

# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF AUSABLE

Regular Board Meeting

July 1, 2024

“approved”

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

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

## **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Diana London, Shayne Janis, Kelly Graham, Kevin Beliveau, Yvette Ramsdell,  
Alanda Barnes, Gina Cinquino

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

Press Coverage: Manuela Kress, Oscoda Press

Pledge of Allegiance recited

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion was made by Barnes to approve the July 1, 2024 agenda.

Second by Janis

Unanimous – Voice Vote

Motion Carried

**PUBLIC COMMENTS on Agenda Items:** Mark Wright from 3088 N. US 23, was in attendance about the concern of the water meter replacement and asked it was on the agenda. Mr. Wright wanted to clarify that if the board accepts the lowest bid, that it would continue with drive-by reads, which has been used since the 90's. He explained that radio reads are outdated and that a cellular system would be more efficient. He suggested that the board reevaluate the bids due to the difference between radio reads and cellular.

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

Second by Barnes

Unanimous – Roll Call Vote

Motion Carried

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

A) **Treasurer** –

B) **Clerk** – Accounts Payable, Revenue & Expenditure, Balance Sheet

C) **Superintendent** – Superintendent's Report

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

A) **Kelly Graham – Iron Belle Trail Update** - No update at this time

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

A) **Contract Acceptance for B&B Contracting** – Superintendent Strayer provided a copy of the contract with B&B Contracting for the Trailhead Marketplace. After discussion with Fleis and Vandenbrink Engineering, the contractor was able to cut \$261,084.00 from the original amount submitted for the RFP. The new total would be \$912,316.00 for the project with \$25,600.00 which would be for additional concrete pad to be included for the project. The Township is paying F & V Engineering \$37,000.00 to be the engineer for this project. These figures together would be close to our budget with the Township contributing \$175,000.00 in addition of the grant money we were awarded \$750,000.00. Motion by Barnes to approve the contract with B&B Contracting for the Trailhead Marketplace. Second by Graham Unanimous – Roll Call Vote  
Motion Carried

- B) Ordinance #140** – This is an ordinance that the Planning Commission put together regarding parking and driveway requirements. At present we have nothing in our ordinances for the Enforcement Officer to use to help with parking issues. If approved, it will be posted as a Notice of Adoption in the Oscoda Press. Cinquino made the motion to adopt Ordinance #140. Second by Janis  
 Unanimous – Roll Call Vote  
 Motion Carried
- C) Ordinance #141** – This ordinance is regarding the keeping of rabbits. It is similar to the requirements we have for chickens. This regulates the keeping of rabbits outside of the property owner's home. If approved by the Board, it will be posted as a Notice of Adoption in the Oscoda Press. Motion by Cinquino to adopt Ordinance #141. Second by Janis  
 Unanimous – Roll Call Vote  
 Motion Carried
- D) Canoe Marathon Banner** - Superintendent Strayer received a request to put a banner across US 23 in AuSable Township. As with the Big Foot Banner, this banner request must be submitted to MDOT under the Township's name. This makes the banner our responsibility from July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 through July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The Township will not be hanging or taking down the banner. Graham made the motion to approve the hanging of the Canoe Marathon Banner.  
 Second by Janis  
 Unanimous – Voice Vote  
 Motion Carried
- E) Resolution 2024-11** – This resolution is regarding the acceptance of the low bids for the DWSRF bids on the main replacement and water meter replacement. The Drinking Water State Revolving funds are for the tow projects and were estimated at \$4,011,000.00 with the bids coming in at \$3,208,251.80. Fleis and Vandenbrink have recommended that the bids be awarded to Elmers and Ferguson Enterprises, LLC. As stated in the resolution, this is contingent upon successful financial arrangements with DWSRF and will be brought before the board in future meeting. Motion was made by Barnes to approve Resolution 2024-11 to tentatively award a construction contract for water system improvements. Second by Ramsdell  
 Unanimous – Roll Call Vote  
 Motion Carried
- F) Resoluitiion 2024-12** – This is a budget resolution that increases the amount of the Auditor Fees from \$8,300 to \$11,900. This increase of \$3,600. is due to changes related to the accountants working on journal entries that had to be keyed in to make our accounting correct for year end. London made the motion to adopt Resolution 2024-12 to amend the 2024 Budget.  
 Second by Janis  
 Unanimous – Roll Call Vote  
 Motion Carried
- G) Insurance Information** – Superintendent Strayer presented information about the Health Care renewal process. His recommendation was to renew the Dental plan (which would increase by 3.17%) and the Vision Plan (which would decrease by 2.09%). As far as heath plan are concerned, he included options in your packet. Superintendent Strayer suggested Option 1, instead of a straight renewal. Last year we okayed a renewal of \$134,628.72 yearly cost based on the employees we had at the time. Since that time, we have lost two employees and hired one new employee. This takes our recalculated current cost to \$108,481.44 yearly. Option 1 would take our cost to \$124,920.36 yearly. The deductible would increase from \$1,000. To \$1,500. a year, but the coinsurance max would decrease by \$1,000. for a individual and \$2,000. for a family. London made the motion to renew the Dental and Vision Plan and for the health insurance we take Option 1. Second by Barnes  
 Unanimous – Roll Call Vote  
 Motion Carried

- H) **I.T. Bid Requests** - Information was provided regarding bids for I.T support from several businesses including our current provider VC3. After reviewing them, the board requested possible references and clarification of charges by the bidders. Supervisor Beliveau tabled the I.T. Bids Request.
- I) **NEMCOG Agreement** – NEMCOG is Northeastern Michigan Council of Governments and is responsible for helping the Township with Planning and Zoning. Part of their responsibilities are helping with the Master Plan. They need the agreement to start the process of working on the Master Plan. Graham made the motion to approve the NEMCOG Agreement.  
Second by Ramsdell  
Unanimous – Voice Vote  
Motion Carried

**BOARD COMMENTS:** None

Superintendent Strayer informed the trustees that a sizable tree had fallen across the path to Shoreline Beach. He reached out to Terry Dutcher to come and remove some of the dead trees behind the township hall. Mr. Dutcher agreed to job for \$1,000.00.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mr. George Samra (Chamber of Commerce Director) expressed his appreciation in authorizing the \$2,000. for equipment to close US 23 during the finish of the Canoe Marathon.

Mr. Mark Wright (Badger Meters) added to his previous comments that he had researched our system and found 80 meters that are within 4 years old, and they should last between 20 and 30 years. Those meters would be discarded by changing to another company. He would like the board to take this into consideration.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn made by Barnes  
Second by Janis  
Unanimous – Voice Vote  
Motion Carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 6:08 pm

Submitted By:  
Susie Olpere  
Recording Secretary

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Kevin Beliveau, Supervisor  
Charter Township of AuSable