

**GRAND HAVEN CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021**

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Reenders called the regular meeting of the Grand Haven Charter Township Board to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Board members present: Reenders, Larsen, Kieft, Redick, Meeusen, Behm, Wagenmaker

Board members absent:

Also present was Manager Cargo and Human Resource Director Dumbrell.

III. STATEMENT ON REMOTE MEETING

It was noted that the Township Board was meeting remotely on the Zoom platform because of health concerns associated with COVID-19 pandemic. Information on this remote meeting has been posted so that the public may participate. All elected officials present noted that they are meeting remotely and are located within Grand Haven Charter Township, except for Supervisor Reenders who is in Grand Haven City.

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Meeusen and seconded by Trustee Behm to approve the meeting agenda. **Which motion carried** pursuant to the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Behm, Wagenmaker, Meeusen, Redick, Kieft, Reenders, Larsen

Nays:

Absent:

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS – (*Agenda Items Only*)

Supervisor Reenders announced that a period for public comments on agenda items was now opened.

Manager Cargo noted that if a person would like to comment on an Agenda Item Only, please click “Raise Hand” at the bottom of your screen or press Alt+Y. The Zoom moderator (*i.e., Stacey Fedewa*) will unmute you when it is your turn to speak. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.

- ✓ Stephen Rockman (*15495 Sweetbriar Drive*) expressed opposition to the Township contracting with Issue Media Group whom he considers to be a leftist, activist group that would not represent Township interests.

There being no further public comments, Supervisor Reenders announced that the period for public comments on agenda items was now closed.

VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve February 22, 2021, Regular Board Minutes.
2. Approve Payment of Invoices in the Amount of \$1,077,092 (*A/P checks of \$846,197.66 and payroll of \$230,894.48*)
3. Approve Sounds of Summer Concert Series Agreement at Pottawattomie Park
4. Approve Purchase of Zoll Cardiac Monitor for Fire/Rescue (*\$38,719.45*)
5. Approve Hire of Fishbeck/Christman Team for a Space Needs Assessment of the Fire/Rescue facility (*\$27,500*)
6. Approve Engineering Agreement for the DDA 172nd Avenue Sidewalk and Mid-Block Crossing Project (*\$35,375*)

Motion by Treasurer Kieft and seconded by Trustee Redick to approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda. **Which motion carried**, pursuant to the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Kieft, Reenders, Meeusen, Behm, Wagenmaker, Larsen, Redick
Nays:
Absent:

VII. PRESENTATION – Grand Haven Area of Commerce – Elizabeth Butler

Butler provided a PowerPoint presentation was provided regarding economic development and support efforts of the Chamber of Commerce during the COVID-19 pandemic. This included specifics on grants provided to local businesses.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Motion** by Trustee Meeusen supported by Trustee Redick to approve and adopt Resolution 21-03-01 that authorizes Ottawa County to issue refunding bonds in the aggregate principal amount of not-to-exceed \$3,200,000 for the North Ottawa Water System. **Which motion carried** pursuant to the following roll call vote:
Ayes: Wagenmaker, Kieft, Larsen, Reenders, Behm, Meeusen, Redick
Nays:
Absent:
2. **Motion** by Treasurer Kieft supported by Trustee Behm to approve and adopt Resolution 21-03-02 that adopts the First Quarter budget amendments for fiscal year 2021. **Which motion carried** pursuant to the following roll call vote:
Ayes: Meeusen, Behm, Larsen, Kieft, Redick, Wagenmaker, Reenders
Nays:
Absent:
3. The Board discussed the presentation of the Issue Media Group and whether to appropriate \$12k to expand media stories regarding township issues. It was also noted that the Township could collaborate with a consortium of other municipal units (i.e., Spring Lake Village DDA, the Grand Haven DDA and the Chamber EDC/BRA Board) and pay a portion of the total (*i.e., \$3k*).

The proposal to contract with the Issue Media Group and/or collaborate with other local units on a group contract died for lack of any motion.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. The Board discussed a request from John and Nancy Vanden Berge for an exception to the Grand Haven Charter Township Private Road Ordinance regarding a private driveway they hope to construct from the street to their home at 18300 Hillside Drive.

Supervisor Reenders expressed concern with storm water management coming off the steep include of the proposed drive, vehicles sliding off the drive during wet or winter conditions, and whether the turn-around on the top would allow for vehicles to drive forward down the drive.

Trustee Wagenmaker expressed a concern that the drive might make the situation worse in terms of safety, rather than better.

Trustee Redick stated that he supported the exception request noting that proposal was a reasonable and prudent alternative to current conditions, even if the proposal did not address all of the safety concerns.

Trustee Behm noted the validity of the concerns but supported allowing the applicant to return to the Board with a more detailed site plan.

Trustee Meeusen noted that safety concerns did exist with the proposal but supported allowing the applicant to return to the Board with additional information.

Clerk Larsen expressed concern regarding the safety issues raised and requested additional details from the applicant.

Treasurer Kieft expressed concerns with the safety of the proposed driveway and requested additional details be provided by the applicant

Clerk Larsen lost connection to the Zoom meeting due to technical difficulties.

Motion by Trustee Meeusen, Supported by Trustee Behm to appoint Kieft as Temporary Clerk. **Which motion carried** pursuant to the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Reenders, Kieft, Meeusen, Redick, Behm, Wagenmaker

Nays:

Absent: Larsen

Clerk Larsen re-connected to the Zoom meeting and resumed her duties.

Manager Cargo noted that if a 12-foot width with a 16.5-foot clear and passable area is provided that the applicant would not require Board approval of the drive.

Motion by Trustee Redick supported by Trustee Behm to postpone action of the requested exception until the following:

- a. Details are provided regarding the “turn-around” at the top of the drive;
- b. Details are provided regarding how storm water will be managed;
- c. Details are provided regarding a guardrail system to prevent vehicle slide-offs;
- d. A pre-application meeting with EGLE is held regarding whether a 12-foot driveway width would be acceptable.

Which motion carried pursuant to the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Redick, Wagenmaker, Reenders, Meeusen, Behm, Kieft, Larsen

Nays:

Absent:

2. **Motion** by Trustee Behm supported by Trustee Wagenmaker to postpone action of the proposed Water Ordinance amendment addressing cross connection requirements until the April 12th Board meeting. **This constitutes a first reading. Which motion carried** pursuant to the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Redick, Meeusen, Kieft, Wagenmaker, Larsen, Reenders, Behm

Nays:

Absent:

3. **Motion** by Treasurer Kieft supported by Trustee Meeusen to appropriate authorize the Township Superintendent to execute the proposed Uniform Video Service Local Franchise Agreement with Comcast. **Which motion carried** pursuant to the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Larsen, Wagenmaker, Kieft, Meeusen, Redick, Behm, Reenders

Nays:

Absent:

4. **Motion** by Trustee Meeusen supported by Trustee Behm to approve and adopt Resolution 21-03-03, authorizing the Discretionary Time Off Policy, as submitted. **Which motion carried** pursuant to the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Kieft, Reenders, Meeusen, Behm, Wagenmaker, Larsen, Redick

Nays:

Absent:

5. **Motion** by Trustee Behm supported by Trustee Redick to support Phase I of the Ottawa County broadband access strategy by authorizing \$500 to cover a portion of the estimated \$65,000 Phase I cost. **Which motion carried** pursuant to the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Wagenmaker, Larsen, Kieft, Reenders, Behm, Meeusen, Redick

Nays:

Absent:

IX. REPORTS AND CORESPONDENCE

a. Committee Reports

- i. Trustee Redick noted that NORA will be resuming more recreational activities, including certain indoor recreation programs;
- ii. It was noted that the Hofma Preserve floating bridge repairs received the required EGLE permit and is expected to be completed by the end of April.
- iii. Trustee Behm noted that the Public Safety Committee selected Fishbeck/Christman Team for a Space Needs Assessment of the Fire/Rescue facility.
- iv. Trustee Wagenmaker noted that the Planning Commission is looking for Board input on the Master Plan at the upcoming April 19th joint meeting.

b. Manager's Report, which included:

- i. Manager Cargo noted that the next Board meeting will be on April 12th and is scheduled to be an in-person public meeting.

- ii. February Building Report
- iii. February Ordinance Enforcement Report
- iv. February Public Services Report
- v. January Legal Review
- c. Others

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Supervisor Reenders announced that a period for public comments on non-agenda items was now opened.

Manager Cargo noted any person would like to comment on a non-agenda item only, please click "Raise Hand" at the bottom of your screen or press Alt+Y. The Zoom moderator will unmute you when it is your turn to speak. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.

- ✓ Stephen Rockman (*15495 Sweetbriar Drive*) expressed appreciation that the Board deliberates its issues in a public manner.

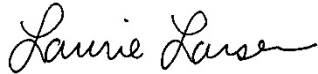
There being no public comments, Supervisor Reenders announced that the period for public comments on agenda items was now closed.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Clerk Larsen and seconded by Trustee Behm to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m. **Which motion carried**, pursuant to the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Behm, Wagenmaker, Meeusen, Redick, Kieft, Reenders, Larsen
Nays:
Absent:

Respectfully Submitted,



Laurie Larsen
Grand Haven Charter Township Clerk



Mark Reenders
Grand Haven Charter Township Supervisor