

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MONDAY, MARCH 11TH, 2019

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 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:30 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, led by several students from Mr. Madorski's class at Chippewa Valley High School.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Meltzer stated there are no deletions and there is one add-on as follows:

15. Request Approval to Purchase 2019 Ford F-150 from the 2019-2020 Budget Year

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by West, to approve the agenda as amended, with the addition of Item #15. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, West, Keys, Cannon, Aragona, Gieleghem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Ms. Meltzer explained that, for the viewers and those in the audience tonight, a new technology, an agenda management system, is being implemented tonight. This is an introduction tonight, mainly for the Board members to see how it works. She noted the Recording Secretary will be working with it, and there will be some new items on the screen. She added that they intend to roll it out the first meeting in April.

1. 2018 ANNUAL REPORT – CLINTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEALS

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Aragona, to receive and file the letter dated February 21st, 2019 from the Vice-Chairperson of the Clinton Township Board of Appeals and their 2018 Annual Report, as submitted. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Aragona, West, Keys, Cannon, Gielegghem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

2. PUBLIC HEARING: 2019-2020 TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Ms. Donna Lauretti, Finance Director, presented the proposed 2018-2019 Budget regarding the General Fund, Police and Fire Funds, Capital Improvement Fund, Sanitation Fund, and Senior Housing Fund, including revenues and expenditures, as well as projections.

Ms. Mary Hein, Assistant Finance Director, followed with a presentation of the Water & Sewer Fund, including revenues and expenditures, projections and breakdowns of the projects. She and Ms. Lauretti then proceeded to entertain questions from the Board.

Mr. Gielegghem noted Mr. Cannon had indicated at the beginning of the presentation that the approval of the budget is one of the biggest responsibilities this Board has, and as a local community, they are in existence to provide services to the community to provide the things they need. He felt if they look at each item, they can rank them in order of importance and see how much money they are spending on them. He felt the biggest thing is providing a water and sewer system for every resident and business in the community.

Ms. Lauretti replied that is the biggest as far as expenditures.

Mr. Gielegghem felt the Police Department is the second highest, with the Fire Department the third highest in ranking of cost to the Township. He noted that Water and Sewer is funded by the bills that go out every month, while Police and Fire are largely supported by millages. He added that General Fund is for the funding of everything else but is the smallest amount of the budget in terms of dollar amounts.

Ms. Hein estimated that the General Fund is close to the amount of the Fire Fund. She explained it depends on how much capital outlay and transfers are budgeted.

Mr. Gielegghem stated some of the capital expenditures have had to be put off because they did not have the money, and they need to assure revenues exceed expenditures. He commented the other important perspective is that, out of the

General Fund, the actual millage put together to provide the services is the smaller part of the revenue, noting that some of the services maintain fees. They have an agreement with the State of Michigan, as all local communities do, to bring money in from the State in the form of revenue-sharing, and there have been significant decreases over the year as the State has sought to balance their books on the backs of local communities yet shifting more and more responsibilities down to the local communities. He questioned whether that is an accurate reflection of the State's approach to the local communities.

Ms. Lauretti and Ms. Hein agreed.

Mr. Gielegem explained the actual amount of tax revenue the Township derives for all the General Fund services is less than 1 mill, noting Headlee has rolled that back to 0.82. He stated he is always proud of what the Township does with that small portion, noting they maintain a workforce of 331.5 full-time employees, and they will be raising that to 335. He questioned the maximum number of employees the Township had at one time.

Mr. Pearl estimated it was over 400.

Ms. Lauretti replied she does not have that number available but she did not believe that number ever reached as high as 400.

Mr. Gielegem felt it is important for the voters and taxpayers to know that the Township has to figure out a way to do more with less and to do it with less people. They have to meet payroll, but also legacy costs, which includes pension, retirement savings and health care benefits for retirees, and that equates to a significant part of the overall budget. He highly commended Ms. Lauretti and Ms. Hein for the phenomenal job they did putting all of this information together in a way that answered all of his questions. He noted they are looking at the amount of \$12.2 million dollars for pension and health care for those who have retired. As governments reduce the size of their workforce, they end up with more people retired than those actually working. He questioned where the Township is with regard to number of employees working versus the number of retirees.

Ms. Lauretti explained they recently crossed the threshold where they have more retirees than active employees. She estimated it as 53% retirees to 47% active employees.

Mr. Gielegem commented that is almost one for one, with as many retirees as those working. He felt as time goes on, that number will continue to get more and more lopsided, with fewer people working to support more and more people retired. He anticipated the \$12.2 million dollars being spend for pension and health care will increase. He explained this is why the Township continues to

prefund some of these items now and have been for the last couple of years, and it is providing some dividends, noting that retiree health care is 23.14% of payroll, but that is down from last year, when it was 28.9%, so their required contribution ends up being less.

Ms. Lauretti stated, in addition to increasing the funding percentage, it also helps with the percentage of payroll contributions.

Mr. Gielegghem noted his next question is going to be “tongue-in-cheek”, but he questioned where the road funding line item is in the budget.

Ms. Lauretti replied there is not a line item for road funding because it does not exist.

Mr. Gielegghem explained that people fund roads through the gas tax and car registrations. They send those dollars up to Lansing, where 39% are kept for the major trunk lines, another 39% are sent to the counties, and the remaining 22% to cities. As a township, they are covered by the County, and Clinton Township is in competition with all of the other townships to the north that are experiencing phenomenal growth and want to turn all of their two-lane roads into five-lane roads. He noted there are a lot of capital projects in the budget that involve road projects, and he questioned what source is funding those projects.

Ms. Lauretti replied the General Fund is funding the road projects.

Mr. Gielegghem pointed out they are taking money received from revenue sharing, not from the police millage or fire millage. He admitted some comes from Water and Sewer because if they are doing the roads, they do the water and sewer line upgrades at the same time; however, he noted the gas tax and car registration dollars do not come directly to Clinton Township, so they have to spend money out of the General Fund for road improvements. He noted, however, that in almost all of the cases, they are getting match money from other government entities for those road projects, so they are using the General Fund money to leverage more money. It is reducing their Fund Balance but are using it because they are becoming an older community and they need the money to repair the infrastructure.

Ms. Lauretti replied affirmatively.

Mr. Gielegghem brought up the funded school liaison officers. He noted there was an officer in the Chippewa Valley Schools that was half-funded by the schools and half-funded by the Township through the Police Department budget, and then Chippewa Valley School District requested another officer. The Township agreed and made the same offer to Clintondale for their high school, but as of yet, they have not taken the Township up on the offer for a second officer.

Ms. Laretti replied that the Police Department budget shows the Township is paying for those three full-time employees, but there is an offsetting revenue that comes into the fund from the two school districts to pay their portion for the three officers. She indicated the revenue offsets the cost by 50%.

Mr. Gielegghem noted talk about the increase in the revenue, which was at 3.7% growth last year, even though they had projected 3%. He stated when he read the narrative, he felt a 0.7% increase is huge, but when he asked for how much that equated to, he found out it is actually less than \$225,000.

Ms. Laretti agreed it is nice to have the higher number, but it is not a significant amount in the overall budget.

Mr. Gielegghem felt the amount they are taking in in tax revenue is fairly stagnant and they anticipate it to remain steady.

Ms. Laretti replied they are projecting approximate 3% increases throughout.

Mr. Gielegghem summarized that the Township is providing the services, doing more with less money and less people, but their fund balance is declining because they are an aging community and have to invest in infrastructure.

Mr. Cannon stated they can do that because they have a fine staff that continues to get better, and their technology has added to that significantly.

Mr. Pearl noted the largest jump in General Fund expenditures went from \$3.2 million to \$4.44 million in “Unallocated Costs”. He questioned the breakdown of that amount.

Ms. Laretti replied the transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund for the road projects was not originally budgeted, but it all took place during the year, so the majority of that was the transfer of those funds. She pointed out the \$1.54 million went up to \$5.4 million, which accounted for the \$3.2 million in road projects. She explained they put those in the budget as they know about them, so they are increasing the current year budget because they have that information.

Mr. Pearl commented that they will need more income to continue these road projects, and he hoped the State starts providing some money for these road projects. He recalled getting approximately \$9 million from the State and \$2 million from the County for the Garfield Road project, but the Township will not be able to continue putting in money for these projects. Mr. Pearl indicated his other questions had been answered previously, and he thanked Ms. Laretti and Ms. Hein for a very good job on the budget.

Mr. Gielegem had asked about interest income, and as Treasurer, he requests projections from Accounting, noting they have been “spot-on” with those projections. He explained that allows them to do more creative investments, and they are seeing higher interest rates, so his projections are much higher than those of Accounting, and he indicated he would like to meet with Ms. Laretti and Ms. Hein on those projections.

Ms. Hein clarified that the interest is spread throughout the entire budget, so it does not show up in General Fund alone but is spread through all the other appropriate funds. She agreed it is much higher than it had been in the past.

Mr. Aragona questioned the “notable expenditures”, one of them being \$3,000 for a study on Andrea Basin.

Ms. Mary Bednar, Director of the Department of Public Services, replied that Andrea Basin is a detention basin and pump station they will be looking at to determine a better operation of it, including a new pump if necessary. She clarified that the \$3,000 is for an engineering study.

Mr. Aragona questioned the \$250,000 on upgrades to the servers next year.

Mr. Dave Pearce, Director of Information Technology, replied when he came to the Township in 2013, they purchased a new farm and that has aged, which means they will be in support and service, and he will not be able to buy a warranty to get four-hour parts, and they also need to replace their entire finance server system. He stated it is a forecast, and unless something changes, they will have to replace that hardware.

Mr. Aragona questioned whether there is a reason why Mr. Pearce would not want to put half in this budget and half in next year’s budget to “ease the hit”.

Mr. Pearce replied that he can still carry support and maintenance on it. He compared it to purchasing a new car when the old car is fine and still under warranty.

Mr. Cannon opened the floor for public comments, but there were no comments from the audience.

Mr. Cannon stated it would be appropriate to approve the budget tonight, but if there are further questions, they can postpone the approval to the next meeting. He stressed, however, that the Board needs to approve the budget this month.

Mr. Keys respectfully requested they postpone this until the next meeting to approve. He agreed the budget is the most important thing this Board does, and

tonight was the public's first opportunity to get an in-depth explanation from staff. He commended Ms. Lauretti and Ms. Hein on their great presentation and indicated he has taken some notes so he will most likely be calling them tomorrow with some questions. He stated he would appreciate a postponement.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Ms. West, to postpone a decision on the 2019-2020 Township Budget until the next Regular Township Board Meeting, scheduled for Monday, March 25th, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, West, Keys, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegghem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

3. APPOINTMENT OF APPLICANT TO THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Cannon stated they have two outstanding candidates for only one position that currently exists, so he would like to propose appointing both candidates to the committee with the same appointment term, which will increase the committee size by one, and to direct the Parks & Recreation Committee to amend their bylaws and add one additional member.

Motion by Mr. Cannon, supported by Mr. Aragona, to receive and file the letter dated March 4th, 2019 from the Administrative Assistant and appoint Ms. Rachel Riggs and Mr. Zachary Tinker to fill the same partial term on the Parks & Recreation Committee, expiring on November 30th, 2019, which will increase the committee size by one; further, to direct the Parks & Recreation Committee to change their bylaws to increase their committee membership by one member. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Gielegghem questioned whether the bylaws come back to the Board to approve, or whether that is done by the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Mr. Cannon replied that is handled by the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Mr. Gielegghem stated, as a member of that committee, he knows they very rarely meet, but he felt these new members would like to meet the Committee members and they will need to amend the bylaws.

Roll Call: Ayes – Cannon, Aragona, West, Keys, Pearl, Gielegghem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

4. APPOINTMENT OF APPLICANTS TO THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Cannon stated there are two applicants and two positions, but they will need to identify which applicant is appointed to the term expiring 2020 and which applicant is appointed to the term expiring 2021.

Motion by Mr. Gielegem, supported by Mr. Keys, to receive and file the letter dated March 4th, 2019 from the Administrative Assistant and appoint Ms. Sheanna Colonnello and Mr. Phil Rode to the partial three-year terms on the Conservation Committee, with terms expiring on November 30th, 2020 and November 30th, 2021, respectively. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Gielegem stated he had the privilege of chairing the Conservation Committee, and he stated that Mr. Rode was his opponent in the last election. He stressed that Mr. Rode was willing to step up and dig holes in the park, collect bugs from the streams, etc., and he assured that type of input is welcome. He added they are happy to fill those terms and get more people helping them.

Roll Call: Ayes – Gielegem, Keys, West, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT TO OFFICE CLERK II POSITION – CLERK'S OFFICE

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Aragona, to receive and file the letter dated February 28th, 2019 from the Human Resources Director and appoint Ms. Maria Lucido to the budgeted position of Office Clerk II, which constitutes a promotion to a higher classification within the Township, with a starting salary of \$35,112 and the appointment effective on March 18th, 2019. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Aragona, West, Keys, Cannon, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT TO EQUIPMENT OPERATOR POSITION – PUBLIC WORKS

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Ms. West, to receive and file the letter dated February 25th, 2019 from the Human Resources Director, and appoint Mr. James Phillips to the budgeted and authorized position of Equipment Operator in the Public Works Division, Department of Public Services, with starting annual salary of \$47,361 as specified in the AFSCME Local 1103.12 collective bargaining agreement, effective March 12th, 2019, subject to successful completion of a background investigation and a pre-employment medical examination, including drug screen. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, West, Keys,

Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

7. AWARD 2019-2020 PRINTING BID FOR CLINTON TOWNSHIP RECREATION BROCHURE & CLINTON CURRENTS

Mr. Gielegem questioned whether the Township has worked with this company in the past.

Mr. Cannon replied affirmatively.

Mr. Pizzo replied that they are not their current vendor, but they have been going back and forth between companies, but Grand Blanc was fantastic and will save them about \$11,000.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Keys, to receive and file the letter dated March 8th, 2019 from the Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, and award the bid for the printing and mailer services of the combination Recreation brochure, Water Report and Clinton Currents publications to the low bidder, Grand Blanc Printing, Inc., at a price of \$41,880, or \$6,980 per issue, valid from April 2019 through December 2020, as outlined in the correspondence. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Keys, West, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried

8. REQUEST APPROVAL TO RESURFACE THE BAY FLOOR AT STATION 4 (HEADQUARTERS)

Mr. Keys inquired as to why this vendor was chosen. He noted the correspondence indicated they were “chosen” but did not indicate whether they were the lowest bidder or whether there was another reason they stood out as the best choice.

Fire Chief Tim Duncan replied they had submitted two different proposals. There were two other companies that bid, but system MLP Painting is going to be using, which is grinding the floor and putting multiple coats down, is what they felt will offer the greatest longevity for this project. Because of this, they opted to go with this bid, which was actually the middle bid.

Motion by Mr. Keys, supported by West, to receive and file the letter dated February 28th, 2019 from the Fire Chief, to approve the resurfacing of the bay floor at Station 4, and award the bid to MLP Painting, Inc., of Washington Township, Michigan, at a cost of \$18,900.00, which is available in the "Repair and Maintenance" fund. Roll Call: Ayes – Keys, West, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

9. BID AWARD: DISTRICT E GOLDEN STREET RELIEF SEWER AND WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT

Mr. Cannon inquired as to whether the County will be cooperating with the replacement of the road.

Ms. Bednar replied that was part of the agreement they brought to the Board about a month ago.

Mr. Cannon pointed out those residents will get a new sewer line, a new water line and a new road, and it will be scheduled for this summer, so it will have the least disruption of the school district, located close to the project area.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Aragona, to receive and file the letter dated March 7th, 2019 from the Senior Project Engineer, Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc., and award the District "E" Golden Street Sanitary Relief System & Water Main Replacement to the low bidder, Pamar Enterprises, Inc., of New Haven, Michigan, in the amount of \$1,818,613.51, as outlined in the correspondence.

Mr. Cannon pointed out that \$1.8 million is added to the \$30 million this community has spent over the last 18 years to eliminate the overflow pumps. He felt as a Board and a community, they can be very proud of that accomplishment.

Mr. Aragona inquired as to whether they have to approve the \$1.8 million or the total project budget.

Ms. Bednar replied the contract with Pamar is in the amount of \$1.8 million, but the \$2.15 million is including the "soft costs" associated with the project, including engineering. She relayed the history of how construction costs only were included in the budget years ago, but everything would come in over budget due to engineering costs or change orders. She advised the Board is approving the contract amount but the \$2.15 million is what is being budgeted for this project.

Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Aragona, West, Keys, Cannon, Gielegem, Meltzer.
Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

10. REQUEST APPROVAL OF RATE INCREASE AND RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT WITH RICCO SECURITY, INC.

Mr. Keys understood that for this type of service they either put it out to bid or get quotes. In this case, they contacted twelve different vendors and received two responses. He questioned when the next time this contract will be scheduled for bid or when they would be required to seek quotes once again.

Ms. Bednar replied this contract has no expiration date, but they can get out of it by providing thirty (30) days advance notice.

Mr. Keys questioned whether the Board can put a stipulation that would require the department to seek bids or quotes on a certain date. He felt, otherwise, that this contract is a never-ending contract.

Mr. Gielegem commented the Board has had a debate about this, and one of the things they did was to pass an amendment to the contracting provision that requires a list of everyone the Township is doing business with, including the nature of the contract, the term of the contract, and if it is open-ended, it would be indicated as such on this document. This allows anyone to look at that document and can see those contracts with which nothing has been done for a while. He felt it is a useful tool as a Board.

Mr. Keys replied that makes sense, and it gives the Board the opportunity to keep the current rates and make sure they are not looking at an increase, but it gives them the opportunity to see when these contracts need to be going out for bid again or obtaining quotes once again.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Keys, to receive and file the letter dated February 19th, 2019 from the Director of the Department of Public Services, with regard to the security service rate increase, and accept the rate increase of \$1.75 per hour and renew the Township's agreement with their current security company, Spirit Investigation & Security, Inc. (dba Ricco Security, Inc.), as outlined in the correspondence. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Keys, West, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

11. ADOPTION OF TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE #451 – AMENDMENT TO SIGN ORDINANCE

Mr. Cannon explained this was initiated by the Planning Department and the Building Department.

Motion by Ms. Meltzer, supported by Mr. Pearl, to adopt and publish Ordinance No. 451, which amends and revises Chapter 1488, Signs, deleting subparagraph 1488.045(c) and reorders paragraphs, providing for repealer, severability and effective date, and to publish as required. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Robert Campbell, 41830 Kentvale, Clinton Township, Michigan 48038, stated the clause that is being eliminated was first enacted in the significant revision to the Sign Ordinance, which was done in approximately 1992. He felt there is no question that the consistent and rigorous enforcement of that Sign Ordinance has been very difficult and challenging for Township officials, so he felt this is most likely a positive

move; however, he felt deleting that clause without any other changes opens the door for a number of negative actions that could impact the appearance of the community. He felt they have made a lot of progress in signs over the last 25 to 30 years, and he was concerned that the change itself will result in owners with very large signs replacing any number of panels and they would be entitled to do so, but the net impact is if they begin to work with them on any initiative to try to improve the appearance of the community, there will be a lot of push-back from people who have recently invested money. He urged the Board, as well as Planning and Building Departments, to take the initiative and look for new ways to motivate people to replace some of these old dilapidated signs. They owe it to their community to take pride where they live, and many of the top-ranked communities in the country have gotten rid of the huge, bold signs of the 1970's and 1980's. He urged this Board and the Township departments to take that action.

Mr. Cannon thanked Mr. Campbell for his comments, and for all he has done through the years to help with that ordinance. At this time, he felt it is good to adopt this Ordinance but he also felt they should listen to what Mr. Campbell indicated and see what they can do to eliminate some of the unsightly signs. He noticed a sign in the area that has been left up deliberately because of that clause, even though the business has been gone for ten years.

Mr. Gieleghem agreed, noting that clause in the ordinance actually worked as a disincentive in some cases for the Township to work with the property owners and get upgrades that are necessary to the signs existing in the community. He agreed they need to be diligent, and he felt the Planning and Building Departments have indicated those same values as well.

Ms. Meltzer explained that the new Planning Director, Mr. Bruce Thompson, stated this is not the only thing they are looking at regarding the sign ordinance and future changes will be recognized as necessary and put in place. She appreciated the new Director looking at this and making this a more business-friendly community.

Mr. Pearl observed, as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, that they have approved a lot of these requests to allow face changes on non-compliant signs, but the majority of new businesses are going in under the new ordinance with smaller signs. He indicated they may request a second sign if there is a visibility problem, and the Board of Appeals has granted those variances, but with the condition that the total square footage of both signs cannot exceed what would be allowed for the one sign. He appreciated Mr. Campbell's work on this.

Mr. Campbell felt if they looked at the detail, the Zoning Board of Appeals has approved very few variances where the particular clause being

deleted is the issue. He added that, where signs have been changed by more than one-third, the subsequent approvals by the Zoning Board of Appeals, for the most part, have had a time limit on them, so that while the Zoning Board may have approved those variances, limitations were placed on it. He also felt that any criticism of the Zoning Board that they are “over-approving” any sign variances is unwarranted.

Mr. Cannon assured there has been no criticism.

Mr. Pearl referred to his earlier comment and assured it was not a criticism, noting there were a lot of variances approved, but there were also a lot that were not approved.

Roll Call: Ayes – Meltzer, Pearl, West, Keys, Cannon, Aragona, Gieleghem.
Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

12. REQUEST APPROVAL TO ATTEND MMTA 2019 BASIC INSTITUTE

Ms. Meltzer explained this is on the Board agenda tonight because of the requirement that anything exceeding \$1,000 must come to the Board for approval.

Motion by Mr. Cannon, supported by Ms. West, to approve the request from the Township Treasurer to attend the MMTA 2019 Basic Institute, to be held in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan from April 29th through May 3rd, 2019 at an estimated cost of \$1,123.38.

Mr. Gieleghem explained his is a three-year training and the cost is higher because he is there for a full week. At the conclusion of this year, which concludes the consecutive three-year program, it involves becoming a certified Treasurer. He clarified his training is the MMTA, which is Michigan Municipal Treasurer’s Association, and the next item on the agenda is for Ms. Meltzer to attend the MTA, which is Michigan Townships Association, and those are two different trainings.

Roll Call: Ayes – Cannon, West, Keys, Pearl, Aragona, Gieleghem, Meltzer.
Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

13. REQUEST APPROVAL TO ATTEND THE 2019 MTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPO

Ms. Meltzer explained the cost has increased to \$1,404.72 due to an additional day and two additional courses added.

Motion by Mr. Cannon, supported by Mr. Aragona, to approve the request from the Township Clerk to attend the 2019 MTA Annual Conference & Expo, to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, from April 1st through 4th, 2019, at an estimated cost of \$1,404.72. Roll Call: Ayes – Cannon, Aragona, West, Keys, Pearl, Gielegghem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

14. REQUEST APPROVAL TO RESTART THE POLICE K-9 UNIT

Mr. Keys inquired as to whether they are partnering with a non-profit organization to get these animals for the K-9 unit.

Police Chief Posavetz replied it is on the front end of the program, because they are already training the dogs. Once the Police Department starts training the dog, it is their dog. They will be training with the unit, and some of the individuals who train are the same individuals who do training with the veterans. He did not feel it would be accurate to reference them as “partners” once they are established as a unit.

Mr. Keys felt this is a great step forward, noting when there was a recent loss of an animal to a police force, he received two or three requests from residents asking if there was a way they could purchase equipment for the animals in Clinton Township. He recalled reaching out to the Clinton Township Police Department, only to find they have not had this program for quite a while. He appreciated Chief Posavetz’s efforts and requested he get in touch with social media to let people know how they can donate or get involved. He felt they will find the response is huge.

Motion by Mr. Gielegghem, supported by Mr. Keys, to receive and file the letter dated March 11th, 2019 from the Police Chief and approve the transfer of \$8,000 from the Police Department fund balance into Capital Outlay to help cover costs to restart the Police K-9 Unit, as outlined in the correspondence. Roll Call: Ayes – Gielegghem, Keys, West, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

15. REQUEST APPROVAL TO PURCHASE 2019 FORD F-150 FROM THE 2019-2020 BUDGET YEAR

Mr. Miller explained the purchase of this truck has not been approved for this budget, but the reason they are requesting this so quickly is that one of their vehicles “died” last week. This is not the vehicle they intended to replace, so he may have to come in later in the year for that one. He would like to request this so they can start the process, which generally takes a couple of months to acquire the vehicle.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Ms. West, to receive and file the letter dated March 11th, 2019 from the Superintendent of the Building Department and approve the purchase of a 2019 Ford 150 Pickup Truck through the Macomb County Vehicle Bid program at a cost of \$26,337.00, with this to be included as part of the 2019-2020 budget. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Keys stated when he logged into the agenda management system, this agenda item was not present for him to review and he inquired as to whether it was because it was an add-on.

Ms. Meltzer replied affirmatively, clarifying it is not yet on line, but she noted she made hard copies, distributing them to each of the Board members this evening. She advised it is on the website and in the Dropbox. She assured it will be updated, and their goal to be up and running is the April 8th meeting. She advised him that, until that time, they will be straddling both systems.

Mr. Keys stated it is good so far with today's meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, West, Keys, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer.
Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25TH, 2019 REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

Motion by Ms. West, supported by Mr. Pearl, to approve the minutes of the February 25th, 2019 Regular Township Board Meeting as presented. Roll Call: Ayes – West, Pearl, Keys, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion by Mr. Keys, supported by Mr. Pearl, to approve the bills as presented. Roll Call: Ayes – Keys, Pearl, West, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was one public comment:

Ms. Nancy Duemling questioned the status of the Ethics Policy that was postponed by the Board. She read that it is going to Budget/Ways and Means Committee, and questioned when it may be coming back to the Board. She further requested that, when this is first introduced to the Board, the action on it be postponed to the next meeting so everyone has an opportunity to review it and ask questions.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Keys, supported by Mr. Gielegem, to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call: Ayes – Keys, Gielegem, West, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Meltzer. Nays - None. Absent – None. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

KIM MELTZER, CLERK
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON

ces:03/18/19