

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF AUSABLE

Regular Board Meeting

Aug. 2, 2021

“approved”

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kevin Beliveau at 5:01 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Diana London, Yvette Ramsdell, Kelly Graham, Kevin Beliveau, Mary Jo Samotis,
Alanda Barnes, Ron Janis

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

Press Coverage: Patricia Alvord

Pledge of Allegiance recited

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Supervisor Beliveau made an addition to New Business, Item J - USDA Invoice Approval. Ramsdell made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Graham

Unanimous – Voice Vote

Motion Carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS on Agenda Items: None

Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion by Ramsdell to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Graham

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote

Motion Carried

PRESENTATIONS:

A) Treasurer –

B) Clerk –

C) Superintendent – Superintendent’s Report

OLD BUSINESS:

A) **Kelly Graham – Iron Belle Trail Update** - MDOT is still considering the AuSable TAP Grant application.

NEW BUSINESS:

A) **Certificate of Appreciation** – Supervisor Beliveau thanked Mr. Jeff Moss for providing the board information regarding the fishing tournament and his involvement with the community. He then presented Mr. and Mrs. Adam Hume the certificate to express the gratitude for the key roll they played in organizing the 2021 National Teams Championship Walleye Tournament. Mr. Hume relayed that they couldn’t have assembled such an activity without the incredible support of the community and the businesses. This tournament put us on the map according to Mr. Hume and will help with future tournaments.

B) **Iosco County Firefighters** – Annually the township agrees to participate in advertising in the county firefighters program. Motion was made by Ramsdell to approve the \$125.00 fee for the ad in the Iosco County Firefighters Assoc. program. Second by Barnes

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote

Motion Carried

C) **ZBA Letter of Interest** – Superintendent Sutton provided a copy of a letter regarding Mr. Greg Romero’s interest in joining the Zoning Board of Appeals. Janis made the motion to approve Greg Romero to the ZBA for the remaining open term. Second by Barnes

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote

Motion Carried

D) Health Insurance - Included in the packet was proposals for renewal of our group plans. An overview of the current coverage showed a reduced price of both dental and optical. The medical coverage increased slightly at 3.3%, which has been the lowest increase in the last few years. Motion was made by Barnes to approve a renewal of the current health plan. Second by Ramsdell.

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote
Motion Carried

E) GIS Update – Superintendent Sutton informed the trustees that the GIS annual fee would be split between the participating municipalities of Iosco County. It would pay for county GIS maps and parcel data which would be available on FETCH system. Area residents would also be able to access this information. Trustee Samotis thought it would be beneficial and would work well with our tax, assessing, and water and sewer programs. The annual cost for AuSable Township came to 8.7% equaling \$195.75. Samotis made the motion to agree to participate in the GIS system along with the other townships in Iosco County. Second by Barnes

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote
Motion Carried

F) Proposed Tower - Superintendent Sutton was contacted in mid-2020 regarding a few parcels of land behind the senior center for a possible location of a cell tower. Discussions about the proposed tower occurred with the Executive Committee regarding potential consideration of this project. There are several moving parts with the project:

1. That area is not currently zoned for cell towers. However, it is owned by the Township and no potential plans for future use. It is surrounded by vacant land with the senior center on one side.
2. They want to lease the property, not own it. As a result, this could provide a small revenue stream for the Township in the future.
3. The process requires an executed lease between the Township and the Lessee, with the knowledge that it must be approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals before anything can move forward.
4. The contract included in the packet was negotiated and reviewed by Township Counsel and the Supervisor.

Even if approved by the township board, the applicants will have to go before the ZBA and then the Planning Commission. Janis made the motion to approve the cell tower proposal. Second by Barnes

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote
Motion Carried

G) Fee Schedule – Resolution 2021-18 is for the proposed 2021 Fee Schedule, which reflects the changes made to the ready to serve and commodity charges for both water and sewer. These were implemented with the approval of Ordinance #83 and 84 at the beginning of the year. Ramsdell made the motion to approve Resolution 2021-18 the resolution for the 2021 Fee Schedule. Second by Barnes

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote
Motion Carried

H) Resolution 2021-18 – Per the Michigan General Property Tax Act (MCL 211.27b) there is a requirement for local unit compliance regarding the levy of a penalty for failure to file a property transfer affidavit if the form is not filed within 45 days of a transfer of ownership. The Township has a strong compliance rate of transferees filing Property Transfer Affidavits and therefore the Assessor requests that the following resolution is passed to waive the penalty. We have never collected the penalty in the past, however, to be compliant with the General Property Tax Act this resolution must be passed. Motion was made by Trustee Samotis to approve Resolution 2021-17 Property Transfer Affidavit Penalty Waiver.

Second by Barnes
Unanimous – Roll Call Vote
Motion Carried

J) USDA Invoice Approval – Trustee Graham explained to the trustees that invoices had been received pertaining to the sewer extension project. In order to have these bills paid, they must be approved by the board. Ramsdell made the motion to approve the invoices as submitted.

USDA. Second by Samotis

Unanimous – RCV

Motion Carried

I) Letter of Resignation - Superintendent Sutton presented the board with a formal letter of resignation with her ending date of October 1, 2021. Supervisor Beliveau commended Superintendent Sutton on the projects she brought to fruition, especially pointing out the hall in which we are residing. He thanked her for her service and wished her well on behalf of the board. Ramsdell made the motion to accept Superintendent Sutton's resignation. Second by Samotis with regrets

Roll Call Vote –

Janis – Yes, London – Yes, Ramsdell – Yes, Graham – No, Samotis – Yes, Barnes – No, Beliveau – Yes

Motion Carried

BOARD COMMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Patricia Alvord, from Oscoda Press, asked if the cell tower has anything to do with the 5G. Supervisor Beliveau clarified the tower is a communication tower and had nothing to do with 5G service at all.

Adam Hume congratulated the board for having in person meetings for the public.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn made by Barnes

Second by London

Unanimous – Voice Vote

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:43pm

Submitted By:
Susie Olpere
Recording Secretary

Kevin Beliveau, Supervisor
Charter Township of AuSable