

## MINUTES

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

**JANUARY 23, 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; M. Slaton, Trustee; L. Weaire, Trustee

Absent: S. Theis, Trustee

## CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mike Palmer, East Grand River – Stop discretionary spending; use PEG money to educate the public. Referenced FOIA response including \$956,000 paid to SELCRA; doesn't think it was legal; Attorney General and Attorney Harris opinions; referenced 2014 SELCRA minutes; appointed people in conflict of Act; stop violating Act; stop excessive spending.

Barb Potocki, Woodland Shore Drive – Allotted 3 minutes to Mike Palmer.

Mike Palmer, East Grand River – 2015 SELCRA funding shortfall; two communities pulled out; stop discretionary spending; stop pensions for part-time elected officials – full-time okay; stop payment in lieu of health care. Represent us in representative way; two appeals were denied because of timing and incompetence; \$37 million liability.

Jim Sarna, Woodland Shore Drive – Referenced Policy 209; legal response; referenced President Trump's speech.

Bob Potocki, Woodland Shore Drive – Disapproved of killing of swans resolution approved at last meeting. \$7.8 million needed for grinder pumps; are there cost reduction opportunities? What about finding a solution for excess capacity at the Plant? Referenced HRC report from ~ 2000; wages need to be approved by voters.

Dennis Shoner - Allotted 3 minutes to Bob Potocki.

Bob Potocki, Woodland Shore Drive – Treasurer and Clerk are underpaid; Township doesn't need a manager; get rid of his wages; this is big government. Planner is Economic Development - not protecting citizens. Safety has been affected by development.

Cheryl Guard, Pointe Drive – Owns two (2) lots and is in the original sewer SAD; provided additional information regarding what vacant property owners within the original district expected to pay when they hooked up their vacant lots to sewer; unaware of Policy 807; believes her vacant lot is exempt from Policy 807; policy not on the website; referenced policies at time of SAD inception. Name calling goes both ways, Trustees did not stand up against former Supervisors' name calling.

Sam Raguso, Hilton Road – Don't double dip residents; policies are kept hidden; not found through title company and no notice to users; wrong to keep policies hidden.

## AGENDA

A. Bollin moved and S. Combs seconded **to approve the agenda as presented.**

Motion carried.

## BILLS

A. Bollin moved and L. Weaire seconded **to approve the January 23, 2017 bills as presented.**

Motion carried.

#### DISCRETIONARY INCREASE

Manager Vick provided background on the wage compensation study/analysis completed several years ago inclusive of day-to-day operational staff and referenced some of the findings including most (but not all) personnel in the study fell 12% below the market average among comparable communities, adopted Board policies for a phased approach to bring employee wages to the mid-range and annual review of the CPI U Midwest index in order to adjust the scale so that the study could serve as a tool moving forward. Manager recommended the wage analysis be revisited and that wage adjustments be made for inflation or inflation plus merit as indicated on agenda note. Discussion included clarification that his recommendation was based on the personnel included in the study; adjustments for supervisor and trustees (not included in the original study) were made in Fall 2015 and had not been adjusted for approximately seven to ten years prior to that time; desire to outsource the study update to maintain integrity of the original study and numerous outstanding projects needing completion; timing of the study; retroactive wage increases; not much has changed by way of job duties; and monies are included in the current budget for the proposed adjustments. Board requested that all new members receive a copy of the completed study and the updated scale showing where current employees fall on the scale be distributed to all Board members. Discussion also included what efforts have been made to reduce expenses or reduce costs. A summary of previous policy initiatives was presented.

**A. Bollin moved and P. Michel seconded to accept the recommendation of the Township Manager to allocate the budgeted discretionary increase from Account 101.101.716.600 to the respective departments to reflect the following: Inflation + Merit (2.8%): Accountant, Assessor, Assistant Assessor, Receptionist, Assessing Clerk, Clerk Assistant, Deputy Clerk, Assistant to the Manager, and Planner. Inflation (1.8%): Clerk, Treasurer, Treasurer Clerk and to include the same inflation increase (1.8%) for the Board of Trustees and Supervisor and to direct the manager to pursue a study to update the wage and compensation study by an external source by June 1, 2017.**

Ayes: L. Weaire, R. Drouillard, A. Bollin, P. Michel

Nays: S. Combs, M. Slaton

Motion carried.

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

Manager Vick explained that wage figures would be updated based on Board action and led the budget review and discussion noting the projected General Fund revenues which include property taxes, Revenue Sharing, Planning and Zoning fees, PEG/Franchise fees. Revenues will be adjusted to reflect upcoming May Hartland Consolidated Schools election; notes updated to explain updated Large Item Tag program. Manager noted several items warranting future discussion including participation in the City Village Township Revenue Sharing program and rejoining the Economic Development Council of Livingston County's economic development initiative with SPARK. Legislative (101-101) includes monies for education for Board members, no major staff changes are anticipated, Clerk/Elections fluctuate due to number of elections in any given year, Planning fluctuates due to development activity, and Code Enforcement is reactive.

Manager continued with review of various departments citing this was an overview and some items will require additional discussion and/or approval specifically noting Other Charges (299) MERS Adjustment due to new assumptions and how this will be distributed and paid for and monies for purchase of a new vehicle with the Blazer being auctioned off. Also discussed the purchase of PEG encoder for AT & T with cable franchise monies and a request that the television in the lobby be replaced as soon as possible.

Discussion continued with the Fire Department (336) noting need for a new soffit at Station No. 32 and parking lot upgrade. Planning (400) discussion included update of Pathway Plan; Drains (445) and future capital work on Drain No. 4; Parks and Recreation (751) – waiting for SELCRA budget to be submitted per Articles of Incorporation by January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Also discussed Transfers (999) and the timing of said transfers by the end of the Second Quarter so they are incorporated in the first draft of the budget due December 1. Municipal Water Fund (405) - consideration of a commodity fee adjustment as previously discussed and based on the Township's obligations.

The Board recessed for five (5) minutes.

Manager provided overview of the Sewer Funds and noted the current budget draft did not include the proposed rate increase – it will be updated following the public hearing and applicable Board action; seal coating of the parking lot – staff to obtain a quote; status of a CMMS tracking system; and upcoming contract expiration and solicitation for O & M services.

Future Road Improvements (792) will be discussed in more detail during review of the revisions to the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Manager noted the next meeting will focus on the Capital Improvement Plan, Economic Development participation, health insurance, water commodity change and roads following the public hearing on February 23, 2017.

#### CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Bob Potocki, Woodland Shore Drive – Meetings should be video streamed; Elected Officials can't vote themselves increases; Board removed power of the people to approve wages in 1995; this was illegal. Numerous FOIA's because of secrets and hidden information. Consultants are hired when there is no confidence in staff; sewers should be turned back to the County who built and owns them; how can you go to public hearing on February 23 when you don't have the numbers.

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

Bob Potocki, Woodland Shore Dr. – Jacoby Road and culvert problems – pet project. Been asking for money for three (3) years for the Woodland Lake Bridge, corruption involved, people died. Supervisor's salary is disproportionate compared with Livingston County Board of Commissioner wages.

#### ADJOURNMENT

L. Weaire moved and R. Drouillard seconded **to adjourn**. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ann M. Bollin, CMC, CMMC, Clerk

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Patrick Michel, Supervisor