



1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820  
April 25, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the DeWitt Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Galardi at 6:59 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Supervisor Rick Galardi, Clerk Adam Cramton, and Trustees David Seeger, Brian Ross, David Fedewa, and Steven Smith.

**MEMBERS ABSENT** Treasurer Sandy Stump.

**ALSO PRESENT** Manager Andrew Dymczyk, Police Chief Mike Gute, Fire Chief Dave DeKorte, Township Attorney Helen Mills, and several citizens.

**AGENDA** **Fedewa moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the agenda.**

**AYES: Ross, Seeger, Fedewa, Cramton, Smith, Galardi.**

**NAYS: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**Motion carried.**

**CONSENT AGENDA** **Ross moved, Smith seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda which included the following: Board of Trustees Regular Meeting draft minutes, April 11, 2022; Planning Commission Regular Meeting draft minutes, April 4, 2022; and General Vouchers 74090-74137.**

**AYES: Cramton, Seeger, Smith, Fedewa, Ross, Galardi.**

**NAYS: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** None.

**PRESENTATION** None.

**PUBLIC HEARING** None.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT** Clinton County Commissioner, Ken Mitchell, was present to answer any Board questions. Commissioner Mitchell offered his assistance in resolving a resident traffic concern on Solon Road.

**CORRESPONDENCE** Correspondence included the following: Q1 2022 Cash and Investments; Q1 2022 Financial Reports; DeWitt Township Police Department March 2022 Activity Report; DeWitt Township Fire Department March 2022 Activity Report; and Clinton County Sheriff's Office March 2022 Jail Billing.

UNFINISHED

BUSINESS

Second Reading - TCOA Land Investments, LLC is requesting to rezone approximately 38.5 acres from the Rezoning 22-880001 – A (Agricultural) zoning district to the R-2 (Single-Family Residential) zoning district. TCOA Land Investments The subject site is located west of Kalamata Drive, south of Cutler Road, north Howe Road, and east of Airport Road, part of the southwest ¼ of Section 6 of DeWitt Charter Township (Parcel # 050-006-300-015-51 & # 050-006-300-017- 00).

Presently, TCOA Land Investments, LLC own the subject property, sized at approximately 38.5 acres, and is currently vacant. In February 2022, a rezoning application was submitted to the DeWitt Township Planning Department for the reason being to take the first necessary step to eventually develop the site as a single-family residential subdivision.

The subject property is designated for Low Density Single-Family Residential (SF-L) use on the Future Land Use Map. All other adjacent parcels are planned for Low Density Single-Family Residential (SF-L). The proposed change from A (Agricultural) to the R-2 (Single-Family Residential) zoning district is compatible with the existing land uses in the area.

A public hearing was conducted on the proposed rezoning request on March 7, 2022 in which the Planning Commission voted to unanimously recommended approval. At the meeting, there was one public comment received regarding the request which sought to address the drainage concerns on site. Prior to the Planning Commission meeting, staff received four (4) inquiries regarding the project. Each inquirer had no issues with the rezoning request and the only concern raised again was the on-site drainage, however, drainage is not addressed with a rezoning request. There were no further public comments received regarding the request and the Township Board approved the first reading at their March 28, 2022 meeting.

**Seeger moved, Smith seconded, based on a unanimous recommendation from the Planning Commission, approve the second reading of rezoning request 22-880001, from TCOA Land Investments, LLC as legally described on the application materials and survey documents, from A (Agricultural) to the R-2 (Single-Family Residential) zoning district based on the fact that the request is not in conflict with recommendations of the Comprehensive Development Plan and is consistent with the existing land use pattern in the immediate area.**

**AYES: Seeger, Cramton, Smith, Fedewa, Ross, Galardi.**

**NAYS: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2022-04-08 – Thomas Farms – Set Public Hearing for Lighting District Clerk Cramton presented a resolution establishing a Public Hearing at 7:00 PM on Monday, May 23, 2022. The purpose for the Public Hearing is to hear questions and comments regarding the establishment of a Special Lighting District known as Thomas Farms.

**Galardi moved, Ross seconded, to set a Public Hearing for establishment of a Special Lighting District known as Thomas Farms on Monday, May 23, 2022 at 7:00 PM and Clerk to provide notice of same.**

**AYES: Cramton, Smith, Fedewa, Ross, Seeger, Galardi.**

**NAYS: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**Motion carried.**

Resolution 2022-04-09  
– Building Safety  
Month

Building Safety Month is a sponsored awareness campaign by the International Code Council to remind the public of the critical role of safely built, affordable, and sustainable buildings, and the professional individuals who ensure these goals are achieved. The Building Department works diligently every day to ensure the buildings in this community meet set standards, and all community members live and work in a safe and code compliant structure. Manager Dymczyk recommends adoption of resolution #R2022-04-09 proclaiming the month of May 2022 as Building Safety Month.

**Smith moved, Fedewa seconded, to adopt resolution #R2022-04-09 proclaiming the month of May 2022 as Building Safety Month.**

**AYES: Smith, Cramton, Fedewa, Seeger, Ross, Galardi.**

**NAYS: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**Motion carried.**

ARPA Workshop

Since the original allocation of funds by the federal government through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021, many discussions and much feedback has been received about how these funds should be spent. Manager Dymczyk recommends a Board Workshop to be held on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM for the purpose of discussing ARPA fund allocations.

The Township Auditor will attend the Board workshop to aid in the discussion of proper use of funds. The US Treasury has updated guidance on the legal use of these funds and require each jurisdictions' executive to "certify" that the funds will be used for eligible purposes.

ARPA funding must be spent by the end of calendar year 2024 and cannot be deposited into any pension fund.

Board discussion resulted in the time of the proposed workshop being changed from 5:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

**Smith moved, Galardi seconded, to set a Board Workshop on Monday, May 9th at 6:00 PM for the purpose of discussing ARPA fund allocations.**

**AYES: Cramton, Fedewa, Ross, Seeger, Smith, Galardi.**

**NAYS: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**Motion carried.**

Interim Chief of Police

Chief Gute's last day of employment will be May 6th. In preparation for his departure, Manager Dymczyk recommends Lieutenant Jason Jones to act as Interim Chief of Police until the impending position vacancy is filled. In discussions with Lt. Jones, he is willing to fill this capacity until a proper search and interview process can be conducted. Lt. Jones previously held the Interim Chief of Police responsibilities in 2018-2019 and did a tremendous job in this capacity.

There was much Board discussion about Chief Gute's service to DeWitt Township. The Board is thankful for his hard work and accomplishments, and wishes him the best in his new assignment. The Board also stated its confidence in Lieutenant Jones to effectively lead the Police Department during the search for a new Chief.

Attorney Helen Mills stated her appreciation for Chief Gute and looks forward to continued collaboration with him.

**Galardi moved, Smith seconded, to appoint Lt. Jason Jones to Interim Chief of Police until the current vacancy is filled.**

**AYES: Smith, Cramton, Seeger, Ross, Fedewa, Galardi.**

**NAYS: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**Motion carried.**

Resolution 2022-04-07 Chief Gute presented a Resolution honoring Debra Saylor for her 43 years of service to  
– Debra Saylor the Township upon the occasion of her retirement.

**Smith moved, Seeger seconded, to adopt Resolution of Appreciation #R2022-04-07 thanking Debra Saylor for her service to DeWitt Township.**

**AYES: Ross, Seeger, Fedewa, Cramton, Smith, Galardi.**

**NAYS: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**Motion carried.**

CLOSED SESSION: A closed session of the Board of Trustees is permissible under Section 8(h) of the Open  
Attorney Meetings Act, MCL 15.268(h) to consider and receive Attorney correspondence.  
Correspondence Manager Dymczyk recommends that the Board enter closed session to discuss Attorney  
correspondence dated April 21, 2022.

**Cramton moved, Galardi seconded, to enter the Board in closed session at 7:34 PM under the Open Meetings Act, to consider a letter from its attorneys dated April 21, 2022, for the reason that the letter is exempt from disclosure under State law due to the attorney-client privilege.**

**AYES: Cramton, Ross, Seeger, Fedewa, Smith, Galardi.**

**NAYS: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**Motion carried.**

**Cramton moved, Ross seconded, to return to regular session at 9:15 PM.**

**Motion voted and carried.**

EXTENDED PUBLIC, Police Chief Mike Gute informed the Board that the Body Worn Camera sub committee  
STAFF, & BOARD met last week and is prepared to submit a final recommendation. He believes that this  
COMMENTS recommendation will be presented by Lieutenant Jones. Additionally, Chief Gute is  
appreciative of the support that he has been given from the Board and the Manager's  
Office, and he feels that the Police Department is in good hands with command staff and  
Lieutenant Jones' leadership.

Fire Chief Dave DeKorte reported on a recent successful deployment of the LUCAS lifesaving device. The Fire Department has received a gift of thanks from the family of a resident that received responsive care. Chief DeKorte also detailed a recent apartment fire where the Township's building codes prevented a much larger loss of property. Lastly, Chief DeKorte informed the Board that there is joint training with Bath Township this evening at Fire Station 1.

Manager Dymczyk offered updates on the following:

- Audit meeting last week
- DeWitt Public Schools Community Showcase
- CAPCOG meeting
- Sanitary Sewer Master Plan
- ARPA reporting due April 30
- eNews
- MTA conference panel

Trustee Ross informed the Board that there is a scheduled Board of Water and Light meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT      Seeger moved, Ross seconded, to adjourn 9:18 PM.**

**Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Adam Cramton, Clerk



Rick Galardi, Supervisor