

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE

Approved Minutes of the Board of Trustees Special Meeting

October 27, 2015

Supervisor Baroni called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Lilley called the roll:

Present: Gregory Baroni, Supervisor
Terry Lilley, Clerk
Mike Roman, Treasurer
Rik Kowall, Trustee
Mike Powell, Trustee - Late Arrival

Absent: Scott Ruggles, Trustee
Andrea Voorheis, Trustee

Also Present: Lisa Hamameh, Attorney
Amy Bertin, Recording Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no comments made by the Public at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

A. EMERGENCY SEWER CONNECTION AGREEMENT

Trustee Kowall suggested two modifications to simplify the agreement. In the fourth whereas it says, "Owner acknowledges that it received and reviewed plans..." Go to down to where it says, "its share of the cost and expenses associated with the installation of the extension of the main sewer line that is necessary for connection." The modification would read, "Installation of the extension of the main sewer line 'IF' necessary for the connection." "The cost of the grinder pump 'IF' required." This way it can become more of a generic form.

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Kowall, **SUPPORTED** by Clerk Lilley to approve the Emergency Sewer Connection Agreement, with the above noted changes. The **MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote (4 yes votes).

B. FOIA APPEAL, HOWARD KRAVITZ & ASSOCIATES

It was **MOVED** by Supervisor Baroni, **SUPPORTED** by Trustee Kowall to grant the appeal in part and deny in part by granting the request for a copy of the investigation report but redacting

those portions otherwise exempt from disclosure pursuant to MCL 15.243.1(a)(b) 3 of the Freedom of Information Act. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (4 yes votes).

Trustee Powell is now present at the meeting.

C. FOIA APPEAL, HOHAUSER KUCHON ATTORNEYS

It was MOVED by Supervisor Baroni, SUPPORTED by Trustee Kowall to uphold the original denial and deny the appeal for the reason that disclosure of witness names, particularly those that will reveal the identity of minors, will result in an unwarranted invasion of privacy pursuant to MCL 15.243.1 (a) and MCL 15.243 (b) 3 of the Freedom of Information Act. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (5 yes votes).

D. SEWER DISCUSSION FOR CASTLEWOOD, LAKEVIEW AND BABLON

Clerk Lilley had several comments to make regarding the sewer issue on Bablon. He was confronted by several individuals after the last meeting stating that he had shot down the project, he held up the project, and if he would write a check for the material they could get the project going tomorrow. In response to those accusations, he has never knowingly or intentionally prevented anyone from moving ahead with a project. He felt the estimate wasn't appropriate for the extent of the job being done and asked that a re-estimate be provided to the Board. It is not within his authority to simply write a check for materials for a project. There is a process that needs to be followed. There are costs involved in establishing an SAD as well as the cost estimate provided by the engineers and these need to be looked at closely before moving a project forward. He would like to know more particularly what was the cause of these accusations and hear from all the residents involved in the SAD their intentions and expectations regarding the project, their urgency for completing the project, and their commitment and desire for financing.

Harry Rogan, 1300 Bablon. He is one of the residents involved in the SAD regarding placing a sewer main down Bablon. It is 640 ft. in length, a total of six houses. There are four signatures out of the six. The process was started four or five months ago and they haven't gotten anywhere yet. There are no septic fields that are bad at this moment but they are projecting to the future. He has never participated in a SAD so is unaware of all the steps necessary to take.

Todd Wood, 1318 Bablon. He would like to apologize for the verbal attack on Mr. Lilley. It was based on the state of the project. The frustration came because we felt we were on our way in the spring as we had numbers as far as costs from a bonded sewer man and a contractor. We have ideas on what we want to do and signatures from the residents but are unfamiliar with the SAD process. We didn't realize Bablon was on the agenda for the last meeting.

Treasurer Roman stated the project was tabled to protect the residents. The petition which was originally signed had a cost estimate of \$40,000. An estimate from the township engineers came back at \$80,000, so double the cost, and now the most recent estimate is up to \$102,000. The Township didn't want to move forward on the project with such a great difference in cost expectations. He stated they must follow the SAD process and provided a detailed outline of the process for them.

Mr. Wood had questions regarding what was included in the \$102,000 amount. Is there a standard cost per linear foot for a sewer line? Who decides on who the bid is awarded to? He was told that included within the \$102,000 is much more than just the cost of the pipe such as parts, labor, contingencies, design work, and road restoration. The Township Board along with the engineering firm decides who gets the bid.

Trustee Powell suggested there was an alternate way of doing this project to lower costs. The residents could hire their own engineer, get the project designed, permitted, submit the bills to the Township and establish an SAD on their own. Another consideration is, it could be a much less expensive project if you go with a low pressure sewer system.

Clerk Lilley thanked Mr. Wood for his offered apology. He does try to move projects forward and is willing to work with residents but it is a complicated process.

Supervisor Baroni stated Castlewood and Lakeview sewer projects were also on the agenda tonight for discussion.

Clerk Lilley would like to see the Castlewood project move forward. Again, a lot of the residents feel it can be pushed through quickly but notices need to be appropriate. We need a firmer commitment from the residents that want to participate in the grinder pump installation. This won't be available to be put on the November agenda as there has to be some advertisements done and the lawyer needs to complete the proper paperwork.

Trustee Powell suggested there be two SADs, one for construction of the sewer main and one for connections. We can keep moving that project forward even if there is some delay yet in establishing the connection SAD. If we delay creation of the resolution for the sewer main installation SAD it delays the design of the project, permits and construction.

Treasurer Roman stated it was at the direction of Attorney Wyzgoski both SADs be considered together, the main and the connection, so they can be bonded together and save on costs.

Trustee Kowall suggested holding a Town Hall or general interest meeting and start canvassing to assess the interest in hooking up to sewers. There may be certain areas of the Township where mains are in place and potential to run mains and maybe a few people on the street

would like to hook up. If we start the process of finding out where the interest lies we may end up creating SADs in multiple areas. If you are dealing with a smaller amount of people, you are liable to have a block where 51% want it.

The Board determined that every effort would be made to move the Castlewood project forward.

Trustee Powell asked for an update on the Lakeview sewer project.

Jeanine Smith, Assessor. The history of this project is, back in May an Intention Resolution was tabled because the residents were not in favor of the project. They since came back and three of the residents said they were in favor of establishing a voluntary SAD for the project with one of them needing to hook up on an emergency basis. The Board agreed at the October meeting to move forward but no Intention Resolution was passed.

It was agreed that an Intention Resolution will be prepared for the November meeting for the sewer main construction and emergency hook-up will be provided for one of the residents who are in failure mode.

(Whereupon a brief recess was taken from 5:16 p.m. to 5:22 p.m.)

E. BUDGET DISCUSSION

Supervisor Baroni stated the Board members should have received the budget proposal for 2016. There are three areas of change. On page four of 22, under assessing, line item salaries part-time. Page eight of 22, salaries for drivers. Page 22 of 22, the CDBG budget will be decreased.

Trustee Powell suggested the Township think about supporting Huron Valley Youth Assistance. 44% of their expenses are for White Lake Twp. residents. White Lake is the only township which doesn't assist beyond the CDBG fund.

Clerk Lilley supplied the Board members with a packet detailing the budget items requested and the supporting numbers for the Clerk's Office. The first item would be under conferences and training which includes membership and dues. Next is election costs as there will be three elections next year. Cemetery costs for much needed maintenance and improvements. The last item is adoption of a job description for Senior Election Specialist with salary scale included.

Treasurer Roman questioned when and where the issue of establishing a job description and salary requests should be brought up because of the interactions with the Union. Would the Board approve the job description or the Union? He has staff he doesn't feel are compensated properly. He has comprehensive job descriptions done for employees within his department

he would like to present to the Board members for consideration.

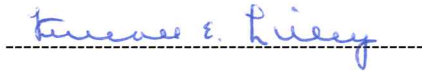
Peter Piccinato, 8771 Townsend. He questioned whether webinars were considered under the Technology line item in the Budget. The youth are used to this type of technology and are moving into this community. Also, people are busy and can't always make meetings. This is a great way to help make the meetings available. He was informed it is not currently in the budget as it was previously decided video recording meetings would not be done in an election year.

ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED by Trustee Kowall, SUPPORTED by Treasurer Roman to adjourn the meeting. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (5 yes votes).

Adjournment of meeting at 6:00 p.m.

I, Terry Lilley, the duly elected and qualified Clerk of the Charter Township of White Lake, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the October 27, 2015 special board meeting minutes.



Terry Lilley, Clerk
White Lake Township
Oakland County, Michigan