

Muskegon County
Water System Policy Board
June 10, 2014
2:00 p.m.
Muskegon Charter Township
1990 Apple Avenue
Muskegon, MI 49442

Kim Arter, Chair

Susie Hughes, Vice Chair

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Arter at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL

Present: Kim Arter, Laketon Township Supervisor
Susie Hughes, Muskegon County Commissioner
David Kieft, Muskegon Charter Township Supervisor
Kenneth Mahoney, Muskegon County Board Chair
Terry Sabo, Muskegon County Commissioner
Sam St. Amour, Fruitland Township Supervisor

Excused: Chris Hall, Dalton Township Supervisor

Staff

Present: John Warner, Public Works Director
Tina Nash, DPW Departmental Clerk

Others

Present: David Bossenbroek, Attorney
Jan L Deur, Fruitland Township Trustee
Lorraine Grabinski, Muskegon Township Planning/Zoning Administrator
Rod Siegel, Laketon Township Building Inspector
Jerry McIntyre, Dalton Township Trustee

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

WSPB-14-036 Moved by Kieft, seconded by Mahoney, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WSPB-14-037 Moved by Hughes, seconded by St. Amour, to approve the minutes of the meeting held May 6, 2014.

Motion carried

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Connection Fee Schedule

Commissioner Hughes brought up her concerns regarding the time frame of the connection fee schedule. Commissioner Hughes doesn't believe it gives a commercial developer adequate time to complete the process needed for a construction project. Commissioner Hughes felt the current fee schedule hasn't been given enough time to prove its worth and the suggested fee schedule, on the memorandum, would hurt the new Economic Development Coordinator that Muskegon County has just hired. Mr. Kieft agreed with Commissioner Hughes. He stated Muskegon Charter Township currently has six development projects that are affected by the fee schedule. Mr. Kieft also feels the current fee schedule hasn't been given enough time.

Commissioner Hughes stated there are a lot of positive things happening at the Zephyr property and any development on that property will need to hook up to water and the Board needs to consider this.

Mr. Kieft asked a question regarding the last paragraph of the memorandum and noted it was a change to the current fee schedule. Chair Arter clarified it was an option brought to the Board to consider.

Commissioner Mahoney stated that current fee schedule should remain until the current system is not working or sustainable.

Commissioner Sabo acknowledged Mr. Warner for his work, but agreed they needed to stay the course. Commissioner Mahoney also thanked Mr. Warner for the option brought to the Board. Commissioner Hughes stated she is comfortable with what is in place. Mr. Warner stated this was only an option and he is also comfortable with what is currently in place.

INFORMATION ITEMS

WSPB-14-038 Moved by Kieft, seconded by Mahoney, that the following information items be received and placed on file:

1. New Meter Set List for May 2014
2. Local Fund Balance Sheet for May 2014

Motion carried

REPORTS

Water System Update

The Water System Update was accepted as written by John Warner and distributed in a memo for information.

Mr. Warner also informed the Board that AT&T had fallen behind on their antenna lease payments and they have recently caught those payments up.

Mr. Warner was asked by Commissioner Hughes, who owns the water system? Mr. Warner stated the water system is contractually owned by the Muskegon County Public Works Board until the bonds are paid off. Once the bonds are paid in full, the system is owned by the Townships.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Arter made a suggestion to move the July 15, 2014 and the October 7, 2014 meetings from the Hall of Justice/ Muskegon County Board Room to the Muskegon Governmental Complex-South Campus (Training Center) due to the jail construction at the Hall of Justice.

WSPB-14-039 Moved by Sabo, seconded by Hughes, to move the July 15, 2014 and the October 7, 2014 meetings to the Training Center and have Tina Nash make the necessary arrangements.

Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Sabo suggested that future agendas include Public Comment (on an agenda item). Mr. Warner stated it would be added to the agenda starting next month.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Water System Policy Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

Kim Arter, Chair