

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COOPER CHARTER
TOWNSHIP BOARD HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Cooper Charter Township Board was held on Monday, May 11, 2015 at the Cooper Charter Township Hall, 1590 West D. Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Members Present: Buiskool, Schiedel, DeHaan, Sorensen, Sytsma, Janssen, and Vlietstra.

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Township Attorney Michael Homier and approximately ten interested persons.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by all joining in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The board and citizens were asked if they wanted to have any items removed from the consent agenda. There were none.

Motion by Janssen, supported by Buiskool to approve the consent agenda consisting of April 13, 2015 Board Minutes, Treasurer's Report, and Payment of Bills. Motion carried.

Motion by Buiskool, supported by DeHaan to approve agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Public Hearing on Township Wide Street Light District.

Motion by DeHaan, supported by Janssen to open the Public Hearing on the Township Wide Street Light Special Assessment District. Motion carried.

Notice of public hearing, affidavit of mailing and proof of publication were presented at the hearing. There were no written or oral comments received prior to the public hearing on the proposed Street Light Special Assessment District. The Supervisor then asked for any public comment.

Mr. Boyd Pufpaff, 3607 West D Avenue stated that his wife had asked how many street lights there were in the Township. Supervisor Sorensen will get that information and send it to Mrs. Pufpaff.

There was no other public comment.

Motion by Vlietstra, supported by Buiskool to close the Public Hearing on Street Lights.

Motion by Vlietstra, supported by Janssen to adopt the Street Light Special Assessment District Resolution assessing the sum of approximately \$67,000.00 at a rate of .5800 of a mill levied against the properties benefited by said lighting.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Buiskool, Schiedel, DeHaan, Sorensen, Sytsma, Janssen and Vlietstra

No: None

Absent: None

Motion carried. Street Light Special Assessment District Resolution adopted.

Public Hearing on Township Wide Solid Waste District.

Motion by Schiedel, supported by Vlietstra to open the Public Hearing on Recycling, Disposal, and Collection of Solid Waste Special Assessment District. Motion carried.

There were no written or oral comments received on the proposed Solid Waste Special Assessment District prior to the Public Hearing. The Supervisor asked for any public comment.

There was no public comment.

The board explained that each household was charged on their tax bill \$33.00 and what the special assessment district paid for: twice a year curbside waste pick-up, Household Hazardous Waste Services, and curbside recycling every other week.

Motion by Janssen, supported by Vlietstra to close the Solid Waste Public Hearing.

Motion by Vlietstra, supported by Janssen to adopt the Solid Waste Special Assessment District Resolution in the sum of approximately \$103,000.00 at a rate of \$33.00 against the residential properties benefited within said district.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes Buiskool, Schiedel, DeHaan, Sorensen, Janssen, Sytsma, and Vlietstra

No: None

Absent: None

Motion carried. Solid Waste Special Assessment District Resolution adopted.

A request from Mary Nap and Diane Gernaat to allow them each to have a non-traditional monument made for their graves. Gary Nap and Donald Gernaat are deceased and the spouses have requested a variance from the Cemetery Ordinance. The size and shape of the headstones were discussed.

Motion by DeHaan, supported by Vlietstra to approve Mary Nap's request and to approve Diane Gernaat's request with the provision that the depth of the headstone does not exceed 14 inches as per our Cemetery Ordinance. Motion carried.

Motion by Janssen, support by Schiedel to engage Watkins Ross to prepare an OPEB Report (actuarial) for the post-retirement health benefits plan to be compliant with GASB 45 in the amount of \$2,800.00. Motion carried.

The Citizens Comments portion of the agenda was introduced.

Mr. Boyd Pufpaff, 3607 West D Avenue stated that he received a three page letter from Kalsec and wanted to make sure the office had received the letter and that it would be available for the public at the office. The letter answered questions that the citizen group had asked in the last meeting with Kalsec. Mr. Pufpaff stated that the composting operation manual that is used by the State was written by Kalsec. He feels that is not a good way for the State to operate.

Mr. Richard Rakow, 8344 North 17th Street asked about the language he submitted to the Township that would add to the commercial composting ordinance and when will the Planning Commission act on that. He also thinks that some members on the Township Board are siding with Kalsec.

Mr. Marc Rowson, 9979 North 17th Street wants the next meeting between Kalsec, the Citizen Committee, and Township Officials to be held at the Township Hall. He wants what they say to be on an official record.

Motion by Janssen, supported by Schiedel to approve the G.I.S. upgrades of sectors to three inch resolution with 4-views (neighborhood view) at \$225.00 per sector on the Pictometry aerial photography flown in 2016. Motion carried.

The Fire Department Reports were read and discussed.

Motion by Schiedel, supported by DeHaan to accept for information the Fire Department Reports. Motion carried.

The Kalamazoo Valley Intergovernmental Ambulance Agreement (KVIAA) is asking for an adjustment to the existing KVIAA contract via a memo of understanding that removes the language of "EMT who is currently enrolled and in good standing in an

approved paramedic training program” and inserts instead “a state of Michigan licensed EMT meeting KCMCA EMT requirements”.

Motion by Vlietstra, supported by DeHaan to approve adjustment to the existing Kalamazoo Valley Intergovernmental Ambulance Agreement (KVIAA) contract using a memo of understanding. Motion carried.

The application from Mr. and Mrs. Scott Niecko for an SDD Liquor License per Cooper Township Ordinance No. 82 located at 383 East D Avenue in Cooper Township was discussed. The property is Zoned I-2 (Industrial-Manufacturing) and a retail outlet as proposed in this application is not permitted or special land use in that zoning district. The Michigan Liquor Control Commission and the policy they have of not giving consideration of the local government and issuing liquor licenses to applicants who then transfer them to locations outside of Cooper Township was discussed. When a liquor license is awarded to an applicant then that applicant can hold that license in escrow and later sell it for thousands of dollars. There was discussion on the legality of this practice.

Motion by Schiedel, supported by Vlietstra to adopt Resolution No. 15-66 that recommends denial of the SDD Liquor License to be located at 383 East D Avenue based on the applicant failing to satisfy the requirements of Section 22.000.B.2.i through l of the Township Liquor License Ordinance and the use, if approved, would be in violation of Section 120.240 of the Township Zoning Ordinance.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Buiskool, Schiedel, DeHaan, Sorensen, Sytsma, Janssen, and Vlietstra.

No: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Motion by DeHaan, supported by Janssen to purchase two 2 foot by 4 foot Cemetery signs, with the Supervisor and Clerk choosing the vendor. Motion carried.

Motion by Schiedel, supported by Janssen to re-appoint Alan Asselmeier to a four-year term representing Cooper Township on the Ransom District Library Board expiring June 2019. Motion carried.

Motion by Sytsma, supported by Buiskool to adopt Resolution No. 15-67 in support of a West Michigan regional non-motorized trail, Sturgis to Wayland to increase mobility

choices, relieve traffic congestion, reduce air pollution and fuel consumption, and promote active and healthy lifestyles.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Vlietstra, Janssen, Sytsma, Sorensen, DeHaan, Schiedel, and Buiskool.

No: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Motion by Sytsma, supported by Vlietstra to adopt Resolution No. 15-68 to introduce Ordinance No. 234 to amend sections 120.014, 120.360, 120.410 and 120.600 of the Zoning Ordinance.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Buiskool, Schiedel, DeHaan, Sorensen, Sytsma, Janssen, and Vlietstra.

No: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Motion by DeHaan, supported by Vlietstra to go into Closed Session pursuant to MCL 15.268 (h) to consider a written attorney client privileged communication at 8:00 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Vlietstra, Janssen, Sytsma, Sorensen, DeHaan, Schiedel, and Buiskool.

No: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried. CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Janssen, supported by Vlietstra to come out of closed session and return to open session at 8:20 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Buiskool, Schiedel, DeHaan, Sorensen, Sytsma, Janssen, and Vlietstra.

No: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Motion by Buiskool, supported by Vlietstra to accept the recommendation of the Township Attorney as discussed in closed session.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Vlietstra, Janssen, Sytsma, Sorensen, DeHaan, Schiedel, and Buiskool.

No: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.

Bonnie L. Sytsma, Clerk

Jeffrey R. Sorensen, Supervisor

I, the undersigned Bonnie L. Sytsma, the duly qualified and elected Clerk for the Charter Township of Cooper, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Township Board of said Township at a regular board meeting held on the 11th day of May 2015.

**Bonnie L. Sytsma, Clerk
Cooper Charter Township**

