

GRAND HAVEN CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2014

WORK SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

1. The Board discussed the upcoming Chamber Business Recognition Luncheon and potential businesses to recognize.
2. The Board discussed attending the Chamber Annual Dinner
3. The Board discussed the Coast Guard Festival Dinner and Township participation – there are concerns by Board members regarding payment for the bar tab and gifts for Coast Guard officials.

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Grand Haven Charter Township Board was called to order by Supervisor French at 7:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

III. ROLL CALL

Board members present: Larsen, French, Kieft, Hutchins, Behm, Meeusen, and Buitenhuis.

Board members absent: None.

Also present was Superintendent Cargo, Fire/Rescue Chief Gerencer, Assessor Chalifoux and Accounting Director Sandoval.

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Larsen and seconded by Trustee Meeusen to approve the meeting agenda, removing the invoice from Scholten Fant from the bills on the Consent Agenda and moving to New Business. **Which motion carried.**

V. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve March 24, 2014 Board Minutes
2. Approve Payment of Invoices in the amount of \$409,617.15 (*A/P checks of \$315,828.55 and payroll of \$93,788.60*)
3. Approve OCRC Street Resurfacing Project Estimate Agreement (\$415,607.50)
4. Approve Worksighted IT Contract (\$51,140.40)
5. Approve PMB Contract for Shiawassee Road End Improvements (\$4,890)

Motion by Treasurer Kieft and seconded by Trustee Hutchins to approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda. **Which motion carried.**

VI. PUBLIC HEARING – Fire/Rescue Service Special Assessment District

Supervisor French opened the Public Hearing at 7:04 p.m. and provided an opening statement regarding the hearing.

Manager Cargo presented a PowerPoint Presentation relating to the proposed Special Assessment District.

The following emails were received in support of the Special Assessment District:

1. Jill Miller, 15210 Grand Oak
2. David and Angela Gignac, 15880 Lake Ave
3. Aaron and Megan Boos, 15406 Meadows Dr.
4. Laird Schaefer, 12543 Wilderness Trail
5. Catherine Bouwman, 13028 Acacia Drive
6. Matt & Lori Van Hoef, 11797 – 168th Ave
7. John Todd, 15064 Arborwood Dr.
8. Samantha Arnold, 10128 Hiawatha Drive
9. Randy and Lisa Poel, 13330 Lakeshore Dr.
10. Vicky Tovey, 11253 Oak Grove Rd.
11. Edwin D'Oyly, 17285 Lincoln
12. Tim Smith, 17361 Buchanan
13. Rodger Druke, 12449 Jansma
14. Tom Remien, 12841 Wilderness Trail
15. Daniel Hysell, 15737 Kitchel Lane
16. David and Lisa Peterson, 13584 Streamside Ct
17. Marv and Susan Vander Weg, 12945 Wilderness Trail
18. Mike, Judy, Kyle, David Wolffis, 12950 Sikkema Drive
19. Shawn & Kim Schrader, 12446 US-31
20. Jeff Kriger, 14032 155th Ave
21. Robert & Kimberly Tovey, 11253 Oak Grove Rd.
22. Jonathon Dora, 15800 Comstock St.
23. David Miller, 15450 Harry St.
24. Lynne Bailey, 15474 Royal Oak Dr.
25. Bryan Ayres, 15474 Royal Oak Dr.
26. Jim Kratsas, 13546 Forest Park Drive
27. Simone Young, 13578 Forest Park Drive
28. Zachary Diephouse, 11920 Mistral Lane
29. Russell and Renee Roberts, 14776 Park Ct.
30. Joan Krueger, 14314 Shiawassee
31. Brad Ayres, 15474 Royal Oak Dr.
32. Blake and Stephanie DeDoes, 17270 Buchanan St.
33. Brad Fritz, 15028 -160th
34. Scott & Beth LaRue, 12933 Mariposa St
35. Nancy TenHagen, 13102 Acacia Drive
36. Heather Bronkema, 14036 – 152nd Ave
37. Sylvia Russ, 14324 Shiawassee Dr
38. Matt & Jessica Piper, 14054 – 155th
39. Chris Todd, 10103 Hiawatha Dr, West Olive
40. Clare Wood, 13433 – 152nd Ave
41. Brandon Bryant, 14865 Parkwood Dr
42. Fred, Rhonda, and Eric Peterson, 17482 Reenders Ct.
43. Julie DeDoes, 13015 – 152nd

44. Adam Shepherd, 15735 Robbins Rd.
45. Eric Wolffis, 15167 Briarwood Dr
46. Pat & Ruth Lewis, 13806 Sunrise Cove
47. Ryan Bronkema, 14036 – 152nd
48. John Tovey, 15690 Comstock St.
49. Matt & Amanda Schweitzer, 13725 – 152nd

The following emails/letters were received in opposition to the proposed special assessment:

1. Charlie and Susan Edwards, 15066 Mercury Dr. – objected to the assessment as unfair to the property owners of the Township.
2. Judie Brown, 112 La Cerra Dr, Rancho Mirage, CA (re: parcel 70-07-27-400-003, 16064 Winans St) – protests the special assessment.
3. Frank E. Durante, 14837 Pine Ridge Rd. – vehemently opposed to the proposed increase in taxes; challenges board to have the integrity to allow public transparency and stop hiding behind these “special assessments” and will take immediate legal action if the township resolves to add this special assessment tax to his property.
4. Russ Raymoure, 11504 Oak Grove Rd., does not like special assessments of any kind.
5. Stephen Marotti, 15707 High Ridge Dr, opposed to raising taxes via special assessment without a full vote of those impacted.
6. April & Bob Tironi, 17028 Burkshire Drive, do not support the special assessment district.

Steve Struck, 17573 Duneside Drive, indicated concern about this type of approach because by funding in set dollars rather than a system based on property values, it removes the incentive for government to tighten its belt during tough times. He would hate to see a significant portion of township spending funded that way. He likes the idea of setting aside money for capital expense.

The following offered public comments during the public hearing:

1. Robert A. Lock, 15917 Buchanan – not in favor of special assessment district; should have a vote and give people power to have a say.
2. Kim Schrader, 13446 US 31, in support of special assessment district.
3. Bob Wagenmaker, 16755 Timber Ridge, believes in voters having the right to vote.
4. Wally Struntz, 15776 Charles Ct – opposes special assessment district.
5. Dave Tibbe, 17060 Donahue woods Dr, West Olive, - supports special assessment district.
6. Ken David, 15896 Comstock St, - opposes special assessment district and believes it should be a vote of the people.
7. Tom Gerencer, 12157 Estes Park Circle – commented that he welcomes anyone to meet with him if they have questions regarding the Fire/Rescue Dept.
8. Scott Presley, 16691 Buchanan St – asked questions regarding special assessment.

Supervisor French closed the public hearing at 7:43 p.m.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Motion** by Supervisor French and seconded by Trustee Behm to approve Resolution

14-04-01 that establishes the special assessment district, approves the plans and cost estimates for both operating costs and capital costs, directs the Township to prepare a special assessment roll for all of the properties in the Township, schedules a public hearing on that proposed special assessment roll for April 28, 2104, and directs staff to notify residents of the public hearing. **Which motion carried** as indicated by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: French, Larsen, Meeusen, Behm, Kieft.

Nays: Hutchins, Buitenhuis.

Absent: None.

2. **Motion** by Trustee Larsen and seconded by Trustee Meeusen to approve Resolution 14-04-02 authorizing the Township to accept payments by financial transaction devices provided in the Agreement with “Point & Pay” and to approve the addition of Section 5.17 “Credit Card Acceptance” to the Administrative Policies & Procedures Manual. **Which motion carried**, as indicated by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Buitenhuis, Larsen, Behm, French, Kieft, Hutchins, Meeusen.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

3. **Motion** by Trustee Larsen and seconded by Treasurer Kieft to remove the amendment to the OPEB Ordinance from the table. **Which motion carried.**

Motion by Supervisor French and seconded by Trustee Larsen to approve and adopt the proposed amendment of Ordinance No. 352 entitled “Retiree Health Insurance Coverage and Costs” by eliminating this benefit for new non-union employees hired after April 1, 2014. This is a second reading. **Which motion carried**, as indicated by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Hutchins, Meeusen, French, Buitenhuis, Larsen, Kieft, Behm.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

It was noted this does not limit the Board to future changes relating to OPEB.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. The Board discussed the proposed full-time hiring of Building Inspector Scott Corbat.

Bob Wagenmaker, 16755 Timber Ridge, requested the Board put a hold on the full-time hiring until the Board can meet with area contractors to discuss building concerns before making any decisions.

Gayle Hargrave, 15048 Steves Dr. questioned the Board as to why two inspectors are needed.

Jim Twa, 18743 144th, Spring Lake, commented that GHT is very difficult to work with.

Motion by Treasurer Kieft and seconded by Supervisor French to approve the offer

of full-time employment to Scott Corbat pursuant to the provisions in the engagement letter dated April 15, 2014.

Motion by Trustee Larsen and seconded by Trustee Hutchins to table the proposed full-time hiring of Corbat until the Board has met with the contractors and the compensation study has been completed. **Which motion carried**, as indicated by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Meeusen, Hutchins, French, Buitenhuis, Behm, Larsen.

Nays: Kieft.

Absent: None.

2. **Motion** by Treasurer Kieft and seconded by Trustee Behm to pay the legal invoice to Scholten Fant. **Which motion carried**, with Buitenhuis opposed.

IX. REPORTS AND CORESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence was reviewed
2. Committee Reports
3. Superintendent's Report
4. Others.

X. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Larsen and seconded by Trustee Hutchins to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Buitenhuis
Grand Haven Charter Township Clerk

Karl French
Grand Haven Charter Township Supervisor