

EUREKA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2013
Approved

Supervisor Rodney Roy, at the Eureka Township Hall, 9322 S. Greenville Road, Greenville, MI, called the Regular Meeting of the Eureka Charter Township Board to order on June 10, 2013, at 7:00pm. After the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call found the following Board Members present: Supervisor Rodney Roy, Clerk Linda Ruwersma, Treasurer Cindy Hanson, Trustees Jeremy Austin, Marty Posekany, Elaine Pendrick, and Trustee Brad Kelley. These minutes will not be approved until the July 8, 2013 Regular Board Meeting.

Approximately nineteen others were in attendance including Planning Commission Members Mark Wilkin, Duane Putnam, and Linda Weger; Library Representative Ann Roberts, Zoning Official Tom Faussett, County Commissioner Tom Lindeman, City Councilperson Brian Greene, Deputy Charlie Mahar, Lt. Deputy Brian Waber, and Kelli Ameling from the Daily News.

During the first Public Comment Lt. Brian Waber and Deputy Charlie Mahar introduced themselves. County Commissioner Lindeman reported that there is a hazardous waste drop off at the RCMC in Stanton on Saturday, June 15, 2013.

Mr. Faussett reported that the EAA Young Eagles Aviation Event is scheduled for Saturday, June 15, 2013, at 8:30am, at the Greenville Airport for those 8-17 years of age.

Mr. Lillie inquired about the FOIA between the City and the Township.

Justin Barr and Christian Sowers each read a statement they had drafted concerning the discrimination of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) citizens. Their group is working on getting a Resolution in place similar to one they presented to the City of Greenville last month.

Trustee Pendrick moved, with a second by Trustee Posekany to approve the June 10, 2013 Agenda and Consent Agenda. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Approving the Consent Agenda included accepting the May 13, 2013 Board Minutes as written. It also approved the Treasurer's report submitted with an ending balance of \$915,119.97 as of May 31, 2013; and the payment of the bills for May in the amount of \$160,628.26 covering e-bills 319-323 and checks numbering 13169-13211.

The consent agenda also included the Flat River Library report which; the zoning report from Mr. Tom Faussett showing 96 hours for May; the Greenville Transit report showing 227 runs; and the fire report showing 6 fires for the month.

Deputies Charlie Mahar and Doug Houser were assigned to Eureka Township for the month of May. The sheriff report showed a total of 3,895 patrol miles, with 176.5 patrol hours, 81 traffic stops, 13 traffic citations, 125 property inspections, and 8 arrests.

Trustee Kelley moved, with a second by Trustee Austin to approve for Roosien & Associates, P.L.L.C. draw up the prints for a drain system concerning the storm water runoff for the proposed pavilion for \$2,500.00. It was recommended to use the original surveyor that surveyed for the addition a few years back. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Mr. Wilkin mentioned that he has not spoken with anyone from Montcalm Community College but would like to contact them by August about the students helping with the work on the pavilion in September.

Attorney Clarification for Eureka Township Mining Ordinance #84 was distributed to the Board and will also be given to the Mining Committee for consideration.

Treasurer Hanson moved, with a second by Trustee Pendrick to hold a Public Hearing Monday, July 8, 2013, at 7:00pm during the Regular Board Meeting concerning Amending Ordinance #78-A Land Division and Lot Line Adjustment. Motion carried.

The next Montcalm Townships Association Meeting/Dinner hosted by Crystal and Bloomer Townships is scheduled for Tuesday, June 18, 2013, at 7:00pm and is the Annual Event with a silent auction.

Mr. Lillie inquired about the position of the vacant Planning Commission Member not being advertised in the paper. He would like a policy about advertising for all positions. Supervisor Roy stated that the Board will take this into consideration.

Clerk Ruwersma moved, with a second by Trustee Austin to appoint Joyce Sage to the Planning Commission to finish out the term of Mr. Lee Gilman who recently resigned. The term will expire December 31, 2013. Others considered were Robert Cooper, Randy Klepper, and Richard Pendrick. MTA stated that Trustee Pendrick did not have to abstain from voting on this issue even though her husband was one of those being considered. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

There was some discussion about the phone service at the hall and maybe contracting with a new carrier. Secretary Bigelow and Supervisor Roy will check into this.

Clerk Ruwersma moved, with a second by Trustee Pendrick to approve for Shaner Avenue Nursery to deliver and spread 6 cubic yards of mulch for the outside of the Township Hall for a total of \$346.00. This was the same as last year's quote. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Trustee Kelley moved, with a second by Treasurer Hanson to approve for all Board Members to sign and display the Principles of Governance given to Eureka Township by the Michigan Townships Association. These principles state that Eureka Charter Township and its Board Members will treat all persons with dignity, respect and impartiality; and without prejudice or discrimination, along with many other things. Motion carried.

Mr. Wilkin reminded the Board that there will be a Planning Commission Meeting on Tuesday, June 11, 2013, at 5:30pm. The members will be visiting and observing a mining site and then will come back to the hall to finish the meeting. The public is welcome to attend.

Clerk Ruwersma reported that the term for Planning Commission Member Duane Putnam will end December 31, 2014, instead of December 31, 2015, because of the requirements by MTA for staggering board member terms.

Clerk Ruwersma also mentioned that MTA stated that Mr. Lee Gilman may continue on the Board of Review in July 2013, but he will need to resign at that meeting. A new Board of Review member does not need to be appointed as there are two alternates in place.

Supervisor Roy reported that there has been a complaint about a resident on Youngman Road being in violation of the Blight Ordinance because of long grass. There was also discussion about the difficulty of enforcing violations because of long grass on Township lots.

During the Second Public Comment and Board Comment period Supervisor Roy passed around a thank you letter to be signed for Mr. Lee Gilman thanking him for his many years of service as a Planning Commission Member and Board of Review Member.

Trustee Marty Posekany gave a brief Planning Commission report. He also stated he would also like to implement a policy concerning replacing vacancies in the Township, so as to be consistent.

Trustee Kelley asked about a sign out front, using audio recording equipment at meetings, Board Members contacting Michigan Townships Association with questions, and also about saying prayer before the meeting along with the pledge. Each of these items was discussed.

Secretary Bigelow will check into prices about a sign and also recording equipment and will bring it back next month for more discussion.

Trustee Kelley moved, with a second by Trustee Posekany to approve to allow all elected and appointed members to contact MTA for Township information. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Roy will check into prayer before the meeting and ask MTA about the procedure. He also reported that recycling for electronics will be held at the vacant lot across the street from the Township Hall at the end of July.

The State Boundary Commission Meeting concerning the Mersen Annexation is scheduled for Wednesday, June 12, 2013, at 10:00am in Okemos. Supervisor Roy and Zoning Official Faussett along with a few others plan to attend.

Treasurer Hanson reported that the June tax bills will be coming out at the beginning of July.

Trustee Austin moved, with a second by Treasurer Hanson for the Board to go into Closed Session concerning a personal issue regarding him. Motion carried.

The Board went into Closed Session at approximately 8:39pm. The minutes of the closed session are as follows:

Trustee Austin expressed a concern about the resolution requested by the LGBT and the Board discussed whether the resolution would violate Michigan law. The Closed Session ended at approximately 8:52pm and went back into regular session.

Supervisor Roy adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:53pm.

Linda J. Ruwersma, CMC
Eureka Charter Township Clerk
June 14, 2013