

COLOMA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
April 11, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Kenneth Parrigin called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. at the Coloma Charter Township Hall. Present for the Township: Supervisor Kenneth Parrigin, Treasurer Lance Becht, Trustees Cindy Aviles, Jim Fulton, and Jeff Mitchell. Cheryl Van Drasek attended to take the minutes in Sandy's absence. Clerk Sandy Kraemer and Trustee Bryan Duffield were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the audience.

Treasurer Lance Becht presented the consent agenda. Treasurer Becht reported the finance committee met and approved March expenses to totaling \$178, 141.00. Moved by Treasurer Becht, seconded by Trustee Fulton, to approve the consent agenda, March Board minutes and finance report. Fulton, YES; Becht, YES; Parrigin, YES; Aviles, YES; Mitchell, YES.

5 AYES 2 ABSENT AGENDA APPROVED

PRESENTATIONS AN ANNOUNCEMENTS

No presentations were given.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from the City of Coloma offering a free Elected Officials workshop on Thursday April 26, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. was presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel Committee – No meeting.

North Berrien Community Center – Chana Kniebes stated that the St. Patrick's Day Parade was a huge success and the Blues Fest is on track for June 16, 2012.

Road Committee – Ken stated a Road Committee meeting was held on March 30, 2012. He stated that Berrien County had money left over from the mild winter and they would be working on Wilson Court, Carter Road, Carmody Road and Becht Road this year.

Planning Commission – Jim Fulton reported that the Planning Commission will be hearing a Special Land Use Permit request for Great Lakes Repair, a towing and road side vehicle repair company that wishes to operate their business on a 6.29 acre lot off of West Ryno Road.

Joint Sewer Board - Lance Becht stated that the Sewer Board approved and passed their budget and that the new sewer rates would go into effect next month.

Police Department – Chief Randy Pompey gave the report of the month's activities which included the number of arrests, assists and tickets. He also stated that Jason Roe and Trent DeGroff were part of the Homicide Task force that was working on the death earlier in the month in Sodus.

Cemetery Board – Bryan Duffield was absent and the minutes of the Cemetery meeting were given to put into the minutes of the Township Board meeting.

Fire Board – Jeff Mitchell reported that the Fire Board changed their meeting date to the first Tuesday of month so that they meet before Coloma, Hagar and the City of Coloma. Jeff gave the financial report for April 2012 and he stated that if the “ole granddad fire truck” needs to be used by a group or person a general motion will no longer be needed; they will just need to contact e Chief Spiegel and he will make the necessary arrangements. Trustee Mitchell started discussion on the need to purchase additional fire trucks now. Trustee Mitchell stated that Coloma Townships share would be approximately \$265,000.00; maybe more. He stated that the trucks now in use need to be replaced to ensure the safety of the residents and he made a motion that Coloma Township agree to purchase the necessary fire trucks. There was no second to the motion and it died for lack of support. There was discussion on the necessity of purchasing the trucks now versus waiting until the millage money becomes available. Jim Fulton stated that he was not comfortable purchasing the two new trucks now and questioned their necessity. Supervisor Parrigin stated that he felt that they should wait until they get the millage money to purchase the trucks. He said that the Townships plate was full at this time. He said that the Township was dealing with a school bond millage, being sued by the Orchards Hill Landfill and Berrien County, so the Township does not need one more thing. Cindy Aviles asked where Hagar Township was in their decision on this issue. Chief Spiegel stated that Hagar Township voted not to purchase the trucks now. There was continued discussion on purchasing the fire trucks now; Trustee Aviles stated that they need to move on, that there was no support for the motion to purchase the trucks and that they should continue on with the meeting agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion on the sale of fire lanes in the township that will never be viable for fire truck access service. With the sale of the fire lanes it will decrease the liability and maintenance the Township carries and the funds could be used to improve the remaining useable fire lanes. Fire Chief Jim Spiegel inspected the fire lanes in to be sold and approved the closing of the three fire lanes. Jim Fulton wanted to make sure that the two on Lakewood were buildable and he wanted to get the current land value of the property before they approve putting the fire lanes up for sale. Cindy Aviles stated that the last time they sold property like this they gave everyone a chance to bid; not just the adjacent neighbors.

NEW BUSINESS

Police Chief Contract Renewal - Cindy Aviles made a motion to give the authority to Supervisor Ken Parrigin to sign the new three year renewal contract with Chief Randy Pompey. ROLL CALL VOTE: Fulton: YES, Becht, YES; Parrigin, YES; Aviles, YES; Mitchell, YES. 5 AYES 2 ABSENT MOTION CARRIED

Election Day Worker Approval- Cindy Aviles made a motion seconded by Jim Fulton to approve the May 8, 2012 election workers which are: Judy Clark, Chairwoman, Karin Miller, Election Inspector, Barbara Tyler, Election Inspector, Sharon Tavolacci, Election Inspector, Linda Piehl, Election Inspector.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Fulton, YES; Becht, YES; Parrigin, YES; Aviles, YES; Mitchell, YES. 5 AYES 2 ABSENT MOTION CARRIED.

Driving Record Review Policy- In the review from the Michigan Municipal League they recommend that any person who drives on behalf of the Township will need to submit to a policy which would review their driver license on a yearly basis to be certain that the driver license is valid. There was discussion as what employees should be required to adhere to the policy; township employees only or contracted employees also. Cindy stated that we need to first define what an “employee” is according to the Michigan Municipal League. Randy said that he will contact them and report back his findings. The matter was tabled until further information is received.

Sewer Rate Increase - The new sewer rate increase will take effect next month, Lance will be getting the necessary numbers.

Jim Fulton asked about the municipal water that is being extended to the Tuscany Hills development on Red arrow Hwy. He wanted to be assured that the water line was going to be extended across the entire front (road frontage on Red Arrow) of the property. Ken Parrigin stated that it would be extended all along the frontage on the road.

Bob Wooley spoke up on behalf of the fire truck purchase. He stated that the Fire Board had spent a lot of time on the new truck purchase issue and he thought that Hagar Township made the wrong decision in choosing not to fund the new trucks now. He wanted Coloma Township to make a decision now; he thought it was disrespectful not to give the Fire Board an answer.

Ken Parrigin, Jim Fulton and Cindy Aviles all stated that a motion had been made and not supported on the request. They also felt that a full board should make the decision and that they had two missing members a tonight’s meeting. A special board meeting to conclude the new fire truck purchase will be scheduled for Monday, April 16, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

There being no further business a motion was made by Cindy Aviles to adjourn, seconded by Jim Fulton. VOICE VOTE: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Submitted _____ Date _____ 1