



PLAINFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

PLAINFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP OFFICES
6161 BELMONT AVENUE NE: BELMONT, MICHIGAN: 49306-9609
(616) 364-8466

Plainfield Charter Township
Regular Meeting
August 2, 2010

A work session of the regular board meeting of Plainfield Charter Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Meek at 7:00 PM at the Township Offices, 6161 Belmont Avenue NE, Belmont MI. Members present: Supervisor Meek, Treasurer Stover, Clerk Harvey, Trustees Borek, Hagedorn, Matthews, and Weldon. Also present: Township Superintendent Robert Homan, Water Department Director Rick Solle and Township Accountant Warren Smith.

The Regular Meeting of the Plainfield Charter Township Board was called to order at 7:30 PM at the Township Offices, 6161 Belmont Avenue NE, Belmont, MI by Supervisor Meek. Members present: Supervisor Meek, Clerk Harvey, Treasurer Stover, Trustees Borek, Hagedorn, Matthews, and Weldon. Also present: Superintendent Robert Homan, Water Department Director Rick Solle and Township Accountant Warren Smith. Supervisor Meek stated that there are uniformed officers at the meeting to make sure order is kept considering the actions of some citizens after the previous board meeting.

- 1) Mr. Harvey led the invocation.
- 2) Mr. Weldon led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) Mr. Stover moved with support from Mr. Hagedorn for approval of the Agenda and the Consent Agenda. Supervisor Meek requested a voice vote. Yeas: 7. Nays: None. Motion carried.
Consent Agenda
 - a) Approve the July 19, 2010 regular meeting minutes.
 - b) Approve Authorization for Change in Standard Street lighting Contract for existing light at the intersection of Post Drive and Chandler Drive.
- 4) Mr. Hagedorn moved with support from Mr. Matthews to approve the Budget Amendment #1, ~~put~~ forthproposed by Township Accountant Warren Smith. Supervisor Meek requested a roll call vote. Ayes: Harvey, Hagedorn, Stover, Borek, Weldon, Matthews and Meek. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- 5) Mr. Weldon moved with support from Mr. Stover to approve the Accounts ~~P~~payable in the amount of \$405,404.25. Supervisor Meek called for a roll call vote. Yeas: Hagedorn, Stover, Harvey, Borek, Matthews, Weldon and Meek. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- 6) Supervisor Meek opened the meeting to Citizens comments. Mrs. Norma Rogers addressed the Board concerning an interest fee that was added to her property tax bill and Supervisor Meek asked if she could schedule a meeting at town hall concerning this issue. Mr. Steve Besser stated that the Township should place a lien on Mrs. Rogers property as was written in the original letter she received.
- 7) Superintendeeant Homan read the following statement to the Board:

Statement of Robert Homan

Re: Determination of Department of State.

In a letter to Supervisor George Meek and the undersigned, dated July 22, 2010 and received in my office on July 28, 2010, the Michigan Department of State has issued a "determination that there may be reason to believe that the township and Mr. Homan misused public resources to make an expenditure in support of a ballot question" (page 3). The determination is not consistent with the earlier Interpretative Statement issued by the Department to Steven Daunt, August 17, 2000, and referenced by the Department in its communication to me. In that interpretative statement, the Department determined that the city council may adopt a resolution that supports or opposes a ballot question because such action entails no additional cost beyond what is ordinarily required to conduct a meeting. Here, the Department indicated that it was "important to note that the additional cost to include that one sentence in a 12 page issue of The Profile" (page 3). The additional cost to include that one sentence certainly is no greater than the additional cost incurred by a city council to adopt a resolution. The mailing of The Profile in which the alleged offending sentence was included was a regular course of the publication of The Profile. As such, Michigan Statute expressly exempts the commentary of an elected or appointed official from the effects of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act. MCL 169.257(1)(a)&(c). The Department's "positions" as expressed in the letter of determination of the law and are not binding on any public body or court of law. The Department "now considers this matter closed" as do I.

Robert C. Homan

- 8) The following comments were offered by Board members: Mr. Stover shared the fact that his assistant is not ready to return to work due to medical reasons. Mr. Harvey stated that members of the staff from Michigan State University will be performing a Rapid Market Assessment at the Farmers Market on August 12, 2010. Mr. Weldon shared a concern that a citizen had alleged that a police report had been filed concerning his safety and that he had contacted the Kent County Sheriff's Department and the Michigan State Police and had been told no such report existed. Mrs. Borek asked Supervisor Meek to have an amendment to the retiree medical benefits policy that would establish a point system of age and years of service required before retiree health insurance is granted and be placed on the next agenda for consideration. Mr. Stover asked that Mrs. Rogers come to the Township tomorrow and a solution to her problem would be worked out. Mr. Meek informed the Board that there would be a special meeting of the Board on August 9th at 7 PM.
- 9) Supervisor Meek adjourned the meeting at 7:58 PM.

K. Scott Harvey
Plainfield Charter Township Clerk

Date

George K. Meek
Plainfield Charter Township Supervisor

Date

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, as the duly elected and acting clerk of the township, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of the regular meeting minutes of August 2, 2010 as approved by the Township Board of Plainfield Charter Township, at which a quorum was present.

Plainfield Charter Township Clerk

Date