

**CHIPPEWA TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
of the
MARCH 20, 2024
REGULAR MEETING**

The Chippewa Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly Regular Meeting on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. Present were Chairman Dan Woodske, Supervisor Jim Bouril, Manager Mark Taylor, Recreation Director/Assistant Manager Lauren Doyle, Code Enforcement Officer Dawna Pella, and Administrative Assistant Cindy Clark.

Supervisor Bryan Wright and Solicitor Shannon Steele did not attend.

Chairman Dan Woodske called the meeting to order.

VISITORS

Police Chief Eric Hermick and Larry Ryan attended.

MINUTES

Chairman Bouril had the following minutes for review:

1. February 14, 2024 Supervisors' Agenda Meeting.
2. February 21, 2024 Supervisors' Regular Meeting.

There were no additions or corrections.

MR. BOURIL MOVED TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE MINUTES of February 14 and February 21 as presented. Mr. Woodske seconded the motion, and with no further discussion, the motion carried.

The Supervisors acknowledged the minutes of the following meetings:

1. January 15, 2024 Sanitary Authority Board Meeting
2. January 9, 2024 Planning Commission Meeting

ITEMS TO BE ACTED ON

None.

REPORTS

Chairman Woodske had the following February reports for review:

1. Financial Report
2. Police Department Report
3. Road Report
4. Wage Tax/OPT Report
5. Real Estate Tax Report
6. Zoning Report
7. Code Enforcement Officer's Report
8. Fire Report
9. Recreation Update

Lauren Doyle thanked the Supervisors for allowing her to attend the recent Pennsylvania Parks and Recreation Society Conference. She said she appreciated being able to go, made new contacts, and came back with new information and new ideas. Chairman Woodske asked about the status of the splash pad. She responded that temporary fencing will be placed around the area while the splash pad landscaping is going on. She said the playground will be open before the splash pad opens in the spring.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Taylor had the following items listed on the agenda for discussion:

1. DEP 902 Grant:

Manager Taylor said that he and Dawna Pella are moving ahead with applying for this DEP 902 Grant for a skid loader for our facility. A pre-application meeting will be held in April. He said that he will have a pretty good indication of whether the application will be approved or not at that time.

2. Quote for Fencing Around Softball Field at Chippewa Park:

Mr. Taylor presented information on this to the Supervisors last week. Lauren Doyle said that the outfield will be treated like the Wright Field area is treated, and that the present fencing is unsafe, with tripping hazards, etc.

MR. BOURIL MOVED TO ACCEPT THE QUOTE and proceed with the fencing project. Mr. Woodske seconded the motion, and with no further discussion, the motion carried.

3. Salt Storage Shed:

Manager Taylor asked for permission to build a second salt storage shed at the garage. The Township could have a year's worth of salt on hand. The current shed holds about 700 tons, but we usually average needing about 2000 tons a year. Sometimes it is hard to get salt when many communities are trying to obtain salt at the same time. He said that we could fill the shed at the end of the year and we could keep one full. He said the price of salt does not go down. He indicated that the initial quote was higher than expected at \$83,000, but that number could possibly be lowered if Township employees in the Road Department do some of the site work. He said they hope to lower it to around \$65,000. Manager Taylor said that although he cannot give the Supervisors an exact cost at this time, he knows it can be done for less than \$83,000 if some of the site work is completed by Township workers.

MR. BOURIL MOVED TO GIVE PERMISSION FOR THE MANAGER TO BUY A SALT STORAGE SHED with the cost not to exceed \$80,000. Mr. Woodske seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion carried.

4. Planning Commission Appointment:

Manager Taylor said that two people expressed interest in being seated on the Planning Commission. They were Eric Davis and Steve Steele. He said that in his letter of interest, Mr. Steele indicated that he is involved in various youth sports activities such as BASA. The Manager said that since there will be an opening on the Recreation Board this year, it may be a better fit to extend an invitation to Mr. Steele to take a seat on that Board instead of on the Planning Commission, while Mr. Davis could take the seat on the Planning Commission and work well there.

MR. BOURIL MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT ERIC DAVIS to the Township Planning Commission. Mr. Woodske seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

5. Additional Walking Trails at Wright Fields:

Lauren Doyle said that she composed a letter to the residents on Dogwood Drive after walking the trails that are near the homes there. The letter was written to let the residents know that the work on the trails will start in spring or summer and that the Township will do its best to keep people off of their property. The residents were also encouraged to ask questions if they have any.

6. K-9 Proposal:

Chief Hermick said that he submitted information regarding the K-9 proposal to Manager Taylor who forwarded it to the Supervisors to review prior to the meeting. He asked for approval to move forward with this. He asked if the Supervisors had any questions for him regarding the proposal and Chairman Woodske asked about policies regarding dog abuse. The Chief said if a police officer had any type of a record like this, they could not be a police officer here. He said if something concerning the dog should occur, the officer would be dismissed. Lauren Doyle added that the Township's policies could also be amended, if needed. The Chief said that the mock policy has been written, but has to be formatted for our department. It would be looked over by the district attorney and our solicitor. Chairman Woodske then had questions concerning the types of collars, etc. and Chief Hermick explained that there are measures in place to protect the dog, and he listed several. There was discussion regarding dog retirement options and transitions. When asked, the Chief told Mr. Bouril this would be a dual-purpose dog: patrol, missing persons, narcotics, fugitives, etc.

MR. BOURIL MOVED TO PROCEED WITH THE K-9 PROGRAM. Mr. Woodske asked about funding and was told it would come from a private foundation. Costs would be taken care of for 5 to 7 years. Mr. Woodske seconded the motion. Carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Chairman Woodske had the February, 2024 bills for review.

MR. BOURIL MOVED TO APPROVE payment of the February 2024 bills. The motion was seconded by Mr. Woodske and with no further discussion the motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S BUSINESS

Solicitor Steele was not present but Manager Taylor said that he plans to ask her to look into pension plans for the Township. He wants to see if it is possible to get a new carrier. He also plans to ask the solicitor for guidance regarding the vacation of a street near the planned KIA dealership.

SUPERVISORS' BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT/MEETING DATES

With nothing further to come before the Board Chairman Woodske adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

The scheduled meeting dates for April 2024 are: Agenda meeting: Wednesday, April 10th at 10 a.m., Regular Meeting: Wednesday, April 17th at 6:30 p.m.

Secretary

Chairman