

EAST CHINA CHARTER TOWNSHIP

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

JULY 6, 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, Trustee Angelo Patsalis, Trustee Deborah Babel, and Trustee Herbert Blackstock

Absent: Treasurer Donald Beaudua, Trustee Donald Horn

Also in attendance: Township Manager Cynthia Paparelli; six visitors

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Supervisor Simons.

APPROVE AGENDA – Motion by Trustee Blackstock, supported by Trustee Babel to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion passed.

APPROVE MINUTES – Motion by Trustee Patsalis, supported by Trustee Babel to approve the minutes of June 15, 2020 as submitted. Motion passed

PUBLIC COMMENT – One person requested that the zoning ordinance limiting the housing of chickens be revised to allow chickens on one or more acres. (The Board referred the request and documents to the Planning Commission.)

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion by Trustee Blackstock, supported by Trustee Patsalis to receive the following reports: May 2020 St. Clair Area Fire Authority Report; June 2020 St. Clair River SE/WA Authority Meeting Minutes; June 2020 Building Department Report; May 2020 Revenue and Expenditure Report; St. Clair County Sheriff's Quarterly Activity Report; June 2020 Marine City Area Fire. (Undersheriff Buckley emphasized how the Sheriff's Department technology helped with the fatal car crash investigation that occurred in the Township recently. Excellent field work by the deputy assigned to the Township also helped locate a man with dementia who was lost in cold weather.) Motion passed.

DISBURSEMENTS -- Motion by Trustee Patsalis, supported by Trustee Babel to approve payment of Invoices in the amount of \$ 31,176.72; Accounts Payable \$ 113,154.40; Payroll \$ 72,135.71; Payroll EFT's \$ 60,786.52 for Total Disbursements of \$ 281,462.26. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Freehan, Patsalis, Babel, Blackstock. Nays – None. Absent – Beaudua, Horn. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Asset Management Software. MPower representatives presented an overview of the GIS data base system software for utility mapping and asset management (maintenance, interface, replacement, sizing) of the water system. This software is designed to ensure that the water system is considering all costs as the Township plans for the future. The township's current data is static and 10 years old. MPower was one of three software packages reviewed. It integrates best with the Township's BS&A software. Cost would be \$33,600. The Board requested evaluations from other municipal/township

users as well as additional information about similar software being used by neighboring communities in St. Clair County.

2. FEMA Grant. Motion by Trustee Blackstock, supported by Trustee Babel to approve a proposal from PCE in the amount of \$3,456.00 to amend the FEMA grant for future grant applications. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Freehan, Patsalis, Blackstock, Babel. Nays – None. Absent – Beaudua, Horn. Motion passed.
3. DPW New Truck Quotes. Motion by Trustee Patsalis, supported by Trustee Blackstock to approve the purchase of a 2020 GMC Sierra 3500HD (TK30903) 4WD Reg Cab 142” pickup truck including a Western 8’ Pro Plus Snowplow, rubber snow deflector, 4-corner strobe lights, roof mounted strobe light bar and the Service Utility Body instead of a Pickup Bed from Todd Wenzel Buick GMC for a total cost of \$ 49,429.00. The cost is provided for in the DPW budget. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Babel, Blackstock, Freehan, Simons, Patsalis. Nays – none. Absent – Beaudua, Horn. Motion passed.
4. 2021 Road Projects – The Board discussed possible projects for the annual St. Clair County 2021 Local Road Funding Assistance Program. Motion by Trustee Blackstock, supported by Trustee Babel to designate the south portion of Belle River Road as the recommended project for the 2021 Program and prepare resolution for approval. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Patsalis, Simons, Freehan, Blackstock, Babel. Nays – None. Absent – Beaudua, Horn. Motion passed.
5. Urban Drive Lift Station Flow Sensor Cable. Motion by Trustee Patsalis, supported by Trustee Blackstock to approve purchase of a 20 meter flow meter sensor cable for the Urban Drive Lift Station from Lower 48 at a cost of \$2424.56 plus \$500 to PCE for assisting in the relocation of the flow meter to the cabinet. (Included is a discussion by the Supervisor with PCE for reduction of the \$500 time and material charge due to possible engineering oversight). ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Freehan, Patsalis, Babel, Blackstock. Nays – none. Absent – Beaudua, Horn. Motion passed.
6. Institute Attendance Request – Wendy Meldrum Deputy Clerk/Secretary. Motion by Trustee Patsalis, supported by Clerk Freehan to approve Deputy Clerk/Secretary Wendy Meldrum’s attendance at the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerk’s Annual Institute Aug. 16-21 at a cost of \$700 plus incidental expenses. (The registration fee will be offset by a \$500 scholarship from the St. Clair County Clerks Association.) ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Patsalis, Simons, Freehan, Blackstock, Babel. Nays – none. Absent – Beaudua, Horn. Motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Simons said the tentative date for closing Meisner Road Bridge is July 13 with a possible three month down time.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Patsalis asked about any work scheduled for the bike path? Supervisor Simons said there is work scheduled but didn’t have specifics yet.

Clerk Freehan said that nearly 700 Absentee Ballots have been sent to those who submitted applications. He encouraged registered voters to consider voting absentee because lines may be long due to required social distancing for both voters and election inspectors. Registered voters can call the Township offices for and absentee ballot application.

Trustee Blackstock said it was nice to be meeting together in public again.

Trustee Babel said sections of the bike path need to be trimmed.

Supervisor Simons said the township is looking into master meters to be installed between East China and China Townships to better measure the flow of water. He also said future Board meetings will continue "in person."

ADJOURN -- Motion by Trustee Babel, supported by Trustee Blackstock to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Motion passed.

Larry Simons, Supervisor

Robert Freehan, Clerk

APPROVED