

GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
Regular Meeting
February 17, 2014

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, Jim Mortensen, Linda Rowell, Todd Smith and Jean Ledford. Also present were Township Manager Michael Archinal, Township Assistant Manager Kelly VanMarter, Utility Director Dr. Greg Tatara, Attorney Doug Cameron of Mancuso and Cameron and four persons in the audience.

A call to the public was made with no response.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Moved by Hunt and supported by Mortensen to approve all items listed under the consent agenda as requested. The motion passed.

1. Payment of Bills.

2. Request Board approval to remove the Refuse Assessment of \$110.00 levied on the 2013 winter tax roll against Parcel #4711-22-302-042 as submitted by the Township Treasurer.

Approval of Regular Agenda:

Moved by Ledford and supported by Skolarus to approve for action all items listed under the regular agenda with changes to #3 to be 2014, #5 to be funds 264 and 270, and new item #10 as requested by Hunt. Clarification was requested about going into Open Session and whether or not attorney/client privilege is permissible. Mr. Cameron states that the Supreme Court has held that Attorney Client privilege is appropriate for closed session. Supervisor McCririe states the protocol for this item can be discussed with this agenda item. The motion passed.

3. Request to approve minutes: Feb. 3, 2014

Moved by Rowell and supported by Smith to approve the February 3, 2014 minutes with the following correction – adding “Rowell was contacted by Terry and Rita Croft asking about audio recording of the township meetings. A brief discussion of current practice and potential legalities ensued and there was mixed support for recordings. No action was taken.” The motion approving the amended minutes passed.

4. Request for approval of an amendment to the General Fund budget #101 for Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2014.

Skolarus gave an overview of the proposed amendment. Moved by Mortensen and supported by Rowell to approve the amendment to the General Fund budget #101 as requested. The motion passed.

5. Request for approval of amendments to Funds #264 and 270 for the year ending March 31, 2014.

Skolarus gave an overview of the proposed amendment to Fund #270. Moved by Smith and supported by Ledford to approve the amendment to Fund # 270 as requested. The motion passed.

Skolarus gave an overview of the proposed amendments to Fund #264. Moved by Mortensen and supported by Skolarus to approve the amendment to Funds #264 as requested. The motion passed.

6. Discussion of the proposed budgets for the General Fund #101; Liquor Law Fund #212; Road Improvement Fund #261; Road, Lake, Lighting Reimbursement Fund #264; and Building Reserve Fund #271 for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2015.

Skolarus presented and reviewed the proposed budgets for all funds. (Note - The proposed budget for the General Fund may be viewed on the Township web site at www.genoa.org Residents may send comment to the board or attend the March 17th.) Mortensen would like to see a \$1,000 increase in the salaries for the Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer and a 1.5% increase for the Trustees. Rowell would like to present the MTA tool on the screen at the next meeting as an agenda item. Ledford thinks the PC and ZBA fees should be increased with the other boards. The board took no formal action.

7. Request for approval of Resolution #140217 regarding assistance from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the removal of nuisance geese.

The Board requests more clarification on why this resolution is requested. Moved by Skolarus and supported by Smith to table the request until the next regular meeting. The motion passed.

8. Request for approval of the consolidated utility systems allocation percentage and the DPW Department Budget for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2015.

Dr. Greg Tatara - The allocation percentage was approved by MHOG and GO at previous meetings. Salaries are the biggest expenditures. Budget is 2.1 million. In four years it has gone up 2.2% which is less than inflation and within that time they have added two new positions and additional vehicles. The Board commends Dr. Tatara on doing a great job and running the utility systems properly and efficiently.

Moved by Smith and supported by Mortensen to approve the utility systems allocation percentage as requested. The motion passed.

Moved by Smith and supported by Mortensen to approve the utility systems budget as requested. The motion passed.

9. Discussion Regarding Michigan Township Association scholarship.

The Board supports using the website and social media to advise residents of the scholarship offered through Michigan Township's Association.

10. Request approval of an adjustment to the 2013 Winter Tax roll to remove the Brighton City Delinquent Usage special assessment for Parcel #4711-25-400-019 at the request of Hunt.

Moved by Smith and supported by Skolarus to adjust the 2013 Winter Tax roll to remove the Brighton City Delinquent Usage special assessment on parcel 4711-25-400-019 that was billed in error. The motion passed.

11. Consider request to enter into closed session to discuss written communication subject to attorney/client privilege pursuant to Section 8(h) of the 1976 Open Meetings Act.

Mr. Cameron states the motion should be to discuss written communication subject to attorney/client privilege. Moved by Ledford and supported by Skolarus to enter into closed session at 7:30 p.m. for discussion of written communication subject to attorney/client privilege as requested referenced by Attorney Cameron. The motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Ayes – Ledford, Smith, Hunt, Mortensen, Skolarus and McCririe. Nay – Rowell.

The regular meeting of the board was re-opened at 7:45 p.m.

Moved by Ledford and supported by Smith to continue taking the meeting minutes for the Township Board as it has always been done. Further, the consensus of the board is that neither recordings nor transcriptions are necessary. The motion passed with Rowell voicing a no vote.

Correspondence:

- McCririe - Moody's Investment Service has upgraded the rating from Aa2 to A1 for Genoa Township due to the hard work of the Township Treasurer Hunt and Manager Archinal in providing hours of detail concerning township finances. Congratulations are in order.
- The Board would like to look into dredging out the ponds on the property to create a fishing/skating amenity.
- Trustee Rowell would like to see the Township send a letter to the State asking for more road improvement funding.
- Mr. Archinal discusses the possibility of a special assessment district for improvements to Grand Oaks Drive. Township participation will be addressed at the first meeting in March.

The regular meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board was at 7:50 p.m.

GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD – Regular Meeting – Feb. 17, 2014

Minutes taken by:
Kelly K. VanMarter

Minutes reviewed by:
Paulette A. Skolarus, Clerk
Genoa Charter Township

(Press/argus 02/21/2014)