

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820
November 12, 2013 Board Minutes

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, Trustees Johanna Balzer, Steve Musselman, Brian Ross and David Seeger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Treasurer Phyllis Daggy

Also Present: Manager Rodney Taylor, Fire Chief Fred Koos, County Commissioner Jack Enderle, Salary Compensation Commission Chair Scott Hummel, and the majority of the DeWitt Township Fire Department.

CONSENT AGENDA **Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda, which included approval of General Operating Fund Vouchers 62248 – 62298; approval of Township Board Minutes of 10/28/13; and to receive and file the Zoning Board of Appeals draft minutes of 10/16/13 and the 3rd Quarter Revenue and Expenditure Report. Motion voted and carried.**

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

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT None.

COUNTY COMM. REPORT Commissioner Enderle reported that the closing on the property for the Motz Park expansion has been scheduled. He also commented positively on the Public Art Presentation/unveiling held this afternoon at Sheridan Road and BR27.

Supervisor Galardi thanked Manager Taylor for his efforts to envision and bring this project forward, and Trustee Balzer for her participation on the Art Committee.

PRESENTATIONS Special Recognition/Life Saving Actions to Ed Brandon –DCT FD Fire Chief Koos introduced Tom Starin, with Multi Packaging Solutions (former John Henry Co), who presented the DeWitt Township Fire Department with a \$500 check recognizing their employee and DeWitt Township Firefighter Ed Brandon for his performance of life saving actions when an employee suffered a heart attack at work. He explained that Ed Brandon and a Bath Township Firefighter used CPR and an AED to resuscitate another employee, who is now recovering from the incident.

Firefighter Brandon was congratulated by the Fire Department and the Township Board for his heroic efforts which saved a life.

Salary Compensation Commission Report Salary Compensation Commission Chair, Scott Hummel, explained the Commission's Report for 2014 & 2015, which recommends a 2.75% increase in salary for the Supervisor, Clerk, & Treasurer, in 2014 and again in 2015, and a per diem increase for the Trustees of \$10 per meeting in 2014 and again in 2015. He explained that the Commission noted that no increase was given to elected officials since the 2008/2009 Report, and that this recommendation equates to less than a 1% increase per year.

Supervisor Galardi thanked the Commission for their work and commitment to this public process. A letter of thanks from the Board will be sent.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: a Thank You from the Tri-County Office on Aging for the Township's Meals on Wheels contribution; DeWitt Township Fire Department Newsletter "Burning Issues;" and the Activity Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS Manager Taylor's memo, dated November 8, 2013, reviewed the history of the Greenwood Sale of Property property, and the recent demolition on the property. He also explained that letters were sent out to six property owners to determine interest, with a second letter sent when no offers were received. He reported that one property owner has offered \$1,000 for the property, which would get the parcel back on the tax roll and improve the surrounding neighborhood.

Mosier moved, Balzer seconded, to accept the offer from Bridget Norris and Albert Swathwood to purchase 1127 Greenwood Ave in the amount of \$1,000, authorize the Township Manager to work with the Township Attorney to draw up the necessary documents, and authorize the Township Clerk to sign accordingly. Motion voted and carried.

MERS/Change of Contribution Rate For 2014 Manager Taylor pointed out that the Township is required to send these contract amendments to the Municipal Employees' Retirement System notifying them of the Supervisory and Non-Supervisory units of the Police Officers Labor Council (POLC) contribution rates for the upcoming year. Pursuant to the terms of these agreements, the rate of employee contribution for the Supervisory Unit will increase from 10.20% to 10.73%, and the Township's share will increase from 14.68% to 15.87%. The Non-Supervisory Unit's rate will increase from 4.96% to 5.01% and the Township's share will decrease from 12.68% to 12.65%, all effective January 1, 2014.

Balzer moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the two amendments to the Defined Benefit Adoption Agreement with MERS to change the employee contribution rates for the Supervisory and Non-Supervisory units of the POLC Union. Motion voted and carried.

Manager Taylor will email the dollar amounts requested by Trustee Ross.

Set Public Hearing The Board reviewed the memo from Assistant Planner Tory Niewiadomski, dated November 7, 2013, regarding the need for the Board to set a Public Hearing to consider Adoption of the Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan proposed by the Corridor Improvement Authority.

Musselman moved, Seeger seconded, to set the Public Hearing, as recommended by the Corridor Improvement Authority, for the consideration of the adoption of the Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan for December 9, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. Motion voted and carried.

REPORTS &
COMMENTS

Manager Taylor reported the following: legislation is being considered that will affect DeWitt Township by requiring rental property inspections; the State has set the 2014 Rate of Inflation at 1.6%; he has been working with Community Newspapers to try to change the DBR service area; next year the Township's Police and Fire Millage renewal will go before the voters at the August Primary Election.

Trustee Seeger noted that the last Clinton County Township Officers' Association meeting will be held on the 20th of this month at the Clinton County Road Commission at 7:00 p.m.

Clerk Mosier reported that legislation is pending to change the Freedom of Information Act. She noted that what will be in the press regarding this issue does not describe how the Township handles FOIA requests.

Supervisor Galardi thanked Trustee Balzer for her involvement in the Art Presentation today.

EXTENDED
PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Motion voted and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor