

**CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
MINUTES
May 8, 2008**

The May 8, 2008 meeting of the Chikaming Township Board was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Dudeck with members Simmons, Marske, Bohac and Van Ginhoven present.

Simmons moved, Marske supported, to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2008 regular meeting and the April 17, 2008 special workshop meeting with one typo correction. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Dorothy Simmons for the month of April 2008 with balances as follows: General Fund cash - \$753,851.71; Investments - \$292,171.89; Trust & Agency cash- \$3,600.16; Summer Tax Fund - \$0.00; Winter Tax Fund - \$0.00. Van Ginhoven moved, Bohac supported, to approve the report as submitted. Motion carried.

Bohac moved, Marske supported, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of # 2A under New Business for Chloride application cost. Motion carried.

Van Ginhoven moved, Marske supported to approve the proposed wording by Attorney Hilmer for the Public Safety Millage renewal of 1.4 mills for 4 years and to place the proposal on the August 5, 2008 ballot. Motion carried.

Bohac moved, Marske supported to appoint Mario Zarantenello of Lakeside to the Planning Commission for a three year term ending March 31, 2011. Motion carried.

Van Ginhoven moved, Marske supported to approve the budget amendments to the 2007-08 fiscal year as follows: decrease 105-Capital Expenditures by \$10,800; increase 253-treasurers Office by \$2,000; increase 447-Highway Dept by \$8,200; increase 450-Highway Lighting by \$500; increase 526-County Drains by \$100. No additional funds were needed from Fund Balance. Motion carried.

Ryan Layman arrived, so Police Chief Stormont introduced him and requested he be hired as a part-time police officer pending all background checks. Marske moved, Van Ginhoven supported to hire Layman as a part-time officer pending all background checks. Motion carried.

Van Ginhoven moved, Bohac supported to adopt the job descriptions for all positions in the Township as prepared by Supervisor Dudeck and discussed at the April 17, 2008 special workshop meeting. Motion carried.

Marske moved, Simmons supported to increase the deductible amount to \$1,000, for a savings of \$8,765, for inland marine, auto comp/collision and electronic equipment insurance coverage; and to increase the deductible to \$2,500 for a savings of \$1,264 for liability coverage for the Michigan Par Plan by Western Insurance Agency, LLC. The annual premium of \$54,972 for the period of July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 will be reduced by \$10,029. Motion carried.

Van Ginhoven moved, Simmons supported to approve the proposed amendments to the Master Plan to include preservation of Farmland and other natural features, a revised Future Land Use map and some updated information, as recommended by the Planning Commission. Zoning Administrator Bohac will submit the changes to McKenna & Associates and distribute the copies to the surrounding municipalities as required. The Planning Commission will set a date for the public hearing at their next meeting. Motion carried.

Supervisor Dudeck informed the Board that the annual audit by Jim Hutter, Hutter & Associates will begin on May 19, 2008. The flags for the cemeteries for Memorial Day have been ordered.

Clerk Bohac stated that there were 81 ballots cast in the River Valley and New Buffalo School election held on Tuesday, May 6, 2008 of which 34 were absentee ballots and 47 people voted in person. The cost associated with that election was approximately \$11.08 per vote.

The Michigan Department of Treasury letter dated May 1, 2008 stated Chikaming Township has a fiscal year indicator score of one. A low aggregate score (0) reflects fiscal neutrality, while a higher score (9) reflects significant fiscal stress.

Bohac moved, Simmons supported to approve the two grant applications to the Pokagon Fund. A request for \$47,000 for playground equipment and a vault toilet for Harbert Community Park and \$12,000 to produce a recreational brochure is requested. Motion carried.

Marske moved, Simmons supported to approve the purchase of two computer monitors at a maximum amount of \$350 and software from Core Technologies for LEIN at a cost of \$200 for the Police Department. Motion carried.

Marske moved, Van Ginhoven supported to approve the purchase of 1 or 2 laptop computers for the Fire Department not to exceed \$2,800. Motion carried.

There were no comments from the public.

The monthly reports for the First Responder Service, Police and Fire Departments, Zoning Administrator's report and website report for April 2008 were accepted and placed on file.

After reviewing the monthly bills, Van Ginhoven moved, Marske supported, to authorize the amount of \$71,471.66. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Simmons moved, Marske supported to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. The Utility Board meeting followed.

The next regular meeting of the Chikaming Township Board will be held on **Thursday, June 12, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Chikaming Township Center meeting room.

Elizabeth Bohac
Township Clerk
May 9, 2008