

Charter Township of Emmett
Regular Board Meeting
January 9, 2014

Supervisor Hill called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday January 9, 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, Gunning, Buller, Jacox, Myers, and Hill

QUORUM PRESENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion 14-01-01 by Gunning/ Talbot to approve the Agenda as printed by Teresa Myers

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

**ALL YES
MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion 14- 01-2 by Buller/ Gunning to approve Consent Agenda

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

**ALL YES
MOTION CARRIED**

Treasurer's Report:

Receive and file the Monthly Treasurer's Report with balances on hand as of: December 31, 2013,

General Fund	\$ 649,037.94
SW Emmett Sewer/Water	\$ 1,339,967.48
Sanitation Fund	\$ 265,578.03
Project V Sewer Fund	\$ 91,069.99
Drug Forfeiture Fund	\$ 51,539.43
Public Safety Fund	\$ 16,459.65
Public Safety Extra	\$ 110,583.52

The Monthly Departmental Report:

Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes as printed.

None

COMMUNICATIONS & SIMPLE MOTIONS

Announcements:

- Township Planning Commission – Meeting was January 8, 2014 at 5:00p.m.
- Township Planning Commission Meetings will be the first Wednesday of the month at 5:00p.m.
- Z.B.A. Meeting – to be announced
- Next Township Board Meeting – February 13, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

MONTHLY CHECK REGISTER

Motion 14-01-3 by Talbot/Jacox to accept the Check Register as printed.

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

**ALL YES
MOTION CARRIED**

DEPARTMENT VERBAL REPORTS

Supervisor

Hill stated that he is still working on some issues from last month. Also stated that he would like to talk about the Wattles Park Hardware a bit later on in the meeting. Hill stated that there were some issues regarding the Road Department getting their trucks out to get roads cleared after the snow this last week.

Clerk

Myers stated that there would be no Election in February for Emmett Township and that we won't know about a May election until after the February Election.

Treasurer

Talbot stated that she is collecting taxes; they are due by February 14, 2014 and on the 15th of February there will be a 3% penalty added to unpaid bills. On March 1st 2014 taxes for 2013 are turned over to the County as delinquent and will need to be paid at the County. Talbot also commented on talking with Steve Titus and Bill Beaty from Meritus Payment Solutions on the Township excepting debit/ credit card payments. Meritus Payment Solutions are now checking with BS&A Software to make sure everything is compatible. Talbot also explained that the refinancing of the Township Building will take place on the 16th of January. Dougherty explained the refinancing of the Township Building so that the people of the Township would understand, plus the fact that the Board saved the Township around two hundred thousand dollars in the refinancing.

Planning and Zoning Business

Brandi Case stated that the Planning Commission is seeking approval of a Conditional Use Permit for A&B Storage of 1316 East Michigan Avenue to place a new building on an already existing lot that would give them a total of four units.

Motion 14-01-4 by Gunning/ Jacox to approve the A & B Storage Building
Roll Call Vote: Jacox, Myers, Gunning, Talbot, Dougherty, Buller, and Hill

**ALL YES
MOTION CARRIED**

Case also asked the Board to approve a site plan for Michigan Valley Irrigation located at 14265 Beadle Lake Road.

Buller with a question on whether or not the Michigan Valley Irrigation Business was going to hook up to City sewer or have a private well and questioned on the cost. Travis Munn introduced himself as a Civil Engineer for Hurle and Stewart hired by Michigan Valley Irrigation and answered any questions by the Board. Mr. Munn answered Buller's first question by saying it would be a private well. Mr. Munn also answered the second question by stating that they chose a private well as the cost was much less and the client has no future intentions of developing the property so the hook up to City sewer and water didn't make sense at this time. Buller with another question on whether or not Michigan Valley was leaving room for the Sewer line for future development. Erik Haske the owner of Michigan Valley answered that they have no intentions of future development by Michigan Valley but that there was room on both sides of the drive if needed. Jacox with a question on the access of the property being between the Doctors Office and Hazels Gas Station. Mr. Munn answered that the driveway would be located between the Doctors Office and Hazels Gas Station and that would be the only driveway.

Motion 14-01-5 by Dougherty/Gunning to approve the Michigan Valley Irrigation.
Roll Call Vote: Talbot, Dougherty, Gunning, Buller, Jacox, Myers, and Hill

**ALL YES
MOTION CARRIED**

Board Members thanked Mr. Erik Haske for being a part of our Township. Mr. Haske stated that the Planning Board made him feel very welcomed part of the Township Community.

Assessing

Leslie stated that the Assessing Department was working on finishing Building Permits and Personal Property and calculating 2014 Values.

Public Safety

Chief Olson went over the Monthly Activity Synopsis for the Month of December 2013. Olson stated that everything pretty much stayed the same but that some of the numbers went down a little due to the Ice Storm. A lot of responses were due to down lines and trees. Olson stated also with all the snow that the area just had; the Department has been kept pretty busy. The Township is pretty understanding when it

comes to calls concerning the Roads. The Township has no control over the roads and all calls should go to the County Road Department # 269 -781-9841. Olson also commented that the County was very busy also and they had been very helpful and easy to work with. Olson talked about having to close down part of M-66 around 10:00 a.m. January 9th 2014 from downtown to I-94 with a number of accidents and slide offs. Olson also commented on the fact that they had to send a plow truck out with the rescue truck just so they could get through the neighborhoods. Olson also explained that the Fire Department had helped out with the Fire in Marshall in the Linden and West Prospect area and all did a great job, and how lucky the Fire Department was to have such a great group of Fire PSO`s. Olson also commented that if you are in a neighborhood that has a fire hydrant in front of your house please shovel it out in case it is ever needed for a fire.

The department investigated 33 retail frauds complaints, 13 assaults, 16 family trouble or domestic violence complaints, 7 violations of controlled substances, 4 narcotics equipment violations, 13 obstructing justice complaints, 27 other person trouble complaints, 5 personal injury accidents and 45 property damage accidents. Also investigated or provided another 32 citizen assists for our residents.

Buller with a question about Pan Handlers out in the Harper Creek Village area and wanted to know what was being done about it. Buller also asked if there wasn't a law prohibiting Pan Handling. Olson answered that there used to be a state law on Pan Handling but under recent Court rulings this Pan Handling Law has now been almost striped out. Olson said that if they are unwelcome folks to call Police.

Jacox with a question on last summer's big fire at Cereal City Recycling and if the Township had received their cost recovery check yet. Olson responded by saying that they had been in touch with the Insurance Company and that the Insurance Company had sent a check to Cereal City Recycling and that the Township had not yet received a check but that the Township has sent a second notice to Cereal City Recycling.

Resident commented on how well the Shop with a Cop went. Talbot also commented on the fact that Public Safety Officers had chipped in some of their own money for the Shop with a Cop since there were some shortages and a couple extra kids that had not been counted on. What a wonderful gesture by all.

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Emmett Township Resolution T14-01 Budget Amendments

Question from Dougherty on adjusting our Budgets within the line items. Talbot answered that we were just moving money that was within Departmental Budgets; from lines within the department.

Motion 14-01-6 by Talbot/ Dougherty to Approve Resolution T14-01 Budget Amendments.

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

**ALL YES
MOTION CARRIED**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Refinancing of the Township Building Resolution

Motion 14-01-7 by Gunning/ Dougherty to except the Resolution from PNC Bank

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

ALL YES

MOTION CARRIED

Michigan Liquor Control Commission Request ID#: 714159 New SDM License Name of Applicant(s):

Columbia Avenue LLC Business address and phone: 1344 E Columbia, Battle Creek, MI 49014

This is informational as there are some inspections that have not been completed as of yet.

Planning Commission Discussion

There had been some discussion on whether or not we needed to keep the Planning Commission. It was decided to keep the Planning Commission with some clarifications on when the Planning Commission would meet. It was decided that they would meet the first Wednesday of the month so that these meetings would be before the Board Meetings which are the second Thursday of each month.

Purchase Orders That Need Approval

New Snow blower to be split with Public Safety and the Administration Side. This was explained by Olson as to the purchase of this new snow blower. Olson stated that the one we had was seized from a home almost eleven years ago and was not working well.

Motion 14-01-8 by Jacox /Dougherty to approve the P.O. for the snow blower to be split equally.

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

ALL YES

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Police Officers Labor Council Non-Supervisory Unit and Supervisory Contracts

Olson Thanked Dougherty and Buller for being on the committee along with Kieser and Dederin and the Union; stated that negotiations went very well.

Motion 14-01-9 by Talbot / Dougherty to approve the Police Officers Labor Council Non-Supervisory and Supervisory Unit Contracts.

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

ALL YES

MOTION CARRIED

Business Registration for Emmett Charter Township.

There was much discussion on this issue and businesses just showing up without the proper permits and coming up with some kind of registering process. There was talk about offering some kind of welcome pack to New Business Owners and no cost to registering. Hill stated that he would do some more research and bring Business registration back to the Board.

Discussion on the Wattles Park Hardware

There was much discussion on the demolition of the Hardware as far as the cost to take it down now our wait until April 1st to see if it could be removed for no cost to the Township.

Price Break for Hose and Flash Lights

Olson explained that the hose on the Fire Trucks has to be tested every year and that there hoses were not in the best of shape and some of them were forty years old. Olson stated that they have received a very good price on hoses at a 50% savings through the end of January which would be 35 rolls of hose all 50 ft. in length with a cost of \$3,600.00 which would come out of the 206 fund. Olson explained also that the flashlights that were on the Fire Trucks have aged as well and that the flashlights were a very important part of their equipment. Olson explained that they received a Grant from Wal-Mart for one thousand dollars towards the flashlights. Olson stated that the total cost would be around \$2,434.00 minus the one thousand dollar Grant for a total of \$1,434.00 also that this is for a total of twelve flashlights and two chargers.

Motion 14-01-10 by Dougherty / Jacox to approve the purchase of the hose and the flashlights for Public Safety.

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

**ALL YES
MOTION CARRIED**

Public Comments

Comment from a resident on Pan Handling a few years ago out at Wal-Mart and how well the issue had been handled by the Officer at the time.

Trustee Comments

Jacox – proud to be a part of this Board and Township and thinks that were making good strides forward.

Dougherty – feels the same as Jacox that were moving in the right direction and that he was happy to sit on the committee for the Public Safety Contract.

Buller – Commented that he feels the same as Dougherty and that it was his first time to sit on the committee concerning the Public Safety Contract and the fact that it takes a lot of time to go over the POLC.

Gunning – No Comment

Adjournment

Motion 14-01-11 by Myers/Talbot to adjourn 6:50 p.m.

Voice Vote:

**ALL YES
MOTION CARRIED**

Timothy Hill, Supervisor
Emmett Charter Township

Teresa Myers, Clerk
Emmett Charter Township