

# CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION JULY 5, 2007 MEETING

## PROPOSED

Chairman Steve Smith called the July 5, 2007 meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with members Jack Gibson and Chuck Garasic present. Brian Kern was absent.

Also present were Police Chief Jim Stormont, Fire Chief Mike Davidson and Recording Secretary Marisue Hojnacki.

Garasic moved, supported by Gibson to accept the agenda with the change that it is the July 5, not 28, agenda. Motion carried.

Gibson moved, supported by Garasic to accept the minutes of the June 7, 2007 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

## **OLD BUISNESS:**

- 1) Beach Marker Project: Letters were sent out to the property owners affected by the beach mile marker project and Stormont and Davidson made sure that all the 1/10 GPS points were marked in the beach grass area along the lakefront with a stake and ribbon. Hojnacki reported that 26 of the 73 property owners have responded, 24 positive and two requesting more information. Eighteen of the 69 marker points have been approved. Stormont, Davidson and Hojnacki will make phone calls to those, who have not responded. Stormont reported that Berrien County Commissioner Jeanette Leahey asked corporate council if the new state law would cover the markers and they advised it would not. However, 750.377B would cover them if they declared the markers the property of the police and fire department. Then, if they were destroyed or stolen, it would be a felony punishable by 4 years in jail and/or a \$5,000 fine. The Commission discussed putting a sticker on the post stating this and decided to wait and see if they had a problem first. Hojnacki reported the estimated cost to be \$1,364.38 for 100 markers, \$228 for two drivers and \$693.50 to have Art-FX put the graphics and lettering on for a total of \$2,285.88. Not knowing the cost of the stakes and ribbons used to mark the locations and wanting to provide water and sandwiches to the volunteers installing them in one day, Smith moved, supported by Garasic to recommend to the Township Board spending up to \$2,500 on the project. Motion carried.
- 2) Garasic report on meeting to discuss the alarm ordinance. Garasic said that he met with Jeanne Dudeck, Stormont and Davidson. He said that the average number of false alarms for businesses was 1.8 and we had 40

registered businesses. The 206 registered residences average 1.9 false alarms. Right now you are allowed 3 type I (non human caused) and one type II (human caused) alarms. One idea they had was to keep it that way for fire alarms, but limit police false alarms to only three of either kind. This would help cut down on the paper work in the police department. After discussion, the commission decided to leave the ordinance the way it is as it was created to teach people not to have false alarms.

- 3) Update on beach vehicle and activity on beaches. Stormont said it has been very good. Davidson said they completed a rescue of a missing man Wednesday night. He felt that they might not have found him if they were on foot. They have also used the vehicle for two prior water rescues. Stormont said that a few people are saying that they are trespassing on their beach. He said that sometimes they have to go further up on the beach to avoid people.
- 4) Report on four firefighters sent to rescue class June 9 in Bridgman. Davidson said that they did very well and are being certified.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) Stormont requested the purchase of \$550 for ammunition. He said the money comes from the State Training Fund. Smith moved, supported by Gibson to recommend the purchase to the Township Board. Motion carried.
- 2) Fire Department Activities. Gibson asked Davidson about his calendar of activities and which ones they get paid for. Davidson said that they do not get paid for parades, but do get paid for fire prevention activities.
- 3) Stormont said that his officers worked with the Fire Department on a roll over in which they used the new rescue tool and it worked very well.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Place Police, First Responder and Fire Reports on file, hear highlights and ask any questions.

**Adjournment:** Smith moved, supported by Garasic to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. Motion carried.

Marisue Hojnacki  
Recording Secretary