

GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
Regular Meeting
October 18, 2021

MINUTES

Supervisor Rogers called the Regular Meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Township Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were present constituting a quorum for the transaction of business: Bill Rogers, Paulette Skolarus, Robin Hunt, Jean Ledford, Terry Croft, Jim Mortensen and Diana Lowe. Also present were Township Manager Michael Archinal and approximately 75 persons in the audience.

A Call to the Public was made with approximately 30 persons responding with the following concerns regarding gravel mining in the township on property belonging to the Department of Natural Resources. *(Rogers advised the audience that the board could not respond to the concerns raised during the call to the public.)*

- Theresa Coloske -The current zoning of LDR should remain in effect
- Diane Watson - All the trees were cut down with no communication from the township. A newsletter would have been helpful. Notices should have been sent to constituents to keep them informed.
- Robert Wheeler - Gravel trucks traveling along Brighton and Latson roads would hurt the roads. Pollution from the silica sand. Already suffering from the Covid pandemic – just another possible respiratory problem. Reduced property values.
- Brian Grote - Consider the residents.
- Lang - Gravel trains are not part of the Brighton community. Home values will go down at least 25%.
- Andrea Shorkey – I am adamantly opposed to a gravel pit near hundreds of homes. Trucks and gravel trains are not part of this community. The old dump has not been tested for PSA's. Love the country setting where quality is a way of life.
- Budha – Silica sand is a problem and may put lives at risk.
- Brian Blake - There are 325 mines in Michigan with an average use of 25 years
- Janet Henry - The noise and dust are not acceptable. The removal of the existing trees and loss of wildlife without notice.
- Rogers - Petitions objecting the development should be given to the township manager.
- Michael Duffy - What is the next step? Rogers – We don't have an application.
- Julie – Toxic Waste, loss of wildlife and a landfill may be a problem. The DNR has not been transparent.
- Shirley Lang – Do you want this in your backyard?
- Mike Jergen - Miserable access to Brighton Road from Oak Pointe subdivision.
- Jennifer Grote – They were cutting trees last winter. Who will police this project? 25 years is a long time to wait for the redevelopment of this land into a park.
- Ron Fegan - Who will police this operation and the local ordinance?

- Jennifer Grass - 67 decibels of noise from the clear cutting of the trees. Double tandem trucks all along Brighton Road with school children. It appears the township was not aware of what was going on. Why didn't you know?
- Rogers – We have no knowledge as to what the DNR will ask.
- Ron Fegan - There was supposed to be a 100-yard buffer but that did not happen (*note-the buffer was 100 feet*).
- Chris Osland - We have no trust in the DNR and no information from the Township. The biggest issue is the lack of communication from the DNR and no knowledge from the township offices. Look out for your residents.
- Stephan Kupa - The township wouldn't allow me to cut down trees to build a home on my own lot and yet you allow this. A play park will not occur in my lifetime.
- Michelle Lopez - My heart is broken. It is hurtful that we were not told of the gravel pit.

(Reference is made to the October 12, 2021 meeting of the public at Brighton High School with members of the DNR providing an overview of the project.)

Consent Agenda:

Moved by Lowe and supported by Mortensen to approve all items under the Consent Agenda. Hunt asked to move the Minutes to the Regular Meeting for discussion. The amended motion was voted and carried unanimously.

1. Payment of Bills: October 18, 2021

3. Request for approval of a change order in the amount of \$5,890.00 from Vantage Construction for the construction of the pavilion at the basketball courts making the total costs \$45,780.00.

Regular Agenda:

Moved by Ledford and supported by Croft to approve for action all items listed under the Regular Agenda with the addition of the Minutes from October 4, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Request to Approve Minutes: October 4, 2021

Hunt – Kelly VanMarter should be referred to as the Assistant Manager. The Minutes with regard to the Big Red Barrel contained too much information. The Minutes with regard to the Zoning Ordinance were not a good representation. Items 9 and 10 for the closed session were combined into one request. Lowe – This was actually a single motion of the board. Hunt - The presentation by Palka was not a part of the Agenda. It was amended to add. Croft – Maybe we should look at the Minutes at the next board meeting and hire someone to take the Minutes. The minutes have to be corrected almost every meeting. Lowe – The Minutes are the responsibility of the Clerk. Skolarus – No thank you. I do not choose to relinquish my responsibility as clerk. Rogers – We will place this request on the Agenda for the next meeting after review. Moved by Hunt and supported by Lowe to approve the Minutes of the October 4, 2021 as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of a request for approval of an amendment to the Final PUD site plan in regards to landscaping for the previously approved Birkenstock Planned Industrial Development agreement for a climate control self-storage building located at 2600 Harte Drive, Brighton. The request is petitioned by James Harte.

Moved by Lowe and supported by Croft to partially approve the amendments to the Final PUD landscaping Plan for the Birkenstock Climate Controlled Indoor Storage Project with the following conditions:

1. The required minimum caliper size of the canopy trees on the approved plan can be reduced to not less than 1.75 inches in response to inventory shortages.
2. The remaining revisions to the number and type of shrubs is deferred until after the rest of the landscape plan has been completed. Once the partial landscape plan is implemented, Township staff and the Planning Commission shall make a recommendation whether the modified landscape plan meets the goals and intent of the ordinance for final consideration by the Township Board.

The motion carried unanimously.

5. Request to accept Jill Rickard's resignation from the Planning Commission.

Moved by Hunt and supported by Croft to accept Jill Rickard's letter of resignation from the Planning Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Request to appoint Tim Chouinard to the Planning Commission for the remainder of Jill Rickard's term as recommended by the Township Supervisor.

Mr. Chouinard introduced himself to the board. Moved by Lowe and supported by Ledford to appoint Tim Chouinard to the planning Commission as recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Request to approve Resolution Number 211018 Approving Administrative Fee Pursuant to the Genoa Charter Township Zoning Ordinance for Caregiver Cultivation of Medical Marihuana.

The initial cost is \$500.00 for each application with a renewal a renewal fee of \$100.00 to be assessed each year.

Moved by Hunt and supported by Mortensen to approve Resolution 211018 as requested by Kelly VanMarter. The motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Ayes – Ledford, Croft, Hunt, Lowe, Mortensen, Skolarus and Rogers. Nays – None.

8. Discussion regarding customer communication and resident email notification.

Archinal - I received a call from a Pine Creek homeowner who inquired about e-mail updates or texts to let people know what is going on in the community. We are looking into the task and it may be available in a couple weeks. Residents could sign up online or at the office. Adam and Kathleen

are doing a good job. Skolarus – This is a good idea. Just to let you know, it took my office staff nearly seven months to record close to 9,000 emails in the Qualified Voter File. How will we notify our residents that this project will be in place? Hunt – Whatever is posted on this site should be approved by Archinal. Newsletters are not the way.

Correspondence:

- A letter from Diane Watson concerning the meeting with the DNR on October 12, 2021 expressing opposition to the gravel pit portion of the development located in Genoa Township.
- Charter Communications launch of WADL.
- A letter from Mike Wilczynski concerning mineral leases at Brighton State Recreation Area in Genoa Township.

Member Discussion:

Skolarus – With regard to the amended Minutes of October 4, 2021 – We had three prominent officials from the County request either a Big Red Barrel within the Township Hall or a newsletter. They were concerned with the staggering number of overdoses and deaths in the County. It was an important request.

Archinal – Tables and benches will be installed at the new gazebo and the Howell Senior Survivor project is moving forward.

Moved by Ledford and supported by Mortensen to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board at 7:53 p.m.

Paulette A. Skolarus, Clerk
Genoa Charter Township Board

Bill Rogers, Supervisor
Genoa Charter Township Board