



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON

Gary Griewahn
Supervisor
Janet Moden
Clerk
Harold Gregg
Treasurer

3804 S. ADRIAN HIGHWAY
ADRIAN, MI 49221
517-263-9313 Fax: 517-263-4569

TRUSTEES
Howard Bales
Matt Carpenter
Ralph Benschoter
Larry Liedel

Madison Township Board Meeting Held in Person and Electronically due to Covid-19 restrictions from Gov. Whitmer Minutes of May 11, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Gary Griewahn. The pledge to the American Flag was said by all. The Public Hearing on the Rivers Edge Condo Streetlight assessment was opened. The resolution by the Board was read by Griewahn that was passed at the April 13, 2021, the clerk read the Public Hearing notice as it was published in the Daily Telegram and our website. The supervisor opened the meeting up to public comments from attending members of the public, 12 members were from Rivers Edge. Many questions were asked and answered mainly around exactly how the township would bill the cost of the streetlights, when the assessment will start and how it will be handled. There were no negative comments or suggestions. Hearing was closed at 6:58 p.m.

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

ROLL CALL:

Present in person: Griewahn, Moden, Liedel, Benschoter, Carpenter and Bales. Gregg by Zoom

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF April 27, 2021:

Motion by Bales, supported by Benschoter, to dispense reading and approve Special Board meeting minutes of 4/27/21. Roll Call Vote taken: : Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion carried 7-0.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Motion by Gregg, seconded by Carpenter to remove the Treasures report this month from the Consent Agenda due to Treasurer's illness. Roll Call Vote taken: : Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Griewahn, supported by Carpenter to add to New Business a resolution for Consumers Energy regarding streetlight removal. Roll Call Vote taken: : Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion carried 7-0.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: Clerk Moden read a letter from Habitat for Humanity regarding their expansion and office move and their appreciation for our support as a township in making it a smooth transition for them.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS: Sarah Rafko, from our Auditors, Cooley, Hehl, Sabo and Caulkins presented a summary of our 2020 final audit. After going over details of the audit, summarized that financially the township is in very good shape and noted that improved accounting practices have helped to achieve this goal.

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to approve a consent agenda minus the treasurer's report and bills by Liedel, supported by Benschoter. Roll Call Vote taken: Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Dept. Head Contracts:

Discussion began with Gregg stating that he had not received copies of the newly amended contracts by email. He was immediately sent a copy of Rank's contract. It was stated that we have approximately \$193,000 in unfunded liabilities including the union employees right now. Currently we have accrued in this year's budget \$49,000 toward those unfunded benefits. It was stated that it would make sense to make some decision on the purchase of STD/LTD disability benefits before the contracts are settled, if not it will require us to come back later and open these contracts to make changes that could be made now. Moden stated that she had been in touch with MERS, the retirement group, asking about any opportunities they may have for our employees that would be paid out their Paid Leave/Sick Time could put their money that would avoid taxes. She stated that the only way they could shelter the money would be to put it in a Health Care Savings Program for their use to pay the cost of premiums, co-pays and or deductibles once they retire. There was a question as to whether everyone's contract stated that they got \$2500.00 Education stipend, or just Ryan Rank. After discussion it was decided that each dept head would be different, depending on their needs and budgeted education in their departments. Another question asked was if the contract verbiage took precedence over the handbook rules. Lucas stated that contracts always take primary, and the handbook is secondary.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON

A motion by Liedel, supported by Benschoter to accept the contracts as submitted. Question on the motion to amend it to do them separately. Liedel agreed, Amended the motion by Carpenter, supported by Benschoter to review and approve the dept head contracts separately. Motion to approve a consent agenda by Liedel, supported by Gregg. Roll Call Vote taken: Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

The first contract was for Ryan Rank, Fire Chief. There was a correction to be made for a typo of the word “Village” instead of Township. The hours of vacation per year need to be changed to reflect the same as the handbook with the additional for 25+ years. Motion by Bales, supported by Benschoter, that the board approve the contract with the above changes for a four-year duration. Roll Call Vote taken: Griewahn-No, Gregg-No, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion Carried 5-2.

The second contract was for Tim Watterson, Public Works Superintendent. There was a correction to be made for a typo of the word “Village” instead of Township. The hours of vacation per year need to be changed to reflect the same as the handbook with the additional for 25+ years. The educational stipend in 7.6 should be changed to \$1000.00. Motion by Bales, supported by Benschoter, that the board approve the contract with the above changes for a four-year duration. Roll Call Vote taken: Griewahn-No, Gregg-No, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion Carried 5-2.

The third contract was for Mike Shadbolt, Police Chief. There was a correction to be made for a typo of the word “Village” instead of Township. The 7.5 Education stipend should be struck entirely. The hours of vacation per year need to be changed to reflect the same as the handbook with the additional for 25+ years. Motion by Bales, supported by Benschoter, that the board approve the contract with the above changes for a four-year duration. Roll Call Vote taken: Griewahn-No, Gregg-No, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion Carried 5-2.

The fourth contract was for Dave Rincon, Building Official. There was a correction to be made for a typo of the word “Village” instead of Township. The hours of vacation per year need to be changed to reflect the same as the handbook with the additional for 25+ years. The first annual wage as an exempt employee should be \$62,800, which includes zoning responsibilities also. During the discussion on education stipends, a motion was made by Bales, supported by Carpenter, that the board wait until the June board meeting until Dave is present to further discuss his education needs before his contract is approved. Roll Call Vote taken: Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION RE: CONSUMERS ENERGY REMOVAL OF STREETLIGHT AT SAND CREEK HWY AND BEECHER RD. INTERSECTION

A resolution was read by Griewahn that authorized Consumers Energy Co. to make changes in the lighting service as provided in the Standard Lighting Contract between Consumers Energy and Madison Charter Township dated 11/1/2018. A motion to accept and adopt this resolution by Bales, supported by Benschoter. Roll Call Vote taken: Griewahn-Yes, Gregg-Yes, Moden-Yes, Benschoter-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, Liedel- Yes and Bales-Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

POULTRY LIMITATIONS:

There have been 2-3 inquires in the last week about the rules on having chickens in Residential zoned areas of the township. Currently poultry is not allowed in Residential areas, and after discussion of the board members about the Right to Farm Act in Ag zoning, none of the board members felt that the current zoning needed to be changed for the Residential areas at this point. No further action on this subject.

OPERABLE CARS PER ACRE:

There is a resident that owns 3 acres in Ag zoned, that has requested the board to consider allowing property owners to not be in violation of the number of cars allowed to be parked on the owner's property. Currently all vehicles that are inoperable must be behind a fence or in a shed, barn or garage. The board members felt that the current zoning did not need to be changed at this time. No further action on this subject.

AG ZONED GRASS CUTTING:

Currently only Residential zoning areas have enforceable ordinances regarding the required cutting of grass. Some areas even in Residential are difficult to enforce, such as wildflower yards. The board felt that it would be difficult to distinguish the area of required mowing in the Ag zoned areas. No further action on this subject.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS:

Liedel: This is the first for Madison Twp. having all of the dept heads under contracts, dept heads are valued employees.

Benschoter: Suggested that we get Amanda Brown from First Insurance down here and get the new handbook wrapped up for \$500 with all of the board members here.

Moden: Asked when we were going to make a decision on STD/LTD benefits, should be on next month agenda.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: Ryan Rank made the board aware that there could soon be an opening on the fire dept. full time, Jake Munger may be leaving for Dearborn Fire. He stated that he has set up an eligibility list to take applications that is good for a year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT/RECESS:

Motion by Benschoter, seconded by Griewahn, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-Yes, 0-No. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by:

Janet Moden
Township Clerk