.

Chief Taylor presented the board with a final Fireworks Ordinance for Chikaming Township. A motion was made by Marske, supported by Rettig to adopt the as presented.

By roll call vote:

Sullivan	Aye
Marske	Aye
Rettig	Aye
Dudiak	Aye
Bunte	Aye

The ordinance was adopted.

A motion was made by Rettig, supported by Marske to grant to the Chikaming Township Zoning Administrator the right to require a current survey, with all structures and improvements on the parcel shown, for any application that involves decisions that reference property lines or dimensions on a parcel. This survey shall be prepared by a Michigan registered surveyor. Documents amended by an individual other than a Michigan registered surveyor are not acceptable. The zoning Administrator shall have the right to refuse any document deemed unacceptable. Individuals or entities who feel aggrieved by a decision of the Zoning Administrator shall have the right to appeal the decision by methods indicated in the most current version of the Chikaming Township Zoning ordinance and associated state and federal laws and statutes.

All ayes, motion carried.

Due to a vacancy on the Public Safety Commission, Greg Bunch was appointed to fill the position. Motion was moved by Marske, supported by Dudiak to approve the appointment with the next meeting being scheduled for April 2, 2020.

All ayes, motion carried.

Dudiak moved, and Marske supported a motion to accept the annual Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance renewal for the 2019-2020 year. The deductible amount increased from \$1450 to \$1500 due to IRS rules. A decision to remove the current Dental & Vision insurance from the Blue Cross Blue Shield package to better quality programs by choosing different carriers was made. This allows the option to employees to make their own choice as to what they decide to have. The out of pocket cost was increased by 5% Single, 10% Employee and Spouse and 10% Family to offset the increase in cost.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Sullivan to add a late fee to the current Rental Ordinance. The late fee will be \$25 for every 30 days past the original due date which is February 1, 2020.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Rettig, supported by Marske to accept and approve the 2020 Chikaming Township Meeting Dates/Office Closings Calendar.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Sullivan to approve Chief Taylor and Sergeant Jones to attend the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police 2020 Winter Professional Development Conference, which will be February 5-7 in Grand Rapids.

All ayes, motion carried.

DISCUSSION TOPIC – CELEBRATIONS

The Board would like to thank and show our appreciation to Officer Lyster and Office Wyman and also to the people who dedicated their time in so many ways completing the Zoning Ordinance. Gary Wood, Dick Carlson, Tom Hackley, Andy Brown, Larry Anderson, Rich Sullivan, Van Thornton, John Chipman and Doug Dow. The board served cookies, cake, along with coffee and soda after the meeting was adjourned.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: (3 minute limit)

Tom Hackley and Gary Wood thanked Supervisor Bunte for his support and was proud of the board for doing all the open houses, public hearings and their continued effort to the final completion of the zoning Ordinance. Big thank you to Doug Dow and Rich Sullivan for all their hard work. Chikaming Township is being noticed by their leadership and being a responsible government.

Dennis Kreps Bridgman Library thanked the township for putting a link on our website for the Libraries and Schools.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Bridgman Public Library presents:

November 19, 3:30 -4:30 PM Roblox & Minecraft Meetup (ages 2-12)

The Bridgman Public Library is having an Open House, Friday, November 22, 2019 5:00-7:00 PM.

Celebrate National Game and Puzzle Week (all ages) Monday – Saturday, Nov 25-30.

December 3, 6:00-7:30 Author Tim Smith support upcoming book on the assassination of JFK.

December 10, 3:30-4:30 PM Sally Bogert from Therapy Dogs International will have her dog Zu-Zu in the library. Children can register for 15-minute Slots to read to Zu-Zu.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 PM, by Rettig, supported by Marske. All ayes, Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by,

**Paula Dudiak
Chikaming Township Clerk**