

APPROVED

**CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
September 14, 2017**

The September 14, 2017, meeting of the Township Board was called to order at 6:35 PM. by Supervisor Bunte, with Dudiak, Rettig, Marske, and Sullivan present. Also present Attorney Charles Hilmer, John Gooch, of the Harbor Country News and Francesca Sagala of the New Buffalo Times along with several members of the community.

Supervisor Bunte led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marske moved, Rettig supported to accept the minutes of the August 10, 2017 Township Board Meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

Dudiak moved, Marske supported to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

A letter read received from EnRico Heirman was read stating that he will be resigning from the Park Board effective immediately (September 14, 2017). Supervisor Bunte noted that he will be missed and was a valuable asset to Chikaming Township.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Brian Granke addressed the board regarding a problem with his neighbors having too many cats per our ordinance and stated he had been in to report it several times.

OLD BUSINESS:

The amendment to Ordinance No. 126 along with policy and procedures for obtaining gate access and a Chikaming Township Gate Access Permit Application was approved by the Park Board at their August 28, 2017 meeting and returned to the Township Board for approval. Suggestion regarding having a representative from the Park Board, along with our Building Department/Zoning Department was discussed. The motion was tabled until the October meeting to allow further discussion.

Supervisor Bunte advised there would be a Notice of hearing – Oral Arguments in Steven Chudik appeal scheduled for September 26, 2017.

NEW BUSINESS:

Introduction of new police hire by Chief Taylor was postponed due to officer not being available because of obligations with National Guard Duties.

After attending the August 29, 2017 workshop, supervisor Bunte reviewed the board on Japanese Knotweed plant and its potential impact on the township was discussed in length. This will be looked at in further detail by all Chikaming departments with updates to follow.

Another danger in our community the Oak Wilt that could kill our oak trees in Michigan was brought up with a handout of a scheduled info meeting October 19, 2017 Berrien Conservation District, this is currently effecting Warren Dunes State Park.

A motion was made to approve the appointment of Beverly Kohn to the personnel committee, joining Paula Dudiak and David Bunte was moved by Marske, supported by Sullivan.

All ayes, motion carried.

A motion to accept a construction bid for entryway repairs to Chikaming Township Hall from Chris Brooks was submitted, with a cap at \$21,000.00, along with an amendment to the budget for a capital expense was moved by Marske, supported by Rettig. All ayes, motion carried.

A Special Land Use Permit for 14671 Three Oaks Road, Three Oaks, Michigan was approved by Chikaming Township Planning commission and submitted to the board for approval, it was moved by Marske, supported by Sullivan to approve the permit. All ayes, motion carried.

REPORTS:

Reports from Police, Fire, Building, Bridgman & New Buffalo Library, Park Board, ZBA and planning were all presented for approval.

Motion was made by Dudiak, supported by Rettig to accept the reports and place them on file. All voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Additional comments from the public:

Janet Schrader Park Board member had additional comments regarding Ordinance No. 126 and suggested the entire Park Board approve permits instead of a representative.

BILLS:

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Sullivan updated everyone on the ordinance review committee stating they are working long hours and making amazing progress.

Planning Commission will have a special meeting September 26, 2017 at 6:30 to discuss a possible marijuana ordinance.

Clerk advised the new voting equipment arrived this week and was paid for through a State Grant. Ballots are ordered for the special election November 7, 2017 with training classes to be held at Chikaming Township.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 PM, moved by Rettig, supported by Marske.

All ayes, motion carried. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Paula Dudiak
Chikaming Township Clerk