

## MINUTES

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BRIGHTON  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
4363 BUNO ROAD  
BRIGHTON, MI 48114**

**JANUARY 12, 2017  
REGULAR WORK SESSION BUDGET MEETING  
7:00 P.M.  
(810) 229.0560**

Supervisor P. Michel called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Present: P. Michel, Supervisor; A. Bollin, Clerk; R. Drouillard, Treasurer; S. Combs, Trustee; S. Theis, Trustee; M. Slaton, Trustee

Absent: L. Weaire, Trustee

## CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mike Palmer, East Grand River – Call to the Public rules/ First Amendment Rights. January 9, 2017 Utilities Committee - recommendation on sewer rates. Referenced Manager's memo and recent FOIA response that included July 6, 2004 attorney memo regarding SELCRA incompatibility of offices.

Cheryl Guard, Point Dr. – Allotted 3 minutes to Mike Palmer.

Mike Palmer, East Grand River – FOIA request for letter to State Representative Lana Theis requesting AG opinion. BTBT has fiduciary duty, remove liaisons from SELCRA Board. Referenced letter from City of Brighton on their withdrawal from SELCRA.

Dennis Shoner, Woodland Shore Dr. – Allotted 3 minutes to Mike Palmer.

Mike Palmer, East Grand River – Letter from City of Brighton should have gone to all BTBT members.

Jim Sarna, Woodland Shore Dr. – Attorney General Open Meetings Act encourages public expression, right to express opinion and speak. Capacity of sewer plant being utilized and referenced Livingston Daily article.

Barb Potocki, Woodland Shore Dr. – Allotted 3 minutes to Jim Sarna.

Jim Sarna, Woodland Shore Dr. – Referenced documents and email from Drain Commissioner.

Bob Potocki, Woodland Shore Dr. – Distributed handout; Township has not invested in infrastructure; user rates.

Jan Black, School Lake Dr. – Allotted 3 minutes to Mike Palmer.

Mike Palmer, East Grand River – Referenced previously distributed document regarding his metered water through F.I.B. billing. Treasurer, R. Drouillard, has conflict of interest; shouldn't take action on closed session sewer item.

## AGENDA

A. Bollin moved and R. Drouillard seconded **to approve the agenda as presented adding Agenda Item F.3. Tax Tribunal Appeal by Mann Investments to the Closed Executive Session, Agenda Items F. 1. and F.2.**

Motion carried.

**CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION – 1. Trial or Settlement Strategy in Connection with litigation specifically Dennis Shoner and Barbara Potocki et al v. Brighton Township including Written Legal Communication from Attorney Dykema dated January 9, 2017 2. Written Legal Communication from Attorney Harris dated January 9, 2017 3. Tax Tribunal Appeal by Mann Investments**

A. Bollin moved and S. Theis seconded **to go into closed executive session to discuss Agenda Items F. 1, F. 2, and F. 3 as stated on the approved agenda.**

Ayes: S. Theis, S. Combs, R. Drouillard, A. Bollin, M. Slaton, P. Michel

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

**The Board went into closed executive session at 7:32 P.M.**

**The Board returned to open session at 10:00 P.M.**

S. Theis moved and R. Drouillard seconded **to approve the Township Attorney to negotiate the escrow of REU's No. 7 and 8 with Mann Investments and the corresponding quarterly billing for pending decision on the MTT appeal and to allow the prospective tenants to move into the building.**

Motion carried.

#### REVIEW OF SANITARY SEWER RATES – FY' 2017-18

Manager Vick and Ken Palka, Pfeffer, Hanniford, and Palka, provided an overview of the proposed Sanitary Sewer Rates including a summary of the Utilities Committee recommendations, incorporation of the adopted Asset Management Plan, and debt obligations. Discussion included past history, estimated legal costs could be reduced, the recommended level of reserves, proposed increase is high, additional loan, past practices for enterprise funds (self-supporting) and public hearing time frames. Consensus was to advertise Scenario #2 with the reduction of estimated legal costs (reduce to \$150,000) for the public hearing to be held on February 23, 2017 (two board members will be absent on February 4, 2017). Public hearing will be televised.

#### STATUS OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

Manager Vick presented background on the Request for Qualifications for Engineering Services process and presented several options for moving forward. Brief discussion included the interview process, the application process, separate fee submittals and month-to-month extension with OHM. Consensus is to have a small group (Manager, Planner, Assistant to the Manager, Clerk Bollin, and Supervisor Michel) conduct a preliminary review and narrow it down to 3-5 companies to be interviewed by the full Board of Trustees. Manager will notify the Applicants of the process for moving forward.

#### REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED CHANGES – SELCRA Articles of Incorporation

A. Bollin moved and S. Combs seconded to table the review and discussion of the proposed changes to the SELCRA Articles of Incorporation.

Ayes: S. Theis, S. Combs, R. Drouillard, A. Bollin, M. Slaton, P. Michel

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

#### 2017-18 BUDGET PLANNING – Proposed Draft Budget / Capital Improvement Plan

Manager Vick stated the January 23, 2017 Regular Work Budget Session will be dedicated to the review of the proposed budget and that the Board will have all new inserts and updated numbers to fully review.

#### CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Bob Potocki, Woodland Shore Dr. – Disappointed that the BTBT doesn't listen to the Utilities Committee. Board is not acting on the best interest of the community, people are being penalized, Board is wrong.

Jim Sarna, Woodland Shore Dr. – 10 REU's is not realistic to reach plant capacity. Why isn't Sandila on sewer? How can I get off sewer and back on septic system?

Jan Black, School Lake – Forced onto sewer that was over-sized - Why are we still paying?

#### ADJOURNMENT

S. Theis moved and A. Bollin seconded **to adjourn.** Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:04 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Ann M. Bollin, CMC, CMMC, Clerk

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Patrick Michel, Supervisor