

Charter Township of Gun Plain

Regular Monthly Meeting

September 8, 2011

The regular monthly meeting was called to order by supervisor Vandenberg at 7:00pm. the following board members were present Corbin, Kopka, Moerman, Meert, Vandenberg, Pearson and Morrison.

The pledge was recited.

Approximately 4 guests were present.

Minutes

Pearson motioned to approve the minutes as written for August 4, 2011. Morrison seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda

The board added one item #7 FEMA. Vandenberg motioned to accept the agenda as amended. Moerman seconded. Motion carried.

Clerk's Report

Meert present the board with a list of checks written for the month of August 2011 and a list of the enterprise funds. Pearson motioned to accept the clerks report as presented. Moerman seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Morrison present the board with ending balances for the following accounts 5/3rd checking 1,024,123.95, 5/3rd CD \$37,560.71 and Raymond James Investment funds \$234,203.48.

Open to the Public/None

New Business

Recycling

Vandenberg reported that the Ben Williams contacted him and stated that we need to increase the recycling collection on winter taxes, William would like to see it go from \$20.00 to \$50.00 per year, and Vandenberg informed Williams that the board might agree to \$25.00 but would not agree to \$50.00. Kopka would like him to come in and explain why we need the increase before we agree to the increase.

Pension

Resolution to Resolve Pension Plan.

Corbin motioned to dissolve the current pension plan as presented. Moerman seconded. Motion carried. Corbin yes, Kopka yes, Moerman yes, Meert yes, Vandenberg yes, Pearson yes and Morrison yes. Motion carried.

Resolution to increase Salaries

Pearson motioned to adopt a resolution to increase the following salaries Vandenberg's \$11,100.00, Pearson \$5609.00 and Corbin \$1018.00. Corbin seconded. Corbin yes, Kopka yes, Moerman yes, Meert yes, Vandenberg yes, Pearson yes and Morrison yes. The resolution is to increase salaries by the amount of the pension that was dissolved. Kopka noted that the reason he agrees with the increase in salaries, is because the township did not pay social security for elected officials at one time there forth we had to put the money into a pension plan for them.

Resolution 2011-5 Fire Grant

Vandenberg is currently applying for a grant for the fire department in the amount of \$380,000.00 the board would have to match a 5% or \$19,000.00 if we received the grant. Corbin motioned to support the grant match as presented or 5% of the monies received from the grant. Kopka seconded. Corbin yes, Kopka yes, Moerman yes, Meert yes, Vandenberg yes, Pearson yes and Morrison yes. Motion carried.

Cemetery

Jack Schumaker and Cliff Burnham contacted the township and is interested in lining the front of the cemetery near the veterans memorial with flag poles and flags that was gifted from Fort Custer to Mr. Schumaker, the board would like for Jack to come in and talk to the board about the rules on required lighting of the flags poles and maintenance of the flags, before they agree to allow him to put up more flag poles. Vandenberg also explained to the board that we need to have a resolution on alcoholic beverages in the Cemetery. Vandenberg will present the resolution at the October meeting.

Security Camera

Vandenberg has received four bids for security cameras for the township buildings and suggests the board use Lock Master in the amount of \$2903.00. Corbin suggested that we have a policy in place before we install security cameras. Corbin suggested that Vandenberg contact the County to see if we can get a copy of their policy.

Health Insurance

Vandenberg stated that he has not taken health insurance for the last three years saving the township for a family plan close to \$75,000.00, Vandenberg explained that his wife's benefits were changing and cost his family more money, he would like a \$12,000.00 raise in lieu of benefits to help offset their plan or he will take the townships plan. Vandenberg stated that he would be willing to sign an affidavit stating that he would take the salary and decline any and all health benefits. Corbin made a resolution stated that in lieu of health benefits that would cost the township approximately \$25,000.00 a year Vandenberg would agree to take a one year cash amount of \$12,000.00 in addition to the resolution of

the pension, for a period of one year only to be revisited next September 1, 2012 by the township board. Vandenberg stated that he would agree to go back to the salary of \$37,000.00 at anytime in the event his wife lost her benefits within this one year period. Corbin yes, Kopka yes, Moerman yes, Meert yes, Pearson yes, Vandenberg yes and Morrison yes. Motion carried.

Health Benefits Meeting

Meert and Vandenberg have met several times to look into plans that will save the township money and have set up a meeting for September 22, 2011 at 4:30 pm for the board to meet and discuss benefits.

FEMA

Kopka motioned to send a letter to FEMA so we are available to participate in their program. Moerman seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business

Sewer Study

Meert and Vandenberg are currently working on the numbers that Fleis and VanDenBrink have requested for the sewer study.

Civil Rights Complaint

Vandenberg read a copy of the Civil Rights Complaints filed by Mrs. Cathy Morrison and dismissed by the courts. See attached copy

Monthly Reports

Warnement reported that the Fire Department responded to ten calls for the month of August 2011.

Deputy Joe Bronson was present and gave a reported on his activities for the month.

Horizon submitted a written report for the month.

Vandenberg motioned to accept the reports as presented. Morrison seconded.

Corbin still would like the board to look into purchasing a projector.

Pearson and Vandenberg reported on the Plainwell Joint Rec Meeting.

Representative Bob Genetski will be speaking at the Griswold in Allegan September 30, 2011.

Adjournment

Meert motioned to adjourn meeting 8:31. Kopka seconded. Motion carried.