

**DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP**  
**1401 W. Herbison Rd. DeWitt, MI**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**June 14, 2010**

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, Brian Ross, and David Seeger

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Also Present: Manager Rodney Taylor; Community Development Director (CDD) Rich Trent; County Commissioners Eileen Heideman and Robert Showers; Fire Chief Frederick Koos, Layton & Richardson representative Vickie Crouch, and several citizens.

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

MINUTES                    **Ross moved, Daggy seconded, to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2010 Regular Board meeting, as presented. Motion voted and carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS    Margareta Hicks, 15854 Burton Street, addressed the Board about her neighborhood, stating that it is her feeling that residents of Burton Street have junk in their yards and that buses are being parked on her street. She stated that the deterioration of the neighborhood properties has affected the value of her property; that she takes much pride in her property; and the Township should do something about this situation.

Supervisor Galardi explained that CDD Trent will assist her in trying to identify neighborhood problems that may be in violation of Township ordinances. He also explained the process that the Township is involved in currently, to develop and adopt a Property Maintenance Code.

PRESENTATIONS:    Vickie Crouch, Layton & Richardson, provided an overview of the Township's 2009 Audit and audit letters.

**Mosier moved, Daggy seconded, to receive and place on file the Township's 2009 Audit and authorize the Township Clerk to execute and file the appropriate documents with the State of Michigan. Motion voted and carried.**

COUNTY                    Commissioner Showers updated the Board on actions of the Clinton County  
COMMISSIONER        Board of Commissioners.  
REPORT

CORRESPONDENCE    Correspondence included the following: letter regarding Wood Road from resident Gil Miske; District Library name change confirmation from the Department of Education; Activity Reports; copy of Manager Taylor's response to a citizen on economic challenges; programming and rate change information from Comcast; David Draut Scholarship information from Comcast; 2010

Clinton County Equalization Report.

COMMITTEES &  
COMMISSIONS None.

UNFINISHED  
BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS **Mosier moved, Daggy seconded, to appoint Trustees Musselman and Calder to the 2010 Elections Commission. Motion voted and carried.**

Elections Commission  
Economic Challenges Survey Manager Taylor reviewed his Staff report, dated June 11, 2010, with results and miscellaneous information regarding the Economic Challenges Survey. The information was discussed at length and no action was taken.

Clinton County Economic Alliance Contract CDD Trent reviewed his Staff report, dated June 9, 2010, regarding the Clinton County Economic Alliance (CCEA), and the Township contribution to the annual contribution to the program.

The following topics were discussed: 1)the organization's success to date, after three years of operation 2)the contribution formula, both past and proposed for future years, which is proposed to change to a per capita formula beginning with the 2010 funding 3)the County Commissioner's continued support of the organization.

The following concerns were expressed: 1)how long the Board can commit funds for with the proposed deficits expected 2)the need for more private funding to the organization 3)the projections for private funding, which have been overstated to date 4)whether private funding is an indicator of the organization's success.

John Czarnecki, President and CEO of the Clinton County Economic Alliance, offered his opinions regarding funding and the future need for the alliance. He answered questions from the Board.

Supervisor Galardi was firm on his opinion that private contributions need to be increased, but also on the Township's need for accurate projections for future funding. Clerk Mosier stated that the change to per capita funding is needed and necessary, and that the Township needs to lead with the County in pledging funding. Trustee Ross indicated that he could only support funding for one year with Township revenues project to decline significantly in the next two years.

**Ross moved, Calder seconded, to approved funding for the Clinton County Economic Alliance (CCEA) in the amount of \$12,000 in 2010 and authorize the Clerk to execute the agreement. Motion voted and carried.**

Creating Entrepreneurial  
Communities

Manager Taylor reviewed his written report requesting to make grant application to the Land Policy Institute at Michigan State University to fund a three year initiative called "Creating Entrepreneurial Communities," which proposes to help Michigan communities embrace entrepreneurship as a core strategy for prosperity and economic development. He noted that he is proposing to partner with the City of DeWitt, Bath Township, and possibly Watertown Township, should those Boards and Councils also approve the application. If the grant is approved it will cost DeWitt Township no more than \$1,667 a year, for three years, if two other communities partner in the project.

Manager Taylor noted that if this grant request is approved, it will return to the Board for additional approval.

**Ross moved, Mosier seconded, to authorize the Township Manager to work with the necessary surrounding jurisdictions to apply for the Creating Entrepreneurial Communities grant. Motion voted and carried.**

Resolution 100609

CDD Trent reviewed his staff report, dated June 9, 2010, regarding the formation of a Corridor Improvement Authority, previously identified as a part of the South Central Area Plan. He noted that adopting the Resolution this evening to set and notice the Public Hearing is the first step in this process. He reported that he has begun the education process by meeting with the taxing authorities that may be effected.

**Mosier moved, Seeger seconded, to adopt Resolution 100609, as recommended by the Economic Development Committee, a Resolution of Intent to Create a Corridor Improvement Authority under the State of Michigan Corridor Improvement Authority Act, Public Act 280 of 2005, as amended.**

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

Fireworks Display  
Permit

**Mosier moved, Calder seconded, to approve the permit for Fireworks Display by Night Magic Displays/Larry Holley, for the Meadows Celebration, and authorize the Clerk to execute the same. Motion voted carried.**

Employee Appreciation

It was noted that the event will be changed to the Appreciation Event, and that Committee and Commission members, as well as other key people in our organization, will be invited.

**Calder moved, Seeger seconded, to schedule the Appreciation Event to be held on Monday, August 30, 2010, at 5:30 p.m. at Valley Farms Park, hosted by the Township Board. Motion voted and carried.**

Kodak American  
Greenways Program

Manager Taylor explained that every year the Eastman Kodak Company, the Conservation Fund and the National Geographic Society team up to present the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program. He further explained that this proposed grant application is for \$2,500 and is intended to provide “seed” dollars to organizations that are growing our nation’s network of greenways, blueways, trails and natural areas.

Manager Taylor explained that if approved, he would submit a grant request for the full \$2,500 for a kayak/canoe launch (EZ-Launch) at the Looking Glass Riverfront Park, which would allow easier access for families and people with disabilities to access the river. He stated that this request would only cover approximately 25% of the project costs and the Township share would have to come out of reserves or 425 dollars. He also noted that the ultimate goal would be to have these installed in 11 canoe landings available to the public between Bath Township and Portland.

**Galardi moved, Musselman seconded, to authorize the Township Manager to submit a request to the Kodak American Greenways Program for a \$2,500 grant to be used for a canoe/kayak launch at the Looking Glass Riverfront Park. Motion voted and carried.**

CIP Committee Appts

**Ross moved, Galardi seconded, to concur with the Supervisor’s recommendation to appoint Trustee David Seeger, Trustee Max Calder, Maintenance Supervisor John Moody, and Manager Rodney Taylor to the Capital Improvement Plan Committee. Motion voted and carried.**

VOUCHERS

**Ross moved, Seeger seconded, to approve General Operating Fund Vouchers 57079 - 57188. Motion voted and carried.**

REPORTS

Manager Taylor reported the following: he is working with local companies/volunteers to get a small parking lot at River’s Edge Park, located at Wood and Round Lake Roads; the MEDC Grant for infrastructure is no longer a viable grant opportunity; another lawsuit, Civil Suit, has been received relating to what the Board knows as the Bozung suit; the Reguilding Together initiative now includes Clinton County, with several people from the Township involved; he has received a complaint from a resident living adjacent to the BR127 bridge construction and the resident is threatening a lawsuit.

Clerk Mosier updated the Board on the progress to educate our residents about the Police and Fire millage renewal. She also provided the Board with the Fact Sheet for the Library Millage Proposal.

EXTENDED PUBLIC None.

ADJOURNMENT      **Ross moved, Seeger seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor