
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BEDFORD

115 S. Uldriks Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49037

July 12, 2018 – 7:00 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Heikkila called the regularly scheduled Board meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The audience and Board members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION – Pastor Randy Stewart, Bethel Baptist

4. ROLL CALL

Adam Heikkila, Supervisor; Joyce Feraco, Clerk; Chrisandra Dezotell, Treasurer; Joseph Cipic, Trustee; Connie Gibson, Trustee; Randolph Johnson, Trustee- absent; Sally Shaw, Trustee.

5. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 12, 2018 AGENDA

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Clerk Feraco and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the July 12, 2018 agenda, as submitted.

ROLL CALL: Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –absent; Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipic-yes;
6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent Motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 14, 2018 MINUTES

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Shaw and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the June 14, 2018 minutes, as submitted.

ROLL CALL: Johnson –absent; Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes;
6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent Motion carried.

7. SUPERVISOR'S ADDRESS

Supervisor Heikkila communicated that he was ready to get back to business and focus on the growth of the township. He stated that there are a lot of activities that he will be working on and working toward.

8. CITIZENS TIME – agenda items only

Mr. VanGothem touched on the Farmer's Market and the benefit to the community. Local business owner mentioned that she was extremely happy that a blight officer was hired and things were getting done.

9. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

none

10. COMMUNICATIONS - ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

- * Draft June 14, 2018 Minutes
- * Check Register
- * Michigan Township Participating Plan – newsletter

{A) FINANCE

RES. 07/12/18/40

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Treasurer Dezotell and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve payment of expenses totaling \$60,930.92.

ROLL CALL: Johnson –absent; Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipcic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes;
6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent Motion carried.

(B) PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

POLICE: Battle Creek Police Officer Kidney went over the reports and call volume from the last month. He requested recommendations of where to next place the flashing speed sign next.

FIRE: Chief Cochensparger reported that there were 3 individual firefighters recently certified, and 2 additional that would certify soon. He recommended the promotion of Firefighter Howes to Lt. Howes. Chief updated everyone on the activities in the township.

Trustee Johnson arrived at 7:20pm.

(C) BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Nothing to report

(D) BUILDING OFFICIAL

Mark Hires let the residents and Board know that a second driveway was being required by MDOT, for the new Dollar General; demolition is underway in preparation for ground breaking. He talked about the permits and new houses being built.

(E) CHAIRMAN OF PLANNING COMMISSION

Barry Beamish reported on the Planning Commission activities; points of topic were to continue to work on the Parks and Recreation Master plan, editing the plan to more closely reflect Bedford Township and exploring solar energy possibilities. The August 14, 2018 meeting has been canceled.

(F) BLIGHT AND CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Bill Scutt commented on the number of letters he has sent out and the interactions that he has had with residents. It was mentioned that cars that were inoperable would be in violation of the ordinance and could possibly be ticketed and towed, but letters would be sent first.

(G) LEGISLATIVE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Commissioner Frisbie talked about problems working with the DEQ to get the final permit approved to get the work done on Halbert Road. He was available to answer county questions, to include roads.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS

RES. 07/12/18/41

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Treasurer Dezotell and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford, under the recommendation of Chief Cochensparger to approve the promotion of Firefighter Jon Howes to Lieutenant.

ROLL CALL: Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipcic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes; Heikkila-yes;
7 yes, 0 no, Motion carried.

RES. 07/12/18/42

Moved by Treasurer Dezotell, supported by Trustee Shaw and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to remove the designation of Blight and Code Compliance Officer from the supervisor's duties. Duties were assigned previously as a temporary measure while a search for a Blight and Code Enforcement Officer could be conducted. William Scutt was hired/appointed at the June 14, 2018 board meeting. Mr. Scutt has been actively pursuing complaints and making contact with residents.

ROLL CALL: Dezotell-yes; Cipcic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes; Heikkila-no; Feraco –yes;
6 yes, 1 no, Motion carried.

RES. 07/12/18/43

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Cipcic and resolved by the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the Annual generator maintenance program submitted by Total Energy Systems, LLC., at a rate of \$552.50 per year for a period of 5 years.

ROLL CALL: Cipcic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes; Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes;
7 yes, 0 no, Motion carried.

There was a motion to approve a Farmer's Market to be held on Saturday, July 21 from 9:00am – 1:00pm in the adjacent parking lot. Future dates will be announced. This event is being organized by Peter VanGothem who is contacting vendors for the event. Any questions can be directed to the township office, or Mr. VanGothem at 964-8083.

Supervisor Heikkila suggested that a follow up meeting be scheduled; a motion was put forward for a voice vote, all were in favor.

13. CITIZENS TIME

Citizens had concerns about Comcast prices and service, lack of understanding local vs. primary roads and multiple phases of completion. Public apology by a resident to the Supervisor and the Board .

14. TRUSTEES PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Trustee Gibson asked for support for the upcoming millage; he spoke about the importance of the millage passing and the impact it would have on the Fire Department as well as the residents.

Trustee Johnson welcomed Peter VanGothem to Bedford.

15. ANNOUNCEMENT BY CHAIR, CHAIRPERSON OR ELECTED OFFICIAL

Clerk Feraco reminded everyone to vote on August 7, 2018.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported Trustee Shaw
Voice vote by all members to adjourn the board meeting at 7:48pm.

Next Board meeting is August 9, 2018 at 7:00pm.

ADAM HEIKKILA, SUPERVISOR

JOYCE FERACO, CLERK