

Charter Township of Breitung
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Main Board Room – Breitung Township Hall
Monday, January 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Olson at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Trustee Day, Supervisor Olson, Treasurer Taylor, and Trustee Taff.
Absent: Trustee Rochon, Clerk Larson – excused; Trustee Peterson - unexcused

Also Present: Superintendent Mulka, Deputy Brian Polzien, Sharon Reuter, Mike Bronzyk, Fire Chief Jim Rose, Jim Paul (Press).

The Invocation was given by Superintendent Olson and the pledge recited by all.

Public Comment: None.

Approvals:

Approval of Agenda: **Motion** by Supervisor Olson, **seconded** by Trustee Day to approve the January 8, 2024 Agenda, as presented with the addition of 5c Approval of the December 18, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** by Supervisor Olson, **seconded** by Trustee Taff to table the December 26, 2023 Regular Board Meeting minutes approval until the January 22, 2024 regular meeting. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Treasurer Taylor to table the December 18, 2023 Special Board Meeting minutes approval until the January 22, 2024, regular meeting. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Public Hearing: None.

Old Business:

Building Addition/Capital Improvements: After discussing what everyone would like to see in an Engineering Request for Proposal, a **Motion** was made by Supervisor Olson, **seconded** by Trustee Taff to put out a Request for Proposal to Engineering Firms for an initial consultation and review of current information for expansion of the Township Offices, for replacement and enlargement of the Pole Building/Dry Storage, and for a Walking Path that either encircles the blocks around Quinnesec park, or that connects to the Lincoln-Cliff intersection crosswalk and then heads north along Cliff to Menominee and then west to the cemetery with the option of adding a dog park west of DPW and North of Menominee. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

2023 Audit Bids: **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Trustee Day to open the 2023 sealed Audit Bid responses. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

There were two responses to the Request for Bid. The first response was a letter from Scott Kenney from Crystal Falls thanking us for the opportunity but declining to bid because he was in the process of retiring. The second was from Gabridge & Co. Their proposed bid is as follows:
For year-end December 31, 2023 – not to exceed \$19,000.
For year-end December 31, 2024 – not to exceed \$19,600.
For year-end December 31, 2025 – not to exceed \$20,200.

Motion by Treasurer Taylor, **seconded** by Trustee Taff to accept the audit bid from Gabridge for the years 2023, 2024, and 2025, with prices not to exceed \$19,000, \$19,600, and \$20,200, respectively.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

New Business:

Naming of the DPW facility: Superintendent Mulka noted that this had been talked about for a couple of years already. Supervisor Olson stated that naming the DPW facility after Guy Forstrom would be a good way to honor him. **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Treasurer Taylor to dedicate the DPW facility to Guy Forstrom by renaming the facility the "Guy Forstrom DPW Building". **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Lake Antoine Kite support request: **Motion** by Trustee, **seconded** by Treasurer Taylor to support the Kites Over Awesome Lake Antoine community promotion in the amount of \$500. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Schinderle Appeal of the Dangerous Building Hearing (Moved to 1.22.24): Superintendent Mulka stated that there have been multiple attempts to serve notice to Mr. Schinderle, but all attempts have been unsuccessful. He said he would like to have a conference call with the attorney, the Deputies, and the Dangerous Building Hearing Officer to see what we could do to make these types of situations smoother and quicker to bring to conclusion. **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Treasurer Taylor to table the Schinderle appeal hearing until we can get the Attorney's opinion and provide a reschedule date.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Reports:

Clerk's Financial Report: **Motion** by Treasurer Taylor, **seconded** by Trustee Taff to approve Clerk Larson's Post Transaction Report from December 20, 2023 through January 3, 2024. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Fire Report - Highlights: Written report submitted by Fire Chief Rose. Fire Chief Rose stated that the department has been extremely busy, and he is very satisfied with responses from the Fire Fighters. He brought up a video that had circulated on social media and noted that the people on the video were stating that the Breitung Township Fire Department did not get on scene for over 30 minutes. Fire Chief Rose stated he reviewed the response times and found that the first truck was on scene within ten minutes after the first call fire dispatch had received. He stated that the video shows people watching, filming, and complaining about the fire, but indicated that no one actually called 911 to report it. He expressed we need to get the word out to the community that if there is a fire, it needs to be immediately reported. Fire Chief Rose stated that one of the Fire Department's campaigns would now be, "If you see something, report it".

Supervisor Olson asked Fire Chief Rose if the Fire Department would want another training like last year's training. Fire Chief Rose indicated that it would be very helpful for the department. Supervisor Olson said he would meet with Fire Chief Rose and Superintendent Mulka to make the plans for the training. He noted that he was already in touch with a speaker from the Michigan Fire Marshals and would put Fire Chief Rose in touch with him as well.

Superintendent Report - Highlights: Written report submitted by Township Superintendent Steve Mulka. Superintendent Mulka added that he had received further information about the rural water equipment association. He stated that there is specialty equipment that we could use, and we can use it at our discretion. He noted that because this is an equipment share, we could move forward with the \$500 contribution with \$250 coming from each water fund.

Supervisor Olson asked if the master plan notice was the correct one. Superintendent Mulka stated that was what he was sent when he asked for the list but will ask to make sure it is supposed to be that way.

Trustee Taff asked if Superintendent Mulka had asked about the speed limit issue on US 2 discussed during previous meetings. Superintendent Mulka noted that he has not received any answers back yet.

Superintendent Mulka noted that it was not in the report, but he has a proposed collection site for Millie Hill.

Committees/Boards/Commissions Reports: None.

Code Enforcement Report: For the month of December 2023, the Breitung Township Officers handled the following: 5 accidents, 34 complaints, 0 code enforcements, and 2 arrests.

For the year of 2023, the Breitung Township Officers handled the following: 45 accidents, 392 complaints, 29 code enforcements, and 15 arrests.

10. Board Discretionary Time:

Trustee Day asked about Utility Clerk Michaud and noted that he had observed the large amount of traffic that her position handles and stressed the importance of her position for the Township. He stated that he wanted everyone to know how fortunate the Township is to have her at that position and that she does a super job.

Happy Birthday to Jim Paul, Theresa Boyer, Chris Kuenzer, and Chris Wilcox!

The Board talked about moving the regular meeting to January 29th so Supervisor Olson and Trustee Day could attend, but ultimately decided to leave the regular meeting as-is.

Payment of Bills: **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **seconded** by Trustee Day to approve the bill list in the amount of \$44,487.50. **Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.**

Public Comment: None

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

The meeting was declared adjourned by Supervisor Olson at 8:09 p.m.

Handwritten minutes taken and transcribed by Deputy Clerk Helen Schaller.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Reviewed and Approved by,

Wendy Larson
Breitung Township Clerk

Denny Olson
Breitung Township Supervisor