

APPROVED

CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 9, 2017

The February 9, 2017, meeting of the Township Board was called to order at 6:30 PM. by Supervisor Bunte, with Dudiak, Rettig, Sullivan present. Marske absent. Also present John Gooch, of the Harbor Country News, along with several members of the community.

Supervisor Bunte led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rettig moved, Sullivan supported to accept the Township Board January 12, 2017 minutes as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Sullivan moved, Dudiak moved to accept the January 18, 2017 budget workshop minutes as presented. Rettig abstained due to not being present. All ayes, motion carried.

Rettig moved, Dudiak supported to approve the February 7, 2017 budget meeting minutes as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Dudiak moved, Sullivan supported to approve the Treasurers report as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Letters and emails from the community were distributed to the board and will be put on record that they were received.

Galien River Sanitation and Lake Township letters were received advising the township of the upcoming increases in the water and sewer rates. Anyone requesting copies can contact the office.

Berrien County Road commission 2017 Road improvement Schedule will be added to the Chikaming Township website; also a board will be put up in the lobby for the public to review.

Chikaming Township Police Department has a new member in their ranks, Safety pup the new child safety Mascot for kids.

Letter was read that was sent to Laura Jewell of Attila Real Estate.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The public commented on the open house that took place last evening February 8, 2017 stating that it was very well attended and presented.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

An update on the Chikaming Township Park Board to name Chikaming Township Park Board as Stewards of Ordinance 126 was discussed with park board members and attorney Hilmer and has been put on hold until the March meeting to be able to obtain additional legal advice and gather additional information before any decisions are made. Plan is to meet again before the March Township board meeting.

At last month's meeting Rich Sullivan had volunteered to sit on the board of the LRSB to represent Chikaming Township. At the LRSB January 17" special meeting of at-large municipalities, the group voted to elect Jim Bracewell of Village of Grand Beach, as at-large board representative.

Status report on the ongoing Sibry vs Chudik situation. Supervisor Bunte and Rich Sullivan attended the hearing on January 13, 2017 regarding the suit against the township. No settlement was confirmed. The township is pursuing several different avenues, one being a letter that went out today to Dr. Chudik with options and a date of March 7, 2017 being scheduled with the Zoning Board of Appeals.

NEW BUSINESS:

A request from Zoning Department to adjust Chikaming Township Zoning Department Fee Schedule to include Construction Board of Appeals fee of \$300.00 was discussed. Dudiak moved, supported by Sullivan to adjust the fee schedule as requested. All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Rettig and supported by Dudiak to approve the request from Zoning Department to increase Building Permit Fee Schedule for \$2,001-\$50,000 value to minimum \$75 from \$50 to keep in line with costs. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion to approve requests from River Valley, Berrien RESA and Lake Michigan College to collect 100% and New Buffalo to collect 50% of summer taxes for local schools and to authorize Supervisor Bunte and Clerk Dudiak to sign agreements. Rettig moved, supported by Sullivan. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion to approve new Federal Mileage Rate of 53.5 cents per mile, moved by Rettig, supported by Dudiak. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by Rettig, supported by Sullivan to approve the request by Supervisor Bunte to contract with Point & Pay to provide online and credit card payment processing for 3 years to township residents for township-related services and fees. All ayes, motion carried. Any subsequent fees will be tax payer's responsibility.

A request from the Chikaming Park Board for a Resolution to Approve the Department of Natural Resources Michigan Recreation Passport Grant Application and Matching Funds was presented to the board. A motion was made by Sullivan, supported by Dudiak to approve the grant process. All ayes, motion carried.

A request from Chief Taylor to purchase radios for police department with grant money of \$15,000 and general operations activity in police budget of public safety fund was presented to the board. A motion was made by Dudiak, supported by Sullivan to approve. All ayes, motion carried.

REPORTS:

Reports from Police, Fire, MFR, Library, and Park Board, were all presented for approval. Motion was made by Dudiak supported by Bunte to accept the reports and place them on file. All voted aye. Motion carried.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

None

PAYING OF BILLS:

Bills were presented by Rettig for approval, Dudiak moved, supported by Sullivan, to accept the bills presented to be paid by Chikaming Township. All voted aye. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Our condolences were given to the family of Craig Burandt, Chikaming Township Water Superintendent who passed away January 20, 2017.

The Chikaming Open House for Ordinance review was a great success, thank you to the community for attending and the committee's attendance.

Save the date Saturday July 22, 2017, 12:00 to 6:00, a large event will be held called Celebrate Chikaming volunteers are welcome for committees. More details will follow.

New Buffalo Public Library is hosting a Mad Hatter Tea March 25<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm – 4:00pm and a Sky Watch at the Library Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm-8:30 pm.

The Pokagon Fund is hosting a Harbor Country Training Series - focus on Fundraising March 23, April 26 and May 25<sup>th</sup>.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 PM, Rettig moved, Sullivan supported. All ayes, Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Paula Dudiak  
Chikaming Township Clerk