

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF ELMWOOD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JUNE 12, 2023
IN THE TOWNSHIP HALL**

Call to Order:

Supervisor Shaw called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Supervisor Shaw led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Present: Jeff Shaw, Connie Preston, Dave Darga, Chris Mikowski, Kyle Trevas and Jordan Gallagher

Excused: Terry Lautner

Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

Clerk Preston reported that it was her daughter that was being considered for an appointment to the Parks and Recreation Committee. No motion was made to recuse.

Public Comment

Paul Walter
David Howe
Jim O'Rourke
Todd Bonter
Samantha Bonter

Consent Calendar:

Department Reports:

Treasurer

Planning/Zoning

~~**Fire Chief**~~

Harbormaster

Committee Reports:

Minutes:

5-8-23

5-30-23

Post Audit Invoices 5-15-23 through 5-31-23

MOTION BY CLERK PRESTON, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE DARGA TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR, OMITTING FIRE REPORT. The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Agenda Approval

Trustee Darga requested that a Timberlee Water discussion be added to the agenda.

MOTION BY TRUSTEE DARGA, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE GALLAGHER TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED BY ADDING 10F, TIMBERLEE WATER DISCUSSION. The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Supervisor Remarks

Supervisor Shaw submitted a written report and added that no tax money goes to the marina. The marina operates on fees.

Trustee Remarks

Trustee Trevas stated he was sorry to have to raise rates but we had to do it.

Trustee Darga stated that the improvements to the marina were the results of five years of study and community input.

Engineer's Report

None

Other Officer Remarks

Chief Tampa updated the Board on activities and stats of the Fire Department

Communications from the Clerk

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Utility Rate Study Presentation

Dawn Lund, Vice President of Utility Financial Solutions, LLC presented her Financial Projection Studies for Elmwood Sewer, Greilickville Water, and Timberlee Water. For each system, she projected revenue requirements for the next five years and the proposed rate adjustments necessary to reach those needs. In order to complete some upgrades at the sewer treatment plant, Traverse City will be charging Elmwood \$100,000.00 more per year for sewer treatment. A 5% rate increase will cover the increase and cost the sewer customer an additional \$1.15 per month. The proposed rate increases for both water departments are also 5%. There was consensus of the Board to approve the rate increases. Resolutions will be brought to the Board next month to enact the changes.

Ms. Lund also advised that Elmwood Township change sewer and water connection fees from using residency equivalent units to charging by meter size. The meter size pricing was calculated using the AWWA standard. There was consensus of the Board to make the change and the amendment will be brought back to the Board.

Dance Group Request

Patrick Kenny, representing a group of dancers, requested the use of the pavilion on Wednesday and Saturday evenings from approximately 7:30 to 11:00 p.m. They can direct their music away from residences. They sometimes use lights like Christmas lights because the motion detector does not always stay on.

MOTION BY CLERK PRESTON, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE GALLAGHER TO ALLOW THE DANCE GROUP TO USE THE CHERRY BEND PAVILION ON WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS UNTIL 11:00 P.M. The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Fireworks Permit Request

Chief Tampa presented his review of the fireworks permit applications for the Cherry Festival and the Boom Boom Club's fireworks display. The plans are the same as previous years but the application is lacking some documents.

MOTION BY TRUSTEE TREVAS, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE GALLAGHER TO APPROVE BOTH OF THE APPLICATIONS CONTINGENT UPON RELEASES, WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INSURANCE DOCUMENTS SHOWING ELMWOOD AS ADDITIONAL INSURED WITH FINAL APPROVAL BY CHIEF TAMPA AND SUPERVISOR SHAW. The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Grant Writing Proposal

Supervisor Shaw presented his request to retain the services of Carl Ferguson to find and apply for grants for Elmwood Township. There are millions of dollars available for projects like sidewalks and Mr. Ferguson has experience and contacts to make successful applications. He currently does grant writing for Traverse City, TART, and the Discovery Center. He charges \$45.00 per hour.

MOTION BY TRUSTEE DARGA, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE GALLAGHER TO ALLOW THE SUPERVISOR TO CONTACT THE GRANT WRITER AND PUT TOGETHER A LIST OF PRIORITIES AND MOVE FORWARD. The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Parks and Recreation Committee Appointment

MOTION BY TRUSTEE DARGA, SECONDED BY TREASURER MIKOWSKI TO APPOINT HANNAH PRESTON TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE FOR A TWO- YEAR TERM. The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Timberlee Water Discussion

Trustee Darga reported on his visit to the Timberlee water system equipment. Also present for the site visit were engineer Ken Schwerdt and an employee of the Department of Public Works. Mr. Darga felt that the system is working well and working as built. He said there haven't been problems so there is no reason to change. Supervisor Shaw added that our engineer is getting numbers together regarding tank replacement in preparation for next month's meeting.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES

MOTION BY TRUSTEE DARGA, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE GALLAGHER TO PAY THE INVOICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$71,133.50. The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Adjournment

Supervisor Shaw adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.