

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Road
DeWitt, MI 48820
March 26, 2012 Minutes

Supervisor Galardi called the Regular Meeting of the DeWitt Charter Township Board to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Rick Galardi, Treasurer Phyllis Daggy, and Trustees Max Calder, Steve Musselman, Brian Ross and David Seeger.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Clerk Diane Mosier

Also Present: Manager Rodney Taylor, DARA Director Clay Summers, DARA Program Coordinator Chad Stevens, Township Assessor Laura Tafelsky and Sheriff Wayne Kangas

CONSENT AGENDA **Seeger moved, Calder seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows:**

Board Minutes of 03/12/12 approved; February Revenue and Expenditure Report received and placed on file; Planning Commission draft minutes of 03/05/12 received and placed on file; and approval of General Fund Vouchers 59741 – 59781. Motion voted and carried.

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

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ralph Street –
Streetlights

Supervisor Galardi called to order the Public Hearing on the proposed Ralph Street Street Lighting District which runs east and west between Brook Road and U.S. Highway 27, BR, one block north of State Road. Manager Taylor reviewed his staff report, dated March 23, 2012, giving a brief history of the process of filing for the creation of a street lighting district and the street lighting special assessment process. He also reviewed Resolution 2012-3-7 which would establish a street light special assessment district along Ralph Street for the installation and operation of four street lights, and Resolution 2012-3-8 which would authorize Consumers Energy to install the four street lights along Ralph Street and add them to the Township/Consumers Energy Master Contract.

Virginia Greene, of 1080 Ralph Street, stated that she has lived on Ralph Street for 39 years and up until recently she has felt reasonably safe in the neighborhood but she feels there has become a lot of drug usage in the area and it is very dark on Ralph Street. She encouraged the Board to approve the resident's request so that they can feel a little safer in their neighborhood.

Brief discussion followed.

Ross moved, Calder seconded, to close the public hearing. Motion voted and carried.

Resolution 2012-3-7 **Ross moved, Daggy seconded, to adopt Resolution 2012-3-7 that would establish a special assessment street lighting district along Ralph Street for the installation and operation of street lights.**

AYES: 6 (Galardi, Daggy, Calder, Musselman, Ross, Seeger)

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 (Mosier) MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 2012-3-8 **Ross moved, Daggy seconded, to adopt Resolution 2012-3-8 that would authorize Consumers Energy to install four street lights along Ralph Street and add said street lights to the DeWitt Township/Consumer Energy master contract.**

AYES: 6 (Galardi, Daggy, Calder, Musselman, Ross, Seeger)

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 (Mosier) MOTION CARRIED.

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application Supervisor Galardi called to order the Public Hearing on the proposed Canoe/Kayak Launch at the Looking Glass Riverfront Park, located on the north side of West Herbison Road, one quarter mile east of Airport Road.

Manager Taylor stated that in order for the Township to apply for the Michigan National Resources Trust Fund Grant for this proposed project, a public hearing on the Canoe/Kayak Launch project must first be held. He provided a power point presentation on the project and reviewed his staff report, dated March 23, 2012, explaining that, if awarded, this grant would allow the Township to install an ADA accessible canoe/kayak launch, as well as remove the old dock structure and stabilize the river bank at said park. Taylor further advised that the City of DeWitt is also applying for a grant for a similar project at their park on the Looking Glass River in downtown DeWitt. This project fits within both the Township's Parks and Recreation Plan, as well as the Township's Strategic Plan.

Discussion followed regarding the uniqueness of the Township and the City of DeWitt both working on a project on the adjoining Looking Glass River Park frontages, Township's share of the cost versus monies allowed with the grant, timeline for application for the grant and start and completion of the project.

There were no public comments.

Musselman moved, Seeger seconded, to close the Public Hearing.

Resolution R 2012-3-9 **Calder moved, Ross seconded, to adopt Resolution R 2012-3-9 which would authorize the Township to apply for a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant which would allow for the installation of a Canoe/Kayak launch at the Looking Glass Riverfront Park on West Herbison Road, in DeWitt Township.**

AYES: 6 (Galardi, Daggy, Calder, Musselman, Ross, Seeger)
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 1 (Mosier) MOTION CARRIED.

COUNTY
COMM. REPORT

None present, however, Supervisor Galardi deviated from the Agenda and offered to allow Sheriff Wayne Kangas to speak at this time.

Sheriff Kangas stated that he and Chief Russell have been attending meetings regarding the 425 Agreement issues in regards to jurisdictional law enforcement issues relative to a couple of major issues: 1) which County Medical Examiner becomes involved when there is a plane crash at the airport and 2) if there is a major arrest at the airport, is it still a Clinton County matter since the airport is in Clinton County or would Lansing City Police become involved and the individual go to Ingham County for arraignment. For the most part, it would make sense that Clinton County handle these issues, rather than have three public safety departments being involved and becoming more complicated. The other agencies involved have all been very cooperative in trying to get these issues resolved.

Sheriff Kangas concluded by advising that Steve Lehman, who has been the County's Emergency Management Coordinator and the County's main representative in securing Homeland Security monies, is retiring. He will surely be missed as he has done an outstanding job. Kangas also stated that he feels there is a great working relationship between the County and DeWitt Township and complimented all the various law enforcement agencies within the County, feeling that they are all working together in getting the job done.

PRESENTATION
DARA 2011 Annual
Report

DeWitt Area Recreation Authority (DARA) Director, Clay Summers, provided a video showing the various programs that were offered by DARA during 2011 and presented the DARA 2011 Annual Report. He gave a brief review of some of the programs that are being offered for 2012 and thanked the Board for their continued support.

Lengthy discussion followed. The Board thanked Clay Summers and Chad Stevens for the great job they are doing for the community with all their efforts and services being provided in the DARA Programs.

Galardi moved, Calder seconded, to receive and place on file the 2011 DARA Annual Report. Motion voted and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: 2012 Board of Review Report from Assessor Tafelsky; Letter from Watertown Township Supervisor Deborah Adams regarding Clinton County Economic Alliance; Central Michigan 2-1-1 Statistics; Comcast Programming Update.

UNFINISHED
BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS
Res R-2012-3-5 &
Res R-2012-3-6

Manager Taylor reviewed Clerk Mosier's memo, dated March 26, 2012, pointing out that the adoption of these amendments ensures that our Township Pension Plan (for non-union employees) and the Deferred Compensation Plan remain in compliance and up-to-date with all current regulatory requirements.

Daggy moved, Calder seconded, to adopt Resolutions R-2012-3-5 and R-2012-3-6 amending the Township's Pension (for non-union employees) and Deferred Compensation Plans.

Patrick Kenrick, 13895 Schavey Road, requested a copy of both resolutions and copies were provided to him at that time.

AYES: 6 (Daggy, Calder, Galardi, Ross, Musselman, Seeger)

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 (Mosier) MOTION CARRIED.

Res R-2012-3-4
Committee/
Commission Pay

Manager Taylor reviewed Clerk Mosier's memo, dated March 23, 2012, requesting clarification of which committee/commission positions are paid positions and which are not paid positions.

Discussion followed.

Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to adopt Policy 2012-2 which states that the following Township Committee and Commission appointees shall be paid for meetings attended at a rate established from time to time by Resolution of the Board: Planning Commission, Board of Appeals, Public Safety Committee, Construction Board of Appeals, Sewer Board of Appeals, and Sister City Community Board. Other appointments shall be paid only if the designation for payment is stated in the Board's motion to appoint. Motion carried.

Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to adopt Resolution 2012-3-4 re-establishing Township Committee and Commission pay to be \$50 per meeting.

AYES: (Galardi, Seeger, Musselman, Daggy, Ross, Calder)

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 (Mosier) MOTION CARRIED.

Audit Contract -
Layton & Richardson

Ross moved, Musselman seconded, to authorize the Township Clerk to execute the contract with Layton & Richardson for audit services for the 2011 fiscal year which includes a single audit. Motion carried.

EXTENDED COMMENTS None.

REPORTS & COMMENTS Manager Taylor reported the following: the installer for the Miracle League Field has been able to start early and progress is being made; there will be a walk through for the new restroom facility at Valley Farms Park on Thursday, so the restrooms will be opening soon; looking to have a Community Build Day at the Miracle Field on Saturday, April 21st when volunteers will be utilized to get a few items taken care of such as putting together the bleachers that Case Cares purchased, getting some of the landscaping done with more details on this to follow; Habitat for Humanity will be doing a project in St. Johns this year and he has provided them with information related to properties in the southern tier of the Township to help support our continued effort for the South Central Area Revitalization Program.

Trustee Seeger reminded the Board of the Clean Community event which is being held by Clinton County Waste Management on April 21, 2012 at the County Road Commission building.

ADJOURNMENT **Seeger moved, Calder seconded, to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Martiny, Deputy Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor