



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON

Gary Griewahn
Supervisor
Janet Moden
Clerk
Harold Gregg
Treasurer

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517-263-9313 Fax: 517-263-4569

TRUSTEES

Howard Bales
Matt Carpenter
Ralph Benschoter
Chad Rodgers

Madison Township Board Meeting Held in Person and Electronically (Zoom) Minutes of November 9, 2021

6:30 – 6:53 p.m. Public Hearing called to order, with a silent prayer, and pledge to the flag said by all. Public Hearing was held on the proposed 2022 Budget, with discussions and explanations for Public review.

7:00 p.m. November Board Meeting called to order, with a silent prayer, and pledge to the flag said by all.

ROLL CALL:

Present in person: Griewahn, Gregg, Moden, Rodgers, Benschoter, Carpenter and Bales. All Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES – 10/26/2021

Motion by Rodgers, supported by Benschoter to dispense reading and approve the Special Board meeting minutes as written for 10/26/2021. Roll Call vote: Griewahn, Yes; Gregg, Yes; Moden, Yes; Rodgers, Yes; Benschoter, Yes; Carpenter, Yes; and Bales, Absent. Motion carried 6-0.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: Motion by Griewahn, supported by Carpenter to Add to this agenda under Old Business – Legal update; Add under New Business – Lawsuit on Hunting Blind, Add Wayne Smith as chairman of ZBA board. Motion passed 7-0.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: Clerk Moden announced that the Fall Leaf Dump was planned to be held at Slusarski Materials Dump on Saturday, November 13, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. till Noon. Still looking for volunteers to help unload.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS: None

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

3-MINUTE DEPT. HEAD UPDATES:

Fire: There will be fire inspections at Hampton Manor soon, Mark Swinehart is back to work full time from injury, there is a new Firefighter's Memorial stone that has been placed at Oakwood Cemetery for On-Duty deaths in the county.



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Police: Busy with Walmart calls, one officer off with Covid and one off with illness. New PT assistant starts tomorrow.

Water/Sewer: Feltman Marijuana project at 1607 E. Maumee (former Bohn property) Tim heard back on the proposed cost to extend the water main 700 ft. and adding a new hydrant for the new marijuana business at the address at a cost of \$59,420.

Inspection: Hampton Manor should be opening December 1st, as they have 12 residents waiting to get in. Feltman is currently buying more land at the 1607 E. Maumee location and scrapping their plans for a facility in Monroe County. Walmart has been doing a large pavement improvement project.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Bales, seconded by Gregg to approve the Consent Agenda. Roll Call Vote taken: : Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Rodgers-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, and Bales-Yes. Motion carried 7-0.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – 11/03/2021

Minutes from the meeting were read by Gregg. Basically stated, the committee feels that the budget that they have worked on is ready for approval. A motion by Gregg, seconded by Rodgers to accept the minutes as read. Motion carried with 7-0 vote.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – 11/03/2021

Personnel Chair, Rodgers read the minutes were Fire Chief, Ryan Rank tendered his intent to retire effective 1/11/2022 from his position. Rank asked that the township pay out his accrued time over the approximate 6 months following his departure. He stated that there are three or four internal people currently on the department that hold all the qualifications for the Fire Chief position, and that Asst. Chief, Nic Wilson will be in charge during his absence to use vacation time before 1/11/2022. Motion by Rodgers, supported by Benschoter to accept the minutes as read. Motion carried with 7-0 vote.

Rodgers made a motion, supported by Bales that the board approve all the recommendations in the personnel committee minutes, and that it should be posted internally first for seven days then externally if needed. There was discussion by Bales as to the issues that are caused by using the first of the year versus anniversary date for benefit purposes, we may need to look at our handbook for areas that can be pro-rated for purposes of employees leaving the township employment, whether vacation, HSA, etc. Not action taken on this discussion subject. Motion carried with 6-1 vote.

WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – 11/5/2021



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Minutes from the Water/Sewer meeting were read by Bales, motion to approve by Bales, supported by Rodgers. Motion carried with 7-0 vote.

Motion by Bales, supported by Carpenter, to approve a 2% increase in the 1/1/2022 billing cycle for Water/Sewer usage, for both metered and unmetered customers. Motion carried with 7-0 vote.

Watterson stated that he got bids on natural gas generators to run the township buildings at 3804 S. Adrian Hwy, at \$41,000. from Deere Electric, if ordered now would probably not arrived until mid to late summer of 2022. Motion by Bales, supported by Benschoter to make this natural gas generator purchase from Deere Electric for \$41,000 with funds from ARPA grant. Motion carried with 7-0 vote.

Motion by Bales, supported by Carpenter to purchase a natural gas generator for the Walmart Sewer Lift Station from AEG at a cost of \$43,000 with funds from the ARPA grant. Motion carried with 7-0 vote.

Motion by Bales, supported by Rodgers to approve the spending of up to \$26,000 in costs to get the specifications for a test well from engineers, from bids taken, and the funds would come from the ARPA grant. Motion carried with 7-0 vote.

Motion by Bales, supported by Rodgers to approve the township spending of \$60,000 for the extension of the water main line and new hydrant at the old Bohn property on E. Maumee St. funded by ARPA grant. Motion carried with 7-0 vote.

Motion by Benschoter, supported by Bales that township approve the spending of \$170,800 of ARPA funds for the four projects approved. Question on the motion by Carpenter, in which he stated that maybe we shouldn't use ARPA funds for the E. Maumee project as that money will be replaced to the township rather quickly, due to income from the marijuana business, and we may want to use the ARPA funds for other projects, such as wells. Roll call vote was called on motion as stated. Roll Call vote: Griewahn, No; Gregg, No; Moden, No; Rodgers, Yes; Benschoter, Yes; Carpenter, No; and Bales, Yes. Motion failed 3-4.

Motion by Griewahn, supported by Benschoter that township approve the spending of \$110,800 of ARPA funds, and not include the E. Maumee St. water main and hydrant project in the ARPA expenditure. Roll Call vote: Griewahn, Yes; Gregg, Yes; Moden, Yes; Rodgers, No; Benschoter, No; Carpenter, Yes; and Bales, No. Motion carried 4-3.

LEGAL UPDATE: Township lawyer, Fred Lucas gave the Board an update on various issues that he has been tasked to work on. He stated that the removal of the hunting blind that had been built on Township property without permission has not been removed in the stated amount of time given. At this point it is a matter of if the township wants him to pursue a law suit to have it removed. After discussion, a motion by Rodgers, supported by Bales to file a lawsuit on behalf of the township for the removal of hunting blind. Motion carried with 7-0 vote.



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Quick update on tax tribunal and the work of Hallahan law firm on the township's behalf, discussion was on whether the cost of legal help out-weighed the benefit from fighting these tax reductions for the township. Most of the benefit of fighting them lays with the County and Schools and not for the Township. Fred agreed that the township's benefit is very minimal in these cases.

Delinquent sewer and taxes on abandoned home in Airport Subdivision will be put on taxes for the property. If at some time an estate is opened on the property by family members we can recoup our costs, or if it goes to the County for delinquent taxes and is auctioned off we can recoup the money them. Doesn't want township to open an estate or start a lawsuit, more cost effective to let it take it natural course with County.

OLD BUSINESS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

2022 BUDGET: Motion by Gregg, supported by Benschoter to approve the 2022 proposed budget as presented at the earlier Public Hearing. Roll Call vote: Griewahn, Yes; Gregg, Yes; Moden, Yes; Rodgers, Yes; Benschoter, Yes; Carpenter, Yes; and Bales, Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

Discussion: Bales raised the subject of our agreement with Adrian Twp. regarding the use of Madison Tw[Building Inspector and Zoning Official by them and the cost sharing of his services. He wanted it made clear that Dave Rincon is a Madison Twp employee and that Adrian Twp is only paying for his contracted services as Building Inspector and Zoning Official to Adrian Twp. He stated that we may want to revisit the wording in that agreement with Adrian Twp so that is much clearer stated. The Personnel Committee is to look into it.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS CHANGES:

Motion by Griewahn, supported by Bales to add Becky Liedel to the Zoning Board of Appeals and to make Wayne Smith the Chairperson, due to the resignation of John McKeon, previous chairperson. Motion carried in 7-0 vote.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS:

Carpenter: Reported on his attendance at the River Raisin Council Semi-Annual Mtg. – As a non-profit organization there will be monies from grants that will be used for various projects around the county, such as dam removal in Brooklyn, and Kayak put in/put outs along the Raisin River in the next 5-8 years.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:



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Resident Ryan Rank asked Griewahn why he voted “no” on looking internal for Fire Chief position. Answer from Griewahn, he stated he felt we should look outside.

Ryan also questioned how much money had already been spent on the tax tribunal issues at this point. No one had a definitive answer without looking it up. He also asked if Madison School had paid anything toward the defense, and the answer was “no”. Also, the county has not paid anything to the board’s knowledge. Ryan then asked the board why dump money into the defense if we aren’t gaining anything from it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT/RECESS: Motion by Rodgers, seconded by Benschoter, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-Yes, 0-No. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Submitted by:

Janet Moden
Township Clerk