

# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF AUSABLE

Regular Board Meeting

Dec. 20, 2021

“approved”

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kevin Beliveau at 5:02 pm

## **ROLL CALL:**

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

Staff Present: Eric Strayer, Superintendent, Susie Olpere, Recording Secretary

Press Coverage: Manuela Kress

Pledge of Allegiance recited

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Barnes made a motion to approve the agenda for Dec. 20, 2021.

Second by Ramsdell

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 Barnes

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote

Motion Carried

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

- A) **Treasurer** – Bank Balance Report
- B) **Clerk** – Accounts Payable Report
- C) **Superintendent** – Superintendent’s Report

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- A) **Kelly Graham – Iron Belle Trail Update** - No update at this time
- B) **Sewer Project** – Superintendent Strayer relayed the contractors would return after Christmas and start working on the lift stations. He also included letters would be mailed to residents in the Phase 1 (north of Johnson Road) after the first of the new year.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A) **Consideration of Contract for Police Services** – Annually the contract with Oscoda Township for Police services is updated to reflect calculations based on the next proposed Fiscal Year Budget. This particular contract increased by \$84,228.58 which occurred due to pay raises and equipment purchases, according to information given to Superintendent Strayer. A detailed document of these purchases and pay raises was requested by Supervisor Beliveau. He continued that Oscoda should be able to justify nearly an \$85,000.00 increase in one year. Treasurer Samotis added our millage (for police service) is a 6 yr. millage, which means we cannot get more money from the voters just because our costs are going up. The current millage rate is in effect through the collection of winter tax in 2023. Board concerns included bearing our share of cost increases without having a voice in the decision making relative to those cost increases. Especially concerning was the short notice of the cost increase coming after AuSable’s budgets had been approved. At some point, Treasurer Samotis added we may have to decide what services we will have to adjust if we get these kind of escalations

every year. Supervisor Beliveau made clear there is no controversy or concern over the quantity or quality of the Police coverage, but strictly over the financing of the service. Trustee London added AuSable Township should have a say in equipment purchases and pay since we pay nearly 25% of the cost. Motion was made by London to approve the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the Police service contract. Second by Samotis

Roll Call Vote

Samotis – Yay, Barnes – Nay, Cinquino – Nay, London – Yay, Ramsdell – Yay, Graham – Yay, Beliveau – Yay

Motion Carried

- B) Consideration of Contract for Fire Services** – Supervisor Beliveau clarified this contract Included Fire, Library, and Cemetery budgets. AuSable’s proportionate shares of the Fire Department is \$76,882.00, Library budget is \$0, and Cemetery Budget is \$\$20,798.61.

Motion was made by Ramsdell to approve the addendum to the contract for Fire, Library, and Cemetery. Second by Graham

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote

Motion Carried

- C) Consideration of DPW Asst. Pay Rate** – Superintendent Strayer requested a \$17.00 per hour pay rate for the position of full time DPW employee. Motion was made by Ramsdell to approve the new DPW Assistant position starting at \$17.00 per hour. Second by Graham

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote

Motion Carried

- D) Consideration of Grant Facilitator Contract** – As mentioned at a prior Board meeting, the services of Emily Meyerson have expired. A proposed contract with Meyerson Consulting, would allow us to use her services at a rate of \$85.00 per hour for up to 20 hours of work not to exceed \$1,700.00 on a “as needed” basis. This would allow us to use her expertise in the grant process for the Iron Belle Trail. Samotis made the motion to continue a contract with Emily Meyerson of Meyerson Consulting for the Iron Belle Trail, with fees of \$85.00 per hour up to 20 hours and not to exceed \$1,700.00. Second by Barnes

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote

Motion Carried

**BOARD COMMENTS:** Trustee Ramsdell wished everyone a Happy Holidays. Treasurer Samotis welcomed Trustee Ramsdell back to the board.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn made by Cinquino

Second by Barnes

Unanimous – Voice Vote

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:31 pm

Submitted By:  
Susie Olpere  
Recording Secretary

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Kevin Beliveau, Supervisor  
Charter Township of AuSable