

CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
MINUTES
August 11, 2011

The August 11, 2011 meeting of the Chikaming Township Board was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Dudeck with members Bohac, Rettig, Warner, Marske present. Attorney Charles Hilmer, Auditor, Jim Hutter and Rob Andrew, Merritt Engineering were also present.

Rettig moved, Marske supported to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2011 regular meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Rettig for the month of July 2011 with balances as follows: General Fund cash - \$1,289,358.39; Trust & Agency cash- \$90.75; Summer Tax Fund - \$720,300.53; Winter Tax Fund - \$82.54. Marske moved, Warner supported, to approve the report as submitted. Motion carried.

Bohac moved, Marske supported, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Jim Hutter, Hutter & Associates presented the highlights of the 2010-2011 fiscal year financial statements for the General Fund, Building Fund, and Water & Sewer Funds. He stated the Township had an excellent fund balance, good controls in place, and the books were in good shape. Board members were each presented with a copy of the audit. This item will be placed on the September 8, 2011 agenda.

Dudeck stated the Pokagon Fund has approved the grant for the Red Arrow Highway Enhancement Study. Data will be gathered during the remainder of August 2011 and the results should be complete by the end of 2011.

Turner Shores Special Assessment District (SAD):

- a. After some discussion, Bohac moved, Marske supported to lower the interest rate from the current 4.75% to 2.75% due to the change in the economy. Motion carried.
- b. Agreed to keep the first principal payment for the SAD assessment due on the 2011 winter property tax cycle, as planned.
- c. Marske, moved, Warner supported to extend the deadline to August 31, 2011 for payment without interest. Motion carried.
- d. Rettig moved, Bohac supported to pay \$5,950 for the retainer and \$5,337 for the work done to date to Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber (FTCH) from the Special Assessment District funds. Motion carried.

Pat Black, Turner Shores Homeowners Association (TSHA) presented the Board with a copy of the Service Agreement with FTCH. Supervisor Dudeck stated the Township portion (water mains) of the SAD is completed and the contract is between the TSHA and FTCH and not the Township. The contract will be reviewed and a special meeting will be called at a later date to address this agreement. Other members from the TSHA were present to express their comments on this controversial project.

Marske moved, Rettig supported to adopt Resolution No. 11-08-11, a Resolution Opposing Incorporation as a Charter Township. Roll call vote: Marske – Yes; Rettig – Yes; Warner – Yes; Dudeck – Yes; Bohac – Yes. Motion carried.

At 7:23 p.m., the regular meeting was recessed in order to hold the public hearing on the Edgewater Villa Special Assessment District. Utility Clerk, Julie Schroeder took the minutes for this hearing.

At 7:42 p.m. the regular meeting of the Township Board was reopened by Supervisor Dudeck.

Bohac moved, Rettig supported to allow adjacent property owners, Frank and Theresa Richter, to plant 5 mid-sized Hawthorn trees along the western side of the south boundary of the Lakeside Cemetery at their expense. Motion carried.

Marske moved, Bohac supported, to approve the \$89 registration fee and mileage expense for any Board member to attend the MTA Fall 2011 Regional Meeting in Kalamazoo on October 26, 2011. Motion carried.

Public Safety issues:

- a. Dudeck read a letter from Sheriff Paul Bailey commending the Fire Department and Police Department on their actions at the July 21, 2011 haz-mat incident at the TA Truck Stop in Sawyer.
- b. Dudeck read a letter from Maryalyce Burke thanking Officer Todd Taylor on providing help to them on July 30, 2011.
- c. Agreed by consensus to allow the Fire Department to solicit donations to contribute to the \$102,000 matching funds required by the grant received by the Berrien County Fire Department Association for training equipment.
- d. Dudeck informed the Board that the Police Department purchased a new copier from Parrett Office Equipment in the amount of \$1,807.50.

There were no comments from the public.

Warner moved, Marske supported to accept the July 2011 reports from the First Responder, Fire, Police, and Zoning Administrator and place them on file. Motion carried.

After reviewing the bills paid July 21, 2011 thru August 11, 2011, Warner moved, Marske supported, to authorize the amount of \$129,331.71. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Rettig moved, Bohac supported to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Chikaming Township Board will be held on **Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Chikaming Township Center meeting room.

Elizabeth Bohac
Township Clerk
August 12, 2011