

**ZEELAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
June 16, 2015**

The Zeeland Charter Township Board held a Regular Board meeting on June 16, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall at 6582 Byron Road, Zeeland, Michigan. Members present: Supervisor Nykamp, Clerk Kraak, Treasurer Myaard, Trustees Barkel, Brink, Oonk, and Overweg.

1. Supervisor Glenn Nykamp called the meeting to order.
Recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
Invocation offered by Trustee Brink.

2. Motion made by Trustee Oonk to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2015 meeting.
Treasurer Myaard seconded the motion which passed. Overweg and Barkel abstained because they had not read the minutes.

3. Citizen Participation / Public Comment.

Don and Kylin Wiersma of 2039 84th Ave. requested the board consider lowering the speed limit on 84th between Gordon St. and Homestead Dr. due to the high amount of pedestrian traffic and lack of sidewalks. Supervisor Nykamp stated speed limits are set by the State based on the number of houses within an area. Trustee Overweg suggested placing the speed trailer on 84th Ave. to monitor traffic speed.

4. Business Items:

- a. Fire Department / Approval of Deputy Fire Chief Position.

At a recent meeting of the Ad Hoc Fire Committee Fire Chief Hunderman recommended the board appoint Mr. Tom Jekel, serving as interim Deputy Fire Chief, as Deputy Fire Chief. Chief Hunderman also submitted the 2016 Fire Department's CIP.

Trustee Oonk motioned to approve Mr. Tom Jekel as Deputy Fire Chief. Trustee Brink seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

- b. Supervisor Nykamp distributed the 2014 Audit Report.

- c. Office Assistant Position.

Supervisor Nykamp asked Clerk Kraak to organize the interviews for the open position. Trustees Barkel and Overweg volunteered to assist with the interviews. Nykamp stated he would like the interviews completed by July 1.

5. Zoning Administrator's Report.

Mr. Don Mannes reported on May permits: 6 new homes, including 2 condominiums, 1 mobile home, 1 commercial remodel, and several accessory buildings.

Mr. Mannes also reported Metro Building is working on making ASTM Standard Reference Books available online for a yearly membership fee. The State mandates every unit that performs inspections must have access to this publication.

Trustee Oonk inquired about demolition of the condemned house at 6584 Quincy St. Trustee Oonk stated if the homeowner does not take it down, the township should have it demolished and bill the homeowner.

Supervisor Nykamp stated people should not be allowed to park on the road by Groundswell Property's organic garden at 6527 Quincy St.

6. Clerk's Report.

Clerk Kraak reported Zeeland Township successfully passed a randomly selected audit of the May 5th election.

7. Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer Myaard reported tax bills are ready to be sent to Centron.

8. Committee Reports:

- a. **BOARD OF APPEAL.** First Reading – The Board of Appeals met May 26 to consider a request from Nicholas Weaver of 3335 64th St. to construct an accessory building 10 ft. from rear and side yard lot lines. The request was granted due to the lay of the land. The building may not to exceed 1200 sf.
- b. **FIRE COMMITTEE.** Trustee Oonk motioned and Trustee Barkel seconded a motion to grant a request from the Fire Department to purchase an antenna and communication equipment for an amount not to exceed \$3000. Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote. .
- c. **BUILDING /GROUNDS.** Supervisor Nykamp requested the board consider the future of former Township Hall / Fire Station No. 3. The building needs significant updating if the township continues to use it. Trustee Brink requested a cost / revenue report for the building.
- d. **PARKS/RECREATION.**
 - i. **VanZoeren Woods.** Supervisor Nykamp, Trustee Oonk and Mr. Ken Bosma from Prein & Newhof discussed possibilities and costs to improve some of the paths in the park. Trustee Oonk also stated money should be budgeted to treat the parking lot.
 - ii. **Drenthe Grove.** Trustee Brink met with Mr. Ryan Boerman to discuss future improvements at the park including a new restroom facility, playground equipment and a handicap accessible area near the fishing pond. Trustee Brink encouraged the board to apply for a \$25,000 grant from ZBPW for some of these improvements. The board also discussed connecting to utilities that will be installed in adjacent Settler's Grove Phase II this year.
 - iii. **Macatawa Greenway.** The new bike path is finished. Grand opening will be June 25. Tours will be available from 4 – 7 PM.
- e. **ROADS.** Received a bill from Michigan Chloride in the amount of \$5442.33 for dust proofing gravel roads. Ransom St. construction should start in July and finish first of September.

- f. **CEMETERY.** The committee reported on future amendments they would like to make to the cemetery ordinance: limiting the number of cremations per burial plot and to add an appendix to the ordinance for burial costs.
- g. **ELECTION.** The committee met to approve consolidating the precincts for the August 4, 2015 Hudsonville School election as well as appointing election workers for that election. There will be one precinct at the Town Hall for the Aug. 4 election.

9. Attorney Issues – None.

10. Supervisor's Report.

- a. Supervisor Nykamp received a draft of 2016 Fire Department CIP.
- b. 96th Ave. Road Expense. The road was damaged when the sewer line was installed so the entire road is going to be repaved. ZCT's cost will be half of the total cost (\$53,500).
- c. MTA News will feature an article on ZCT in the July issue of the magazine.
- d. Brock Bruce presented at a community affairs event for which he received 30 smoke alarms to distribute in the community. Thanks Brock.
- e. Plumbing Inspector Gary Raak will be retiring Aug. 31 after 48 years of work.
- f. Fire Captain Cal Boetsma, undergoing cancer treatment, has a Care Pages post. Please keep Cal in your prayers.
- g. Trustee Brink motioned to vote for Trustee Barkel as the State Board Representative for the Par Plan. Trustee Oonk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

11. Citizen / Public comment. Don Wiersma expressed appreciation for the board's consideration of his request.

12. Additional Board Comment – None.

13. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Kraak – Clerk
Lisa Freeman – Recording Secretary