

CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
MINUTES
May 12, 2011

The May 12, 2011 meeting of the Chikaming Township Board was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Dudeck with members Bohac, Simmons, Warner and Marske present. Attorney Charles Hilmer and Fire Chief Davidson were also present.

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

The Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Dorothy Simmons for the month of April 2011 with balances as follows: General Fund cash - \$1,512,378.30; Trust & Agency cash- \$90.75; Summer Tax Fund - \$100.00; Winter Tax Fund - \$100.00. Warner moved, Marske supported, to approve the report as submitted. Motion carried.

Marske moved, Warner supported, to approve the agenda allowing the Supervisor to move some items around, if necessary. Motion carried.

Supervisor stated that she had not heard from the Park Board regarding any proposed uses for some of the Pokagon Fund monies available to the Township.

Bohac moved, Simmons supported to approve the application for funding in the amount of \$36,053.60 for the period of June 1, 2011 to May 31, 2012 from the Pokagon Fund for the continuation of the Chikaming Recycling Program. Motion carried.

Marske moved, Warner supported to approve 2011 Tax Rate Request Form L-4029, General Fund of .3750 mills and Public Safety of 1.40 mills, the same as the previous tax year. Motion carried.

Supervisor Dudeck informed the Board that the Township Meeting Room will be hosting 2 meetings: The Committee for Better Roads in Berrien County on Thursday, May 26, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. and the NOAA meeting on rip currents on Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.

Simmons moved, Marske supported, to accept the proposal from Hutter & Associates PC to perform the financial audits for fiscal years ending March 31, 2011 for \$15,900, and March 31, 2012 in the amount of \$16,300. Motion carried.

Warner moved, Simmons supported to hire Joe Selke and Austin Byers for the Fire Department per the recommendation of Fire Chief Davidson subject to all background checks. Selke is a 16 year certified firefighter and Byers is a rookie. Motion carried.

Angela Reichert from the Arts Initiative Group presented plans to place an 18 ft. metal sculpture in the triangular area by Red Arrow Hwy. and Sawyer Road. Her group has been working with the Berrien County Road Commission and their approval has been given. The grassy area will have to be mowed and Supervisor Dudeck said she would look into having that done, Warner moved, Bohac supported to approve the placement of the sculpture and send a letter of support. Motion carried.

Marske moved, Bohac supported to approve the replacement of a culvert crossing on Youngren Road for the estimated cost of \$7,500 per the recommendation of the Berrien County Road Commission. Motion carried.

Simmons moved, Warner supported to approve the purchase of 3 moveable signs identifying the meeting room parking area and overflow parking areas in the amount of \$650.00. Motion carried.

Information was supplied to Board members on the new proposed redistricting for 12 Berrien County Commissioners. Bohac informed the Board that Chikaming is currently in District 10 and the new proposed District number 9 will require her to print and mail all new Voter ID cards to reflect the change.

Treasurer Dorothy Simmons gave a brief history of herself and family before she submitted her resignation effective June 1, 2011. Her Deputy Treasurer, Wes Lind will also resign. Marske moved, Bohac supported, to accept her resignation with regret and advertise for a new treasurer to complete the term ending November 20, 2012. Motion carried.

There were no comments from the public.

Warner moved, Simmons supported to accept the April 2011 reports from the First Responder, Fire, Police, and Zoning Administrator and place them on file. Motion carried. Copies of the Park Board minutes and Planning Commission minutes were also distributed.

After reviewing the bills paid April 20, 2011 thru May 12, 2011, Bohac moved, Marske supported, to authorize the amount of \$137,623.94. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Simmons moved, Bohac supported to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Chikaming Township Board will be held on **Thursday, June 9, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Chikaming Township Center meeting room.

Elizabeth Bohac
Township Clerk
May 13, 2011