

**APPROVED**

**CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
October 8, 2020**

The October 8, 2020 meeting of the Township Board was called to order at 6:30 PM by Supervisor Bunte, Rettig, Sullivan, Marske present, Dudiak absent. Also present Attorney Charles Hilmer and John Gooch. Along with members of the community by video.

Supervisor Bunte led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Consent Agenda was given to the board excluding the Treasurer's report, Marske moved, Sullivan supported to approve the Consent Agenda.  
All ayes, motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

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

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

There was a comment concerning a gathering of Harbert residents by Chikaming Township and Berrien County Road Department explaining changes coming in the Spring of 2021. Revetment meeting was wonderful and wanted to congratulate all on this meeting.

Comment regarding zoom meetings vs in person meeting changes through the state.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Union Pier Project Update:

September 25, 2020

Approximately 200' of force main installed, storm sewer re-laid across East Road.

East Road temporarily restored and reopened to Traffic.

Approximately 500' of 48" sanitary sewer installed and air tested.

Week of 9/28-10/3:

Close Lakeside Road. Install remaining force main between Lakeside Road and East Road.

Complete 48" sanitary sewer installation

Install Manhole #10.

Commence 36" sanitary sewer installation in Red Arrow Highway.

Begin reconstruction of northbound lane of Red Arrow Highway.

Red Arrow Highway should be open by mid November, street scene will begin spring of next year.

Cherry Beach Update:

MDNRTF expansion project. There are some concerns in the language of the agreement there will be a meeting with Trust Fund and Attorney Hilmer to continue to move forward.

The project is approximately \$70,000.00 short of its original pledge goal.

Resolution on Lakefront Revetments draft that was presented last month was discussed by the board. A motion was made by Marske, supported by Sullivan to approve the resolution on Lakeshore Revetments with updates presented by Supervisor.

By roll call vote:

Rettig, Bunte, Marske, Sullivan

Resolution adopted.

A draft Policy of an EGLE Permit Application was presented last month to the board for review, due to several permits being submitted to the township. Several different comments that have come in therefore, it was recommended to table this until our next meeting for additions or changes that need to be made.

A motion was made by Rettig, supported by Marske to table the policy until at least our November 12, 2020 meeting.

All ayes, Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Members from the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police and president of MLEAC proudly presented the accreditation plaque to our Chikaming Township Police Department. Robert Stevenson and Neal Rossow presented the plaque and commended the Department during their speeches. This is a great honor, 108 standards had to be met they achieved all of them. Chikaming is the smallest department that has reached this goal, it is an incredible achievement. The State of Michigan has 601 police departments certified only 29 have accreditation, our department achieved this accreditation which has "Raised the Bar", as our department has strived for directed under Chief Todd Taylor effective 1<sup>st</sup> day of October 2020 for a term of three years.

A request was made at the April 2020 Board Meeting to approve the Chikaming Township Police Departments; Policies and Procedures. Since then there has been significant policy revision, changes, amendments, and new policies added to the meet the standard outline in the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Council's manual. Therefore, Chief Taylor would like to ask the board to approve the changes to the Police Department Policies and Procedures along with putting some of them on the Chikaming Township website for full transparency. All will be confirmed with our Attorney.

A motion was made to approve the updated Chikaming Township Police Department Policy and Procedures in conjunction with the 108 standards of accreditation recently confirmed. Motion by Sullivan, supported by Marske.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Rettig to put the Departments policies and procedures on the website.

All ayes, motion carried.

Our auditors requested an adjustment to show how the debt service on the Fire Departments 2015 purchase of a new emergency command vehicle is accounted for, the fiscal year 2019-2020 Public Safety budget had a deficit of \$308,482. A deficit elimination plan needs to be submitted to the State Treasury that describes our course of action.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Sullivan to transfer \$310,000.00 from General Fund to Public Safety to cover the deficit. This amount will gradually be repaid to the General funds along with their balance due.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Sullivan, supported by Marske to approve the addendum to our current contract with MERS our Township's retirement plan for full-time employees. With the only recommended change being that when part-time employees move to full time employees, the accumulated time is not credited as time of service. Their time of service begins at full time employment.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Rettig to approve our Blue Cross/Blue Shield Renewal employee healthcare insurance plan with required raise in deductible by \$500.

No other plan changes.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Sullivan, supported by Marske to approve a request from the owner of Luisa's Café for a Class C liquor license application.

By roll call vote:

Marske, Bunte, Rettig, Sullivan.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made to approve a Resolution on Recreational Funding fee that was presented by the Best Practice Committee to the board. They are asking for support of House bill 6161.

By roll call vote:

Bunte, Sullivan, Rettig, Marske

All ayes, Resolution adopted.

Changes to the Building Department Fee Schedule was submitted to the board for approval. A motion was made by Bunte, supported by Marske to authorize a penalty of \$150.00 dollars for a first occurrence of not obtaining a required permit. The same individual/entity shall be penalized \$250.00 for a second occurrence, and a penalty of \$500.00 for the third and any subsequent violation.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Rettig to approve the replacement of a furnace in the Large Meeting Room that is in need of repair due to its age (2006), purchasing the 2 stag variable blower unit, at a cost of \$4400.00 after rebate.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made to apply for a Grant through Help America Vote CARES Grant Contract for a 50% reduction of new voting tabulator. This would be a spare unit for election equipment. Motion was made by Rettig, supported by Bunte.

All ayes, motion carried.

An Engineering Proposal for Revetment Review of 9239 Pier, Lakeside was not available. Abonmarche was not able to produce the information needed for this proposal. The Township will need to look further and research to find another engineer.

This will be tabled until further information is available.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

House Bill 6161, small property owners state this is not a business and other areas should be considered. Not in favor of the bill.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

2020 Summer Taxes 96% collected reported by Treasurer.

Ballots were received at the Township on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, Clerk Dudiak, Deputy Clerk Barb Anderson and Kim Swartz worked thru the weekend and all ballots were sent out to our voters Monday October 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday October 6<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 PM, moved by Bunte, supported by Marske.

All ayes, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

**Respectfully Submitted by,**

**Paula Dudiak, Chikaming Township Clerk**