



1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820
July 26, 2021 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the DeWitt Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Galardi at 7:03 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT Supervisor Rick Galardi-I, Clerk Adam Cramton-I, Treasurer Sandy Stump-I, and
Location Trustees David Seeger-I, Brian Ross-I, David Fedewa-I, and Steven Smith-I.
I=In-Person
C=Call-In

MEMBERS ABSENT None.

ALSO PRESENT Police Chief Mike Gute-I, Fire Chief Dave DeKorte-I, Manager Andrew Dymczyk-I, and
I=In-Person Community Development Director Brett Wittenberg-I.
C=Call-In

AGENDA **Stump moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the Agenda.**

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA **Smith moved, Ross seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda, which included the following: Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Draft Minutes, July 12, 2021; General Vouchers 73131-73194; and Planning Commission Draft Minutes, July 6, 2021.**

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

PUBLIC HEARING None.

PRESENTATION None.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT County Commissioner, Ken Mitchell, provided updates on the Smart 911 system, Clinton County Opioid settlement, Mid-Michigan District Health Department soft opening, new MMDHD Director Liz Braddock, and stated that the most recent local state of emergency order is going to be allowed to expire at the end of the month.

Trustee Smith feels that it is important to not renew the emergency declaration as a means to remain consistent with State and Local agencies that are continuing to lift COVID restrictions.

Trustee Fedewa questioned if there was a way to use COVID funds to bring high-speed internet access to areas of the Township and County that currently do not have connectivity. Trustee Seeger feels that it is important for municipalities to facilitate private commercial broadband infrastructure rather than investing government funds in building broadband access.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: Q2 2021 Financial Reports; Q2 Cash and Investments; DeWitt Township Police Department June 2021 Activity Report; DeWitt Township Fire Department June 2021 Activity Report; 2021 Goal Performance Dashboard; Lansing Board of Water & Light Appointee, Trustee Brian Ross; SCCMUA 2022 Operating Budget & 5-Year Capital Improvements Plan; and Clinton County Sheriff's Office June 2021 Jail Billing.

Galardi moved, Seeger seconded, to receive and place on file the 2022 Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority Annual Operating Budget.

Motion voted and carried.

UNFINISHED

BUSINESS

Second Reading:
Proposed Ordinance
Amendment 21-2
Outdoor Storage of
Recreational Vehicles
and Outdoor Dining

As part of the Community Development Department's efforts to enhance the Township's ability to move toward its goals identified in the Comprehensive Development Plan and the Strategic Plan, the staff introduced the following ordinance amendments:

1. To permit outdoor storage of personal recreational vehicles in the Light Industrial (IL) and Community Business (BC), subject to certain design and performance standards. Currently, mini-warehousing is a permitted use (by right) within the Township in the IL and BC districts subject to Section 4.57 of the Zoning Ordinance, and outdoor storage of any kind is prohibited.
2. To permit outdoor dining uses as a use permitted under special conditions. Currently, the Township's Codified Code of Ordinance does not address or regulate outdoor dining.

At prior Planning Commission meetings, the Planning Commission discussed the proposed amendments. A significant portion of the discussion was related to assessing the proposed text amendments, as appropriate, to minimize the potential impact of the proposed outdoor uses on adjacent residential districts/uses; to regulate their locations and establish screening and performance standards.

At the June 7, 2021 meeting, the Planning Commission recommended that the Township Board approve Ordinance Amendment 21-1 based on the finding that the proposed amendment complies with the process for amending the Zoning Ordinance. In addition to add the opportunity to request a variance during the Site Plan Review process subject to certain criteria.

At the June 28, 2021 Township Board meeting, the Board concurred with the Planning Commission's recommendation and approved on first reading with the Planning Commission recommended action.

Clerk Cramton reminded the Board that, as an owner of a storage business in DeWitt Township that could be impacted by the ordinance change, Trustee Fedewa asked to abstain from the vote on this item for first reading. He again wished to abstain from voting for the second reading.

Seeger moved, Galardi seconded, based on a unanimous recommendation from the Planning Commission at their meeting of June 7, 2021, and after finding that the proposed amendment has complied with the process for amending the Zoning Ordinance, to approve the second reading of Zoning Ordinance Amendment 21-2 which updates and amends the DeWitt Charter Township Zoning Ordinance for the purposes of allowing:

- 1. Outdoor storage of personal recreational vehicles in the Light Industrial (IL) zoning district and Community Business (BC) zoning district subject to certain design and performance standards, and;**
- 2. Outdoor dining as a use permitted under special conditions.**

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Fedewa abstains.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Inspector Hire

The position of Fire Inspector was advertised on June 17th and interviews were conducted on July 19th by a panel comprised of Chief DeKorte, Assistant Chief North, and Manager Dymczyk. The panel recommends the hiring of Mr. Steven Schott for the position of part time (20 hours per week) Fire Inspector in the Fire Department. Mr. Schott is a current member of the Fire Department and would not require a pre-employment physical.

Trustee Fedewa shared Mr. Schott's excitement for being considered for the position.

Galardi moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the hiring of Steven Schott at Grade 4, Step 1 of the Classification and Wage Scale, for the position of part time (20 hours per week) Fire Inspector in the Fire Department.

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion carried.

New Hire Paid-On-Call Interviews for the position for Firefighter were conducted on July 19, 2021. The Firefighters and Emergency Responders interview panel consisted of Chief DeKorte, Assistant Chief North, and Manager Dymczyk. The panel recommends the hiring of John Sosa and Jack Tingay.

Mr. Sosa is retired from the military and now resided in DeWitt Township with his family. He will need to attend medical and fire classes for his certifications.

Mr. Tingay graduated from DeWitt High School and continues to reside in DeWitt Township. He will need to attend medical and fire classes for his certifications.

Fedewa moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the hiring of Mr. John Sosa and Mr. Jack Tingay upon successful completion of their physical and ability evaluations.

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion carried.

DeWitt Charter
Township Salary
Compensation
Commission
Appointments

Currently there are three vacancies on the Salary Compensation Commission. The Salary Compensation Commission meets in odd-numbered years to set the salaries of the Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer, and Trustees.

Clerk Cramton has published the available positions on the website and Facebook, and received two outstanding candidates. Filling two of the available positions will bring membership up to four out of five. Both candidates would be filling the remainder of unexpired terms. Service on Salary Compensation is uncompensated, and a full term lasts for five years.

Smith moved, Ross seconded, to approve the following actions:

- 1. To confirm the Supervisor's appointment of Robert VanDyk to the Salary Compensation Commission to fulfill the remainder of a term that expires on 12/31/2025.**
- 2. To confirm the Supervisor's appointment of Robert Mack to the Salary Compensation Commission to fulfill the remainder of a term that expires on 12/31/2024.**

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC,
STAFF, & BOARD
COMMENTS

Community Development Director Brett Wittenberg informed the Board that a new Administrative Assistant, Kelly Furgason, has started working in the Planning Department. He also informed the Board that Planner Salam Habhab has submitted her resignation and will be taking a position closer to home and family. The Board thanks her for her outstanding service and sends its best wishes for her future.

Fire Chief Dave DeKorte updated the Board on a recent fire at the recycling center on Wood Road.

Police Chief Mike Gute informed the Board that he had a recent meeting with the new DeWitt Public School Superintendent, Shanna Spickard. The Police Department has received a large delivery of backpacks to distribute to students. Wednesday, August 4th the End of Watch Ride to Remember will be stopping at the DeWitt Township Police Department in honor of Sergeant Bill Darnell. Sergeant Darnell's family is expected to be in attendance and the event is planned for 11:30 AM.

Manager Dymczyk provided updates on the following:

- Multiple new-hire interviews conducted

- Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) process for pickleball courts
- Request for ARP funding has been submitted
- Capital Improvement Plan Committee will be meeting on July 28
- The Budget 2022 planning is under way

Trustee Fedewa informed the Board that the Municipal Building South (MBS) Committee continues to meet and make progress. The MBS Committee has utilized the QBS process and selected three vendors for engineering consideration.

Trustee Ross again thanked the Board for his appointment to the Board of Water and Light at-large post. He also stated that the most recent edition of the Township Focus from the Michigan Townships Association has a brief update on the mining bills SB429, SB430, and SB431.

Treasurer Stump informed the Board that \$850 in donations has been received for the National Night Out event. The Board would like to make a donation from its Trust and Agency fund and instructs Treasurer Stump and Clerk Cramton to execute.

Clerk Cramton informed the Board that, with the lapsing of the local state of emergency, that this would be the final meeting where remote attendance and participation by membership is allowable. He also updated the Board on the application status of the Township's first Marihuana grow operation.

Supervisor Galardi states that he feels the state government should take a fresh look at the Open Meetings Act and allow modern technologies to be utilized to expand the opportunities for participation for future generations of public servants. He also informed the Board that the first step of Manager Dymczyk's annual review has been completed and that it went very well. Clerk Cramton is instructed to organize the Personnel Committee review of Manager Dymczyk's performance.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeger moved, Ross seconded, to adjourn at 8:15 PM.

Motion voted and carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Adam Cramton, Clerk


Rick Galardi, Supervisor