



Charter Township of Brandon
395 Mill Street, Ortonville, MI 48462
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
July 1, 2013

Supervisor Thurman called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Present: Allen, Darnall, DePalma, Lapp, Rumball, DeWitt, Thurman

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Allen, seconded by **DeWitt**, to approve agenda as amended.

Motion approved 6/1.

PRESENTATION:

- A service award will be given to Stan Skibo at a later date in recognition and appreciation of his 30 years of dedicated service to the Brandon Township Zoning Board of Appeals.
- Ken Palka, PHP, spoke to the board about the 2012 Brandon Township Audit.

REPORTS PLACED ON FILE:

- Treasury (a) Petty Cash
- Building Department
 - There are 16 new home starts this year, as compared to 3 last year.
- Fire Department
 - The rooftop air conditioning unit has been replaced. It was 26 years old.
 - Call volumes are a little bit lower than last year, which had a record number of calls.
 - Everything has been running smoothly.
 - We had a water issue in the office, where there was two inches of water inside the main office area. We started the cleanup, had the roof patched, and repairs are on the way.
- General Ledger Report
- Senior Center

Trustee's Report:

- Lapp: Nothing, thank you.
- Rumball: Nothing, thank you.
- DePalma: I would like to say thank you to everyone that helped put on the Creekfest and carnival. My family had a wonderful time out at the parade and at Creekfest.
- DeWitt: There was a Planning Commission meeting on June 11. At that meeting, Consumer's Power was in and they gave us the final plans for putting a regulator station at the corner of Sashabaw and Granger Road. That was approved and I think that they have to go in front of the ZBA because of a fence setback violation.

Treasurer's Report:

- The tax bills have been printed. Unfortunately, the first were printed without any sorting. We worked very hard to try to put them in order, but for those of you that have multiple pieces of property, if you don't receive all your tax bills in one envelope, please forgive us. We did the best job we possibly could.
- Tax bills are from the 1st of July until the 14th of September. Since the 14th is on a weekend, the due date will be extended to the following Monday, which is September 16th.

Clerk's Report:

- We'd like to welcome Belinda Fenton, who is serving as our recording secretary tonight. Thank you for coming.
- I attended the Brandon Groveland Youth Assistance meeting on June 4th. It is a monthly meeting and helps keep our children busy. We have activities and funding for underprivileged children.
- The Relay for Life was in the middle of June. Unfortunately, the weather didn't cooperate and it was cut short, but we still did very much as a community. Approximately \$55,000 was raised.
- We did interviews for our HR payroll person/administrative person. She will be starting, hopefully, next week.
- Creekfest was great and the fireworks were awesome. I'd like to thank our fire department for doing a wonderful job. I hope everyone had a good time.
- We would like to extend condolences to the family of Fred Lentz, who passed away. He was a member of the township board of review for several years.

Supervisor's Report:

- Consumer's Energy has released phase two, and they are going to be installing gas lines throughout the phase two area except for some of the private roads where they did not get any participation. If they get 50 percent participation on these roads, they will include you in the project. They will be starting on the third phase next year, toward the end of fall.
- Enbridge will be purging their new line, which will be very loud. They were planning on doing it this week, but were unable to. Concerned citizens can contact my office and I will share the information on when the purging will occur when I get it.
- The township board has scheduled two more strategic planning workshops. They are going to be held July 15th and July 22nd. The location will be determined.
- I attended Creekfest and got to participate in the parade. It was a fun weekend. Thank you to the DDA and village for putting that on for us.
- The Brandon Warrior Warm-up is going to be held July 13. Entries will be taken through July 11. It should be a fun event. There is information on the recreation website.
- There was a dedication last Friday for a bench out at the township park for Charlene Carlson, who served the township for many years. The bench was made by a local woodworking club.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Road Commission for Oakland County Tri-Party Projects
- B. Brandon-Groveland Youth Assistance June 11, 2013 Minutes
- C. BGYA Board of Directors 4/16/2013 Meeting Draft Minutes
- D. Draft Meeting Minutes - Parks and Recreation Subcommittee - May 31, 2013

CITIZENS' COMMENTS: (For Agenda Items Only)

- An employee thanked the Citizen newspaper for donating a half-page color ad for the Warrior Warm-Up.
- The same employee noted that item C is moved to new business. He is concerned about the lack of detail in the minutes, and missing items and motions.
- A resident said that he has lived in Ortonville for 20 years and spoke about Recreation Director, Fred Waybrant. He said that Fred Waybrant has worked very, very hard on the township park. He said he can't stand watching the best person in our community who has worked the hardest he's ever seen being abused. People are taking things out of context. He said that the person who wrote the article about him is not a township resident. He asked the board to abstain if they have personal opinions about this.
- A resident and former employee who worked with Fred Waybrant for four years said that he has seen things they can't talk about here, and none of the people know everything that went on. He said he tried to get him disciplined, and there was an instance of theft. There needs to be an employee review.
- A Groveland Township resident said that they went away from the recreation program several years ago when the township raised prices for nonresidents. He said they went to other area programs and there is a stark difference between the Parks and Rec program in Grand Blanc and Brandon. There wasn't a schedule published for the upcoming season early enough, so it is difficult to know whether you can put money down for a child to play. He has returned for his daughter to play softball, and sees the same problems he saw then with the program. It is not organized. There needs to be a focus on the operational aspect of the program.
- A resident said she agreed with almost everything the previous speaker said. There are a lot of people who have written letters, made phone calls, sent e-mails, and filled out evaluation forms with ways to improve the program. Most things are operational and can be alleviated with just a little bit of planning, scheduling and forethought.
- A resident noted that they have been involved in Parks and Rec for five years. A committee sets up all the schedules, not the Recreation Director, or the secretary. They do make improvements, and small changes, and it happens over time. Everybody around here works with Parks and Rec. Fred Waybrant spends a lot of time doing things for businesses, as that is how you get sponsor support for the teams. You need to look at the big picture, not the small pictures.
- An employee stated that she's seen Fred Waybrant working really hard to make things work. She said she is definitely willing to work hard and try and make the Parks and Recreation Department as good as it can be.

DISCUSSION:

- None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by **Allen**, seconded by **Darnall**, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, which included the following items:

- Regular Meeting Minutes of June 3, 2013, as corrected
- Special Meeting Draft Minutes of June 12, 2013
- Trustee Timesheets in the amount of \$1,395.00
- Regular Bills in the Amount of \$156,814.97
- Pre-pays in the amount of \$134,430.07

Roll Call:

Ayes: DePalma, Lapp, Rumball, DeWitt, Allen, Darnall, Thurman

Nays: None

Motion approved 7/0

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Supervisor – Tri-Party Paving Project

Motion by **DeWitt**, seconded by **Lapp**, to submit a request to the Road Commission for Oakland County to move the Sashabaw Road paving project between Sherwood Road and Granger Road into the Federal Funding Queue for 2018 construction.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Lapp, Rumball, DeWitt, Allen, Darnall, DePalma, Thurman

Nays: None

Motion approved 7/0

B. Supervisor – First Reading of Rezoning at Sashabaw Road and Seymour Lake Road

Motion by **Lapp**, seconded by **Rumball**, to introduce for first reading the ordinance of Rezoning of Parcel 03-27-476-005 from RE to Conditional C-1.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Rumball, DeWitt, Allen, Darnall, DePalma, Lapp, Thurman

Nays: None

Motion approved 7/0

C. Supervisor – Linda Cotton Unemployment Claim

Motion by **Rumball**, seconded by **Lapp**, to direct the Township attorney to pursue an appeal of the most recent decision of the Michigan Compensation Appellate Commission to the Oakland County Circuit Court in regards to Linda Cotton.

Roll Call:

Ayes: DeWitt, Allen, Darnall, DePalma, Lapp, Rumball

Nays: Thurman

Motion approved 6/1

D. Supervisor – Enbridge Consent Contract

Motion by **Rumball**, seconded by **Allen**, to approve the Consent for Facilities Construction agreement as presented and amended and to authorize the Brandon Township Supervisor and Brandon Township Clerk to sign the agreement after the proper permits are received, reviewed, approved, the HRC contract is executed and fees, including attorney fees, are collected.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Allen, Darnall, DePalma, Lapp, Rumball, DeWitt, Thurman

Nays: None

Motion approved 7/0

E. Clerk – New Hire

Motion by **Lapp**, seconded by **Allen**, to hire Kay Caryl, as the full-time Administrative Assistant to the Clerk and Human Resource Coordinator, starting July 8th for 40 hours per week at the starting salary of \$11.63 per hour per our policy.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Darnall, DePalma, Lapp, Rumball, DeWitt, Allen, Thurman

Nays: None

Motion approved 7/0

F. Treasurer – Request for Employee Review of the Parks & Recreation Director

Motion by **Rumball**, seconded by **Darnall**, to set a hearing for an employee review of the Parks and Recreation Director on July 22, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at a location to be determined.

Roll Call:

Ayes: DePalma, Lapp, Rumball, Allen, Darnall

Nays: DeWitt, Thurman

Motion approved 5/2

G. Special Meeting Draft Minutes of June 26, 2013

Motion by **Rumball**, seconded by **DeWitt**, to approve the minutes for the special board meeting of June 26 as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Lapp, Rumball, DeWitt, Allen, Darnall, DePalma, Thurman

Nays: None

Motion approved 7/0

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

- An employee asked for direction from the board on what they would like from him at the meeting. He would like them to check with him about the date of the meeting, because he is not

sure what is on his calendar. He said he has been here 14 years and has had 14 evaluations, and each has been above average. The issue of theft has been investigated, it was broad daylight involving a one-gallon gas can that belonged to him that he filled and gave the receipt to the Supervisor. He had six ounces of gas left in it after filling the lawnmower that he took home because he didn't have another can. He wasn't trying to steal anything but was written up for it, and it is a closed deal. Everything they are speaking of is three to four years old. He continued to speak of an e-mail that he received, and statements that said that employees wanted to find a way to get rid of Fred Waybrant. He said he is feeling attacked right now.

- A resident said that this is a very heated political issue right now. The township needs to move forward. When the township moves forward, the Parks and Rec Department should be given specific direction on what the director's duties should be and what they do and don't like. He is one person with one part-time staff. The board here decided to make it a one-person show, and Fred can't do it. He has done a good job of taking care of our kids.
- The resident continued that unemployment is insurance. The township has wasted money fighting over this issue.
- A resident said that they like the idea of going forward with the Sashabaw Road paving. He asked that they make sure the shoulders are wide enough to have a bike path. Retention ponds are unnecessary.
- A former resident spoke again about the Recreation Department. He noted that there is a difference between leadership and a good worker. There needs to be good organizational skills and good communication skills, as well. There was a young lady in Grand Blanc that worked hard by herself but she was really organized and he had everything he needed as a coach. There were teams coming in from other towns this year, which is great for business.
- There needs to be clear expectations on what is expected from the Recreation Director.
- The former resident continued by saying that we really need to do better in the Recreation Department. He said that he is not saying that they should fire Fred Waybrant, but is saying the state of that department is not perceived very positively right now from the people that he coaches.

Motion by DeWitt, seconded by **Thurman**, to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Motion approved 7/0

Respectfully Submitted,

Candee Allen
Brandon Township Clerk

Kathy Thurman
Brandon Township Supervisor

I, Candee Allen, Clerk of the Charter Township of Brandon, certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the minutes of the meeting and of the motions made at the Brandon Township Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees on July 1, 2013.

Charter Township of Brandon
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
July 1, 2013

Candee Allen
Brandon Township Clerk
CA/bf