

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Rd. DeWitt, MI
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 23, 2009

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 Richard Trent, Police Chief Brian Russell, County Commissioner Eileen Heideman, and several citizens.

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

MINUTES **Musselman moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2009 Regular meeting, and the February 23, 2009 Executive Session, as presented. Motion voted and carried.**

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT Robert and Jackie Reese, and their son, Bobbie, were present and spoke affirming their request (under correspondence) that the Board reconsider current regulations that prohibit them from having billboards on their farmland along the freeway.

Supervisor Galardi thanked the Reese family for their request and explained that staff has begun research into the matter. Community Development Director Trent explained the he will be working with Planning Consultant Foulds to research this issue.

Clerk Mosier noted that she has received other inquiries regarding the need for billboards, and often those inquiries are from local business owners.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: February statistics from the Clinton County Sheriff; letter from the Reese family requesting consideration for allowing billboard advertising along the freeways; Clerk Mosier's resignation from the Clinton County EDC/BRA; programming update from Comcast; project information from the Clinton County Road Commission.

COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS Trustee Ross reviewed the Planning Commission minutes of March 2, 2009.

Planning Comm **Ross moved, Calder seconded, to receive and place on file the Planning Commission meeting minutes of March 2, 2009. Motion voted and carried.**

Manager Taylor reported that resident Rick Nalett has reached a settlement with Consumers Energy, prior to the Planning Commission taking action on the Consumers Energy Site Plan currently under consideration.

COUNTY
COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Heideman reported on issues before the County Commissioners, including the Airport's incinerator.

Supervisor Galardi explained that the Township Board's position in this matter mirrors the position of the Planning Commission who studied the issue at length. Trustee Ross stated that in addition to his involvement of the Planning Commission review of the issue, he personally backs up to airport property and is confident that the emissions from the incinerator, .26 micrograms per liter, or parts per billion of particulate. He explained that these numbers are based on DEQ modeling at 800 degrees/24 hours a day, when the actual unit will operate at approximately 10 hours a week at a temperature about twice that of the model. He stated that the national federal ambient air quality standard is 150 parts per billion and a neighbor in the County using a burning barrel has more impact on air quality than this incinerator will have.

Supervisor Galardi stated that he is confident that our County Commissioners will pay close attention to the Planning Commission recommendation and the County's recommending committee on this issue.

Clerk Mosier questioned who will be attending the County Commissioner's Special meeting on the incinerator issue, since our Board members will be at a local visioning session.

Mosier moved, Seeger seconded, to authorize Planning Consultant Founds to attend the County Commission meeting on the airport incinerator, to represent the DeWitt Township Planning Commission's position on the issue. Motion voted and carried.

Manager Taylor explained to Commissioner Heideman that the Township needs her support for the appointment of Rich Trent to replace Clerk Mosier on the County's EDC/BRA, and that the Township will continue to pay Trent's salary as the committee's staff person.

None.

NEW BUSINESS
Strategic Plan Public
Hearing

Clerk Mosier explained that the appropriate publication for the Strategic Plan Public Hearing was not published, and needs to be rescheduled. There was no public present.

Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 13, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. prior to the adoption of the Strategic Plan. Motion voted and carried.

Resolution 090307

Mosier moved, Ross seconded, that the South Central area Plan, which was

South Central Area **adopted by Resolution of the Planning Commission on March 2, 2009, be further endorsed by the DeWitt Charter Township Board of Trustees Resolution 090307, as an amendment to the existing Comprehensive Development Plan for DeWitt Charter Township and represent the official land use policy in text and maps for the South Central Area.**

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

Set Public Hearing Commercial Rehab Exemption/Mohre **Seeger moved, Calder seconded, to set a public hearing for April 13, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., as required by Public Act 210 of 2005, the Commercial Rehabilitation Act, and based on a complete application for Commercial Rehabilitation Tax Abatement Exemption Certificate filed by Mohre Soft Water (Raymond D. Mohre) for property located at 16231 South Business US-27, to consider public comment on the proposed exemption certificate. Motion voted and carried.**

Budget Adjustments **Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to approve the following budget adjustments to the 2009 Township Budget: \$135 to 101-247-702-000 (Board of Review-Salaries) and \$15 to 101-247-705-000 (Board of Review-Benefits) both from 101-000-390-000 (General Fund Balance). Motion voted and carried.**

VOUCHERS **Musselman moved, Seeger seconded, to approve General Operating Fund Vouchers 55264 – 55321, and Tax Fund Vouchers 7051 – 7059. Motion voted and carried.**

REPORTS Community Development Director Rich Trent provided a written report of his goals and priorities that he has worked with Manager Taylor to develop. He reviewed the same with the Board.

Manager Taylor reported the following: Patrol Officer Steve Smith has filed several grievances and he is working to move these forward with the help of Attorney Cohl; the Senate has passed a joint resolution relating to how property taxes are levied (Prop A), and this will have a big impact on revenue for local units of government, certainly impacting our revenue projections, and this may be a ballot question for the voters in November; the proposed YMCA event scheduled for Granger Meadows has been cancelled; the South Central Area Plan seems to have sparked some interest with inquires coming in for possible property purchases; he and the Police Chief will be meeting with Clinton County to explore possible partnerships purchasing/utilizing police records management software; SCCMUA has the first draft of a long term CIP that should assist in future potential costs of our wastewater treatment operation, and this document will be further refined in coming months; he continues to work with resident Harke to develop an easement agreement, since some damage problems surfaced relating to recent use of the Harke property by the SCCMUA maintenance staff; he has been approached by a Wood Road resident, requesting to purchase the

Township property adjacent on Wood Road; he is working with Case Cares and the Capital Region Community Foundation to get a grant for the Miracle League Field, which will require Board support; he continues to work with the County on a non-motorized transportation plan and provided a letter of support for the same.

Manager Taylor initiated discussion regarding upcoming road projects, which will be on the agenda for the next meeting. He noted that he and Trustee Seeger met with the Road Commission, which is done annually to discuss projects, and of course funding was again the area of concern since the Road Commission's funding has not changed since 2003. Strategies for increasing funding were discussed but without funding reform, the future looks very challenging.

Manager Taylor and Supervisor Galardi initiated discussion regarding the Coleman Road proposed extension. Discussions continue with the City of East Lansing and Lansing Township to find a way to benefit all parties.

Trustee Musselman reported that he and his wife will be attending the upcoming Michigan Defining Moment meeting at the DeWitt High School. Other Board members noted that they will also attend.

Treasurer Daggy reported that we have balanced taxes with the County and sewer bills reflecting the latest increase have been mailed.

Clerk Mosier reminded the Board that DeWitt Township will hold a November election, and the possibility of an August election.

Supervisor Galardi reported that the video promoting DeWitt Township has been well received, and the realtors have requested to put it on their web site.

Supervisor Galardi thanked the Board members for their time to meet individually, and briefly reviewed discussions about direction for the future.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

ADJOURNMENT **Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor