

**EAST CHINA CHARTER TOWNSHIP
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS (TELEPHONIC PUBLIC MEETING)**

MAY 18th, 2020

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Simons at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL –

Present – Supervisor Larry Simons, Clerk Robert Freehan, Treasurer Donald Beaudua, Trustee Angelo Patsalis, Trustee Donald Horn, and Trustee Herbert Blackstock

Absent – Trustee Deborah Babel

Also, in attendance – Township Manager Cynthia Paparelli, DPW Supervisor Blayn Szyska

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Supervisor Simons.

(ALL ACTIONS REQUIRE ROLL CALL VOTE)

APPROVE TENTATIVE AGENDA – Motion by Trustee Patsalis, supported by Trustee Blackstock to approve the tentative agenda with the addition of NB-3 Sandbag Policy, and the reversing of the numbering of Consent Agenda Items C-2 and C-3. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Beaudua, Patsalis, Horn, Blackstock, Freehan. Nays – None. Absent – Babel. Motion passed.

APPROVE MINUTES – Motion by Treasurer Beaudua, supported by Trustee Horn to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 4th, 2020. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes -- Simons, Beaudua, Patsalis, Horn, Blackstock, Freehan. Nays – None. Absent – Babel. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT — None

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion by Treasurer Beaudua, supported by Clerk Freehan to receive the following reports:

April 2020 Park Commission Meeting Minutes; 2020 St. Clair Area Fire Authority Run Report; April 2020 Marine City Area Fire Authority Run Report. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Beaudua, Patsalis, Horn, Blackstock, Freehan. Nays – None. Absent – Babel. Motion passed

DISBURSEMENTS – Motion by Treasurer Beaudua, supported by Trustee Horn to approve payments of Accounts Payable in the amount of \$26,884.71, Payroll (Direct Deposit) of \$37,832.51, EFT's of \$44,817.40 for Total Disbursements of \$109,534.62. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Beaudua, Patsalis, Horn, Blackstock, Freehan. Nays – None. Absent – Babel. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

1. 114 Loretta request utility bill penalty waived. Motion by Clerk Freehan, supported by Treasurer Beaudua to deny the request for utility bill late fee for 114 Loretta to be waived. Request made by party other than property owner on back of paid bill. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Beaudua, Patsalis, Blackstock, Freehan. Nays – Horn. Absent – Babel. Motion passed.

2. DPW –Discussion of proposed hiring of new employee. DPW Supervisor, Township Manager and Supervisor provided information about department’s increased work load, insufficient time to complete reports and long-range planning, EGLE recommendations, Miss Dig and cemetery work requests, new state statutory duties and other issues. Motion by Clerk Freehan, supported by Trustee Patsalis to request the Township Supervisor, DPW Supervisor and Township Manager meet to prepare by the June 1 Board meeting a specific proposal detailing the position title/level, job functions and total costs for a full-time new hire in the DPW. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Beaudua, Patsalis, Horn, Blackstock. Nays – None. Absent – Babel. Motion passed.

3. Sandbag Policy. Supervisor Simons notified the Board he had authorized purchase of 12,000 sandbags from Clay Township at \$.18 each. Motion by Clerk Freehan, supported by Trustee Blackstock to establish a policy effective immediately to sell sandbags at the Township’s cost, limit the purchase to 100 bags per residence (exceptions require approval of the Supervisor or Township Manager), costs to be paid before receipt of the bags. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Beaudua, Patsalis, Horn, Blackstock, Freehan. Nays – None. Absent – Babel. Motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS –

Supervisor Simons said the staff is back in all the buildings/departments working their regular schedule with required health and safety precautions in effect. All Township Buildings remain closed to the public. He also announced that there were no new cases of Covid-19 reported today in St. Clair County.

Township Manager Paparelli announced that curbside chipping will be held on Wednesday, May 20. Information is on the Township website.

MEMBER COMMENTS --

Clerk Freehan said that the Township is mailing out this week almost 1,000 applications for absentee ballots for the Aug. 4 Primary Election to registered voters on the Permanent Absentee Voter List. He encouraged all registered voters to vote by absentee ballot to reduce in-person voting wait times and health/safety issues related to social distancing and mask requirements that will likely be in place for the Primary. Applications can be obtained by calling or writing the Township Clerk’s Office or online at Michigan.gov/Secretary of State.

Treasurer Beaudua requested his name be added as being in attendance when Resolutions 7-2020 and 8-2020 were adopted at the May 4, 2020 Board meeting. Clerk Freehan said the correction will be made in the official record.

Trustees Patsalis, Horn and Blackstock encouraged everyone to stay safe and healthy. Trustee Blackstock said he looked forward to when the Board could get together in person for Board meetings.

Clerk Freehan said that logistics need to be worked out for social distancing and broadcasting in the Board Room before meetings could be held there. He recommended the June 1 meeting be held telephonically which was agreed upon.

Supervisor Simons complimented all Township staff for doing a great job keeping the township services operational during the Covid-19 restrictions. He is working on getting quotes for a glass partition with document pass-through installed on the public counter in the Township Hall to provide health and safety security for staff during public transactions. He also said work should be starting soon on the Pointe Drive forcemain and lift station project.

ADJOURN - Motion by Treasurer Beaudua, supported by Trustee Patsalis to adjourn the meeting at 8:37pm. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Freehan, Beaudua, Patsalis, Horn, Babel, Blackstock. Nays – None. Motion passed.

Larry Simons, Supervisor

Robert Freehan, Clerk

APPROVED