

**MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
MONROE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
Minutes of a Board Workshop
Held April 13, 2022
5:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

A Board Workshop of the Monroe Charter Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Alan Barron at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 in the Monroe Charter Township Hall, 4925 East Dunbar Road, Monroe County, Michigan.

Present: Supervisor Barron, Clerk Smith, Treasurer Barton, Trustees Howe, Raymo, Manor and Janssens.

Others

Present: Fiscal Officer Lisa Sulfaro, Chief Cherney, Assistant Chief Broman and Captain Dave Nadeau.

Supervisor Barron reminded everyone that this is only a Workshop, not a Board Meeting; therefore, no board action can be taken today. The purpose is to discuss possible expenditures for ARPA Funds. The notice was posted on April 8, 2022 on the Doors, Website and Facebook.

TOWNSHIP SIGN DEMONSTRATION

Representatives from Johnson Sign Company set up their portable digital sign for the Trustee's to see. Explained that the Township should be able to utilize the existing frame with slight modifications. Asked about how long the sign should last? Explained that we should get about 15 years on it based on how we want to use it. There is a 5-year parts and service warranty and there is quick response time for any service we may need. Treasurer Barton stated that the price is close to what we previously paid for the current sign. Trustee Howe asked Supervisor Barron if he had gotten other prices? Supervisor Barron confirmed that he sought out other pricing and that they were all right around \$30,000.

Chief Cherney discussed replacing the sign at the Fire Department. Trustee Howe asked what do you put up on your current marquee and how often do you change it? Chief Cherney advised of the different signs they post.

Clerk Smith stated although you want a sign, we have Fire Station #2 with structural issues that would take precedence over a digital sign. The ARPA funds, should we designate some of it for the Fire Department, would need to go towards that. There are millions upon millions of dollars being invested in the LaPlaisance Corridor and we need that Fire Station up to par.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Clerk Smith presented the Board with three quotes for additional playground equipment for the Township Park. All quotes include inclusive play as well as unitary surfacing for ease of mobility.

Trustee Manor asked how much we designated of the ARPA funds for park improvements. Fiscal Officer Lisa Sulfaro stated that \$450,000 was the original amount discussed but they were ideas and nothing was definitive.

Clerk Smith stated that there are items that can be removed from the quotes to bring the cost down for example remove the sensory wall as there is already one on the current play structure. We can also adjust the amount of unitary surfacing being done especially in the swing area. Clerk Smith stated that she will be in contact with Penchura to get the quote down to \$250,000 or less.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS (Con't)

Treasurer Barton suggested getting the Engineers involved so that we do everything correctly and they have the ability to get pricing for a basketball and tennis/pickle ball court.

Treasurer Barton stated that she would like to see bathrooms built as that was the vision of prior Trustee Wilson. Concerns were brought up about cleaning and locking the bathrooms. Trustee Manor mentioned building restrooms similar to those at Sterling State Park or a unisex bathroom.

Supervisor Barron asked what amount would be reasonable as a limit on the park? Trustee Howe asked if we think we can get it done with \$500,000? Trustee Raymo asked if this can be done in stages. Supervisor Barron stated yes.

CONTRACT DEPUTY

Supervisor Barron advised that Sheriff Goodnough contacted him that he has a second Deputy available to start as soon as April 24, 2022 upon Board approval and that the annual amount is \$107,566.67.

REVIEW COUNTY ARPA FUND PROJECT

Supervisor Barron explained that the application for pumps in Bolles Harbor was denied by the Monroe County Commissioners due to the fact that it helps few people and would normally be a special assessment district. He went on to explain that most applications for ARPA funds that would be in a special assessment district were also denied.

TOWNSHIP CAPITAL PURCHASES AND IMPROVEMENTS

Treasurer Barton stated that Barron's Way has potholes that have formed that need to be taken care of and the parking lot at the Township Hall and ballfield are deteriorating and should be bid out for repairs.

Supervisor Barron will contact Mannik and Smith.

Clerk Smith advised the Board that she had contacted County Commissioner Mark Brant regarding the purchase of a truck for the Building Department through the County contract with the MiDeal Procurement Program. Mr. Brant stated that it was only able to be used by the Township since it was used to purchase a police car for the County Sheriff. Clerk Smith stated that it will be on the agenda at the next Board Meeting to join MiDeal because it can save upwards of \$15,000 on a new truck at the cost of \$230 for the annual membership.

Fiscal Officer Lisa Sulfaro also mentioned that the Township Hall is running out of storage space and that we may want to consider an addition. Chief Cherney added that if we do an addition we may want to consider building a basement for tornado safety.

Trustee Manor also reminded the Board that we had discussed the possibility of redesigning the Building Department for better functionality.

MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

BOARD WORKSHOP

MINUTES

APRIL 13, 2022

FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING

Supervisor Barron stated that the personnel policy is three quarters of the way done. He also mentioned that the response time is unacceptable and that the shift work should eliminate that issue.

Chief Cherney stated he would like to get the shift work going by August 1, 2022. He also asked if the positive pressure fans are on the agenda for the next regular Board Meeting? Supervisor Barron confirmed that they were.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Attested:



Alan Barron, Supervisor
Monroe Charter Township



Christina Smith, Clerk
Monroe Charter Township