

APPROVED

**CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
June 13, 2019**

The June 13, 2019 meeting of the Township Board was called to order at 6:30 PM by Supervisor Bunte with Dudiak, Rettig, Marske and Sullivan present. Also present Attorney Charles Hilmer, John Gooch, of the Harbor Country News, Francesca Sagala, of the New Buffalo Times, along with several members of the community.

Supervisor Bunte led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Consent Agenda was given to the board, Marske moved, Sullivan supported to approve the Consent Agenda.

All ayes, motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

Letter from Tax Management Associates, Inc. regarding 2019 AMAR Review.

Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy regarding, Asset Management Program for Chikaming Township, deficiencies described.

State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality letter regarding Preliminary Distribution System Material Inventory, requirements for lead and copper provisions of the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act, 1976 PA 399.

The old 2014 police car was sold at the Big Bear Auction June 1st for \$2,392.00. Money will be put in the Public Safety revenue account.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Small Cell Wireless Facilities Ordinance

An ordinance to secure the public Health, Safety and general welfare of the property owners, residents and visitors of Chikaming Township by regulating small cell wireless facilities was presented to the board for adoption.

Moved by Dudiak, supported by Marske.

By Roll Call vote: Sullivan
 Marske
 Rettig
 Dudiak
 Bunte

Ordinance adopted.

Chief Davidson requested board approval to hire Don Dobberstein as an on/call firefighter.

Motion made by Marske, supported by Sullivan.

All ayes, motion carried.

Chief Davidson announced Margaret Oldenburg graduated from FFI & II Academy and is now a certified firefighter and licensed EMS responder.

Chief Taylor announced Micah Carlson graduated from the Police Academy. He has been

promoted to full time police officer status from a reserve officer. He was awarded the MCOLES Leadership award at the academy. Marske moved, Rettig supported to hire Micah Carlson.

Sullivan abstained due to family relationship

Rettig, Bunte, Dudiak and Marske ayes.

Motion carried.

Chief Taylor presented Joshua Lyster, a graduate of the Police Academy for a part time police officer position. A motion to approve Joshua Lyster was moved by Dudiak, supported by Marske.

All ayes, motion carried.

Boelcke, Heating, Air Conditioning & Plumbing submitted a proposal and has recommended the township center replace four out of six air conditioning units that need replacing soon. Due to the age of the units and the freon being discontinued it would be very costly to replace. To be more fiscally responsible Supervisor Bunte would like to recommend the purchase of two units now using funds from the Building Department that had been designated to purchase a new township vehicle.

Marske made a motion, supported by Dudiak to immediately replace Unit C and Unit E at approximately \$11,730.00, using the funds from the building department fund that was set aside for a vehicle, leaving the other two units for the future.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Rettig, supported by Marske to approve the L4029 summer tax collection rate for River Valley, New Buffalo, Lake Michigan College and Berrien RESA.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion to approve the 2019 Tax Rate request (L4029) for operating and voted millages was moved by Dudiak, supported by Marske.

All ayes, motion carried.

Chikaming Township Code enforcement officer, Greg Nelson submitted a letter regarding the outcome of a dangerous Building hearing concerning a residence at 12297 Spruce Street, Sawyer, Michigan. Per our ordinance #20 the township needs to take care of the property and will then put a lien on the property.

A motion was made by Rettig, supported by Sullivan to notice the property owner of a hearing regarding the ordinance, and it will be brought back to the board at the July 11, 2019 meeting.

All ayes, motion carried

Indiana Michigan Power LED Streetlight conversion submitted a proposal at no cost to the township to replace all existing bulbs with LED lights. A contract needs to be signed to have them begin the process which will take approximately 10 days. Lights will be more cone shaped and angled down for better lighting. This includes the entire lighting in the township, including the lift stations, which totals three contracts.

A motion was made Marske, supported by Sullivan to allow Supervisor Bunte to sign the three contracts for Indian Michigan Power.

All ayes, motion carried.

The board was presented with a listing for a township-owned Parcel 11-07-0014-0015-02-1, on Three Oaks Road to be listed with Re-Max. A survey has been completed and the deed was reviewed by Attorney Hilmer. Property has been vacant and as we agreed during our budget meetings, the property is of no use to the township. Supervisor Bunte sent a letter to the adjoining property owner asking if they had any interest in purchasing and has not received a reply. The listing would be \$89,900.00.

Marske moved, supported by Sullivan to give authority to Supervisor Bunte to sign the contract to sell the property on Three Oaks, Road.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Marske, supported by Sullivan to approve a proposal received from Skillblenders, a strategic planner, to assist the board throughout the process of our Strategic Planning in the amount of \$1,100.00.

All ayes, motion carried.

Chikaming Township Park Board has created a new Facility Use Agreement for the parks and preserves. This requires the township to change the Employee Handbook, page 79.

A motion was made by Rettig, supported by Marske to remove item #3 of the Employee Handbook, Facility Use Agreement, page 79.

“It is the policy of Chikaming Township to make available certain Township facilities for use by its residents and employees. These facilities include:

1. Fires Station grounds (for out-of door activities and fund-raising events such as car washes)
2. The Township meeting room located at 13535 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert (for more formal activities such as Property Owners Association meetings or training sessions).
3. Parks and Preserves per the rules and conditions set forth by the Chikaming Township Park board.”

All ayes, motion carried.

A presentation was given by Mark Miller of Miller Johnson Schroeder PLC Lawyer, regarding the Land Division Appeal Request for 15860 Lakeshore Road, Union Pier, formally Gintaras Resort. The property has been a resort for years and has currently been sold to Mr. & Mrs. George Peoples and Mrs. People’s sister, Ms. Adrienne Elsner.

With a motion from Bunte, supported by Marske the Township Board made a motion to approve the Land Division Application with the following contingencies:

1. Remove five (5) outbuildings by December 21, 2019.
2. Remove kitchens from four (4) units on the bluff.
3. A written agreement which will indemnify the township should the five(5) outbuilding need to removed at any time by the township.
4. Owners to obtain demolition permit(s) by June 21, 2019

Rettig, Bunte, Dudiak, Marske – ayes

Sullivan – nay

Motion carried.

DISCUSSION TOPIC – WHAT DOES CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP LOOK LIKE IN THE YEAR 2040?

Several comments from the public, better roads, parkway, Union Pier completed, more business, affordable housing. Discussion with responses for 10 minutes.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: (3 minute limit)

Jill Underhill, hopes the board is considering future lighting to be more in line with Indiana & Michigan Electric and be like “dark sky”.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Congratulation to Sabina Kotov, she has completed her class and is a Michigan Certified Assessing Technician.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM, by Rettig, supported by Marske. All ayes, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by,

**Paula Dudiak
Chikaming Township Clerk**