

Regular Meeting
Charleston Township Board
December 28, 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, Hiestand and Kramer. Absent: Samson. Also in attendance: Don & Ann Elzinga, Phyllis Rose, Dennis Ward, Pat Longfield, Tam Osmun, Bob Sutherby, Arkom Pradithavanij and his wife, and Larry A. Bolhuis.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AGENDA AND MINUTES:

Motion by Hiestand/Schug to adopt the agenda as presented. CARRIED Schug/Hiestand moved to approve the November 23, 2004 regular meeting minutes as presented. CARRIED

POLICE, FIRE, ZONING AND ASSESSORS REPORTS:

6. No Zoning Administrator's report
7. There was no Planning Commission meeting for the month of December. In January the Planning Commission will take up a sketch plan review for Steve Coleman and a site plan review for Phase II of Lakeview Meadows.
8. Kramer/Schug moved to receive the fire report. CARRIED Fran asked the Board members to review the Joint Fire Agreement considering operational expenses versus capital expenses.

CITIZEN TIME:

Dennis Ward asked whether the minutes of closed meetings were ever made available to the public. He was told that the closed meeting minutes are kept for one year and one day and then destroyed. They are never made available to the public because the information is privileged and no actions are taken in a closed meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. The Board discussed allowing rocks as markers on gravesites. It was suggested that there be a foundation required under every type of marker, and then it was suggested that we leave the decision up to the sexton. Hiestand/Schug **moved to table action on the cemetery ordinance until Fran speaks to the sexton, Ben Holtz.** CARRIED
- b. The Kalamazoo County Road Commission asked for input on whether to make \$100,000 in PAR funds available for culverts alone or return the amount to the rest of the funds. Hiestand/Kramer **moved to indicate to the KCRC a preference that the \$100,000 be returned to the PAR Funds.** CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARING:

At 7:30 p.m. Fran opened the public hearing to hear the request of Arkom Pradathavanij for a Class C liquor license. Mr. Pradathavanij detailed his experience in the restaurant business in the Detroit area and passed around a book with pictures of his restaurants and newspaper write-ups as well as awards his restaurants had earned. He answered a few questions and Bob Sutherby, the seller, made a few comments about the length of time it took to get the liquor license. Hiestand/Schug moved to close

the public hearing at 7:55. CARRIED Fran submitted a written motion that said: **With adoption of the attached Resolution, the Township Board grants local approval of the applicant's request for transfer of a Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) Class C/SDM liquor license. This approval is contingent upon our receipt of notification of final approval by MLCC of the applicant's request, compliance with all local and state ordinances, codes and regulations, and payment of all required licenses and fees. Hiestand/Kramer moved to approve the motion as written.** Roll Call Vote:

Hiestand – Y; Kramer – Y; Bell – Y; Schug – Y. CARRIED Fran then asked for an administrative fee of \$250 per the liquor-licensing ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Fran listed the various appointments to the Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and the Board of Review. Schug/Kramer **moved to approve the reappointments of Art Samson, Karen Wagar, and Norm Zomer to the Planning Commission for three year terms, the reappointment of Al Ahlrich and the appointment of Nelson Hiestand to three year terms on the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the reappointment of Art Pursel and Nancy Murray and the appointment of Jim Whitehead to the Board of Review for two year terms.** CARRIED
- b. Fran told the Board that anyone who wanted to attend the MTA conference in Detroit at the end of January would have their conference fee paid by the township, but would have to pay their own transportation and overnight expenses.
- c. Hiestand/Schug **moved to approve sending Jim Whitehead to Board of Review training on February 28, 2005 at the Clarion Hotel in Lansing and the pay the fee.** CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

Fran submitted letters he had received from the Steering Committee Against Illegal Drain Assessments expressing appreciation for our financial support, from the Council of Governments (COG) offering membership for \$300 per year, and from the Kalamazoo County Department of Planning and Community Development inviting board members to a roundtable meeting February 24, 2005 at 4:00 p.m. to discuss forming a county-wide brownfield redevelopment partnership. He also mentioned Pat Longfield's upcoming letter to the editor concerning the expenditure of funds by Galesburg-Augusta Schools for the annexation, 2005 road projects and a letter from Steve Leuty concerning the next possible step for residential recycling.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Year to Date receipts: \$115,716.18, disbursements: \$227,807.93, transfers from savings to general fund: (\$8.11), General fund balance: \$68,900.88, Beginning balance was \$181,000.74, Received since November Board meeting \$596.25. Hiestand/Kramer moved to accept the Treasurer's report for December as received. CARRIED

MEMBERS TIME:

Nelson said that he found the new official training that he had attended helpful in understanding township government and his role as a township trustee. Brenda said that taxes were coming in and she has been busy.

READING & DISPOSITION BILLS

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

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Hiestand/Schug moved to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. CARRIED

Linda Kramer, Clerk