

REGULAR MEETING**April 27, 2021****PERE MARQUETTE CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

held at 1699 S. Pere Marquette Highway, Ludington MI 49431

Board members present: Supervisor Gerald Bleau; Clerk Rachele Enbody; Treasurer Karie Bleau; Trustees: Andrew Kmetz, James Nordlund, Sr., Henry Rasmussen, and Ronald Soberalski.

Also present: One guest.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by the Supervisor. Invocation was given by Nordlund; Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Moved by Rasmussen, seconded by K. Bleau to approve the April 13, 2021 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Moved by G. Bleau, seconded by Enbody to add Item I. "Police Week Resolution" to the agenda and approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: Board members received a letter from the Michigan Department of Treasury regarding planning for the use of the American Rescue Plan.

NEW BUSINESS: A. **Proclamation – Public Service Recognition Week** – The following proclamation was offered by Enbody and supported by Soberalski:

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

In honor of the millions of public employees at the federal, state, county, township and city levels:

Whereas: Americans are served every single day by public servants at the federal, state, county, township and city levels. These unsung heroes do the work that keeps our nation working. Their tireless efforts are especially critical today during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas: Public employees take not only jobs, but oaths;

Whereas: Many public servants, including military personnel, police officers, firefighters, municipal employees, border patrol officers, embassy employees, health care professionals and other, risk their lives each day in service to the people of the United States and around the world;

Whereas: Public servants include teachers, doctors and scientists, train conductors and astronauts, nurses and safety inspectors, laborers, computer technicians and social workers and countless other occupations. Day in and day out they provide the diverse services demanded by the American people of their government with efficiency and integrity; and

Whereas: Without these public servants at every level, continuity would be impossible in a democracy that regularly changes its leaders and elected officials;

Therefore: I, the Supervisor of Pere Marquette Charter Township of Ludington, MI do hereby announce and proclaim to all citizens and set seal hereto, that May 2nd – 8th, 2021 is Public Service Recognition Week. All citizens are encouraged to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of government employees at all levels – federal, state, county, township and city.

Proclamation declared adopted.

B. **Proclamation – 52nd Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week** – The following proclamation was offered by Soberalski and supported by K. Bleau:

Proclamation
52nd ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK
May 2 - May 8, 2021

Whereas, The Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk, a time honored and vital part of local government exists throughout the world, and

Whereas, The Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk is the oldest among public servants, and

Whereas, The Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels, and

Whereas, Professional Municipal Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all.

Whereas, The Professional Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community.

Whereas, Professional Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, provincial, county and international professional organizations.

Whereas, It is most appropriate that we recognize the accomplishments of the Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk.

Now, Therefore, The Pere Marquette Charter Township Board of Trustees, recognizes the week of May 2 through May 8, 2021, as Professional Municipal Clerks Week, and further extend appreciation to all Professional Municipal Clerks for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.

Proclamation declared adopted.

C. **Proclamation – Building Safety Month** – The following proclamation was offered by K. Bleau and supported by Kmetz:

Proclamation
Building Safety Month — May, 2021

Whereas, Pere Marquette Charter Township is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of disaster, and;

Whereas, our confidence in the resilience of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings, and;

Whereas, these guardians are dedicated members of the International Code Council, a nonprofit that brings together local, state and federal officials that are experts in the built environment to create and implement the highest-quality codes to protect us in the buildings where we live, learn, work, play, and;

Whereas, our nation benefits economically and technologically from using the International Codes that are developed by a national, voluntary consensus codes and standards developing organization, our government is able to avoid the high cost and complexity of developing and maintaining these codes, which are the most widely adopted building safety and fire prevention codes in the world;

Whereas, these modern building codes include safeguards to protect the public from hazards such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods and earthquakes, and;

Whereas, Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown protectors of public safety—our local code officials—who assure us of safe, sustainable, energy efficient and livable buildings that are essential to America's prosperity, and;

Whereas, "Prevent, Prepare, Protect. Building Codes Save," the theme for Building Safety Month 2021, encourages all Americans to raise awareness about the importance of safe and resilient construction; fire prevention; disaster mitigation, energy conservation; water safety; training the next generation; and new technologies in the construction industry.

Whereas, each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, people all over the world are asked to consider the commitment to improve building safety, resilience and economic investment at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus and federal agencies in protecting lives and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gerald A. Bleau, Supervisor of Pere Marquette Charter Township, State of Michigan, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2021 as Building Safety Month. Accordingly, I encourage our citizens to join with their communities in participation in Building Safety Month activities.

Proclamation declared adopted.

D. Consider Purchase Offer for LOT(s) 11, 12, & 13 of First Street Business Park –The following resolution was offered by Nordlund and supported by Soberalski:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Township owns certain real property within the Pere Marquette First Street Business Park;

WHEREAS, Nelson Family Enterprises/Nelson Industrial Construction & Engineering (the “Purchaser) made an offer to purchase certain real property commonly known as Lots 11, 12, & 13 Pere Marquette First Street Business Park (the “Property), and legally described on the attached Exhibit(s) A, B, & C for a total purchase price of Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) subject to certain terms and conditions.

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to confirm its acceptance of the Purchaser's offer to purchase the Property.

THE PERE MARQUETTE CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD RESOLVES THAT:

1. The sale of the Property to the Purchaser for stated amount is authorized.
2. The Supervisor and the Township Attorney are authorized to negotiate the details of the Offer from the Purchaser to purchase the Property.
3. The Supervisor and the Clerk are authorized to sign the documents necessary to memorialize the terms of the transaction and otherwise close the sale of the Property to the Purchaser.
4. All resolutions in conflict in whole or in part with this Resolution are revoked to the extent of such conflict.

Roll call vote: Yes: Nordlund, Kmetz, Enbody, G. Bleau, K. Bleau, Rasmussen, and Soberalski.
No: None.
Absent: None.

Resolution declared adopted.

E. Consider MDOT Excess property Disposal Notification – G. Bleau explained that Enbody received notification from MDOT of a potential release of land, specifically identified as Tract 1615 & 1616 and located along N. US 31 at the end of S. Beaune Road. MDOT is federally required to offer excess property to governmental agencies. The purchase price is required to be at current market value. An appraisal has not been completed.

Moved by Soberalski, seconded by Kmetz to **decline** the offer from MDOT to purchase excess property along N. US 31 and S. Beaune Road.

Motion carried.

F. Consider Restated Articles of Information of the WMCFDA, Inc. – G. Bleau explained that the current Articles of Incorporation were adopted in 1996 and are due to expire in 2021. The township attorney and the Fire Authority have reviewed the Articles of Incorporation and have updated them accordingly. The purpose of the Authority, as stated in the Articles, is to provide for fire protection and rescue services and for assisting the Incorporation Municipalities (Ludington, Pere Marquette Charter Township, and Hamlin Township) in providing fire protection and rescue services as described in the Articles. The term of the agreement is twenty-five years.

Moved by G. Bleau seconded by Rasmussen to adopt the Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Western Mason County Fire District Authority, Inc.

Motion carried.

G. Consider Lease Agreement – Malburg’s Sanitation Service, Inc. – K. Bleau explained that there was a change in ownership of Malburg’s Sanitation Service which prompted a review of the lease agreement. The township attorney reviewed the agreement and updated the agreement to indicate the change of ownership, to add a description of the portion of the property subject to lease along with an attached Exhibit of a photo and diagram of the leased portion, to indicate the new term of the agreement (5/1/2021 – 4/30/2024), and to increase the rental cost from \$680.00 to \$830.00 per month.

Moved by Soberalski, seconded by Rasmussen to approve the Lease Agreement between Pere Marquette Charter Township and Malburg’s Sanitation Service, Inc., to lease a portion of the premises located at 5030 W. Progress Drive for the purpose of operating a septic tank cleaning and installation business. The lease term begins May 1, 2021 and will terminate April 30, 2024 and may be renewed for successive terms upon agreement of the parties.

Motion carried.

H. Consider Request for Relief of Charges for Pool Fill – K. Bleau explained that a resident requested to have a new swim spa filled. The DPW staff installed a meter on the hydrant closest to the residence and filled the swim spa. The water was discolored and the resident requested a new fill. The hydrant was flushed and the swim spa was filled a second time. The water from the second fill was also discolored. The resident then filled the swim spa from a garden hose and were satisfied with the fill. The resident is requesting relief of the charges for both attempts at filling the swim spa and the sewer charges associated with filling the swim spa from the garden hose.

Moved by Soberalski seconded by Nordlund to approve the request from the homeowner at 1263 Hillside Drive for the relief of utility charges related to the filling of a swim spa in the amount of \$231.73.

Motion carried.

I. Police Week Resolution (added) - The following proclamation was offered by Nordlund and supported by K. Bleau:

POLICE WEEK RESOLUTION

A resolution to declare May 9-15, 2021 as Police Week in Pere Marquette Charter Township.

Whereas, In 1962, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed May 15th as Nation Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15th falls as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others, and;

Whereas, There are more than 800,000 law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including the approximately 17,000 full-time uniformed police officers in Michigan, and;

Whereas, Members of law enforcement deserve the appreciation and respect of the people of Pere Marquette Charter Township for the merit, dignity, bravery, and reliability they exhibit each and every day. We must also honor the sacrifices made by families of police officers, as each day they must face constant fear as their loved one works to protect us, and;

Whereas, In 2018 alone, 163 law enforcement officers were killed and many, many more assaulted in the line of duty across the country. The names of these dedicated public servants who made the ultimate sacrifice are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington D.C., and;

Whereas, Michigan’s and local fallen officers will never be forgotten, nor will their service to their respective communities. By choosing to commit themselves to law enforcement, these brave individuals answered the call for service and willingly put their lives in jeopardy. We commend them for recognizing service as a noble career and protecting the public safety, and also all of those who are serving without incident to date, and;

Whereas, Pere Marquette Charter Township, Michigan and all Michigan citizens have turned to members of law enforcement for assistance and support in times of distress, whether they are coping with a personal crisis or struggling through civil disorder or a natural disaster. Our communities rely on these courageous individuals when it is difficult to

stand on our own, and we are indebted to the unwavering public service of our local and state police. We are indeed fortunate and grateful for the contributions of law enforcement officers to the people of this state;

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved, that the members of this Township Board declare May 9 – 15, 2021 as Police Week in Pere Marquette Charter Township, Michigan.

We publicly salute the service of law enforcement officers in our community as well as those of our state and nation and honor police who place their lives on the line for the safety and security of their communities.

Resolution declared adopted.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Soberalski, seconded by Kmetz to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Rachelle D. Enbody, CMC, MiPMC Township Clerk

Gerald A. Bleau, Township Supervisor

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