

Regular Meeting
Charleston Township Board
March 23, 2004

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Supervisor who led those present in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Roll was called and members present were: Bell, Schug, Balkema and Kramer. Absent: Kasson. Also in attendance: Anne Ward, Ann & Don Elzinga, Patsy Longfield, Randy Gertsen, Mark Eddy, Art Samson and Phyllis Rose.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AGENDA AND MINUTES:

Motion by Balkema/Schug to adopt the agenda as presented. CARRIED Schug/Balkema moved to approve the February 24, 2004 regular meeting minutes as presented. CARRIED Balkema/Schug moved to approve the March 2, 2004 special meeting minutes with one correction: Motion to adjourn was made by Schug/Bell.

POLICE, FIRE, AND ZONING REPORTS:

6. Fran reported that the attorney had sent a letter to Galesburg Speedway concerning ordinance violations from last summer that had not yet been resolved. The Speedway had the problems taken care of within a week.
7. The Fire Chief sent a list of the equipment purchased with the FEMA Grant that the Fire Department received last fall. There was no fire report to receive this month.

CITIZEN TIME:

Art Samson asked when Chuck Kasson would be back from vacation. Fran told him that Chuck would be back in time for the next Planning Commission hearing.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Upon the recommendation of township attorney Rob Thall, Balkema/Schug **moved to refund to CenturyTel Fiber Company, LLC the first of three annual payments to satisfy an overpayment of right-of-way fees made in September, 2002 just before the METRO Act became law.** CARRIED
- b. After some explanation of a recent request for burial space for an indigent township resident, Balkema/Kramer **moved to reserve lots 38, 15, and 12 in the new section of Territorial Cemetery for the purpose of providing burial space for indigent township residents.** CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Balkema/Schug **moved to accept the Planning Commission recommendation to approve the rezoning request for 13608 East Michigan (former Royal Truck & Trailer site) from the C-4 Highway Commercial District to the I-1 Light Industrial District.** Roll Call Vote: Balkema -Y; Kramer - Y; Bell - Y; Schug - Y. CARRIED
- b. Schug/Balkema **moved to adopt a Resolution Supporting Wellhead Protection Program.** Roll

Call Vote: Balkema – Y; Kramer – Y; Bell – Y; and Schug – Y. CARRIED

- c. Balkema/Kramer **moved to allow participation in the Township Official Exchange Program sponsored by the Michigan Townships Association and scheduled for Michigan Week, May 15-21, 2004 if anyone is interested** CARRIED
- d. Balkema/Kramer **moved to reappoint all contract services providers.** Roll Call Vote: Schug – Y; Bell – Y; Kramer – Y; Balkema – Y. CARRIED

Contract Services for 2004/2005

- 1. Lawn Care Ben Holtz – B&C Lawn Care
- 2. Cemetery Sexton Ben Holtz – B&C Lawn Care
- 3. Attorney Bauckham, Sparks, Rolfe, Lohrstorfer & Thall, P.C.
- 4. Accountant Siegfried, Crandall, Vos & Lewis
- e. Schug/Balkema **moved to adopt the Township Board meeting schedule and the Planning Commission schedule for 2004/2005.** CARRIED
- f. Balkema/Schug **moved to contract with BFI for the Spring Trash Drop Off scheduled for Saturday, May 1, 2004 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon with a \$10 per family charge for those who participate.** CARRIED The trash drop-off will be advertised in the spring newsletter along with discussion of fire funding and ambulance providers.
- g. Balkema/Kramer **moved to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission to amend Article XX of the Zoning Ordinance to change the maximum building or structure (roof/peak) height for a principal building/structure in all of the zoning districts to 40 feet (but retain the existing reference to a maximum possible peak height of 50 feet in certain circumstances in the Research and Industrial Park District as provided by footnote 13 to the Schedule).** CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

Fran submitted several communications including a letter to Jerry Albertson regarding development of an alternative route for the Kalamazoo River Valley Trailway, a letter to W. D. Graham approving his request for a boundary adjustment, a letter from the Michigan Department of Transportation concerning the MI Travel Counts data collection program and figures for the 2005 Revenue Sharing program.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Year to Date receipts: \$332,320.30, disbursements: \$219,043.14, transfers from savings to general fund: (\$0.88), General fund balance: \$203,330.22, Beginning balance was \$140,143.41, Received since February Board meeting \$169,231.50. Balkema/Kramer moved to accept the Treasurer's report for March as received. CARRIED

MEMBERS TIME:

Linda reported that new election equipment still had not been authorized. There is still hope that the new equipment will be available in time for the primary election in August. Balkema/Schug **moved to authorize the supervisor to participate in a group of county leaders who are meeting to deal with problems having to do with state programs like revenue sharing and tax collection.** CARRIED The Village of Augusta will provide quotes to put up reflective posts around the water tower water lines to prevent trucks from driving over them and quotes on posts and chain to block the well house driveway. The township is also getting quotes to replace lights in the township hall from several electric companies

PUBLIC HEARING:

At 8:00 p.m. Balkema/Kramer moved to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing to take public comment on the proposed 2004/2005 budgets. CARRIED

After some questions by residents concerning the budgets, Balkema/Schug moved to close the public hearing at 8:30 p.m. and return to the regular meeting. CARRIED (See attachments.)

READING & DISPOSITION BILLS

Balkema/Schug moved that the bills be allowed and that warrants be drawn on the treasury for their respective amounts. CARRIED

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Balkema/Schug moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. CARRIED

Linda Kramer, Clerk