

Charter Township of Emmett  
Regular Board Meeting  
June 12, 2014

Supervisor Hill called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. on Thursday June 12, 2014. The meeting was held at the Township Hall: 621 Cliff St, Battle Creek, MI 49014. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the opening.

**BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE**

Talbot, Dougherty, Jacox, Gunning, Buller, Myers and Hill

**QUORUM PRESENT**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion 14-06-05 by Talbot/ Gunning to approve the Agenda with the following changes: under New Business add proposals for Public Safety and under Unfinished Business add the rescinding of motion 14-04-07 to rescind Project Casino Coordinator as printed by Teresa Myers

Roll Call Vote: Dougherty, Gunning, Jacox, Talbot, Myers, Buller, & Hill

**ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion 14- 06-06 by Gunning / Jacox to approve Consent Agenda

Roll Call Vote: Buller, Gunning, Jacox, Myers, Dougherty, Talbot, and Hill

**ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

***Treasurer's Report:***

Receive and file the Monthly Treasurer's Report with balances on hand as of: May 31, 2014,

General Fund	\$ 1,047,456.01
SW Emmett Sewer/Water	\$ 1,453,834.00
Sanitation Fund	\$ 313,652.23
Project V Sewer Fund	\$ 104,288.74
Drug Forfeiture Fund	\$ 46,589.18
Public Safety Fund	\$ 12,893.91
Public Safety Extra	\$ 403,571.82

***The Monthly Departmental Report:***

Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes as printed.

**COMMUNICATIONS & SIMPLE MOTIONS**

Motion to acknowledge the enforcement of Article III, Noxious Weeds, and to authorize the Township Treasurer to place a tax lien against the following to include an additional \$25.00 administrative fee:

4283 Council Crest	\$33.00 + \$25.00 = \$58.00
190 Euclid Avenue	\$66.00 + \$25.00 = \$91.00
255 Gregg Drive	\$33.00 + \$25.00 = \$58.00
14651 Petal Lane	\$55.00 + \$25.00 = \$80.00
1209 E. Michigan	\$44.00 + \$25.00 = \$69.00
165 Rook Street	\$44.00 + \$25.00 = \$69.00
1700 Woodland Beach	\$110.00 + \$25.00 = \$135.00

Motion 14-06-07 by Talbot/ Jacox to approve lawn mowing’s.

Roll Call Vote: Gunning, Jacox, Myers, Buller, Talbot, Dougherty, & Hill

**ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

**Announcements:**

- Township Planning Commission – Meeting July 3, 2014 at 5:00p.m.
- Z.B.A. Meeting – to be announced
- Next Township Board Meeting – July 10, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

There was some discussion about the meeting times and it was decided by all after much discussion that the meeting time would remain at 5:30 p.m.

**MONTHLY CHECK REGISTER**

Motion 14-06-08 by Gunning/Dougherty to accept the Check Register as printed.

Roll Call Vote: Jacox, Myers, Buller, Talbot, Dougherty Gunning, & Hill

**ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

**Access Vision Annual Report by Dale Geminder**

Dale Geminder handed out the Access Vision Annual Report to all Board Members then proceeded to inform all that a new Board member would be needed in December to represent the Township. He also commented that this last year they had created 71 new programs and have seen twice as much usage of Access Vision. Thanked the Board for their time; Board Members thanked him for coming.

**DEPARTMENT VERBAL REPORTS**

**Supervisor**

Hill stated that he would be looking into having a township wide meeting concerning the roads the first week of July at Harper Creek Schools. Hill also commented that he’s been working hard to get the Township cleaned; up mainly the hardware store is expected to be razed sometime within the next week. Hill also mentioned the help that Enbridge has given us with the dirt and gravel out back and leveling off for our own impound lot. Hill thanked Enbridge for all their help.

**Clerk**

Myers stated that she is busy getting ready for the upcoming Election in August 5<sup>th</sup> and is still looking for election workers to work part-time or full-time. There will be some training coming up in the very near future for election workers. Absent Voter Applications will be going out on Friday. Ballots should be in next week and as soon as they are tested; ballots will be going out. Myers also commented that she reviewed our sewer rates for the past six months, the rates look to be sitting at a good rate and will be reviewed again in six more months.

**Treasurer**

Talbot stated that she has been busy working on delinquent Personal Property Taxes, she has made lists of delinquentiencys and passed out to Board and another list on the ones that she believes we will never collect on; as the business are no longer in the Township. She has been playing phone tag with MTA all day trying to find out how to write Personal Property Taxes off. Talbot also stated that Mike Leslie and she will be starting Monday balancing all their information so that she can start printing off summer taxes be out by the first of July.

**Planning and Zoning Business**

Brandi DeShon stated that the property located at 14548 Beadle Lake Road is asking for a Conditional Use Permit for a house to be reclassified for use as a single family home. Currently property is zoned General Commercial. The Township Planning Board asks that the Board approves the permit as long as it meets the 2009 Building Code approved by Steve Buller.

Motion 14-06-09 by Dougherty/Gunning to approve the Conditional Use Permit subject to the building code.

Roll Call Vote: Talbot, Dougherty, Gunning, Buller, Jacox, Myers, and & Hill **ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

Brandi DeShon also introduced John Green of 205 N. Princeton whom is asking the Board to waive his building permit fee as he is on disability and does not have the funds for the permit at this time. Talbot asked about how the Building Inspector would be paid; Buller stated that he also would waive the building permit fee.

Motion 14-06-10 by Gunning/ Dougherty to waive the building permit fee for Mr. Green at 205 N. Princeton.

Roll Call Vote: Dougherty, Jacox, Buller, Gunning, Myers, Talbot, & Hill **ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

**Assessing**

Leslie commented that the Assessing Department has been very busy this month. He has been working on the two Special Assessment projects Division Drive and Singletree Lane. Leslie also stated that he was working very hard on a Land Bank study and reappraisals.

## **Public Safety**

Chief Olson went over the Monthly Activity Synopsis for May 2014: all Board Members and Public had a copy of the report to look over.

### **March 2014 Monthly Activity Synopsis**

		<u>Previous Month:</u>
Calls for Service:	590	566
Arrests:	129	131
Citations Issued:	222	222
Medicals:	53	51
Fires:	3	3
All other Fire Calls:	23	6

Complaints and Calls for Service increased significantly during the month of May. Fire calls and calls for Public Safety saw a significant increase from previous month. PSO Matt Skaggs remains off work from his assignment; however, he is working in a light duty capacity. Commercial Motor Vehicle Officer Roger King has been off of work since May 23, 2014 for injuries suffered in a personal motor vehicle accident with his wife.

The Department investigated 37 retail fraud complaints during the month, 22 Assaults, 5 Breaking and Entering's, 12 Family Trouble or Domestic Violence complaints, 14 Violations of Controlled Substances, 1 Narcotics Equipment Violations, 45 Obstructing Justice/Obstructing Police complaints, 54 Other Person Trouble complaints, 13 Property Damage Accidents, 5 Personal Injury Accidents and 3 Hit and Run Accidents. We also investigated or provided another 19 Citizen Assists for our residents.

Our medical runs jumped significantly during the month and I must tell you that our officers performed wonderfully. They actually performed CPR on two different people and were able to revive them. No matter what the function they are performing, they continue to excel and I am very proud to say that I work with them. Chief Mike Olson, Emmett Township Department of Public Safety.

Olson mentioned that there was a very bad accident on M-66 that was a tragic accident and the fact that they had to make some major road closures; with Battle Creek City and the State Police working closely together. Olson commented that the toddler had been buckled in a safety seat and had only minor injuries. Olson also stated that a gentleman came into the office to deliver about 5 dozen doughnuts and stated that he was celebrating one year of life because of Public Safety Officers; if it had not been for them he would not be here this year and wanted to thank them all. Olson also stated that because of Jim Mead there is a new flag flying out in front of the Township. The Retirees Breakfast would be back on for Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00a.m. Olson also commented on what a fine job Paul Anderson is doing and how well he is working with people. Gunning with a question on Anderson driving a Police car; Olson stated that he believed he was driving an unmarked car. Olson also asked the Board if they would reconsider changing the \$100.00 dollar purchase order policy. Olson also explained that he received a refund of \$41.00 dollars for the purchase of the headlight for the Ford Interceptor.

**The one (1) mill tax for equipment, buildings and the maintenance for them expires this year and will be on the August 5, 2014 ballot for renewal for another 10 years.**

## **RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

Charter Township of Emmett Resolution T14-06 for the Singletree Lane Paving Project.

Motion 14-06-11 by Myers / Gunning to proceed with the Special Assessment District for the Singletree Lane Repaving Project.

Roll Call Vote: Gunning, Jacox, Myers, Buller, Talbot, Dougherty and Hill

**ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*Casino Project Coordinator*

Dougherty asked that we rescind our motion from the previous month for the Casino Coordinator for the Revenue Sharing Board.

Motion 14-06-12 by Dougherty/ Gunning to rescind the Casino Project Coordinator Motion 14-04-07 from a previous Board meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Gunning, Jacox, Myers, Buller, Talbot, Dougherty, and Hill

**ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

Hill explained the 1.4 million dollars for the Sewer Issue that he had pulled back from the Revenue Sharing Board for this year and stated that he would try again next year.

## *SEWER INSURANCE*

Since our contract with Battle Creek has ended the Board thought that it would be a good idea to check into the issue of having some sewer insurance in case there was a problem with the Lift Stations or Sewer lines. Buller had checked with the Insurance Company and found that we did not have any coverage so they gave us a rate for the coverage which would be \$3,000.00 more a year.

Motion 14-06-13 by Talbot/ Jacox to approve the Sewer Insurance

Roll Call Vote: Jacox, Myers, Gunning, Talbot, Dougherty, Buller, and Hill

**ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

*Discussion on how long residents have to pay back the Township for Division Drive and Singletree Lane.*

There was discussion among Board members on how long to pay back the Township for the Special Assessment Districts that have been set up for the repaving projects. Talbot stated that the Township has never done more than two years and the first year would be interest free if paid in full. She stated that if it was paid the second year the interest rate would be 7% residents would need to pay.

Motion 14-06-14 by Talbot/ Jacox to stay with 2 years on repaying the Special Assessment Districts with the first year being interest free.

Roll Call Vote: Talbot, Dougherty, Gunning, Buller, Jacox, Myers, and Hill

**ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

*Big Marsh Drain – Addendum to Agreement*

This is just an extension that the County is asking for sixty days from June 16 to August 15, 2014.

Motion 14-06-15 by Talbot/ Gunning to approve the sixty day extension for the Big Marsh Drain

Roll Call Vote: Dougherty, Jacox, Buller, Gunning, Myers, Talbot, and Hill

**ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

*Six Month Review of Sewer Rate*

As of now we are on track and will do another review in six months

**Purchase Orders That Need Approval**

There was much discussion on the purchase orders and ordering everything in bulk with both sides together. Talbot explained that she would also need to order 6 boxes of paper for tax bills which is nothing new it's a yearly recurring item.

Motion 14-06-16 by Myers/ Jacox to approve all PO's.

Roll Call Vote: Buller, Jacox, Gunning, Myers, Dougherty, Talbot, and Hill

**ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Proposals for Police Services*

Gunning explained the issue of Police Services with Pennfield and Bedford asking for RFP's he had received a lot of calls and visits from people asking why Emmett was not doing the same. Olson explained that the Public Safety Department had provided the Board with a comparison not that long ago. He would be more than happy to share that report with them again. Dougherty asked if we would be comparing apples to apples since our department is crossed trained and feared that they would not be compared equally as Battle Creek and the State are not cross trained. There was much more discussion on this issue with all Board Members.

Motion 14-06-17 by Gunning /Dougherty to follow suit for Proposal's for Police services for Sheriff and Battle Creek City and Emmett.

Roll Call Vote: Gunning, Jacox, Myers, Buller, Talbot, Dougherty, and Hill

**ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

**Public Comments**

Public comment on bringing three cars to Zahrion Auto for free parts to try for police cars and Zahrion stated that the parts are the best quality for Police cars. Chief said that he was under the impression that the offer was after he got moved to his new place of business. The person that commented stated that Zahrion said he would do this service now.

Comment from a resident on the Code Enforcement Officer fueling his car at the station behind the Township instead of going to Speedway where he said it was cheaper. He also asked if it was up to the driver where they fueled up at. In Anderson's defense a Board Member stated that the station behind the Township is normally cheaper and stated that he would not drive down to Speedway and check the price before fueling up.

Same resident commented on the gentleman that brought in the five dozen doughnuts in because of our Officers speedy response this person was still alive because of their cross training.

Another comment as to our Officers being Medical First Responders and Battle Creek City's Officers are not.

### **Trustee Comments**

Jacox – Thanked the Chief and stated that the Police Department does a fantastic job.

Dougherty – commented that under the AMSA that things must have changed as he thought it was only for Supervisors; Buller explained that there had been a change in AMSA. Dougherty stated that he was glad we had some representation. Also told the Chief that we love all the guys and they're doing a great job.

Buller – commented that this issue of the City or the County coming into work Emmett needs to be put to rest there's no doubt that anyone can do it cheaper or better than Emmett. Also stated that he didn't think it would be a negative situation and would hope that the Chief would be able to defuse the guys. Chief stated that he wouldn't count on that and also that we can't keep doing this to them. The Chief made mention that we would have to compare apples to apples. He still has the numbers from before if anyone would like to see them. Chief also said that numbers could be manipulated and you should use caution in moving forward. Chief stated that he has the best guys and gals around and will stand behind them. Chief stated that he wishes we could make everybody happy but that just never happens. Buller also commented on the delinquent taxes and the fact that some of them are well known businesses that are behind in their taxes. Buller also commented to the fact that most of the delinquent taxes go to the Schools, He also wanted to know if it would be proper to put a list together and put it on our website. Talbot explained that she was playing phone tag with MTA legal to find out just what she could do.

Gunning – Doesn't believe that the people were mad about the Police Department; if it came across like that he didn't mean it to. As Gunning understands the people were asking if the Board was afraid to do the proposals like Bedford and Pennfield. Couldn't the Township save money too. Chief explained the tax chart that had been in the Shopper the week before, and the small amount of money that the Township received for Taxes. Gunning also commented on the roads that were on the outside of the County and how they were so much better than our own roads.

Hill talked more about Act 51.

Talbot – Explained that she is putting in numbers for summer taxes and the fact that Harper Creeks debt millage has gone from 7.00 to 7.9 this year for summer taxes Talbot explained that it was because of their Bond payment coming up.

**Adjournment**

Motion 14-06-17 by Myers/ Hill to Adjourn

Voice Vote:

**ALL YES  
MOTION CARRIED**

Timothy Hill, Supervisor  
Emmett Charter Township

Teresa Myers, Clerk  
Emmett Charter Township