

DEWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Rd. DeWitt, MI
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 9, 2006

The regular meeting of the DeWitt Charter Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Galardi at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Rick Galardi, Clerk Diane Mosier, Treasurer Phyllis Daggy, Trustees: Brian Ross, and David Seeger.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Max Calder & Trustee Steve Musselman.

Also Present: Interim Manager/Planning Director Jeffrey Gray, County Commissioner Robert Showers, Phil and Joan Patriarche, and several citizens.

AGENDA **Daggy moved, Ross seconded, to approve the Agenda, as presented. Motion voted and carried.**

MINUTES **Ross moved, Seeger seconded, to approve Special Meeting minutes of September 11, 2006, and September 25, 2006. Motion voted and carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Fire Chief Koos reported that several months ago the Fire Department applied for a Fire Act Grant which is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Homeland Security. Both he and Firefighter Josh Hoffman determined to make application for a mobile training unit and then requested a grant for \$400,000. After several contacts discussing regional services and costs, we have received confirmation from Congressman Rogers' office and internet sources that we did receive a \$278,000 grant from the Federal Government for a mobile training facility. He noted that the grant does require a local contribution of 5%. He reported that he and the entire department are very excited about the award.

The Board congratulated Chief Koos on a job well done.

PRESENTATIONS
Outstanding Citizen Award/Patriarche **Motion by Seeger, second by Mosier, to adopt Resolution 061068, honoring Phil Patriarche as an Outstanding DeWitt Township Citizen.**

AYES: Seeger, Galardi, Mosier, Daggy, Ross
NAYS: None Motion carried.

Trustee Seeger read the Resolution honoring Phil Patriarche.

Supervisor Galardi explained that the plaque displayed this evening will hang in the lobby of the Township Hall and congratulated Phil on an honor well deserved.

Clinton County
Economic Dev Task
Force/Feasibility Study

Loretta Spinrad, provided a power point presentation of the Clinton County Economic Development Task Force Feasibility Study.

There was discussion regarding the Clinton County effort and other efforts being formulated. Although the Board's response to the Clinton County

PUBLIC HEARING
2007 Budget

effort was positive, it was clear that the Board needs to become informed on all of the efforts. Supervisor Galardi thanked Spinrad for the information provided.

Supervisor Galardi called to order the Public Hearing on the Township 2007 Budget at 7:25 p.m.

Interim Manager/Planning Director Gray reviewed the proposed millage levy and the proposed 2007 Township Budget. He noted that no changes have been made since the last workshop. The discussion centered around the health of the Township's Fund Balance and reserve funding utilized to plan for the future.

There was no public comment.

Ross moved, Seeger seconded, to adjourn the Public Hearing at 7:38 p.m. Motion voted and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence included the following: Recruitment Guidelines from the ICMA; September Activity Report; Community Entrepreneurship Conference information from the Clinton County Extension Office; Meals on Wheels Financial Request from the Tri-County Office on Aging; letter from Attorney Robinson regarding MacKenzie vs DeWitt Charter Township; Fire Department Burning Issues Newsletter; invitation to the SCCMUA Open House; Programming Update from Comcast; Family Fun Fest invitation from Clinton Area Fire & Rescue; Legislative Update from Representative Hummel.

Clerk Mosier requested that the Board take some time to reviewed the information provided by the ICMA which will assist in our decision making process to hire a new manager. She suggested that Board members consider hiring a firm to assist in the manager search process.

Supervisor Galardi informed the Board that Interim Manager Gray has decided that he will not apply for the Manager position, a decision he made for personal reasons. Supervisor Galardi thanked Gray for his interim assistance and stated that he respects his decision. Supervisor Galardi stated that the Board will proceed with a national search to find the best manager for the Township.

Clerk Mosier and Trustee Ross encouraged Board members to attend the SCCMUA Open House featuring the newly constructed and operational digester and storage facility.

REPORTS &
COMMENTS

County Commissioner Showers spoke to the Clinton County Economic Development Task Force proposal, indicating that more research will be done but the County Commissioners are generally in favor of a Clinton County effort.

Supervisor Galardi reported that meetings continue with the City of Lansing and Airport representative. He also reported on the recent Sister City visit.

Clerk Mosier reported that the next sewer usage fee increase will appear on the next billing and requested that the appropriate notices be posted as has been past practice. She also commented on the teamwork taking place in the office where we are currently short staffed.

Trustee Ross thanked Interim Manager Gray for his work on the Phase II project, noting that the DEQ deadline was met thanks to his effort.

Interim Manager/Planning Director Gray reported that progress continues on Meijer with intersection work underway and exterior projects such as paving and landscaping nearing completion prior to the winter months. He also reported that we have received notice from MMRMA, our liability and property insurance provider, that we will receive a \$4400 rebate check, determined by our claims history with the pool.

Interim Manager/Planning Director Gray commented that it was a difficult decision to make, however he wanted the Board to know that he will not be applying for the Manager position. He pledged his support to assist the Board in any way possible during the search process.

VOUCHERS

Seeger moved, Daggy seconded, to approve General Operating Fund Vouchers 50780 – 50847 and Tax Fund Vouchers 6562 & 6563. Motion voted and carried.

UNFINISHED
BUSINESS
RR 06-880003
Auto Owners
2nd Reading

Seeger moved, Ross seconded, to approve, on Second Reading, Rezoning Request 06-880003 from Auto-Owners Insurance Company to rezone approximately 311.52 acres from A (Agricultural) to POD (Planned Office Development) together with the Development District Map, Development District Text, and building Construction Phasing Plan, as conditioned and recommended by the Planning Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

**AYES: Ross, Daggy, Mosier, Galardi, Seeger
NAYS: None Motion carried.**

L-4029/Millage
Rate

Daggy moved, Ross seconded, to approve the millage rate as presented on form L-4029 and authorize the Township Supervisor and Clerk to execute the same. Motion voted and carried.

Sanitary Sewer Stds
Res 061066 & 061067
Ord Amendment 91.6
First Reading

Trustee Ross explained the need for the SCCMUA Construction Standards indicated that he reviewed the changes and recommends their adoption.

Ross moved, Daggy seconded, to adopt Resolution 061066 concurring with SCCMUA's amendments to the Sanitary Sewer Standards as adopted on September 19, 2006.

**AYES; Daggy, Ross, Seeger, Galardi, Mosier
NAYS: None Motion carried.**

Ross moved, Daggy seconded, to adopt Resolution 061067, introducing and approving, on First Reading, Ordinance Amendment 91.6 amending the Township's Wastewater Collection and Treatment System Ordinance.

**AYES: Seeger, Galardi, Mosier, Daggy, Mosier
NAYS: None Motion carried.**

Employment
Recommendations
Police/Bldg Depts

Seeger moved, Ross seconded, to approve the hiring of Donald Rochford, Jr. as a police officer upon successful completion of a physical examination and psychological screening. Motion voted and carried.

Seeger moved, Daggy seconded, to approve the hiring of Henry Howard as an alternate plumbing and mechanical inspector and authorize the Interim Manager to execute the employment contract with Mr. Howard upon successful completion of a physical examination. Motion voted and carried.

COMMENTS

Eileen Heideman introduced herself as a candidate for 6th District Clinton County Commissioner.

Police Chief Russell reported on recent activities involving the visit of Vice President Cheney.

Trustee Ross stated that he respects Jeff Gray's decision to remain the Planning Director.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeger moved, Ross seconded, to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Motion voted and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor