

COLOMA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
April 13, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Kenneth Parrigin called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Coloma Charter Township Hall, Coloma, Michigan. Present for the Township: Supervisor Kenneth Parrigin, Clerk Sandy Kraemer, Treasurer Lance Becht, Trustees Jim Fulton and Jeff Mitchell. Absent Trustees Cindy Aviles and Bryan Duffield.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Clerk Kraemer.

CONSENT AGENDA

Treasurer Becht presented the consent agenda. Treasurer Becht reported the finance committee met and approved March expenses totaling \$130,129.09. Moved by Treasurer Lance Becht, seconded by Trustee Jeff Mitchell, to approve the consent agenda and finance report. ROLL CALL VOTE: Fulton, yes; Becht, yes; Parrigin, yes; Kraemer, yes; Mitchell, yes. Absent Trustees Cindy Aviles and Bryan Duffield. 5 AYES. 2 Absent. APPROVED.

PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Berrien County Drain Commissioner Roger Zielke presented a history of the Ryno Drain, off Angling Road. He stated when the Ryno Drain was first being look into as a possible problematic drain they secured easements of some property owners but the property owners along the North side of the drain did not agree to sign the easements. According to the Drain Code, a Drain Problem has to be resolved within a 5 year period or has to be abandoned. Since this has been going on for more than 5 years and they have been watching this Drain, which has not had any major problems, they have made the decision to abandon the Ryno Drain and wanted to let the Township know of their decision.

Chief Pompey introduced Al Dibrito, special agent from the FBI/Berrien Violet Crime Task Force. Special agent Al Dibrito stated an investigation was solved and he presented Chief Pompey with \$500.00 for the Coloma Police Department

Coloma Charter Township Board of Trustees

April 13, 2011

Page 2

Chana Kniebes, from North Berrien Community Development, presented a flier with information about the upcoming BBQ & Blues Festival to be held in downtown Coloma on Saturday, June 11, 2011. She also stated the Festival is looking for monetary gifts to help with expenses. After discussion Trustee Jim Fulton, seconded by Clerk Kraemer, made a motion to commit \$500.00 to help with expenses. ROLL CALL VOTE: Becht, yes; Parrigin, yes; Kraemer, yes; Mitchell, yes; Fulton, yes. 5 AYES. 2 ABSENT. MOTION CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk Kraemer presented a letter from METRO Act /Right of Way Permit issued by the Coloma Charter Township to Michigan Bell Telephone Company (d/b/a / AT & T) which is expiring and they are asking for an extension until December 31, 2013. After discussion Clerk Kraemer, seconded by Treasurer Lance Becht, made a motion to agree to an extension of METRO Act/Right of Way Permit until December 31, 2013. VOICE VOTE: 5 AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Clerk Kraemer received a letter, along with a resolution from the Berrien County Road Millage committee, requesting the Township Board's support recommendation to the Berrien County Board of Commissioners that a 0.5 mil levy for six years for the purpose of improving, repairing and preserving the roads in Berrien County be placed on the August 7, 2012 primary election ballot. After discussion Treasurer Becht, seconded by Trustee Mitchell, recommended the Township agree to the resolution. ROLL CALL VOTE: Kraemer, yes; Mitchell, yes; Fulton, yes; Becht, yes; Parrigin, yes. 5 AYES. 2 ABSENT. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chana Kniebes, from the North Berrien Community Development, wanted everyone to know about a Business Afterhours/ Ribbon Cutting to be held on Thursday, April 28th, from 5 to 7 pm for West Street Station (a hall for special occasions), located at 210 N. West Street. Owners Chris and Guy Leach will be on hand to answer any questions.

Supervisor Parrigin will be meeting with Brian Berndt, from the Berrien County Road Commission, next week.

Coloma Charter Township Board of Trustees

April 13, 2011

Page 3

Trustee Jim Fulton stated the planning commission will hold a public hearing meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2011, to hear comments on the application from Berrien County for the gun range.

Treasurer Becht gave the synopsis, for February, on Wastewater Treatment Plant. He also stated they have completed one phase on the "Headworks Project" and ready to start another.

Police Chief Pompey presented his March police report. He reviewed some of the activities on his report then announced the Coloma Police Department joined a national organization called "A Child is Missing" program. He also informed the Board he submitted the resumes of three Coloma Police Officers to join the Berrien County Homicide Task Force: Officers Dan Stuglik, Trent DeGroff, and Lieutenant Jason Roe. They have been accepted and will assist when homicides occur in North Berrien.

Trustee Mitchell reported the Fire Committee finished the 2010-2011 budget with 110% revenue and 92% expenses. He also stated technology has changed in fire fighting over the years then he turned to Chief Spiegel and asked him to explain. Chief Spiegel stated there is a "chemical grenade" out now that can be thrown into a building, with raging fire, to put the fire out faster. The Fire Committee will make a decision as to which fire trucks these grenades should be placed. He is hoping to do some "live fire training" in the future on these.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Clerk Kraemer informed everyone we needed to update our FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) procedures, guidelines, and fees. Lieutenant Jason Roe attended a FOIA training class and wrote updated resolutions for the township. Clerk Kraemer asked for approval of Resolution #2011/12-#4, a Resolution Regarding FOIA Procedures and Guidelines. Trustee Jeff Mitchell, seconded by Trustee Jim Fulton, made a motion to approve Resolution #2011/12-#4. ROLL CALL VOTE: Mitchell, yes; Fulton, yes; Becht, yes; Parrigin, yes; Kraemer, yes. 5 AYES. 2 ABSENT. MOTION CARRIED.

Clerk Kraemer asked for approval of Resolution #2011/12-#5, a Resolution Regarding FOIA Fees and Procedures. Trustee Jim Fulton, seconded by Trustee Jeff Mitchell, made a motion to approve Resolution #2011/12-#5. ROLL CALL VOTE: Mitchell, yes; Fulton, yes; Becht, yes; Parrigin, yes; Kraemer, yes. 5 AYES. 2 ABSENT. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tony Bertucca asked if the Township was aware of a large “sink hole” at Paw Paw Lake Road and Beech Avenue. Supervisor Parrigin stated he was aware of it and is looking into it. He stated there may be a drain problem or broken tiles.

Rick Rasmussen asked about a motion from last month’s meeting in which the Township Board was asked to designate \$25,000.00, if received, from the “Special Assessment District, be used to locate grants to assist in cleaning up the lake. Supervisor Parrigin informed him the wording was still being clarified.

Drain Commissioner Roger Zielke wanted to comment on the Smith/Strong drain informing everyone he is working to get it repaired and hoping the project will go to bid in June for construction to begin in the fall. Regarding the Hubbard drain, MDOT is the “big player” in this project and the project is within MDOT’s share of its budget.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Jeff Mitchell, seconded by Trustee Jim Fulton, to adjourn the meeting at 7:49pm.

Coloma Charter Township Board of Trustees
April 13, 2011
Page 5

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Kraemer, Clerk

Kenneth Parrigin, Supervisor

Date Approved _____