



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BEDFORD

115 S. Uldriks Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49037

June 11, 2020 - 7:00 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Rande Johnson, Supervisor (teleconference); Joyce Feraco, Clerk; Chrisandra Dezotell, Treasurer (teleconference); Joseph Cipicic, Trustee (teleconference); Connie Gibson, Trustee (absent at beginning – joined at 7:15 p.m.); Kraig Dingman, Trustee (teleconference); Sally Shaw, Trustee (teleconference).

4. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 11, 2020 AGENDA

Moved by Supervisor Johnson, supported by Trustee Dingman, and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the June 11, 2020 agenda, as submitted.

ROLL CALL

6 - Yes – Johnson, Feraco, Dezotell, Cipicic, Dingman, Shaw

0 - No

1 - Absent – Gibson

Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 14, 2020 MINUTES

Moved by Supervisor Johnson, supported by Trustee Shaw, and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the May 14, 2020 minutes, as submitted.

ROLL CALL

6 - Yes – Johnson, Feraco, Dezotell, Cipicic, Dingman, Shaw

0 - No

1 - Absent – Gibson

Motion carried.

6. SUPERVISOR'S ADDRESS

Supervisor Johnson congratulated the 2020 graduates.

7. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Supervisor Johnson read information provided by Travis Mandenberg, Local Census Coordinator.

8. COMMUNICATIONS – ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

- Draft May 14, 2020 minutes
- Check register
- BCPD activity reports
- Bedford Fire Department activity reports

9. REPORTS

A. FINANCE

RES. 06/11/20/10

Moved by Supervisor Johnson, supported by Trustee Dingman, and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve payment of expenses totaling \$148,651.65.

ROLL CALL

6 - Yes – Johnson, Feraco, Dezotell, Cipicic, Dingman, Shaw

0 - No

1 - Absent – Gibson

Motion carried.

B. PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

POLICE: Officer Hopkins reported on the monthly activity. He noted that the department has been doing well considering the pandemic and recent protests.

FIRE: Asst. Chief Uldriks reported that the department ran 80 calls in June; 70% of them were medical runs.

C. BUILDING AND GROUNDS – Kevin Dezotell – With all of the rain, they have been very busy keeping up with the mowing of the cemetery and parks. They also prepared the cemetery for Memorial Day.

D. BUILDING OFFICIAL – Mark Hires – During the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” order, the building department still kept busy with plan reviews and issuing permits. Construction is picking up quickly. There are a lot of roof replacements going on in the township due to a hail storm.

E. BLIGHT OFFICER – Bill Scutt – Closed 4 cases. Mailed 40 letters this month, almost all of them dealing with lawn maintenance. As a reminder, your lawn needs to be mowed and trimmed regularly. Please be considerate of your neighborhood. If your yard looks longer or unkempt when comparing it to your neighbors, it needs to be cut. Regular mowing and trimming will also keep unwanted vermin and insects from invading. If it’s long, cut it. Thirty percent of blight cases are repeat offenders. Overall, blight in the township is being reduced. He mentioned that he has been attending the COVID-19 updates on behalf of the township and has been able to procure at least 26 gallons of sanitizer, 3,000 pairs of gloves, and 450 masks free of charge to the township.

F. CHAIRMAN OF PLANNING COMMISSION – Barry Beamish – Barry was not present but Sally mentioned that the June meeting will be cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

G. LEGISLATIVE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

None present.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS

RES. 06/11/20/11

Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve a Conditional Use Permit Application for a Medical Marihuana Provisioning Center at 3301 W. Michigan Avenue, Property 13-04-029-006-04. The owners are Tyrone and Catherine Talifer of Talifer Holdings LLC. This request has received site plan approval, and the owners have submitted a copy of their pre-qualification letter from the State of Michigan. This was approved by the Planning Commission on May 26, 2020. All conditions have been met.

ROLL CALL

7 - Yes – Johnson, Feraco, Dezotell, Cipic, Dingman, Gibson, Shaw

0 - No

Motion carried.

RES. 06/11/20/12

Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the Charter Township of Bedford COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan.

ROLL CALL

7 - Yes – Johnson, Feraco, Dezotell, Cipic, Dingman, Gibson, Shaw

0 - No

Motion carried.

RES. 06/11/20/13

Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to hire three firefighters (Isaac Gillett, Susan Johnson, Shane Lundberg) on Chief Cochensparger's recommendation. The firefighters must pass a physical examination and there will be a one (1) year probation period with the fire department.

ROLL CALL

7 - Yes – Johnson, Feraco, Dezotell, Cipic, Dingman, Gibson, Shaw

0 - No

Motion carried.

RES. 06/11/20/14

Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to accept the 2019 draft financial statements prepared by Siegfried Crandall.

ROLL CALL

7 - Yes – Johnson, Feraco, Dezotell, Cipic, Dingman, Gibson, Shaw

0 - No

Motion carried.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

The Talifer's and their lawyer thanked everyone for the support of their new business.

14. TRUSTEES’ PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Trustee Dingman gave kudos to the Battle Creek Police Department in dealing with the recent racial protests. They participated in racial diversity training decades ago.

15. ANNOUNCEMENT BY CHAIR, CHAIRPERSON OR ELECTED OFFICIAL

Treasurer Dezotell said she has been working on the tax bills and they will be mailed by July 1st.

Clerk Feraco said her office has been busy sending out absent voter applications to all voters on the permanent absent voter list. The State is sending out applications to all voters who aren’t on the permanent list (over 1 million applications being mailed out). The purpose of promoting absent voting at this time is to keep people healthy and give them a choice of how they would like to vote. Voting in person will still be available at all of our precincts. If you want to vote in person, simply do not return the application. It should be noted that you may receive applications from other organizations such as the Democratic or Republican Party or the Center for Voter Information. So far we have received over 300 applications for the August election. The ballots should be arriving within the next 10 days and will be mailed as soon as we receive them. For more information about absent voting and elections, you can visit our website at www.bedfordchartertpmi.gov, choose Services, Elections, and click on the link to the Michigan Voter Information Center.

Supervisor Johnson mentioned the passing of Bobby Dean.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m. The next Board meeting is July 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Randolph Johnson, Supervisor

Joyce Feraco, Clerk