

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF AUSABLE

Regular Board Meeting

June 20, 2023

“approved”

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order by Clerk Graham at 5:01 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Diana London, Yvette Ramsdell, Kelly Graham, Alanda Barnes, Gina Cinquino

Absent: Kevin Beliveau, Mary Jo Samotis

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

Press Coverage: Manuela Kress

Pledge of Allegiance recited

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Superintendent Strayer requested Item D. - DPW Building Apron be added under New Business. Barnes made the motion to approve the agenda as amended.

Second by Ramsdell

Unanimous – Voice Vote

Motion Carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS on Agenda Items: None

Approval of Consent Agenda: Ramsdell made the motion to approve the consent agenda.

Second by Cinquino

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote

Motion Carried

PRESENTATIONS:

A) **Treasurer** –

B) **Clerk** – Accounts Payable

C) **Superintendent** – Superintendent’s Report

OLD BUSINESS:

A) **Kelly Graham – Iron Belle Trail Update** - Clerk Graham summarized the first construction bid for the bike path had been rejected due to incorrect information. The second will be submitted for new bids. The board is concerned that the second bid might come back at a higher amount. The Executive Committee, (Beliveau, Samotis and Graham) decided to compose correspondence stating the Township’s position and limitations on this project. (a copy of the letter is included in this meeting packet) It was made clear that the township remains committed in good faith to see the project through.

B) **Sewer Project** – Superintendent Strayer confirmed that once the resolution in this packet was approved, he would be receiving the last bill for the sewer project.

NEW BUSINESS:

A) **Resolution 2023-12** – This resolution is regarding the Sewer Project and the contract with Elmer’s Crane & Dozer. This resolution lowers the Contract from \$5,748,544.32 to \$5,747,976.91 which is lower by \$567.41. If this is approved, Fleis and Vandenbrink will issue the last Pay Application for the Sewer Project. Motion by Ramsdell to approve Resolution 2023-12 lowering the contract price with Fleis and Vandenbrink. Second by Barnes

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote

Motion Carried

B) Ordinance # 136 - This is the introduction of the ordinance, and it will replace Ordinance #41. Ordinance #136 refreshes the Grass & Weed Ordinance and is a placement for one that is more enforceable and current with State Statutes. Trustee London voiced concern of the hardship it may cause residents due to the high cost of removing dead trees or ones that may be hazardous. Superintendent Strayer said he would review it with the code enforcement officer and the attorney and will bring it back before the board at another time.
No action was needed

C) Consumers Dam Update - On Tuesday June 13th, Consumers Energy invited Township representatives to Warrior Pavilion to discuss the decision-making process that is going on regarding the Hydroelectric Dams on the AuSable River. They expressed that in order to keep the dams, they would have to raise \$176 million from local municipalities to repair the Dams and keep them functional. The participating municipalities expressed the fact that it is very doubtful that we would be able to do this. Consumers will reach out to the State and Federal options to raise money for the Dams. Further meetings will be scheduled in September.
No action was taken, merely information

D) DPW Apron – In the 2024 capital improvement budget, \$10,700.00 has been budgeted for crushed asphalt for the DPW building. Superintendent Strayer said the cement aprons and crushed asphalt could be done together for the price of \$13,000.00 and that it would be better to have it completed at the same time. Ramsdell made the motion to move the DPW Apron project from 2024 to 2023 with a price increase of \$13,000.00 estimate. Second by Cinquino
Unanimous – Roll Call Vote
Motion Carried

BOARD COMMENTS: Trustee Cinquino requested a spelling change on her name in the next Community Newsletter.

Trustee Barnes asked about how the Saturday's Market turned out. Superintendent Strayer reported that they had a slow start and with more advertising it might have a better chance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mr. Albert Grasser was in attendance due to a letter received from the township pertaining to his property located on US 23. He asked for an explanation of the correspondence. The letter was to inform him that his property was not in compliance with the ordinances regarding the sale of automobiles, and a State License for a dealership would be required. Superintendent Strayer included that he would be receiving a letter for further explanation from the township attorney.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn made London
Second by Ramsdell
Unanimous – Voice Vote
Motion Carried.
Meeting adjourned at 5:46 pm

Submitted By:
Susie Olpere
Recording Secretary

Kelly Graham, Clerk
Charter Township of AuSable