

GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD

Regular Meeting

July 15, 2013

MINUTES

Supervisor McCririe called the regular meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was then said. The following persons were present constituting a quorum for the transaction of business: Gary McCririe, Paulette Skolarus, Robin Hunt, Linda Rowell, Jim Mortensen, Todd Smith and Jean Ledford. Also present were Township Manager Michael Archinal and approximately 40 persons in the audience.

A Call to the Public was made with the following response: Julie Stachecki-Johanningsmeier – I am a certified arborist and there is a lethal tree disease in Livingston County. It is called Oak Wilt and will destroy century old oak trees within a week. The disease is spread above and below ground by beetles. *The township offered to place a notice on its web page to advise residents of the damage that can occur while pruning.*

Norma Nichols – I live near Lake Chemung and am concerned with the fireworks that is being used almost on a daily basis and all hours of the night. McCririe – Fireworks are regulated by the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act. Your concerns need to be raised in Lansing. Since the Township does not have a police department we would not be able to enforce that issue.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Moved by Ledford and supported by Smith to approve all items under the consent agenda with the moving of the request related to the personnel policy to the regular agenda for action. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Payment of Bills.

2. Request to approve minutes: June 17, 2013 and June 24, 2013

3. Consider proposal from Tetra Tech for Township Hall parking lot design phase services.

Approval of Regular Agenda:

Moved by Skolarus and supported by Hunt to approve the Regular Agenda with the addition of the personnel policy amendment and the deletion of Resolution 2 for Timberview Road Improvement Project. The amended agenda was voted and carried unanimously.

4. Request for an amendment of the Personnel Policy related to funeral leave as recommended by the administrative committee.

Moved by Smith and supported by Ledford to approve the amendment with changing C-1 to include step-mother, step-father and step-children. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Review of the draft Master Plan and request for approval to distribute the draft plan pursuant to the Michigan Planning Enabling Act (MCL 125.3481).

Brad Strader of L.S.L. and Kelly VanMarter addressed the board asking for approval to distribute the draft of the Master Plan. The board was encouraged to move forward however there was concern that property along Nixon to Crooked Lake needed further review. The board directed that the plan specify an area along Nixon Road to Crooked Lake for further consideration and that an overlay plan be developed identifying access points and potential building configurations. Strader and VanMarter were congratulated on the scope of work and results that were presented to the board.

A call to the public was made with the following response: Mike Boss – The Campus Interchange is undefined as yet but he felt the board was moving in the right direction with the overlay addition to the plan.

Mancuso advised the board that the Planning Commission had final approval of the Plan unless the board stipulated that right in their motion. Moved by Smith and supported by Ledford to approve the distribution of the Draft Master Plan with a conceptual overlay plan for future development and reserve the right to a further review of the Master Plan before final approval. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Discussion and possible action related to the wind turbines at the Township Hall.

Archinal – One of the Windspire Turbines self-destructed sending shards of metal around the park area. After further inspection by The Green Panel Firm of Brighton similar conditions in a second windspire were found. The State of Michigan and the Federal Department of Energy were notified and permission was received to have the turbines removed because of health and safety issues.

Moved by Mortensen and supported by Smith to authorize the expenditure of \$9,625.00 to remove the turbines with preservation of the solar panels. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Consider request to enter into closed session for discussion pending litigation pursuant to Section 8(e) of the 1976 Open Meetings Act.

Moved by Skolarus and supported by Ledford to move to closed session at 7:37 to discuss pending litigation. The motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Ayes – Ledford, Smith, Hunt, Rowell, Mortensen, Skolarus and McCririe. Nays – None.

The regular meeting of the board was re-opened at 8:13 p.m.

Moved by Smith and supported by Skolarus to authorize Attorney Mancuso to file an appeal of the court's 06/25/2013 decision in Chestnut Development vs. Genoa Township and Mike

Archinal. Further, to authorize Johnson & Rosatti to assist in the appeal. The motion carried unanimously.

DTE Electric advised the board in correspondence dated June 14, 2013 that individual residential customers were allowed to “opt-out” of the advanced meter program and may have a non-transmitting digital meter installed, with an initial fee \$67.20 and a monthly fee of \$9.80.

SEMCOG will hold a public meeting on Thursday, July 18th from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to help improve pedestrian and bicycle paths.

The regular meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Paulette A. Skolarus
Genoa Charter Township Clerk

(Press/argus 07/19/2013)