

CALL TO ORDER

The regular October 6, 2011 meeting of the Buchanan Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Jane Mitchell at 7:01 pm.

Members Present: Jane Mitchell, Supervisor; Cathy Ganus, Clerk; Janet Dehring, Treasurer; Lynn Ferris and Brian Dinneen, Trustees.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: One (1) resident, one staff, and no members of the press.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited by those in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 22, 2011 regular meeting was approved as presented.

ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

None noted.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS

None.

SHERIFF'S REPORT – August, 2011

Deputy Aaron Nannfeldt of the Berrien County Sheriff's Department presented the August, 2011 Sheriff's Report. During that time, 48 complaints were handled, twelve (12) citations were issued, and two (2) arrests were made within Buchanan Township. There have also been 170 arrests made as of September 30, 2011 by the Berrien County Sheriff's Department Narcotics Unit.

CORRESPONDENCE

Southwest Michigan Planning Commission – Twin CAT & NATS Long Range Transportation Plan Development Process 2013-2040

Southwest Michigan Planning Commission - Michigan's Great Southwest Sustainable Business Forums

Berrien County Drain Commission – Board of Determination – Blue Jay Drain # 046

Correspondence has been received from Berrien County Drain Commissioner Roger Zilke requesting Buchanan Township to waive the 10-day notice period for the meeting of the Board of Determination for the Blue Jay Drain # 046 to be held on October 11, 2011 at 1:00 pm. Property owners affected by this Board of Determination have received the proper notification; however, it was found that Buchanan Township did not receive the notice.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Dehring, to waive the ten-day Buchanan Township notification of meeting of the Berrien County Drain Commission Board of Determination regarding the Blue Jay Drain # 046. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Dehring, second by Ganus, to approve General Fund check # 7833 to and including check # 7858 totaling \$19,907.47 as well as Fire Fund check # 4754 to and including check # 4781 totaling \$9,456.85. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

REPORTS

*Fire Report - Tim Jesswein - on file
Resignation of Firefighter Jason Flick*

Motion by Ganus, second by Mitchell, to accept the resignation of Firefighter Jason Flick with regret. Voice vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

In light of a procedural error, the Berrien County Planning Commission was inadvertently omitted from the checklist regarding the passage of zoning ordinance text amendments. The following three zoning ordinance amendments were subsequently submitted to the Berrien County Planning Commission and an advisory review was received regarding same.

ZOA Ordinance # 1-2011 - Ordinance to Amend Chapter 8 R4L Lakefront Residential District

Motion by Ganus, second by Mitchell, to amend the previously adopted ZOA Ordinance # 1-2011 by striking date of adoption of September 8, 2011 and inserting date of adoption of October 6, 2011; striking published date of September 14, 2011 and inserting published date of October 12, 2011; and striking effective date of September 22, 2011 and inserting effective date of October 20, 2011. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

ZOA Ordinance # 2-2011 - Ordinance to Amend Chapter 2 Definitions, Sections 2.02M, P, and Q; and Chapter 18, Section 18.14, A

Motion by Ganus, second by Mitchell, to amend the previously adopted ZOA Ordinance # 2-2011 by striking date of adoption of September 8, 2011 and inserting date of adoption of October 6, 2011; striking published date of September 14, 2011 and inserting published date of October 12, 2011; and striking effective date of September 22, 2011 and inserting effective date of October 20, 2011. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

ZOA Ordinance # 3-2011 - Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18.10

Motion by Ganus, second by Mitchell, to amend the previously adopted ZOA Ordinance # 3-2011 by striking date of adoption of September 8, 2011 and inserting date of adoption of October 6, 2011; striking published date of September 14, 2011 and inserting published date of October 12, 2011; and striking effective date of September 22, 2011 and inserting effective date of October 20, 2011. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

NEW BUSINESS

Snowplowing Bid Award

Bid proposals were submitted by Affordable Bulldozing, B. Tengelitsch, Jim's Lawn Care, RNG Professional Lawn Care, and Red Bud Chimney Sweeps. Bids were received two (2) ways: unlimited pushes with salt application and per push with salt application. Contracts were for one (1) year, two (2) year, or three (3) years.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Dehring, to award the 2011-2012 season one-year snowplowing contract to Affordable Bulldozing at a cost of \$1,350 for unlimited pushes including salt for the Township Hall and \$1,890 for unlimited pushes including salt for the Fire Department per bid proposal. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

PA 116 Farmland Agreement Application – Nicklas & Ned Totzke

An application for farmland agreement has been received by Nicklas D. Totzke Trust and Ned R. Totzke Trust to enroll 195.5 acres of farmland within Buchanan Township in a program under Part 361 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 Act 451 as amended (more commonly known as PA 116) for a period of ten (10) years. The application was reviewed by the Berrien County Planning Commission, Berrien County Conservation District, and the City of Buchanan (due to one of the parcels being within three miles of the city limits). No objections were received.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Ferris, to approve the application for farmland agreement by Nicklas D. Totzke Trust and Ned R. Totzke Trust into the PA 116 Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program as submitted. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

Resolution # 3-2011 – Resolution Opposing Incorporation as a Charter Township

Every ten (10) years after the census, Townships with a certain population receive notification from the Michigan Secretary of State's office that they are eligible to become a charter township. There are three (3) options and a township board must choose one: adopt a resolution opposed to the incorporation as a charter township; adopt a resolution of intent to incorporate as a charter township; or adopt a resolution to place the issue before voters. Notice of the right to referendum on becoming a charter township must be published in a paper of local circulation within the township. Seven (7) days after the first publication, the notice must be published once again. No comments have been received by the citizens regarding this issue.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Ganus, to approve Resolution # 2011-10 – Resolution Opposing Incorporation as a Charter Township as presented. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Buchanan Township Firefighters are holding an all-you-can-eat fish fry fundraiser at the Buchanan Township Fire Department on October 15, 2011 from 4-8 pm.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Cathy A. Ganus
Buchanan Township Clerk