

The regular December meeting of the Charlton Township Board was called to order by Chairman Matt Nowak at 7:00 pm on Monday, December 8, 2008.

All board members present. Others present: Joe Edwartowski, Bob Fleury, Bob Harkness, Lee Olsen, Sally Nowak, Mike Colosimo and Ron Koronka.

Those present recited the pledge to the flag.

McCarthy moved, Huff supported, to accept the minutes of the previous regular meeting as printed. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

Kim Samkowiak presented the Treasurer's report as follows: General Operation, \$ 252,730.48; Roads Account, \$ 51,693.58; Fire/EMS Account, \$ 52,270.45. McCarthy moved, Huff supported, to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

Next Charlton Township meeting will be January 12, 2009 and the next O.C.T.O.A. meeting will be January 20, 2009, at 6:00 pm.

Audience: Joe Edwartowski questioned the board about an alternate for the Board of Review. Board members thought that it was a good idea. Nowak moved, McCarthy supported, to appoint Joe Edwartowski as alternate Board of Review member for two (2) years. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

Old Business: Talked about the proposed ORV Ordinance for the county. Keith gave a report on the township officials' meeting and the discussion about the ordinance. He stated that most township officials support some sort of ordinance. He also stated that it would be a one (1) year trial on the ordinance if it passes the county. Some thought that a drivers license should be part of the criteria for ORV operators to use the roadways. Joe reported that he took a partial survey of people in his area and that 9 of 10 were against the ordinance. Bob Harkness thought that the county would like to have all entities pass some sort of ordinance. Mike McCarthy stated that he thought it was a safety issue, but that business owners in the area want the ordinance to pass. Lee Olsen stated that there is a committee formed to work on language for the ordinance. Samkowiak moved, McCarthy supported, to recommend approval to the board of commissioners of the proposed ORV ordinance contingent upon the recommendations of the ORV committee. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

Talked about the Streetscape project. Matt reported that he wrote a letter to the USDA regards to getting a grant to help out with the project. He also reported that our portion of the project should come due after the conclusion of FY 2008-09.

Talked about the assessor contract we have with Nowak Assessing(Sally Nowak). Talked about making the assessor an employee of the township to concur with IRS guidelines. Kim gave a report on the situation from our auditors and the IRS. Since the assessor is considered to be a township official, we must have him or her as an employee. They exercise the power of government and they use the township office, equipment and supplies. Talked about the fact that Matt works for Sally on assessing. After discussion, Keith Huff moved, McCarthy supported, to terminate the contract we have with Sally Nowak as assessor. Ayes, all. Motion carried. Huff moved, McCarthy supported, to hire Sally Nowak as Level III Assessor and to adjust salary/benefits in the near future. Ayes, all. Motion carried. Contract employment to expire and employee status to begin on December 31, 2008.

Discussed Fire Insurance Escrow Account though the provisions of Public Act 495 of 1980, Act 216 of 1998 and Act 217 of 1998 which provide that a portion of certain casualty losses be withheld in an escrow account until the property has been repaired, replaced or the removal of damaged structures has been completed. After a roll-call vote, the resolution offered by Matt Nowak and supported by Kim Samkowiak passes 4-1.(Huff nay). Attached page 78.

Budget adjustment: Maschke moved, McCarthy supported, to transfer \$ 32,000.00 from Fire/EMS contingency to 501-977 (New Equipment). Ayes, all. Motion carried.

Matt talked about the traffic speed limit during start up and closing of the school. It is 25 miles per hour. Matt thought and the school concurs that it should be changed to 35 MPH. Matt will check with MDOT.

Reports: Lee Olsen gave a report on county activities. They are interviewing a new airport director. They passed a balanced budget. Repair work in continuing at the court house. He stated that there will soon be programs at the University Center for college degrees through LSSU. This is Lee's last meeting as county commissioner. Those present thanked Lee for his work at the county.

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December 8, 2008, continued.

Fire: Ron reported that they got a grant for helmet lights from Enbridge Corp. for \$ 750.00. Talked about getting updated turnout gear. There are new regulations for equipment for firefighters. He stated that Don Wright has quit the department. Ron has not gotten his pager or key back yet.

EMS: Kim thought that things were going good and that there has been good response to runs.

Planning: Mike Colosimo talked about the planning/zoning meetings. They are still talking about wind generation. They plan to raise the maximum height of wind generators. Residential wind generators were held to 65 ft. and now are alright at 100 ft.

Assessing: Sally reported that she met with Bill Kerr and they are changing the ratios for tax assessing.

Mike McCarthy talked about the jail committee.

Keith talked about the Helen Yankie memorial.

McCarthy moved, Huff supported, to pay the General Operation bills presented in the amount of \$ 15,944.62 (checks number 17174 thru 17202). Ayes, all. Motion carried.

McCarthy moved, Huff supported, to pay the Fire/EMS bills presented in the amount of \$ 4,098.25. (checks number 1550 thru 1554) Ayes, all. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.