

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BEDFORD

MARCH 14, 2013

MINUTES

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BEDFORD CONVENED FOR THE REGULAR SCHEDULE BOARD MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2013, 7:30 P.M., MEETING ROOM, 115 SOUTH ULDRIKS DRIVE, BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN, 49037

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY SUPERVISOR SPRAU.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

THE AUDIENCE AND BOARD MEMBERS RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: THOMAS J. SPRAU, SUPERVISOR; JOYCE FERACO, CLERK; CHRISANDRA DEZOTELL, TREASURER; CONNIE GIBSON, TRUSTEE; RICHARD HARVEY, TRUSTEE; ANDY JONES, TRUSTEE; SALLY SHAW, TRUSTEE -- A QUORUM WAS PRESENT

4. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 14, 2013 MINUTES

MOVED BY TRUSTEE HARVEY, SUPPORTED BY TRUSTEE SHAW, RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BEDFORD TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 14, 2013 MINUTES, AS SUBMITTED.

SUPERVISOR SPRAU ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY CORRECTIONS OR DELETIONS REFERENCING THE MINUTES. THE BOARD DID NOT HAVE CORRECTIONS OR DELETIONS.

ROLL CALL: HARVEY, YES; SPRAU, YES; SHAW, YES; JONES, YES; FERACO, YES; DEZOTELL, YES; GIBSON, YES -- 7 YES, 0 NO, 0 EXCUSED. MOTION CARRIED.

5. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

SUPERVISOR SPRAU INTRODUCED MR. MIKE FARMER TO THE AUDIENCE AND BOARD MEMBERS. MR. FARMER REFERENCED HIS BUSINESS AND NOTED THAT IT WAS ASSOCIATED WITH BLIGHT ENFORCEMENT. HE EXPLAINED THAT HE WORKS FOR THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AND HAS BEEN THERE, GOING ON 25 YEARS. HE NOTED HE HAS OWNED HIS OWN BUSINESS FOR 13 YEARS, AND IT IS CALLED, "PROFESSIONAL ENFORCEMENT SERVICES". HE HANDLES BLIGHT, MOTOR VEHICLES STORAGE, DANGEROUS BUILDINGS ACTS, ZONING ISSUES, CONSTRUCTION PERMITS. HE EXPLAINED THAT HE IS FAMILIAR WITH STATE POLICY AND WITH STATE PROCEDURES.

HE CONTRACTS HIS SERVICE WITH CONVIS, ECKFORD, FREDONIA AND MARSHALL TOWNSHIPS. FARMER EXPLAINED IT IS HOW YOU ADDRESS THE ISSUE WITH PEOPLE, SO THEY WOULD COME UNDER COMPLIANCE. HE NOTED HE DOES NOT DO THIS WITH AN ATTITUDE. SOME FOLKS NEED MORE TIME AND THEY USUALLY DO COMPLY -- VERY FEW FOLKS WERE PROSECUTED. HE HAS A FLAT FEE OF \$275.00 A MONTH -- NO ADDED MILEAGE, STAMPS OR SUPPLIES -- JUST A FLAT FEE. THE BOARD APPROVES AND DIRECTS ME HOW THEY WANT THINGS DONE. A QUESTION WAS ASKED IF MR. FARMER CARRIES LIABILITY INSURANCE OR DOES THE TOWNSHIP. MR. FARMER INDICATED THAT HE CARRIES AN UMBRELLA INSURANCE POLICY.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

(1) MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATION FAX.

(2) MICHIGAN REPRESENTATIVE 63rd DISTRICT JASE BOLGER NEWS

FERACO, CLERK, REPORTED ON COMMUNIQUES AND NOTED THAT THE SCHOOLS HAVE A MAY ELECTION.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

THERE WAS DISCUSSION REFERENCING MR. FARMER AND POSSIBLY HIRING HIM FOR THE BLIGHT ISSUE.

8. REPORTS

(A) FINANCE

RES. 3/14/13/09 MOVED BY TRUSTEE SHAW, SUPPORTED BY TRUSTEE HARVEY, RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BEDFORD TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF: \$60,046.60.

SUPERVISOR SPRAU ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY QUESTIONS REFERENCING THE BILLS. THERE WAS NO ACTION.

ROLL CALL: DEZOTELL, YES; GIBSON, YES; HARVEY, YES; SPRAU, YES; SHAW, YES; JONES, YES; FERACO, YES -- 7 YES, 0 NO, 0 EXCUSED. MOTION CARRIED.

(B) PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

OFFICER WALTERS REPORTED ON THE POLICING ACTIVITIES IN THE TOWNSHIP. FIRE CHIEF COCHENSPARGER REPORTED ON THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S ACTIVITIES. FIRE CHIEF COCHENSPARGER PRESENTED TIM VAN AMEYDEN AS FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR FOR 2012. THE AUDIENCE AND BOARD MEMBER CONGRATULATED HIM.

RES. 3/14/13/10 MOVED BY TRUSTEE JONES, SUPPORTED BY TRUSTEE HARVEY, RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BEDFORD TO SUPPORT CONDUCTING A NEW VOTE ON 9-1-1 PHONE SURCHARGE FUNDING;

WHEREAS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2008 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT THAT CREATED THE CALHOUN COUNTY CONSOLIDATED DISPATCH AUTHORITY (CCDA), ONLY A PORTION OF THE ENTITIES IN THE COUNTY OF CALHOUN HAVE BEEN CONTRIBUTING REVENUE FOR 9-1-1 SERVICE; AND

WHEREAS; THE SUPPORTS TO PLACE A NEW PROPOSAL ON THE 2013 COUNTY-WIDE BALLOT SEEKING SUPPORT FOR A FAIR, EQUITABLE, AND STABLE FUNDING SOLUTION TO PROVIDE 911 SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF CALHOUN COUNTY; AND

WHEREAS, THE PROPOSED FUNDING SOLUTION IS AN INCREASE IN THE ALL-DEVICE SURCHARGE FROM \$.60 PER MONTH UP TO A MAXIMUM OF \$2.25 PER MONTH OVER A TEN YEAR PERIOD, PER DEVICE; AND

WHEREAS, THE ALL-DEVICE SURCHARGE PROPOSAL WILL SOLELY FUND THE CCDA AND REPLACE THE CURRENT AND PROPOSED GENERAL FUND CONTRIBUTIONS BEING MADE BY THE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES OF CALHOUN COUNTY.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, THAT THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BEDFORD OFFERS THEIR FULL SUPPORT OF THE 911 DISPATCHING TO BEDFORD RESIDENTS.

SUPERVISOR SPRAU EXPLAINED THAT SOME OF THE TOWNSHIPS WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE 911 PHONE SURCHARGE PLACED BACK ON THE BALLOT BY THE COUNTY.

ROLL CALL: FERACO, YES; DEZOTELL, YES; GIBSON, YES; HARVEY, YES; SPRAU, YES; SHAW, YES; JONES, YES – 7 YES, 0 NO, 0 EXCUSED. MOTION CARRIED.

(C) **BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

NO ACTION

(D) **LEGISLATIVE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

NO ACTION

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

NO ACTION

10. **PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS**

NO ACTION

11. TRUSTEES PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

TRUSTEE GIBSON EXPLAINED THAT COUNTY COMMISSIONER FRISBEE COULD NOT ATTEND BEDFORD'S MEETING TONIGHT; HE HAD TO BE AT EMMETT TOWNSHIP. HE ALSO NOTED THAT SOME OF THE TOWNSHIPS ARE NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH THE SUPPORT OF PLACING THE 911 QUESTION BACK ON THE BALLOT. HE INFERRED THAT IF THIS DOES NOT HAPPEN, IT WOULD BE A BURDEN ON THE TOWNSHIPS (COST WISE).

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

MR. WOODS INQUIRED ABOUT THE 911 SURCHARGE AND ASKED WHEN WOULD IT BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT. SUPERVISOR SPRAU EXPLAINED THAT IS UP TO THE COUNTY. SOME OF THE TOWNSHIPS ARE IN SUPPORT OF PLACING IT BACK ON THE BALLOT AND SOME ARE NOT.


THERE WAS DISCUSSION ON THE BLIGHT ISSUE.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHAIR, CHAIRPERSONS OR TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

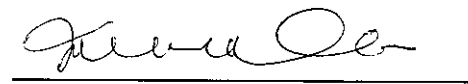
TREASURER DEZOTELL NOTED THE PROPERTY TAXES AND PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS WERE ON THE WEBSITE UNDER THE TOP TAB "PROPERTY INFO". TRUSTEE SHAW EXPLAINED THAT BEDFORD'S ROAD COMMITTEE MET AND REFERENCED THE PROJECTION OF POSSIBLY SOME MATCHING MONEY FROM THE COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT TO REPAIR SOME OF THE ROADS. WE HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT THE COUNTY'S FUNDING WOULD BE. THEY RESTRUCTURED THE ROAD DEPARTMENT FROM THE ROAD COMMISSION. THERE WAS DISCUSSION ON PRIMARY ROADS, RURAL FEDERAL ROADS IN THE BOUNDARIES OF BEDFORD.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY TRUSTEE HARVEY, SUPPORTED BY TRUSTEE SHAW, TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING. UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE. MOTION CARRIED.



Thomas J. Sprau, Supervisor



Joyce Feraco, Clerk