

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MONDAY, JANUARY 12TH, 2017

PRESENT:	ROBERT J. CANNON	SUPERVISOR
	KIM MELTZER	CLERK
	PAUL GIELEGHEM	TREASURER
	JOE A. ARAGONA	TRUSTEE
	MIKE KEYS	TRUSTEE
	KENNETH PEARL	TRUSTEE
	JENIFER WEST	TRUSTEE

ABSENT: NONE

The Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:03 p.m. in the Township Board Chambers, Clinton Township Civic Center. Also in attendance was Mr. Jack Dolan, Township Attorney. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Cannon said that there were no additions or deletions to this Agenda and it was a special meeting that was called for this single item.

1. REQUEST APPROVAL TO EXTEND JANUARY 5, 2017 STATE OF EMERGENCY

Mr. Dolan said he has a proposed resolution for consideration in regard to the State of Emergency. First, he suggests the legislative board enact and perpetuate the State of Emergency until the February 6, 2017 Board meeting. Additional he would urge the State to consider the impact on the Township in their recommendations for funds. This resolution would be for additional consideration and an extension of the declared State of Emergency.

Mr. Brouwer said we are close to the expiration date that the Governor needs to act on this. The event took place on Christmas Eve around 6 a.m. On January 5, the Township declared a State of Emergency based on P.A. 390 due to the threat of possible damage to property. He commended Mrs. Bednar for keeping everyone informed during this ordeal.

A pump was used for 10 hours on December 26 which was dispelling untreated sewage into the Clinton River. The river can heal itself but this is not taken lightly. There are still health risks and property damage that could occur.

Mr. Brouwer said that he did call the Michigan State Police Emergency Management Department and was told they would “sit on the request”. He cannot explain why they are taking this stance nor is this acceptable. Everything we have done so far has been mitigation to prevent damage. He did ask the State for reconsideration based upon the things we have done, but he doesn't think they realize the impact is much greater. He's done everything to try to make them understand the things we will be going through and will have to go through. Our request is to extend the emergency declaration until Feb. 6. The Governor has 28 days from the time he declared a State of Emergency, which is Feb. 3. The County will be extending their declaration tomorrow.

Mr. Gielegem asked for clarification on what are we doing today and on February 6. He also asked what the benefit is with this resolution.

Mr. Dolan said today we are adopting a resolution to declare an emergency based on the State Public Act with intent that the State of Emergency will stay in place until Feb. 6. We want to be in a status of declared State of Emergency at the time the Governor makes his decision regarding funds. Mr. Cannon does have the authority to request this but he does have to come to the Board to allow us to receive funds that are administered by the State. We have the authority to do this because we have an Emergency Management Department. This will ratify our concerns so we can present them to the State. It is clear that there is misunderstanding. Although the sinkhole developed in Fraser on 15 Mile Road but the damage could extend into the Township. The first level of emergency response is taking place in Clinton Township, pumping is being done in the Township and we are substantially affected.

Mr. Brouwer said that based on information Mr. Cannon received, all agreed a State of Emergency exists in the Township. We are putting the State on notice that this is bigger than we can handle. He interprets what the State is saying is the Township doesn't have a problem, the State does. The State also agrees that the County has a State of Emergency, but not Clinton Township. We are putting them on notice that we may be calling on them for help as far as fund, resources and the health department. We don't know, nor do we know the extent of the damages we have and/or will incur.

Mr. Pearl asked if we may get additional money to pay for part of the repairs. He said currently, three homes have been affected. We could be affected because the flow will head our way. All of the waste will be coming through the Township.

Mr. Brouwer said that no one really knows at this point. Everything we've done has been proactive to prevent anything from happening.

Mrs. West asked what happens if it doesn't stop raining.

Mrs. Bednar stated that conservation of water is critical. The sewer system comes down Garfield then goes to 15 Mile. This situation has impacted eleven communities. The County has a very good system where they can look at the pipes, Garfield, I-94 and 15 Mile. We have access to see what they see. There is storage available if it continues to rain. If the storage becomes full, we will have to turn the pumps on and dump into the river. If we don't, sewage could end up in the basements of homes. We've done public service announcements to let residents know that there isn't a problem with our water and it is drinkable. We are just trying to eliminate quantities going into the drains which is why we are promoting water conservation.

Mr. Cannon will send out a Nixle notification.

Mr. Keys suggested putting a notice on our website on the utilities page.

Mrs. Meltzer agreed with Mr. Keys and the key is to make sure the public is kept informed about the situation.

Motion by Mr. Cannon, supported by Mr. Pearl to, as a Board, declared the State of Emergency will remain in place until the Board meeting of February 6, 2017 and to ratify the concerns that Mr. Brouwer and Mr. Dolan outlined. Roll Call: Ayes – Cannon, Pearl, Aragona, Keys, West, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Keys, supported by Ms. West, to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call: Ayes – Keys, West, Aragona, Pearl, Cannon, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays - None. Absent – None. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

KIM MELTZER, CLERK
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON