

Charter Township of Breitung
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Main Board Room – Breitung Township Hall
Monday, January 22, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Clerk Larson at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Trustee Rochon, Clerk Larson, Trustee Taff and Trustee Peterson.

Absent: Trustee Day, Supervisor Olson, Treasurer Taylor, all excused.

Also Present: Superintendent Mulka, Deputies Kuenzer and Polzien, DPW Superintendent Davis, Assessor Murawski, Hearing Officer Mike Bronzyk, Fire Chief Rose, Jim Paul (Press), Christina Maki, Sharon Reuter, Margie Schnapp and Kyle O'Meara (Attorney, remote).

Invocation given by: Trustee Peterson and pledge recited by all.

Motion by Trustee Rochon, **seconded** by Trustee Taff to appoint Trustee Peterson as the president pro tem for this meeting in Supervisor Olson's absence. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Public Comment: None.

Approvals:

Approval of Agenda: **Motion** by Trustee Rochon, **seconded** by Trustee Taff to approve the January 22, 2024 Agenda, as presented with the addition of 8e. Advertiser Winter ad. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Trustee Rochon to approve the December 26, 2023 Regular Board Meeting minutes, as presented. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Trustee Rochon to approve the January 8, 2024 Regular Board Meeting minutes, as presented. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Trustee Rochon to approve the December 18, 2023 Special Board Meeting minutes, as presented. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Public Hearing: None.

Old Business:

US-2 Corridor Update: Superintendent Mulka stated Regional Traffic and Safety Engineer Ben Feldhausen and Jim Harris from the Dickinson County Road Commission will meet with him tomorrow January 23, 2024 to discuss the traffic concerns and ideas of possible resolutions regarding the US-2 corridor from the Hospital to the South Junction to bring to the Access Management Committee meeting in the near future. Superintendent Mulka will inform the Board when the Committee has set a date for that meeting.

New Business:

Schinderle Appeal to the BOT: Attorney Kyle O'Meara participated remotely to advise the Board and to oversee the appeal process. Kerry Schinderle of 421 Henford, Kingsford presented his case in opposition of the order issued by the Township Dangerous Building Hearing Officer. Superintendent Mulka responded to Mr. Schinderle's appeal by stating the property still remains to be an environmental issue despite Mr. Schinderle's attempt to clean up the property, for which he commended him for trying on his own.

The primary structure and surrounding grounds continue to pose several hazardous concerns for the neighboring properties. There have been numerous complaints, notices, and citations as far back as 1987 with the most recent being a fire in November 2023.

Motion by Trustee Rochon, **seconded** by Trustee Taff to deny the appeal received by Kerry Schinderle regarding the property at 421 Henford Ave, Kingsford and set the matter for a hearing on the findings and order of the Hearing Officer before the Township Board pursuant to MCL 125.541(4) for the next Township Board meeting on Monday February 12, 2024 at 7:00 pm with notice to Mr. Schinderle by regular mail, certified mail, and posting notice of the hearing on the property. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Assessors and Board of Review Training: **Motion** by Trustee Rochon, **seconded** by Trustee Taff to approve the Assessor's Update 2024 Key Topics class in the amount of \$15 total for Assessor Murawski, Deputy Assessor Gasperich and Holli Beeck, also the Board of Review Member Training class in the amount of \$20 total for the 8 attendees, both classes being held in Iron Mountain. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Accountant assignment as Third Signatory: **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Clerk Larson to approve Township Accountant Christina Maki to be appointed/assigned as third signatory on all Bank accounts held by the Township to give her the ability to sign checks with Board direction and allow her access to all accounts for review of transactions and monthly reconciliation. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Recommended Hire for the Fire Department: **Motion** by Trustee Rochon, **seconded** by Trustee Taff to approve the hiring of Mike Ireland as a Firefighter II assigned to Station 1 in Quinnesec. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Advertiser Winter Sports ad: **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Trustee Rochon to support the request for Winter Sports for Breitung Township in the amount of \$33.25. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Reports:

Clerk's Financial Report:

Motion by Trustee Rochon, **seconded** by Trustee Taff to approve Clerk Larson's Post Transaction Report from January 4, 2024 through January 17, 2024. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Motion by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Trustee Rochon to receive and place on file Clerk Larson's Revenue/Expenditure Report and Balance Sheet ending 12/31/2023. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Treasurer's Financial Report:

Motion by Clerk Larson, **seconded** by Trustee Rochon to receive and place on file Treasurer Taylor's Cash Summary by Bank for the month of December 2023. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Superintendent Report - Highlights: Written report submitted by Township Superintendent Mulka.

Assessor's Report: Written report submitted by Assessor Murawski. Next Board of Review meeting will be held March 12, 2024.

Department of Public Works Report: Written report submitted by DPW Superintendent Davis. **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Trustee Rochon to approve to put out an RFP for an equipment haul trailer and also the demo and construction of a new warehouse building. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Committees/Boards/Commissions Reports: None.

Board Discretionary Time:

Superintendent Mulka would like to highlight the SWP Assistance Programs in the Board packets, which provides help to residents, who qualify, with their utility bills. The Board had previously given permission for the DPW Superintendent and Utility Clerk to help set up payment plans for those residents who qualify for any of the three different programs.

Payment of Bills: **Motion** by Trustee Rochon, **seconded** by Trustee Taff to approve the bill list in the amount of \$88,325.68. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Public Comment: None.

Adjournment: **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Clerk Larson to adjourn the meeting. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

The meeting was declared adjourned by Trustee Peterson at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Reviewed and Approved by,

Wendy Larson
Breitung Township Clerk

Denny Olson
Breitung Township Supervisor