

Regular Meeting
Charleston Township Board
December 15, 2009

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, Samson and Kramer. Also in attendance: Lt. Wally Kipp, Garry Henson, Wally Culver and Don Vought.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AGENDA AND MINUTES:

Balkema/Schug moved to adopt the agenda as presented. CARRIED Samson/Balkema moved to approve the November 24, 2009 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 in December. The next Planning Commission meeting will be on January 19, 2010 which will include the election of officers.
8. There was no Fire Report for December, as the Fire Board will meet on December 16, 2009. The question of whether the Fire Board is classified as an authority has not been resolved. The Fire Board has asked the City of Galesburg to clarify the matter with their attorney and has not yet received a response. The answer to the question impacts the type of audit the Fire Board needs and whether they can save money on the audit. In order to expedite matters, Samson/Schug **moved that if no resolution of the question is forthcoming from the City of Galesburg, Charleston will contact the township attorney for an opinion.** CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Wally Culver, representing the Kalamazoo County Hazmat team, explained the need for a local hazardous materials team, the laws the team operated under, how the team interacts with the local fire department, and the costs associated with membership in the Hazmat agreement. Balkema/Schug **moved to approve participation in the Intergovernmental Fire Protection Hazardous Materials Incident Response Agreement.** Roll Call Vote: Balkema – Y; Kramer – Y; Bell – Y; Schug – Y and Samson – N. CARRIED Samson objected because the latest version with a few minor changes had not been read and hadn't been reviewed by the township attorney.
- b. After a brief discussion of air infiltration problems in the attic of the township hall and methods and quotes to fix the problem, Balkema/Schug **moved to authorize the supervisor to select the lowest bid of the insulation contractors under \$8500.** CARRIED
- c. Due to receiving additional information to consider, Balkema/Samson **moved to rescind the motion of November 24, 2009 regarding assessor classification.** CARRIED
- d. The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney advised the township that a settlement conference has been scheduled for January 15, 2010 and a jury trial scheduled for February 2, 2010 in the matter of The People of the State of Michigan v. Justin Edward Harper, concerning the water system vandalism of last spring.
- e. Lt. Wally Kipp presented his monthly report on Sheriff's Department calls in the township.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Fran presented information on the Law Enforcement Millage renewal that will be on the May, 2010 ballot.
- b. Consumers Energy has withdrawn its request for an easement near the water tower.
- c. Swift Trucking has consistently declined to pay the \$1100. invoice sent by the fire department for emergency services provided for one of their drivers involved in an accident in Charleston Township on April 22, 2006. Attorney Rolfe has requested direction from the Board in pursuing the claim. Samson/Balkema **moved to approve pursuit of collection by the township attorney per the township ordinance of the \$1100 owed by Swift Trucking for services rendered on April 22, 2006 including court action if necessary.** Roll Call Vote: Samson – Y; Schug – Y; Bell – Y; Kramer – Y and Balkema – Y. CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

Fran presented a letter from the township attorney addressing a property tax exemption claim raised by Battle Creek Unlimited/Battle Creek Tax Increment Finance Authority.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Year to Date receipts: \$166,273.77, disbursements: \$267,026.63, transfers from savings to general fund: (\$3,368.78), General fund balance: \$107,987.16, Beginning balance was \$212,108.80, Received since November Board meeting \$1,584.75. Balkema/Samson moved to accept the Treasurer's report for December as received. CARRIED

READING & DISPOSITION BILLS

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

CITIZEN TIME:

Don Vought asked about a light at the intersection at I-94's Exit 88. Fran told him to send a letter to MDOT. They need to hear citizen complaints. Don also mentioned extensive weed beds on Long Lake. Fran suggested he contact the DNR in Plainwell and possibly the County to see what might be done.

MEMBERS TIME:

Art asked when the Public Safety Millage ends. No one could answer that question.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Balkema/Samson moved to adjourn at 9:07 p.m. CARRIED

Linda Kramer, Clerk