

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE
Board Meeting Minutes
Approved Minutes of 1/6/2011

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE
APPROVED MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

JANUARY 6, 2011

Clerk Lilley called the meeting to order at 4 pm.

Present: Terry Lilley, Clerk
Forest Jay Brendel, Treasurer
Carol Burkard, Trustee
Mike Powell, Trustee
Todd Birkle, Trustee
Greg Baroni, Trustee

Also present: Greg Need, Attorney
Dena Potter, Recording Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

MOTION by Treasurer Brendel, SUPPORTED by Trustee Powell for Clerk Lilley to chair tonight's meeting. MOTION PASSED BY A VOICE VOTE (6 yes votes).

Clerk Lilley explained the Public Comment portion of the meeting to the audience.

Public comments:

Laura Lewsley, 9507 Steephollow. This is a 4 pm meeting and there are a lot of people here today. The board has a very important decision to make which I know they take very seriously so please make a decision tonight and don't let this go to a special election.

Mike Skupin, 2734 Wabum. He has been a resident for 15 years and cares a lot about White Lake and the board has done an outstanding job. If the board can't decide tonight then it's time to open to the outside, get politics out of the process.

Sharon Bigelow, 5855 Jackson. A resident for 31 years. She remembers when the township was like family but progress went on. The board is not listening to the people.

Jim Christopher, 6845 Highland Rd. He supports Greg Baroni.

Thomas Johnson, 9136 Buckingham. He has researched both candidates and both have good qualifications and short comings. They need to be able to deal with unions and budgets among other issues, wishes the candidates luck.

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Barbara Workman, 5905 Grass Lake Rd. She said she feels White Lake is a beautiful active community. Very impressed with what has been done so far and just wanted to let the board know her support is for Greg Baroni. He is very active in the community.

Al Linson, 6001 Hickory Meadows, Greg Baroni is the man for the job, put away the good ole boys network.

Mr. Kessner, 97 Lake Lane. Greg Baroni is the man for the job.

Greg Baroni thanked the audience for the great comments. He explained that he had been at GM for 34 years, dealt with grievances, the UAW and contracts. He has a list of issues he wants to see handled if he should be appointed, he would work for the people.

Mike Powell said he wishes he knew everyone in the audience personally. He has worked in surrounding communities, been elected twice to the trustee position, devoted time to his church on their advisory board. This is not a popularity contest; the candidate needs to have knowledge of a variety of issues.

Carol Burkard said this is a very important day, we need a supervisor. Past Supervisor Bonnie Elliott had told Carol that she was concerned that if Mr. Powell got elected to the board that his special interest would be a problem. The supervisor needs to be 100% for the township. Being the supervisor does not mean going out and doing just sewers.

Trustee Birkle felt that since the board was not going to reach a decision tonight then the board should be taking applications and finish within the 45 days.

MOTION by Trustee Burkard, SUPPORTED by Treasurer Brendel to appoint Mike Powell for Supervisor.
ROLL CALL: Baroni – No; Brendel – Yes; Birkle – Yes; Burkard – No; Lilley – No; Powell – Yes;
MOTION FAILED.

MOTION by Trustee Burkard SUPPORTED by Treasurer Brendel to appoint Greg Baroni for Supervisor.
ROLL CALL: Powell – No; Lilley – Yes; Burkard – Yes; Birkle – No; Brendel – No; Baroni – Yes
MOTION FAILED.

MOTION by Trustee Birkle SUPPORTED by Treasurer Brendel to take applications for the supervisor's position until noon, Friday, January 14, 2011, with copies made for the board members by the end of the day January 14, 2011. The board will submit the names of the candidates on January 18th that they wish to interview at a Special Meeting on January 20, 2011.

DISCUSSION:

Trustee Burkard stated this board did that process for the Treasurers position and ended up picking Greg Baroni for the Trustee position. If the board could choose him that evening for the trustee position why can't they choose him tonight for the supervisor's position?

ROLL CALL: Brendel – Yes; Birkle – Yes; Burkard – No; Lilley – No Powell – Yes; Baroni – No
MOTION FAILED.

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MOTION by Clerk Lilley to let the people make the decision through special election.

MOTION FAILS, Lack of support.

Bill Sweeney of Lakewood Village felt Clerk Lilley should do the supervisor job. Clerk Lilley declined stated he was happy in the position he was in now and lacked the enthusiasm needed to carry out the Supervisor job.

Buck Fredrickson, 2743 W. Meadow Dr. Stated he was disappointed and ashamed to be a White Lake resident, the board should grow up and make a decision.

Linda Erlich, 2655 Northfield. Very frustrated and angry because the citizens voted the people in and you work for us, you need to listen to us and if you can't work for us then next time we won't put you in office.

Laura Lewsley, 9507 Steephollow. Regarding the process of taking applications, Are either of candidates going to withdraw their name, are they going to vote for someone new? The board is not listening to us. The people here care, they have an opinion and some of you are not listening to us.

Trustee Birkle stated that he felt the board owed it to the people to exhaust all avenues. We did take applications for the Treasurers' position, which Mr. Baroni was one of the applicants and we felt Mr. Baroni would be a good trustee at the time.

Joe Erlich, 2655 Northfield. I am ashamed of what is going here tonight, make a decision, this is totally absurd.

Brad Connell, 1329 Castlewood. Trustee Burkard and Treasurer Brendel have given their reasons for wanting to see Mr. Baroni in the supervisors position, Mr. Brendel or Mr. Birkle have not given their reasons for wanting Mr. Powell in office.

Treasurer Brendel stated Mr. Powell has connections to other municipalities and he is familiar with sewer issues. Mr. Birkle said he echoes those comments and added he thinks Mr. Powell has a lot of connections at both the state and the county.

Mike Long, 1209 Pinecrest feels the board should make a motion to send this issue to the county. Attorney Need explained the county could not do anything until the 45 days was up.

Steve Anderson, 8600 Newport Dr. Since each of you have talked to both candidates, what was the discussions about? Brendel said his reason was Mr. Baroni didn't have government experience.

Clerk Lilley said that he was waiting for a supervisor that is also going to pay attention to and nurture the employees. Clerk Lilley stated his support for Greg Baroni.

Marge Mosser, 570 Elkinford. Ms. Mosser stated she has two concerns, conflict of interest is so apparent it's disgusting.

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Bev Spoor, 4287 Lakegrove. We need to make a decision, this township can't afford an election, and this board has to move ahead.

MOTION by Treasurer Brendel, SUPPORTED by Trustee Birkle to accept resumes until January 14, 2011 at noon.

ROLL CALL: Powell- Yes; Lilley- Yes; Baroni- No; Brendel- Yes; Birkle- Yes; Burkard- No

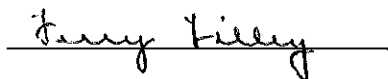
MOTION PASSED (4 yes votes, 2 no votes)

MOTION by Treasurer Brendel, SUPPORTED by Trustee Birkle to adjourn tonight's meeting.

MOTION PASSED (6 yes votes).

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

I, Terry Lilley, the duly elected and qualified Clerk of the Charter Township of White Lake, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the January 6, 2011 special board meeting minutes.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Terry Lilley", is written over a horizontal line.

Terry Lilley, Clerk
White Lake Township
Oakland County, Michigan