

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Rd. DeWitt, MI
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 13, 2007

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: Max Calder, Steve Musselman, and Brian Ross.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee David Seeger

Also Present: Manager Rodney Taylor, Planning Director Jeffrey Gray, Fire Chief Frederick Koos, and several citizens.

AGENDA

Musselman moved, Calder seconded, to approve the Agenda, as presented. Motion voted and carried.

MINUTES

Clerk Mosier noted that Trustee Seeger called with some suggested changes, and she suggested that approval be delayed until the next meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING
Liquor License/Pier

Supervisor Galardi called to order the Public Hearing for a Liquor License transfer at 7:04 p.m. Clerk Mosier noted that no response was received to the publication for this hearing.

Trustee Musselman noted that the Police Investigation Report appears incomplete, and requested that Clerk Mosier pass this information along to Police Chief Russell. Trustee Ross suggested that the applicant's driver's license information should not be provided with public information.

Applicants Michael and Matthew Pier were present and answered questions from Board members regarding their plans for the Classic Pub. They provided a copy of their business plan and explained their previous experience. They also explained that they are brothers who have been involved in previous family business experiences. Matthew also noted that he lives within the Township. The following information was provided: the name will remain the same for the immediate future; they have spent much time cleaning up the place and updating the furnishings; they intend to work with local police and have already met the Chief of Police; they intend to use video cameras for visibility outside the bathroom area which is somewhat secluded; they hope to have a 50/50 ratio of alcohol to food, but that may be unrealistic until they become established; they plan to open as soon as the State issues their license and the interior is updated; it is their goal to have an owner/family member within the operation whenever open; they provided information regarding their proposed operational costs and marketing plan, as well as the training that will be required.

Supervisor Galardi asked the applicants to consider capping their hours initially. Clerk Mosier stated that she believes the owners have the ability to

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set the tone for the type of business that will exist based on the example they exhibit.

Mosier moved, Musselman seconded, to close the Public Hearing at 7:34 p.m. Motion voted and carried.

Resolution 070807
Pier Liquor License

Musselman moved, Ross seconded, to adopt Resolution 070807, recommending approval of the request from Pier Brothers LLC, requesting to transfer ownership escrowed 2006 Class C licensed business, with dance-entertainment permit, from D. M. Smith Inc., located at 16219 US 27, Lansing Michigan, 48906, DeWitt Township, Clinton County.

AYES: Ross, Calder, Daggy, Mosier, Galardi, Musselman

NAYS: None Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

David Brown and Loretta Spinrad spoke representing the Clinton County Economic Alliance, their two year organizational efforts to date, and their fundraising mission to raise \$750,000 (over three years) for the operation of an economic development organization within Clinton County focused on business retention, recruitment, and entrepreneurship. It was noted that with other regional efforts focused on economic development, Clinton County needs to have a person representing our County's interests.

Clerk Mosier questioned how the private sector fundraising is progressing. David Brown explained that the group is really just beginning the private sector campaign. He noted that with the County's commitment of \$150,000, the public sector is obviously ahead on the fundraising schedule.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the Township's desire to partner with other Clinton County entities to ensure the success of this effort. It was also noted that the headquarters for the effort, or office space, is located in the Northway Plaza in DeWitt Township.

Supervisor Galardi indicated that he would like to see the Township commit more than the proposed amount of is \$10,000 each year for three years. He requested that the Manager consider the possibility of budgeting additional funds as he proceeds with compiling the 2008 budget.

The Board commended all involved for their dedication to achieving this important regional effort.

Mosier moved, Musselman seconded, that the Township commit to entering into a contract for services with the Clinton County Economic Alliance, for a specified dollar amount not to be less than \$30,000 (\$10,000 per year for three years), said contract to be finalized, approved by the Township Board, and executed, within 60 days. Motion voted and carried.

The Board recessed the meeting briefly to see a demonstration of the Mobile Fire Training Unit and then reconvened the Regular Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence included the following: a notice from Comcast regarding programming changes; Consumers Energy Summer Newsletter; Legislative Update from Congressman Rogers; letters regarding the Meadows Celebration

from County Commissioner Heideman and Lora Mae Higbee; July Activity Report; DeWitt Township Fire Department Burning Issues Newsletter; an invitation to a Press event announcing a joint effort with Granger and the Board of Water & Light; and July statistics from the Clinton County Sheriff;

REPORTS &
COMMENTS

Supervisor Galardi reported we will be talking with the City of Lansing regarding areas surrounding the airport, since we now have homeland security issues that have the ability to affect the region. He noted that we will be involved in these conversations since they involve portions of DeWitt Township and DeWitt Road.

Clerk Mosier reported that she attended the most recent MTA Legislative Conference with the following topics directly of interest to our Township: 1) this year marks the initial efforts to prepare for the 2010 census, that being handled by our Building Office, and the accuracy of our work will directly affect future Township revenues for a minimum of ten years; 2) HB 4780 was the topic of the conference, and legislators were honestly stating that in these hard times in Michigan, everything is on the table for cuts, however, it is certain now that HB 4780 is not the solution and it appears now that the Governor is the only vocal support for the bills; 3) technology is the way of the future, with the voters in the next five to ten years doing business and being informed in a way different than voters do today, and those voters expect virtual Township meetings since they are comfortable living with a computer in their hand.

Supervisor Galardi stated that this has become a serious battle for property, money, and control, and the time to look at protecting our borders and investigate becoming a City is here.

Trustee Musselman reminded the Board that the DeWitt Ox Road is this weekend. He also pointed out that on August 22 the Old 27 Motor Tour will be in DeWitt.

Manager Taylor reported the following: in Team Professionals v DeWitt Charter Township the judge awarded the summary disposition motion by Team Professionals; the sewer line in Herbison Road, next to the Township Hall, experienced a failure, investigation has determined that the pipe in Herbison Road has deteriorated and should be replaced, and he is working with Bath Township to determine possible cost sharing of a project that may cost as much as \$800,000; the timeline for DeWitt Road relocation will begin this year with surfacing next year, part in cement and part in asphalt; the sled hill modifications soon will be accomplished with a significant part of the work being done by Granger; MMRMA has been investigating the water line break that caused major damage to our building earlier this year, and they have indicated that they may file suit against parties they believe to be responsible for the incident; the Assessing Office has completed an evaluation of the Mobile Home Parks to make sure their inventories are accurate; Chief Building Official St. Pierre has been assisting Lansing Township during their transition phase; our Police Department recently assisted in recovering a child through the Amber Alert program; Davis Construction inquired about building a Family Dollar on Grand River, but the City of Lansing has indicated that they are not in a position to provide sewer to the site.

Supervisor Galardi stated that he will be preparing a letter to the residents of Willow Creek Farms and he would like to have the entire Board review the letter and sign it.

COMMITTEE &
COMMISSION
REPORTS
APPROVAL OF
VOUCHERS

None.

Musselman moved, Calder seconded, to approve General Operating Fund Vouchers 52286 – 52394, and Tax Fund Vouchers 6704 – 6718. Motion voted and carried.

UNFINISHED BUS
Ord 258, Funds/
Second Reading

Mosier moved, Ross seconded, to approve Ordinance 258, creating new reserve funds, on Second Reading.

AYES: Mosier, Daggy, Calder, Ross, Musselman, Galardi

NAYS: None Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS
DNR Mutual Aid
Agmt

Calder moved, Musselman seconded, to renew the Cooperative Mutual Aid Fire Control Agreement with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources – Forest, Mineral and Fire Management and authorize the Clerk to execute the same. Motion voted and carried.

SUP07-990005
E.T. MacKenzie

Mosier moved, Daggy seconded, to approve, as recommended by the Planning Commission and requested by the applicant, SUP 07-990005 from the E.T. MacKenzie Company, as amended, to prohibit the use of the site on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Good Friday, and Veterans Day, based on the plans last revised on May 22, 2007, on the following basis: 1)the use has been designed and operated in accordance with the requirements of Section 7.13.7 of the Zoning Ordinance 2)upon compliance with the conditions listed in the Special Use Permit, the use is designated and operates so that it does not change the essential character of the area 3)the conditions included in the permit assure that the use will not be hazardous to existing or future uses in the general vicinity 4)the permit includes reasonable conditions to assure that the potential impacts of the use, including noise and traffic, are mitigated. Motion voted and carried.

Set Annual
Streetlighting Public
Hearing

Calder moved, Musselman seconded, to set a public hearing to hear comments relative to the annual assessment of streetlighting costs for Monday, September 10, 2007, at 7:00 p.m, at 1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI and authorize the Township Clerk to take care of the appropriate public notices and mailings. Motion voted and carried.

COMMENTS

Planning Director Gray noted that there has been a proliferation of temporary signs and his office is attempting to handle this situation. He also noted that he is working with Granger on their expansion of the electric facility.

Manager Taylor reminded the Board of the press event at Granger on August 27th.

Supervisor Galardi noted that the Manager's contract requires a six month review. He explained that he will begin this process and report to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Musselman moved, Calder seconded, to adjourn at 9:26 p.m. Motion voted and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor