

May 15, 2017
Special Meeting

A Special meeting of the Chocolay Township Board was held on Monday, May 15, 2017 at the Chocolay Township Hall, 5010 U S 41 South, Marquette, MI. Supervisor Bohjanen called the Township Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

TOWNSHIP BOARD.

PRESENT: Richard Bohjanen, Max Engle, Ben Zyburt, David Lynch, Judy White, Don Rhein, Mark Maki.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Lawry, Mary Sanders, Suzanne Sundell, Dale Throenle.

MINUTES –May 1, 2017.

Lynch moved Zyburt second to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 1, 2017 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS.

Maki moved Rhein second to approve the agenda with one change XII. A. change Resignation of Township Assessor-Mark Maki to letter of Non Acceptance of Assessing Position-Mark Maki.

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

Deborah Mulcahey, 633 Lakewood Lane- Commented on the current Board meeting time. She feels that 5:30 p.m. is not an appropriate time for working people to be able to attend Board meetings. She feels that it is disingenuous that the Board sets a yearly schedule for meetings and then changes the schedule because a board member is not able to attend on the original date. She is a big proponent of the Township requiring property owners to obtain a survey when they do certain activities.

CONSIDER LETTER OF NON ACCEPTANCE OF ASSESSING POSITION – MARK MAKI.

Lynch moved Engle second to accept letter of non-acceptance of assessing position.

MOTION CARRIED.

APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR – SAM GERBER.

Engle moved Zyburt second to appoint Mr. Sam Gerber as Chocolay Township Assessor effective June 1, 2017, with compensation as outlined in the *Personnel Manual*.

MOTION CARRIED.

Trustee White asked Mr. Gerber how he went from nursing to assessing. Mr. Gerber replied that nursing was not the career path he envisioned.

AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE TERMS FOR THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT CAPACITY.

Manager Lawry explained to the Board that we have done some preliminary checks on the predicted flows from the expanded Casino project and feel that they would basically use up our cushion of reserve that we own at the treatment plant. There is no better time to get additional reserve and have the tribe pay for it, than when they want to come into the system. We told them that they would have to pay for the additional capacity.

Lynch moved Zyburt second to authorize the Township Supervisor, Township Treasurer and the Township Manager to negotiate the terms for purchase of additional wastewater treatment capacity at the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Plant in order to accommodate flows from the Ojibwa II Casino complex, with a draft agreement to be returned to the Board for review.
MOTION CARRIED.

Trustee White asked about the routing of the sewer line for this project and what about all the people that paid an assessment for the sewer system and are not connected.

Manager Lawry replied that the proposed route would be from the casino to Riverdale and then Riverdale to the Riverside pump station. We are still not far enough along in the process to say how many residents would be able to connect at this time. KBIC would pay for construction and then turn it over to the Township and we would be responsible for maintenance of the system from that point. This is the preferred option of KBIC.

Lynch asked if there would be an opportunity to bring water out since you will be doing the construction anyway, if the well system is not adequate to serve the casino.

Manager Lawry responded that KBIC will not have water to spare, but should have enough for their project from the new wells.

Trustee Rhein asked with our ancient sewer system, will the system be able to handle the additional flow?

Manager Lawry replied that we have reserve capacity at all but one of our pump stations.

RECONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR ALGER-DELTA COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION FRANCHISE ORDINANCE

Mr. Harrell, General Manager from Alger Delta will not be available for our scheduled Public Hearing at the Township Board Meeting on June 12, 2017.

White moved Rhein second to change the Alger Delta Cooperative Public Hearing from June 12, 2017 to July 10, 2017.

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

Deborah Mulcahey, 633 Lakewood Lane- Thought it was outrageous that this Board looked at rezoning property associated with the casino and failed to understand the ramifications of the water quality of the people that live in that area. The Governor's office has not vetoed the casino being at the old airport. The whole community will still be affected by the addition to the Wastewater Treatment system.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

None.

Supervisor Bohjanen moved Lynch second to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Max Engle, Clerk

Richard Bohjanen, Supervisor