

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
NOVEMBER 11, 2014 – REGULAR MEETING  
APPROVED MINUTES

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The November 11, 2014 Regular Meeting of the Charter Township of Oakland Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Gonser at 7:00 PM in the Township Hall, 4393 Collins Rd., Rochester, MI.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL**

Supervisor Gonser invited any veterans present to lead the reciting of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Reilly called the Roll.

PRESENT: Terry R. Gonser, Supervisor  
Jeanne Langlois, Treasurer  
Karen Reilly, Clerk  
Michael Bailey, Trustee  
Robin Buxar, Trustee  
John Giannangeli, Trustee  
Maureen Thalmann, Trustee  
Jamie Moore, Interim Township Manager  
Daniel J. Kelly, OT Attorney  
Jane Bombard, Recording Secretary

A quorum was present.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

Supervisor Gonser asked any Veteran present to please stand for recognition. Supervisor Gonser thanked all veterans for their service. Supervisor Gonser stated that he was fortunate to have been invited to a Veterans Day ceremony at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly and said he recommends their Memorial Day or Veterans Day presentations to anyone.

Supervisor Gonser apologized for the way the pulling of two Agenda Items was handled at the last meeting. Supervisor Gonser stated that OT has a first-class Fire Department, and the BOT supports everyone in the department, but the BOT would like to see a comprehensive plan laying out how to attract and maintain Paid on Call firefighters by both enhancing the rewards for that position, and making the position more rewarding. Supervisor Gonser stated that the BOT will move forward on this, and will take action.

Supervisor Gonser stated that the Parking lot has been sealed.

Supervisor Gonser stated that the Rochester Christmas Parade is December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at 2:00 p.m. and the BOT is very proud to have OT citizens as the Grand Marshalls this year, Bill and Shirley Fox.

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Supervisor Gonser stated that OT has been cleared by the Circuit Court for the condemnation and demolition of the burned out property on Catalpa Rd. in Century Oaks, and is waiting the 21-day appeal period. Subsequent to that if an appeal is not filed, then the property will be taken down and made safe again.

Supervisor Gonser stated the rules for Public Comment.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

The Board heard public comment from:

**Larry Tomczak, 3550 Mt. Laurel Ct., OT**

**(Representing Oakland Christian Church, Oakland Church, and Pastor Dominic Russo)**

**Craig Blust, 2222 W. Buell Rd., OT**

**(Also Volunteer Member of Safety Path & Trails Committee)**

**John Markel, 245 Birch Hill Dr., OT**

**Frank Ferriolo, 5600 Kirkridge Tr., OT**

**Chief Paul Strelchuck, OT Fire Chief**

**Judy Keyes**

**AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Trustee Thalmann requested that the following item be added to the agenda:  
Discussion/Action – Televising Board & Commission Meetings.

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY BUXAR to approve the agenda with one amendment: To add: Discussion/Action – Televising Board & Commission Meetings.

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUS

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The Board considered approval of the consent agenda containing:

1. Approval of the Bills
  - a. October 31, 2014 in the amount of \$40,728.06
  - b. November 11, 2014 in the amount of \$431,777.46A copy of the lists of invoices is attached as part of these minutes.
2. Approval of Minutes
  - a. October 23, 2014
  - b. October 28, 2014

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Trustee Langlois requested that Item 2a. be removed from the Consent Agenda.  
Trustee Thalmann requested that Item 2b. be removed from the Consent Agenda.

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY LANGLOIS to approve the consent agenda consisting of Item 1.

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUS

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Langlois asked the Township Attorney whether the motion made at the Special Meeting on October 23, 2014 needed to be re-made. Attorney Kelley stated that this motion did need to be re-made.

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY GIANNANGELI, to authorize the Fire Chief to send the Bravo unit out to be refurbished and refitted and setup with a new four-wheel drive chassis to use as a command vehicle at a cost not to exceed \$135,000.00, coming out of the Fire Department Fund balance.

Trustee Langlois stated that she will vote no, not because she is against the motion, but because she was not part of the discussion at the special meeting when motion was originally made, however she does not qualify to abstain from the vote.

AYES: BAILEY, BUXAR, GIANNANGELI, GONSER, REILLY, THALMANN  
NAY: LANGLOIS

MOTION PASSED.

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY BUXAR to approve the October 23, 2014 special meeting minutes as proposed.

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUS

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY BUXAR to approve the October 28, 2014 regular meeting minutes with the following amendments:

On packet Page 88, Trustee Thalmann, Line 1, strike: ‘for the budget workshop’

On packet Page 88, Trustee Thalmann, Line 2, insert: ‘Hills’ after Rochester and before ‘firefighters. . .’

On packet Page 88, Trustee Thalmann, Line 3, insert: ‘Board and the’ after Township and before ‘firefighters.’

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUS

**PENDING BUSINESS**

**Presentation/Discussion – Oakland Township Veterans Memorial**

Mr. Steven McKay, Lead Architect, presented a slide presentation including three possible concepts for a Veterans Memorial proposed for Oakland Township to the Board and those present.

The Board heard public comment from:

**Libby Dwyer, 1234 Lake George Rd., OT**  
**Danny Beer, President, Lyon Gear & Machine, OT**  
**Craig Blust, 2222 W. Buell Rd., OT**  
**Frank Ferriolo, 5600 Kirkridge Trail, OT**  
**John Markel, 245 Birch Hill Dr., OT**  
**Lana Mangiapane, Dutton Rd., OT**  
**Bob Yager 1146 Bear Creek Ct., OT**  
**Dick Michalski, 3070 Wains Way, OT**  
**Jay Corey, 1030 Pine Tree Lane, OT**  
**David Sokol, 4063 Dixiana Ct., OT**  
**Roger Schmidt, 455 S. Rochester Rd. , OT**  
**Judy Keyes**

Discussion followed regarding the best location for a Veterans Memorial, and the setting up of a 501C3. Supervisor Gonser stated that a group of Veterans in Orion Township setup a 501C3 in order to fundraise and build their Veterans Memorial, and that there is a meeting Wednesday November 12<sup>th</sup> at Orion Township offices, which he will be attending.

Supervisor Gonser stated that the BOT should work with the OT Attorney to work out the details in regard to the appropriate sequence of events in order to move forward correctly.

The Board heard Public Comment from:

**Rich Bosler, 3579 Briarbrooke Ln, OT**

Supervisor Gonser thanked Steve McKay for his work and noted that he is confident this will move forward.

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) - Public Hearing**

Supervisor Gonser opened the Public Hearing at 8:07 p.m.

**Randy Gower, Oxford Orion Fish, Food Pantry, Oxford Township**

Mr. Gower stated that he has submitted a letter to the Board requesting that the Oxford Orion Fish Food Pantry be considered for receiving a portion of OT's CDBG funds.

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Oxford Orion Fish Food Pantry is forty years old, a non-profit, 501C and entirely all volunteer-run organization that distributes food. They serve Oxford Orion Township and Villages, Addison Township and a portion of Oakland Township. Mr. Gower asked that the food pantry be considered in some fashion for the CDBG monies.

Supervisor Gonser explained that OT receives approximately \$19K in Federal Funds to distribute to organizations providing services in the community. There are limits as to how much goes to each organization, and other limitations per the Federal Government.

**Linda Riggs, Executive Director, Rochester Area Neighborhood House**

Ms. Riggs thanked the Board for past support. Ms. Riggs stated that she is requesting consideration for CDBG funds for a transportation program, which has been running since 1996, and the original van was purchased with CDBG funds. They transport about 500 clients per year to and from appointments, job interviews, Clothes Closet, etc. Ms. Riggs stated that the numbers served has increased every year. Ms. Riggs stated that they work closely with the OPC, and other organizations that provide similar services so as to not duplicate services. Neighborhood House has been around for around forty-six years, helps families who are in a crisis, and she is hoping that this program can be a recipient of funds again this year and will entertain any questions.

**Marie, Haven Domestic Abuse Treatment Center, 30400 Telegraph Rd., Southfield, MI**

Marie, a representative from Haven, thanked the Board for OT's past support. Marie stated that Haven is a non-profit agency that provides essential services for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. They provided services to 11 Oakland Township clients in crisis in 2013 and 2014. Haven assists clients in crisis with court advocacy, personal protection order assistance, and counseling for victims of domestic violence. Haven's team assisted 1 Oakland Township sexual assault victim, and 4 clients on the 24-hour line during 2013 and 2014. Any funds that Haven receives goes directly towards helping clients. Marie thanked the Board and asked the Board if there are any questions.

**David Sokol, 4063 Dixiana Ct., OT**

Mr. Sokol spoke in support of the Haven Representative and Haven, stating that he served on the Board of Haven for six years, and although the numbers of served appears low, the numbers including Rochester and Rochester Hills are greater. Mr. Sokol noted that a new facility is planned.

Interim Manager Jamie Moore noted that the Board will make its decision at the December meeting.

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Trustee Giannangeli questioned how the funds are distributed. Supervisor Gonser stated that there is a formula, and maximums, which must be adhered to because these are Federal Funds.

Supervisor Gonser stated that both Rochester Community House and Rochester Area Neighborhood House have food pantries, and that this is a particularly crucial time to donate. Oakland Township Hall is a donation spot, as well as other donation drop spots in the area.

Supervisor Gonser closed the Public Hearing at 8:27 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Discussion/Action - Township Manager Search**

Supervisor Gonser stated that per the contract with GovHR USA, because the Township Manager hired through GovHR USA vacated the position after less than two years, OT can re-engage GovHR USA to conduct a search for a replacement Township Manager without paying the fee.

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY THALMANN to engage GovHR USA to complete a search for a replacement Township Manager as provided in the contract.

The Board discussed a change in the salary range for this position per the recommendation of GovHR USA to \$85K – \$100K.

The Board discussed what the incremental costs would be for this search. Interim Manager Moore stated that the expected costs per the contract would be limited to only travel, advertisements, etc. estimated to be no more than \$5,000.00.

The Board heard public comment from:

**Reg Brown, 3666 Locust Dr., OT**  
**Frank Ferriolo, 5600 Kirkridge Trail, OT**  
**Dick Michalski, 3070 Wains Way, OT**

Trustee Bailey amended his motion.

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY THALMANN to engage GovHR USA to complete a search for a replacement OT Manager as provided in the contract, at an approximate cost not to exceed \$5,000.00 and to amend the salary range to 75K – 100K.

AYES: BAILEY, BUXAR, GIANNANGELI, LANGLOIS, REILLY,  
THALMANN

NAY: GONSER

MOTION PASSED.

**Discussion/Action – Intergovernmental Cable Communications Authority (ICCA) Agreement**

Supervisor Gonser stated that this item has been discussed previously. Supervisor Gonser stated that the revised fee schedule was discussed and revised among 11 communities and is \$1000 plus an incremental fee based on population, which put Oakland Township right in the middle of the eleven communities at \$1050.00 for a total fee to Oakland Township of \$2050.00.

MOVED BY THALMANN, SECONDED BY LANGLOIS To approve the amended Intergovernmental Cable Communications Authority (ICCA) Agreement and authorize the Supervisor to sign same.

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUS

**Discussion/Action – Televising Board & Commission Meetings**

The Board discussed the OT policy that all board and commission meetings should be televised.

The Board heard Public Comment from:

**Frank Ferriolo, 5600 Kirkridge Trail, OT**

**Bob Yager, 1146 Bear Creek Ct., OT**

**Libby Dwyer, 1234 Lake George Rd., OT; Chairperson, Safety Paths & Trails**

**John Markel, 245 Birch Hill Dr., OT**

**Craig Blust, 2222 W. Buell Rd., OT**

**Beth Markel, 245 Birch Hill Dr., OT**

**Richard Bosler, 3579 Briarbooke Ln., OT**

**Judy Keyes,**

The Board decided to go forward as the passed motion states, and to wait on information from the Interim Township Manager as well as information regarding PEG fund rules from the Township Attorney before making any changes to the current policy.

**PENDING BUSINESS**

**Discussion/Action – Midwest Invasive Species Grant Program**

The Board discussed whether to take part in this grant application. The Board discussed what the Board was committing OT to if it takes part in this grant application. The Board discussed what OT would be required to use the funds for, i.e. for treating Phragmites, and/or for education programs.

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY THALMANN To direct Dr. Ben VanderWeide

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to work with the OT Manager and the consultant writing the Invasive Species Grant Application, Mr. DeLisle, to ascertain the progress of the grant application, and when it will be available for the Board to review.

AYES: BAILEY, THALMANN, GIANNANGELI, GONSER  
NAYS: BUXAR, LANGLOIS, REILLY

MOTION PASSED.

**Discussion/Action – Oakland County Sheriff Resolution**

Supervisor Gonser read the resolution before the board to elevate the Deputy 2 position to a Lieutenant position, which will give the OT substation broader management oversight in that management personnel will be on duty during the day shift, afternoon shift, and a portion of the midnight shift.

MOVED BY BUXAR, SECONDED BY BAILEY to support the Oakland County Sheriff Resolution as read to upgrade the Deputy 2 position to a Lieutenant position.

Discussion followed regarding amending the budget.  
Trustee Buxar amended her motion.

MOVED BY BUXAR, SECONDED BY BAILEY to support the Oakland County Sheriff Resolution as read to upgrade the Deputy 2 position to a Lieutenant position and to amend the budget by moving \$10,000.00 to Line Item: ‘Contracted Deputies.’

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUS

**Discussion – Water Supply System**

Supervisor Gonser provided information in regard to upgrading the Oakland Township water system driven by DEQ requirements. Mr. Gonser stated that various water systems have been transferred to the county by different methods and before OT proceeds with possibly upgrading the water system, need to resolve how the system has been transferred in the past so there is a complete understanding of the ownership of the maintenance and the operation of the water system as it is today. Mr. Gonser stated that the Board should discuss this issue at a future date, before proceeding with any water system changes.

The Board heard public comment from:  
**Alice Tomboulia, W. Gunn Rd., OT**  
**Reg Brown, 3666 Locust Dr., OT**



**PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

The Board heard public comment from:  
**Dick Michalski, 3070 Wains Way, OT**  
**Frank Ferriolo, 5600 Kirkridge Trail, OT**  
**John Markel, 245 Birch Hill Dr., OT**  
**Beth Markel, 245 Birch Hill Dr., OT**  
**Bob Yager, 1146 Bear Creek Ct., OT**  
**Judy Keyes**  
**Jan Olsen, Orion Rd., OT**

**TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT**

Interim Manager Moore congratulated Trustee Buxar and Trustee Giannangeli on the results of the recent election.

Interim Manager Moore reported that she is following through with the vendor to ensure the microphones are as good as what is available.

Revenue Expenditure Report is in the Board's Packet Tonight.

**TRUSTEE BUXAR**

Trustee Buxar thanked all who have served in the Military.

**TRUSTEE BAILEY**

Trustee Bailey provided a preliminary report on the several respondents to the questionnaire regarding improvements to the Paint Creek Cider Mill Building, which appeared in the recent OT Newsletter. Trustee Bailey noted that the majority of respondents so far support some improvements to the Paint Creek Cider Mill, with the highest-ranking thought being a community center, followed by the restoring of the water wheel, and restoration to the deck. Trustee Bailey stated that these are preliminary results.

**TREASURER LANGLOIS**

Treasurer Langlois commented regarding the Fire Department based on feedback she has received since the last meeting. Treasurer Langlois reported that eight months ago, the Fire Department Budget was adopted. Treasurer Langlois noted that the budget process is designed to identify and incorporate needs in advance. Treasurer Langlois reported that no municipality has unlimited funds, therefore it is important to identify needs and their associated costs in advance to allow for funding necessary to operate, including the Capital Assets Inventory and Improvement Plan. Since that time several large budget amendment requests were received, only 1 of which was even partially contemplated back in March.

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Trustee Langlois commented that she thinks the only responsible action for the board is to take a careful look at the requests before them now, determine if there are others that are expected in the very near future, and then determine their priority, their respective costs, and potential funding sources. To handle any other way, risks spending limited funds on items that may not be of the greatest benefit.

Trustee Langlois reported that Supervisor Gonser has solicited comments and suggestions from OT Firefighters as to how to meet the challenges of our department and to ensure that we are doing everything we can to attract and retain firefighters. The Board has already received input and Trustee Langlois hopes that there can be an informal meeting soon to expand on that.

Trustee Langlois reported that prior to the development of a more comprehensive plan she sees no reason why the OT Fire Chief can't work with the Supervisor to bring forward any requests, that require board approval and although there is work to be done, some important steps have been taken.

Treasurer Langlois reported that the Fire Millage renewal passed at the recent election.

**SUPERVISOR GONSER**

Supervisor Gonser stated that while we honor our veterans, we should also remember the families of veterans on this Veterans Day.

**CLERK REILLY**

Clerk Reilly reported that the election went smoothly, and thanked all of the election workers who spent a long day working the election, and it was appreciated.

**TRUSTEE THALMANN**

Trustee Thalmann stated 'God Bless our Veterans- past, present, and future. . .' Trustee Thalmann reported that she looks forward to a memorial being built in their honor, in a location where we all decide is the best location.

Trustee Thalmann congratulated Supervisor Gonser on being appointed as the head of the local Supervisors Group. ~~elected the chair of the local Supervisors Group that meets together.~~

**TRUSTEE GIANNANGELI**

Trustee Giannangeli reported that the Planning Commission approved and issued an RFP for conducting a Township Survey, and only received two quotes. Unfortunately the policy requires the receipt of three quotes. Therefore they will be re-issuing the RFP at a later date.

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Trustee Giannangeli thanked the residents of Oakland Township for giving him the opportunity to serve them on the Board of Trustees.

**CLOSED SESSION**

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY LANGLOIS to enter Closed Session for the purpose of Consultation with the Township Attorney at 10:45 p.m.

Clerk Reilly took a roll call vote:

AYES: GONSER, LANGLOIS, REILLY, BAILEY, BUXAR,  
THALMANN, GIANNANGELI

NAYS: NONE

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY THALMANN, SECONDED BY GIANNANGELI to re-convene the regular meeting and adjourn the meeting at 11:12 PM.

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUS

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at 7 PM  
Oakland Township Hall – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Reilly, Clerk  
OT Board of Trustees

Approved,

Terry R. Gonser, Supervisor  
OT Board of Trustees