

Regular Meeting
Charleston Township Board
February 26, 2008

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, Hiestand, Samson, Schug and Kramer. Also in attendance were Patsy Longfield, Dennis Ward, Phyllis Rose, and Mark Thomas.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AGENDA AND MINUTES:

Motion by Samson/Hiestand to approve the agenda with the addition of 10d. EPA GLNPO Grant Program to New Business. CARRIED Hiestand/Schug moved to approve the January 22, 2008 regular meeting minutes as presented.

POLICE, FIRE, ZONING AND PLANNING COMMISSION REPORTS:

6. Fran updated the Board on the response to several complaints of junk cars and blight.
7. Art discussed the reasons for reducing the size of the Planning Commission. The reasons included saving money, the difficulty finding people to serve, and the size of the township which is smaller than a typical township. A public hearing will be held in April. Art also proposed that the Township Board appoint one of four qualified and available members of the Planning Commission as the Planning Commission representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Nelson suggested that Don Kramer, now that he is retired, would make a good representative. Bell/Hiestand **moved to appoint Don Kramer as the Planning Commission representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals.** CARRIED
8. Nelson detailed the results of the February 20, 2008 Joint Fire Board Meeting and the run report. Fran asked the Clerk to read a resolution from the City of Galesburg that stipulated that the appropriations for Equipment Capital Outlay in the amount of \$11,000 and Police & Fire Training Facility in the amount of \$3,350 be removed from the proposed Joint Fire Board budget for 2008/2009. Nelson said that he was disappointed that funding could not be found for the training facility. Samson/Schug moved to receive the Fire Board report. CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Scott Grinder, founder of the community service project, Cemeteries on the Web, had planned on making a presentation to the Board, but he called to say that he had the flu. Hiestand/Schug **moved to table action on Mr. Grinder's request to put markers on unmarked graves in the township cemeteries until April.** CARRIED
- b. Hiestand/Samson **moved to table action on the Regional Fire and Police Training Facility until there is more clarity on the position of the City of Galesburg concerning the facility.** CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Mark Thomas of Michigan State University Extension requested the use of the township hall for the MSU Extension Citizen Planner Program. He explained that the program would commence on Wednesday, April 23, 2008 for seven weekly sessions ending on June 4, 2008. He hoped for 20 to 35 attendees and offered the township two scholarships for the program to compensate for use of the hall.

He agreed to check on insurance coverage in response to a question. Hiestand/Samson moved to **approve the request from MSUE to hold the Citizen Planner Program at the township hall for seven weeks ending June 4, 2008.** CARRIED

- b. Due to some unresolved issues, Hiestand/ Samson moved to **table action on the 9-1-1 Fire Dispatch Agreement.** CARRIED
- c. Hiestand/Schug moved to **table action on the County GIS System Resolution until the Board obtains answers to some questions concerning cost and ownership of the data.** CARRIED
- d. The Environmental Health Bureau of Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services requested a letter of support to accompany a grant application to the Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate 2 single day events for collection and incineration of unused medicines, expired prescriptions etc. Hiestand/Schug moved to **approve sending a letter of support to the Environmental Health Bureau to accompany the grant application for disposal of unused medicines.** CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

Fran presented communications from the Road Commission requesting a joint meeting, a 4th quarter report from Household Hazardous Waste showing an 8.4 % participation increase from 2006, an MTA fax on annexation reform legislation that is before the Senate, a request to join Scenic Michigan which is a 501 (c)(3) organization that works to “preserve, protect and enhance Michigan’s scenic resources,” and information from the Chamber of Commerce concerning a campaign for part-time legislators.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Year to Date receipts \$162,728.19, disbursements: \$241,717.22, transfers from savings to general fund: (\$6,679.43), General fund balance: \$99,227.95, Beginning balance was \$184,896.41, Received since January Board meeting \$1,781.29. Hiestand/Kramer moved to accept the Treasurer’s report for February as received. CARRIED

READING & DISPOSITION BILLS:

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

CITIZEN TIME:

No comments were offered.

MEMBERS TIME:

Nelson informed the Board that the ZBA had granted a variance to Centennial Wireless for a communications tower on the Engelhardt property near Augusta. Brenda presented information concerning such things as foreclosures, and the economic stimulus rebate checks that the County Treasurer asked to be made available to township residents.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Samson/Hiestand moved to adjourn at 8:58 p.m. CARRIED

Linda Kramer, Clerk