

DeWitt Charter Township
1401 W. Herbison Road
DeWitt, MI 48820

January 25, 2016 Regular Meeting of the DeWitt Township Board

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Galardi with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Supervisor Rick Galardi, Clerk Diane Mosier, Treasurer Phyllis Daggy, and Trustees: Johanna Balzer, Brian Ross, and David Seeger

Members Absent: Trustee Steve Musselman

Also Present: Manager Rodney Taylor, Police Chief Brian Russell, County Commissioner Ken Mitchell; and several citizens.

Agenda

Ross moved, Balzer seconded, to approve the Agenda, changing the order of New Business and adding Closed Session to consider purchase of real property and Clinton County Road Commission/Request for tree removal. Motion voted and carried.

Consent Agenda

Seeger moved, Mosier seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: 1)approve Township Board Minutes of January 11, 2016 2)approve General Fund Vouchers 65617 – 65668 and Tax Fund Vouchers 8288 – 8307 3)receive & file Planning Commission draft minutes of January 4, 2016. Motion voted and carried.

Brief Public Comment on Agenda Items

None.

County Commissioner Report

County Commissioner Ken Mitchell updated the Board on miscellaneous Clinton County business: issues involving the County's contribution to Cristo Rey; personnel changes in the Sheriff's Office; the County's decision to do a classification and compensation study; regional recycling efforts; the Health Department receiving national accreditation which will assist in federal grant eligibility.

There was discussion about the County's efforts to change radio communications for emergency services.

Correspondence

Correspondence included the following: 2016 membership information from LEAP; Coldwell Banker 2015 4th Quarter Market Report; Foreclosure listings from Clinton County.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

R2016-01-02 Fee Schedule Amendment – Snow removal

Planner Tory Niewiadomski reviewed his memo, dated January 21, 2016, recommending an amendment to the Fee Schedule for violation of snow removal requirements.

Mosier moved, Daggy seconded, to adopt Resolution R2016-01-02 amending the 2016 Fee Schedule, to include a fee for violation of Snow Removal requirements.

AYES: Balzer, Ross, Daggy, Mosier, Galardi, Seeger

NAYS: None Motion carried.

Police Department Employment Recommendation

Police Chief Russell introduced Ethan Rennaker.

Ross moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the hiring of Ethan Rennaker as a full-time employee for the position of Police Officer, contingent upon the completion of the pre-employment physical, psychological test, and complete the background check. Motion voted and carried.

Closed Session

Ross moved, Mosier seconded, to enter into Executive Session to consider the purchase of real property and to include the attendance of Manager Taylor and Chief Russell in the session.

AYES: Seeger, Galardi, Mosier, Daggy, Ross, Balzer

NAYS: None Motion carried.

Supervisor Galardi reconvened the Regular Meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Community Center Parking Expansion/Entrance

Manager Taylor reviewed his memo dated January 22, 2016, explaining the proposed parking expansion and new entrance to the Community Center on State Road.

The information was reviewed and discussed. No action was taken.

Clinton County Road Commission – Tree Removal

Manager Taylor explained that the proposed agreement from the Clinton County Road Commission is for tree removal for the Schavey Road and pathway improvements.

The project was discussed. It was determined that the County needs to accomplish the removal of these trees to proceed with the Schavey Road project, which involves grant funding that would be at risk if not completed. Manager Taylor stated that although some trees are along Schavey Road, many are on the pathway south of the dental office on Schavey. He also explained that the Road Commission has communicated with the Schavey Road residents who will be affected.

Mosier moved, Seeger seconded, to concur with the Clinton County Road Commission's Agreement for Improvements for tree removal relating to the Schavey Road/Pathway project. Motion voted and carried.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Trustee Seeger initiated discussion regarding the role of the Public Safety Committee, an issue that was discussed at the Public Safety Committee's most recent meeting. He will continue to work with the Committee/Manager Taylor and staff on this issue.

Manager Taylor, in response to a question from Trustee Balzer, stated that violations of snow removal requirements are complaint driven. Trustee Balzer stated the following: she has heard positive comments about the new photo signs placed throughout the community; at the December Building Stronger Communities meeting, it was noted that calls to 211 have been responsive to Clinton County residents; the Zoning Board of appeals will not meet in February.

Supervisor Galardi noted that a fundraiser will be held this Friday for the Jerue family, to assist with medical expenses.

Supervisor Galardi reported that he has met with Manager Taylor, which he does annually, to discuss various job issues, goals for the future, and other relevant matters.

Clerk Mosier requested that the Township consider installation of an overhead/streetlight at the intersection of Howe and Airport Roads.

Manager Taylor reported the following: he will not be applying for the latest LEAP Art Grant; the Miracle League has requested to build a small (approx. 12 x 12) storage structure near the Miracle Field, and he has inquired about using a RESA program for construction; in the 2016 road projects, no chip sealing is planned for this year but paving projects are planned for Northway Subdivision and Springbrook Subdivision; the Wayfinding Committee will be meeting soon; he discussed BWL fees, what is paid to the Township and what BWL then passes on to the user; he does not have the POLC Union contracts, but expects to have them at the Board for approval for the next meeting; the Herbison Road pathway/sidewalk project will be funded in 2017-18-19, from Pride Drive to BR27.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeger moved, Mosier seconded, to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. Motion voted and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor