

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MONITOR
REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2014

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Brandt, Kowalski, Pike, Arnold, Kochany, Malkin, Miller
Members absent: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Public Input opened at 7:01 p.m.

State Representative Kevin Daley was present to introduce himself to the board and announce his candidacy for the Michigan State Senate. Daley explained due to redistricting, this senate seat covers Lapeer, Bay and Tuscola counties.

Board members were given the opportunity to ask Daley questions, one of which was the state surplus and road funding.

Public Input closed at 7:14 p.m.

Motion by Kowalski supported by Kochany to adopt the agenda as presented.
Motion carried.

Motion by Malkin supported by Miller to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2014 regular meeting as presented.
Motion carried.

Motion by Kochany supported by Malkin to pay the bills in the amount of \$6,340.64 from General Fund.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Brandt, Kowalski, Pike, Arnold, Kochany, Malkin, Miller

No: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

R-2014-003 Resolution Adopting Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines & Asset Test

Motion by Kowalski supported by Malkin to adopt Resolution R-2014-003, as follows:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT POVERTY EXEMPTION INCOME GUIDELINES AND ASSET TEST

WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the supervisor and board of review, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute to the public charges is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under the General Property Tax Act; and

WHEREAS, the township board is required by Section 7u of the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893 (MCL 211.7u), to adopt guidelines for poverty exemptions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, pursuant to MCL 211.7u, that Monitor Charter Township, Bay County, adopts the following guidelines for the supervisor and board of review to implement.

The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year.

To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Be an owner of and occupy as a principle residence the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 2) File a claim with the supervisor or board of review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the homestead, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year.
- 3) Produce a valid drivers' license or other form of identification if requested.
- 4) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested if requested.
- 5) Meet the federal poverty income guidelines as defined and determined annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget.
- 6) Meet additional eligibility requirements as determined by the township board of review, including the requirement that all claimants complete the Monitor Township Poverty Exemption Application/Asset Test and calculations determined by the poverty exemption taxable value worksheet as implemented, revised, and/or amended by the board of review.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the board of review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the board of review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be a deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these are communicated in writing to the claimant.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member Kowalski and supported by Board Member Malkin.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Brandt, Kowalski, Pike, Arnold, Kochany, Malkin, Miller

No: None
Absent: None
Motion carried.

REPORTS

Brandt reported the Fire Chief will be traveling to Wyoming, Michigan on Wednesday to do the final inspection of the new HME fire truck and deliver it to the station. After the equipment is transferred, the old truck will be put out for sale.

Brandt also reported he received information from MDOT the I-75/US-10 overpass is scheduled to be rebuilt in 2015.

Arnold reported the generator committee had their first meeting and a letter was drafted to the electrical inspector requesting review of the building electrical service.

Malkin voiced concern regarding the Road Commission Local Road Maintenance Policy and status report. Malkin stated according to the report, the Road Commission recommends all level 1 roads are returned to gravel (3-4 roads) and the rest of the roads listed are rated at level 2. Brandt stated the report only lists the level 1 & 2 roads and does not include the roads with a higher ranking. Brandt at a recent Road Commission meeting voiced objection to the report stating in recent years the Road Commission has advised continued maintenance of the roads in good condition. In order to do that, the township requires a comprehensive report of all roads in the township.

Arnold also voiced concerns with the proposed policy stating in the past the township found the cost to maintain gravel roads to be very expensive and that was the reason behind resurfacing with chip & seal. The policy also places the responsibility to maintain all chip & seal roads on the township. It is Arnold's opinion if the Road Commission adopts this policy, the township will not be able to do any roads.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Cindy L. Kowalski, Clerk

Gary A. Brandt, Supervisor