

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820  
May 23, 2016 Board Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the DeWitt Charter Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Galardi at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Rick Galardi, Clerk Diane Mosier, Treasurer Phyllis Daggy and Trustees Johanna Balzer, Steve Musselman, Brian Ross

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee David Seeger

ALSO PRESENT       Manager Rodney Taylor, Police Chief Brian Russell, and several citizens.

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

CONSENT AGENDA **Musselman moved, Ross seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda which included the following: approval of Township Board Minutes of May 9, 2016; approval of Special Board/Planning Commission Joint Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2016, approval of General Fund Vouchers of 66041-66095. Motion voted and carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT   None.

PRESENTATION       Kelly Schafer provided information about the Court Appointed Special  
CASA/Kelly Schafer   Advocates for Children program, CASA, pointing out that their program is needed because children who have experienced abuse or neglect may be involved in the court system an average of 18 to 25 months. She explained what advocates do for children and provided information about how to serve as a CASA advocate. She provided a handout to Board members explaining their mission is to provide trained citizen volunteers to advocate and to collaborate with community resources for the best interests of abused or neglected children in Clinton County.

COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER       None present.  
REPORT

CORRESPONDENCE   Correspondence included the following: Activity Report; Clinton County Sheriff April Statistics; Consumers Energy Meeting Notices; Clinton County Sheriff's Office 2016 Annual Report; MTA Membership Letter; Letter/Petitions re: Habitat for Humanity/Mayfield Drive

UNFINISHED  
BUSINESS  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading  
Preston Commercial

**Mosier moved, Daggy seconded, to approve on Second Reading, Rezoning Request 16-880001, from Preston Commercial Properties, rezoning approximately 4.26 acres from BSC (Business Shopping Center) to BC (Business, Community), as recommended by the Planning Commission.**

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

NEW BUSINESS  
Utility Agmt/B-Strong

**Musselman moved, Ross seconded, to approve the Utility Agreement with B-Strong Development on behalf of Mesa Verde Partners, LLC for the Project and authorize the Township Supervisor and Clerk to execute the same. Motion voted and carried.**

Employment Rec/  
Fire Department

**Ross moved, Balzer seconded, to hire Brandon Moon as an at will Paid-On-Firefighter, pending completion of an employment physical. Motion voted and carried.**

**Ross moved, Balzer seconded, to hire Jeffrey Moon as an at will Paid On Call Firefighter, pending completion of an employment physical. Motion voted and carried.**

2016 Summer Tax  
Collection Agmts

**Daggy moved, Balzer seconded, to approve the 2016 Summer Tax Collection Agreements, as presented, and the Supervisor and Treasurer be authorized to execute the same. Motion voted and carried.**

Herbison Road  
Pathway project

Manager Taylor reviewed his memo, dated May 20, 2016, regarding the proposed Herbison Road Pathway Project. His memo noted that this is one of the 9 remaining projects from the top 20 on the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.

Manager Taylor reviewed the map of the project and reported that a public information meeting will be held June 2, said meeting to be held jointly with our partners on this project, the City of DeWitt and the Clinton County Road Commission.

The following points were discussed: 1) this is a three year project, 2017-18-19 2) three phases in order will be Business 27 to the Township Hall, Township Hall to Turner, and then to the High School entrance at Panther Drive which will be redesigned 3) working with our partners, we have been able to successfully secure funding that would offset the cost of the pathway and repaving Herbison

Road from Old US-27 to Airport Road, with a total project cost of \$2.7 million  
4)the Township's share will be approximately \$320,000 (concrete) to be paid from 425 dollars.

Based on the estimates provided, it was the consensus of the Board that the pathway be constructed of concrete.

No action was taken, and Manager Taylor will continue to move this project forward.

Retirement/Fire  
Chief Koos

Manager Taylor reported that after 22 years of service to DeWitt Township, Fire Chief Koos has submitted his retirement notice effective March 1, 2017.

**Mosier moved, Musselman seconded, to accept the retirement letter from Fire Chief Fred Koos dated May 16, 2016, with appreciation for his 22 years. Motion voted and carried.**

**Musselman moved, Balzer seconded, to authorize the Township Clerk and Township Manager to execute the attached Retirement/Resignation Agreement and Release of Claims between the Township and Chief Fred Koos. Motion voted and carried.**

It was noted that this allows time to appropriately plan for a retirement event.

Closed Session/  
Sale of Real  
Property

Manager Taylor introduced Chris and Joann Collins who have made an offer to purchase a small section of Township property. He noted that the discussion should be held in closed session.

COMMENTS

Supervisor Galardi called for comments before the Board adjourns to Closed Session.

Fay Hagy, 1745 Clark Road, commented positively on the new cemetery fence. She also initiated a brief discussion about the excellent maintenance of the Township cemeteries. Trustee Balzer and Clerk Mosier also commented on the staff's excellent maintenance of the cemeteries. Clerk Mosier will handle some sort of recognition to recognize this effort.

Police Chief Russell stated that the Township has 258 streets to patrol, and some have speed issues. He reported what his department is doing to address these issues.

Manager Taylor reported on the recent discussion with Bath Township to address the sewer odor issues near Herbison and Wood Roads.

Trustee Ross reported that the Next Michigan meeting will be held Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:30.

Trustee Balzer reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals met last week and that she has received some positive comments about the graphic community signs.

Clerk Mosier reported on ongoing election business.

Trustee Musselman reported on Sister City happenings.

Closed Session/Sale  
of Real Property

**Balzer moved, Musselman seconded, to adjourn to Closed Session to discuss the sale of real property.**

**AYES: Musselman, Galardi, Mosier, Daggy, Ross, Balzer**

**NAYS: None**

Supervisor Galardi reconvened the Regular Meeting.

**Mosier moved, Ross seconded, to authorize Manager Taylor to continue to negotiate on the sale of real property with Chris and Joann Collins. Motion voted and carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

**Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor