

CASCADE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING
September 1, 2021 at 9:00am
Cascade Township Hall – Large Conference Room
5920 Tahoe Dr. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Members Present: Supervisor Grace Lesperance, Trustee McDonald, Trustee Shipley

Others Present: Township Manager (TM) Ben Swayze

Members of the Public: None

ARTICLE 1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 9:00am

ARTICLE 2. Approval of the Agenda: Motion by Trustee McDonald, Supported by Supervisor Lesperance to approve the agenda with the addition of Article 7, RFP for Township Engineering Services. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 3. Approval of the Minutes of the July 7, 2021 Meeting: Motion by Trustee McDonald, Supported by Supervisor Lesperance to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 4. Review and Consideration of Update to Township Local Road Program: TM Swayze reviewed the approved 2021 local road program. The bids came in significantly lower than anticipated, and there may be an opportunity to engage the Kent County Road Commission on adding additional roads to the program. The other option would be to keep the program as approved, and pay less than was approved. Discussion ensued. TM Swayze indicated that the Road Commission may not be accepting additional work due to their own budget constraints. The committee reviewed what streets could be looked at if the additional money was available.

Motion by Trustee McDonald, Supported by Supervisor Lesperance to recommend TM Swayze engage the Road Commission on what additional work might be done in FY2021. Motion Carried.

ARTICLE 5. Review and Consideration of 2022 Gypsy Moth Survey: TM Swayze reviewed the proposed agreement for the 2022 Gypsy Moth program. Report was that the program was again very successful. You didn't have to travel very far north to see the effect the gypsy moths had on the tree canopy in parts of Michigan this year.

Motion by Trustee McDonald, Supported by Supervisor Lesperance to recommend TM Swayze engage the Road Commission on what additional work might be done in FY2021. Motion Carried.

ARTICLE 6. Update – Burger Goodwood Utility Extension Engineering: TM Swayze reported that Prein & Newhof was selected as the engineer for the project by the City of Grand Rapids. They were the low bidder, and have extensive experience with similar projects (WWW/North Kent County PFAS Project and Kalamazoo area PFAS project) They have already been sent the engagement letter and anticipate the construction to happen on-time. Brian Vilmont, who previously served as the Township Engineer through Fishbeck, is the lead on the project.

No motion, discussion only

ARTICLE 7. RFP for Township Engineer: Supervisor Lesperance introduced the idea of issuing an RFP for a Township Engineer. TM Swayze mentioned that it may be time to consider a Township Engineer position rather than consultant (...though some consulting will always be needed). Kentwood and Grand Rapids both have an engineering department. Other Kent County entities may have employee engineers as well. Discussion ensued. TM Swayze indicated he will continue to research and will provide an update at a later meeting.

No motion, discussion only

ARTICLE 8. Public Comment: None

ARTICLE 9. Adjournment: *Motion by Trustee McDonald, Supported by Supervisor Lesperance to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 am.*

Approved by the Infrastructure Committee – 11.03.21