
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BEDFORD

115 S. Uldriks Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49037

May 11, 2017 - 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, a prayer was said.

3. ROLL CALL

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

7 members present. A quorum was present.

4. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 13, 2017 MINUTES

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Gibson and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the April 13, 2017 minutes, as submitted.

Roll Call: Feraco –yes; Dezotell–yes; Cipic–yes; Shaw–yes; Gibson–yes; Johnson –yes, Heikkila–yes
7 yes, 0 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 20, 2017 MINUTES – SAW GRANT WORKSHOP

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Shaw and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the April 20, 2017 Stormwater, Asset Management, and Wastewater (SAW), Grant workshop minutes, as submitted.

Roll Call: Dezotell–yes; Cipic–yes; Shaw–yes; Gibson–yes; Johnson –yes, Heikkila–yes; Feraco –yes;
7 yes, 0 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

6. SUPERVISOR'S ADDRESS

Supervisor Heikkila spoke about goals for the township, working together and the importance of good communication. He spoke a bit about the tragic week and loss of life that Bedford has experienced this past week.

7. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Presentation by Jeff Wingard with Fleis & Vandenbrink regarding completion of the SAW Grant. Mr. Wingard communicated the SAW grant was in the final stages and we would now need to order the hardware and schedule training to fulfil the obligations of the grant.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

- *Draft April 13, 2017 Minutes
- *Draft April 20, 2017 Saw Grant Workshop Minutes
- *Check Register
- *Sanitary Sewage Disposal System Ordinance
- *Wastewater Rate Adder Report (Sewer Rates)
- * Medical Marijuana information packet

9. REPORTS

(A) FINANCE

RES. 05/11/17/25

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Cipic and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve payment of expenses totaling \$238,177.12

Roll Call: Cipic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes, Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; 7 yes, 0 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

(B) PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

POLICE: Officer Barton stated to be mindful when driving, there have been several accidents recently and alcohol has been a factor.

FIRE: Chief Cochensparger noted that the Fire Department has been extremely busy. He shared with the Board and residents the concern he is facing with the rising cost of emergency equipment. He thanked the residents for their support. An invitation was extended to everyone to join the Bedford Fire Department at their annual Pancake Breakfast.

(C) BUILDING AND GROUNDS

(D) LEGISLATIVE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Commissioner Frisbie reported on activities at the county level, a grant submission for new voting equipment was approved, a new operating system for the County Clerk which will aid in the processing of deeds, licenses and general duties in the office. The road department has enlisted the services of additional private contractors to assist with the filling of potholes. Calhoun County Road Department has an app to access information as well as report concerns or questions, search in the app store for: MiCCRD

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RES. 05/11/17/26

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Clerk Feraco and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to adopt the Sanitary Sewage Disposal System Ordinance to provide for the operation of the Sanitary Sewage Disposal System within Bedford Charter Township; to prescribe the rates to be charged for the use of said system; to provide for the mandatory connection to said system; to repeal all prior ordinances concerning the Sanitary Sewage Disposal System; and to otherwise protect the public health, safety and general welfare.

Roll Call: Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes, Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipcic-yes; 7 yes, 0 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

RES. 05/11/17/27

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Shaw and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the Sanitary Sewage Disposal System Rates for Bedford Charter Township as outlined in the attached schedule and which will be incorporated into the sanitary sewage disposal system ordinance described above.

Roll Call: Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes, Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipcic-yes; Shaw-yes; 7 yes, 0 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

11. PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS

RES. 05/11/17/28

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Gibson and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to appoint Supervisor Heikkila as Township Blight Officer, effective May 11, 2017. Supervisor Heikkila will respond to complaints, handle investigations, issue letters and/or citations as necessary, and appear in court when required.

Roll Call: Johnson –yes, Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipcic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; 7 yes, 0 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

RES. 05/11/17/29

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Shaw and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve a rezoning request, pending review by the Calhoun County Planning Commission, and forwarded by the Planning Commission, for four (4) out lots owned by Overflow Church, 3515 W. Michigan Avenue. Out lots are currently residential. Out lots are: 3601 W. Michigan Avenue, 144 S. Finlay Street, 120 Sperry Avenue, and vacant property 13-04-280-078-00 behind the church property. Change to commercial will allow the church to combine the out lots into the main property and will allow for possible future expansion.

Roll Call: Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipcic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes, 7 yes, 0 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

RES. 05/11/17/30

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Shaw and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve a rezoning/conditional use request, pending review by the Calhoun County Planning Commission, and forwarded by the Planning Commission, for 2930 W. Michigan Avenue. Property is currently zoned commercial with a mixed-use overlay. The mixed-use overlay was intended to allow for residential use on commercial property. This change will allow the pending sale to be finalized by the financial institution and the buyer.

Roll Call: Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipcic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes; Heikkila-yes; 7 yes, 0 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

RES. 05/11/17/31

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Cipic and resolved by The Charter Township of Bedford Board wishes to apply to the Secretary of State for a grant to purchase a new voting system from Dominion Voting, which includes precinct tabulators, Absent Voter Counting Board (AVCB) tabulators (if applicable), accessible voting devices for use by individuals with disabilities, and related Election Management System (EMS) software.

WHEREAS, full funding for the new voting system will be provided by the State, and will include a combination of Federal Help America Vote Act and State-appropriated funds. Local funding obligations, if any, are detailed in the attached Dominion quote.

WHEREAS, The Charter Township of Bedford plans to begin implementation for first use of the new voting system in November 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Charter Township of Bedford Clerk is authorized to submit this Grant Application on behalf of The Charter Township of Bedford, Calhoun County on this day of May 11, 2017.

Roll Call: Cipic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes, Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; 7 yes, 0 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

RES. 05/11/17/32

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Shaw and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township to remove the Township Clerk and appoint the Township Supervisor as the FOIA Administrator.

Roll Call: Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –no, Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-no; Cipic-yes; 5 yes, 2 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

RES. 05/11/17/33

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Shaw and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township to accept and approve the final report for the Stormwater, Asset Management, and Wastewater (SAW) grant submitted by Fleis and Vandenbrink under the guidelines of the grant.

Roll Call: Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes, Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipic-yes; Shaw-yes; 7 yes, 0 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

RES. 05/11/17/34

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Shaw and resolved by The Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to appoint Supervisor Adam Heikkila as a representative of The Charter Township of Bedford to the A.M.S.A. Council.

Roll Call: Johnson –yes, Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; 7 yes, 0 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

RES. 05/11/17/35

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Cipic and resolved by The Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to accept the high bid from Michigan Hardwoods and Lumber for the timber cutting being managed by Steinkraus Forest Management on behalf of the township.

Roll Call: Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes, Heikkila-yes

7 yes, 0 no, 0 excused; Motion carried.

12. TRUSTEES PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Trustee Johnson would like to see speed monitors placed in the township.

Trustee Gibson would like to schedule a workshop to discuss Priority Medical runs for the Fire Department.

Trustee Shaw shared that the previously discussed timber cutting to be done on Markham will not be done until late July, plans have been made to protect the new road.

13. CITIZENS TIME

Concerns were raised regarding the availability of the Supervisor for both FOIA inquiries as well as blight complaints. Supervisor Heikkila assured the residents that he would be available.

14. ANNOUNCEMENT BY CHAIR, CHAIRPERSON OR ELECTED OFFICIAL

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM, by voice vote.

Next Board meeting is June 8, 2017 at 7:00 PM

ADAM HEIKKILA, SUPERVISOR

JOYCE FERACO, CLERK