**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF AUSABLE**

Regular Board Meeting

May 20, 2019

“approved”

**CALL TO ORDER**:

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kevin Beliveau at 5:00 pm

**ROLL CALL**:

Present: Jeffrey Moss, Yvette Ramsdell, Kelly Graham, Kevin Beliveau, Mary Jo Samotis, Alanda Barnes,

Absent: Ron Janis

Staff Present: Leisa Sutton, Superintendent, Susie Olpere, Recording Secretary

Press Coverage: Patricia Alvord

Pledge of Allegiance recited

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by Janis to approve the agenda for May 20, 2019.Second by Moss  
Unanimous – Voice Vote

Motion Carried

**PUBLIC COMMENTS on Agenda Items**: None

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Ramsdell made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Second by Barnes

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote  
Motion Carried

**PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Treasurer –
2. Clerk – Accounts Payable, Revenue and Expenditures, Balance Report
3. Superintendent – Superintendent’s Report

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**  
 **A) Jeff Moss – RAB Update** - PFAS Meeting will be held on Wednesday, at 4:00 – 5:30 pm is Open House and 6:30 – 8:00 pm is the Community Meeting. Trustee Moss invited all to attend.

**B) Kelly Graham – Iron Belle Trail Update** - Spicer Group is getting close to their 30% completion mark for Phase I. Mr. Joe Wright will be scheduling a meeting with the board at the end of this month or beginning of June.  
A invitation was mailed to the residents of Mill Street for a meeting which will be held on Thursday, May 23rd at 5:30 pm. This will give property owners a chance to get answers to their questions from Commissioner Terry Dutcher and Joe Wright from Spicer Group regarding the bike path.

**NEW BUSINESS:  
 A) Commissioner Dutcher, MMR Manager Scott Kiernicki, 911 Director Mike Eller -**  Supervisor Beliveau introduced the representatives of emergency services for Iosco County to the board, who were in attendence to answer questions regarding operations for our township. Commissioner Dutcher started by addressing some concerns over the response time for priority calls. Another concern was the prospect of Oscoda and AuSable Townships seeking alternate services. Supervisor Beliveau reassured the gentlemen that he and Superintendent Sutton had attended multiple meetings to gather information and scenarios that will affect the township. He continued that all concerned were gracious in providing the information that had been requested and believe that information to be accurate. Supervisor Beliveau explained that the main concern if of the eventual demise of the First Responders in October, 2019 and the affects on the township. The county representatives stated that it would not make any difference in the level of service that is received now. Currently the findings of emergency service in AuSable seem to be satisfactory, even better than National Standards by quite a margin. Therefore the consensus of the trustees was one of satisfaction with county emergency services. Supervisor Beliveau did request documentation that their level of service would be able to continue for AuSable regardless of Oscoda’s alternative choice. The gentlemen agreed to supply requested information at the next meeting and appreciated AuSable Township Board’s endorsement.

**B) Introduction of proposed Ordinance #117 –** This ordinance pertains to the Introduction of Prohibition of Marihuana Establishments. Superintendent Sutton further explained the proposed ordinance.

Michigan’s Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act (MRTMA) initiative, approved by voters during the November 2018 election, requires townships to affirmatively opt-out to delay or prevent recreational establishments and retail centers locating in their communities. The State may approve emergency rules next month and shortly begin accepting applications. It has been recommended that we adopt regulatory ordinances immediately if we have not already done so.

MRTMA requires townships to adopt an ordinance if they desire to prohibit recreational establishments and retail centers within their communities. Once the State begins accepting applications, as of the date of the application, they can locate establishments in municipalities that have not opted-out. Currently, no application process has been established by the State. According to more recent information, however, the State expects to approve emergency rules in June 2019. That will allow the State to begin accepting and approving applications. For those townships that have not adopted any ordinance, establishments and retail centers may be approved by the State to operate within the township. Even in zoned communities, Townships should adopt ordinances as permitted under the MRTMA to either prohibit or regulate such establishments and retail centers so that it is clear whether or how those establishments may operate.

Although the emergency rules may be similar to the commercial medical marihuana rules, they have yet to be released or studied. Significant questions remain over the interpretation of MRTMA and the associated rules. Several different licensed activities are permitted under MRTMA, such as microbusinesses, that were not previously allowed under the commercial medical marihuana statute. Thus, it is recommended that each community take time to consider what is an appropriate approach in their township. Even where a community opts out of MRTMA now, that does not prevent future local action to allow limited recreational establishments following the release of the final rules and, hopefully, clarity surrounding several ambiguities. This can be accomplished through an ordinance amendment.

As order of protocol, Ordinance 117 is being presented for introduction to the Board of Trustees for review. Consideration of implementation effective June 5, 2019 at the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 3, 2019.

No action was required at this time.

**C) Consideration of Ordinance #116 –** This ordinance was introduced per requirements at the last

township board meeting. It pertains to fireworks and aligns the township with the new State regulations. Moss made the motion the approve Ordinance #116 as written. Second by Ramsdell  
Unanimous – Roll Call Vote  
Motion Carried

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn made by Ramsdell

Second by Moss

Unanimous – Voice Vote

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Susie Olpere Kevin Beliveau, Supervisor

Recording Secretary Charter Township of AuSable