



1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820
May 22, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the DeWitt Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Galardi at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT None.

ALSO PRESENT Manager Andrew Dymczyk, Police Chief Matt Merony, Fire Chief Dave DeKorte, and Community Development Director Brett Wittenberg.

AGENDA **Ross moved, Fedewa seconded, to approve the agenda as presented.**

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA **Smith moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda which included the following: Board of Trustees regular meeting draft minutes, May 8, 2023; Planning Commission regular meeting draft minutes, May 1, 2023; Zoning Board of Appeals regular meeting draft minutes, April 19, 2023; and General Vouchers 75559-75618, Tax Voucher 9575.**

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

PRESENTATION None.

PUBLIC HEARING None.

**COUNTY
COMMISSIONER
REPORT** None.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: DeWitt Township Police Department April 2023 Activity Report; DeWitt Township Fire Department April 2023 Activity Report; DeWitt Township Fire Department Rescue Vehicle EV/ICE Cost Comparison; County Commissioner Mitchell update on Prosecutor's Office; Clinton County Sheriff's Office April 2023 Jail Billing; and Consumers Energy Notice of Public Hearing.

Trustee Smith inquired as to why the Prosecutor's Office review is taking so long. Supervisor Galardi encouraged Smith to reach out to Commissioner Mitchell directly.

UNFINISHED
BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Ordinance
Amendment 23-1 –
Shopping Center
Business (BSC)
District

As part of the Community Development Department’s efforts to enhance the Township’s ability to move toward its goals as identified in the Comprehensive Development Plan and the Strategic Plan, staff introduced the following ordinance amendment proposal.

To permit, as a use by right, athletic clubs and health spas in the Shopping Center Business (BSC). Currently, athletic clubs and health spas are permitted by right in the Community Business (BC) zoning district.

Staff identified that athletic clubs and health spas are allowed by right in the BC district and not allowed at all in the BSC district. Staff is of the opinion that this use is compatible within both districts and as such, should be a permitted use in both districts.

At the May 1, 2023 Planning Commission meeting, there were no concerns or questions regarding the proposed amendment.

Per State Statute, public notice was sent out in the Lansing State Journal on Sunday, April 16th, 2023. No public comment was received.

Fedewa moved, Smith seconded, based on a unanimous recommendation from the Planning Commission at their meeting of May 1, 2023, and after finding that the proposed amendment has complied with the process for amending the Zoning Ordinance, approve the first reading of Zoning Ordinance Amendment 23-1, that updates and amends the DeWitt Charter Township Zoning Ordinance for the purposes of adding athletic clubs and health spas as a use permitted by right.

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion carried.

Backup Electrical
Inspector Hire

The Township has been without a backup Electrical Inspector, who is called upon to perform electrical inspections/plan review when the Inspector is unavailable. This position would be utilized as needed. Manager Dymczyk recommends the approval of an employment contract with Joseph Fernholz for the position of backup Electrical Inspector contingent upon the successful completion of the pre-employment physical.

Ross moved, Galardi seconded, to approve the employment contract with Joseph Fernholz for the position of backup Electrical Inspector contingent upon the successful completion of the pre-employment physical and authorize the Clerk and Manager to execute the same.

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion carried.

Full Time Firefighter Hire Chief DeKorte and Manager Dymczyk conducted interviews on May 9th for the position of full time Firefighter in the Fire Department. They recommend the hiring of Mr. Troy Rambo.

Seeger moved, Fedewa seconded, to approve the hiring of Troy Rambo at Grade 3, Step 3 of the Classification and Wage Scale, for the position of full time Firefighter in the Fire Department.

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion carried.

Pollinator Garden Donation, Granger Meadows Park / Lansing-DeWitt Sunrise Rotary Club

The Lansing-DeWitt Sunrise Rotary Club and the Township have been in communication about a potential Pollinator Garden donation at Granger Meadows Park. Pollinators worldwide are in decline with habitat loss, invasive species, parasites, and pesticides. Pollinators play a critical role in the food chain and environment. Of the 1,400 crop plants grown around the world, i.e. those that produce all of our food and plant-based industrial products, almost 80% require pollination by animals.

Lansing-DeWitt Sunrise Rotary Club would like to donate 15 plants to utilize an estimated 15' x 15' area. They are also willing to aid in maintenance and would also ask for some acknowledgement of the club to be placed by the donation. If accepted, staff would be providing maintenance to the amenities. Rotary Club and Township staff have evaluated three locations with our recommendation to pursue Option B as indicated on the map overview.

Manager Dymczyk has been a Lansing-DeWitt Sunrise Rotary Club member since 2019.

Cramton moved, Stump seconded, to accept the donation from the Lansing-DeWitt Sunrise Rotary Club for a Pollinator Garden donation at Granger Meadows Park and approve staff's contribution of in-kind services towards maintenance of the amenity.

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC, STAFF, & BOARD COMMENTS

Community Development Director Brett Wittenberg updated the Board on the current status of the three sand and gravel mining bills in the House.

Fire Chief Dave DeKorte informed the Board that the Fire Department assisted in the MS race over the weekend. He also informed the Board about the Department responding to two recent automobile accidents.

Police Chief Merony notified the Board that the posting for the recruit position expires on June 3 and he hopes to have multiple responses.

Manager Dymczyk offered updates on the following:

- Personnel Committee performance review

- SCCMUA Budget
- EGLE violation notice
- MBS challenges
- POLC Supervisory Unit contract meeting
- Operations meeting with Supervisor
- Water and sewer master plan draft
- Wage study kickoff
- Open hours for Manager's Office

Trustee Smith inquired if there is still an opening on Public Safety Committee. Clerk Cramton will follow up. Smith also stated that he is not in favor of the house bills for sand and gravel mining.

Trustee Fedewa stated that there is clear progress on the MBS project, and the final plan will be before the Board soon.

Clerk Cramton provided an update on the implementation of Proposal 2-2022 election changes.

Supervisor Galardi reiterated the Manager's available hours and encouraged all to communicate and seek answers to their questions.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeger moved, Ross seconded, to adjourn 7:49 PM.

Motion voted and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Cramton, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor