

# **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON**

Gary Griewahn  
*Supervisor*  
Janet Moden  
*Clerk*  
Harold Gregg  
*Treasurer*

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## **TRUSTEES**

Howard Bales  
Matt Carpenter  
Ralph Benschoter  
Larry Liedel

### **Madison Township Board Meeting Held Electronically due to Covid-19 restrictions from Gov. Whitmer Minutes of June 9, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Griewahn. Supervisor Griewahn read a prepared statement explaining the reason for having this meeting held by electronic means and how everyone needed to identify themselves by name before speaking, so that the minutes for the meeting would be correct. Silent prayer time was offered. The pledge to the American Flag was said by all.

#### **ROLL CALL:**

Present electronically: Gregg, Griewahn, Moden, Benschoter, Carpenter, Liedel and Bales.

#### **APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF May 12, 2020:**

Motion by Bales, supported by Liedel to dispense reading and approve.

Roll Call Vote: Gregg-Yes, Griewahn-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None**

**PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:** Announced that Spring Clean Up day would happen on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Gary stated that he had spent money to address the Water Pump emergency that has happened earlier in the week.

**INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS:** Our auditor, Sarah Rafco of Cooley Hehl Sabo and Calkins, CPA went over the audit that was done for 2019, she went page by page pointing out various important areas of interest. Overall, the audit was very good, she stated that the budget looked great. She also stated that there will always be discrepancies, but many of the problems of the past have been remedied with how the money is reported. Matt Carpenter stated that last year budgeting adjustments had been a problem.

#### **LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None**

#### **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: None**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Motion to approve by Gregg, supported by Moden. Roll Call Vote: Gregg-Yes, Griewahn-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

#### **OLD BUSINESS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Tim Watterson gave the board an update on the activities at the Baldwin lift station. It is close to getting all wrapped up, we are currently waiting for the bill, no payments have been made at this time. There were no other questions.

Status of the Kennedy Lawsuit: Per Fred Lucas, township legal counsel, recommends the board to accept the settlement offered of \$85,000.00. Lucas expressed that 1/3 would come to him and that another portion that had already been paid to him would come back to the township. Motion by Gregg, seconded by Griewahn that we move to accept the \$85,000.00 settlement price and that Gary Griewahn is authorized by the board to sign for it. Lucas thanked Tim Watterson for his help.

Roll Call Vote: Gregg-Yes, Griewahn-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

Status of the Employee Handbook: Per Clerk Moden, she has met with everyone on the board to go over the handbook, and out of those meeting that have been a few areas that we need to get clarification on before the handbook is brought before the board for approval. It may not happen until the election in August is over, due to time constraints on her time.

#### LAND SPLIT:

Land Split at 4935 W. Beecher MDO-106-3550-00 Greg Elliott

A motion was made by Bales, supported by Carpenter that the board approve a recommendation by Zoning Inspector, Henry that a land split take place for the benefit of Gregg Elliott at 4935 W. Beecher.

Roll Call Vote: Gregg-Yes, Griewahn-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Griewahn read a letter of resignation from Firefighter/Paramedic Jarrod Gentner that effective June 14, 2020 would be his last day as a full-time employee of Madison Township. He is going to Romulus Fire Dept, he was hired full time with Madison under the Safer Grant that is in its last year reimbursement to the township. Clerk Moden wished him well and thanked him for his fine performance as a dedicated paramedic throughout his years of employment. It was discussed by the board if there is a need to replace him since the grant money is running out at the end of 2020. Chief Rank reminded the board that to maintain compliance with the Grant, we needed to at least actively seeking a replacement. A motion by Bales to move forward with hiring activities, seconded by Moden, to maintain the Safer Grant requirements. Discussion included that the EMS is a revenue generating arm of the township general fund and it needs to be maintained. Trustee Liedel expressed concern about “burn out” on the part of the Paramedics if they are understaffed over time. Supervisor Griewahn talked that there are so many unknowns for our funds, such as the income from Sales Tax at this point. Trustee Carpenter asked what the

qualifications for a replacement person would be. Chief Rank explained that they would have to be qualified as Firefighter 1 & 2 and a licensed Paramedic.

Roll Call Vote: Gregg-Yes, Griewahn-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

ELECTED OFFICIALS COMMENTS: Clerk Moden spoke about the upcoming Primary Election on August 4, 2020, that the State of Michigan is sending out Absentee Ballot Applications to all registered voters in the state. All permanent AV Ballot voters have received applications from Madison, but they will also receive the same application from the state as well.

Supervisor Griewahn pointed out that the large pothole at the corner of Discount Tire has been fixed by Discount Tire who has ownership of that street. Many of our residents have issued complaints with the township, for the last 3.5 years, but the township has not control over this street repair. We did contact the Corporate offices for Discount Tire, letting them know that it was their responsibility.

Trustee Carpenter wanted to thank the Public Safety dept. for their Memorial Day salute to veterans, his grandfather, 92, could not stop talking about how great it was to have them visit him. Carpenter also asked if we have an open meeting in July, can we still join by Zoom if we prefer. He was told that all depends on the Governor's restrictions at the time. It was also mentioned that the residents on Treat Hwy area of the school have stated that they appreciated the sidewalk that were put in last year, during the Shut-Down they were nice to be able to get out and exercise.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT/RECESS:

Motion to adjourn by Gregg, supported by Moden. Roll Call Vote: Gregg-Yes, Griewahn-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully,

Janet M. Moden  
Madison Township Clerk