

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820  
February 23, 2015 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, Treasurer Phyllis Daggy, and Trustees Johanna Balzer, Brian Ross, and David Seeger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Stephen Musselman

ALSO PRESENT           Manager Rodney Taylor, Police Chief Brian Russell, County Commissioner Ken Mitchell, numerous DeWitt Township Fire Fighters and several citizens.

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

CONSENT AGENDA       **Seeger moved, Daggy seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda, which included approval of General Operating Fund Vouchers 14160 - 14210 and Tax Fund Vouchers 8145 – 8155; approval of Township Board Minutes of February 9, 2015; and Planning Commission Draft meeting minutes of February 2, 2015. Motion voted and carried.**

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT       None.

PRESENTATION           Firefighter John Braska provided details relevant to the award presentations. He explained that Patrol Officers Wesley Greemen and Monica Lee, and Lansing Mercy Ambulance employees Joe Cleminson and Robert Zeineh, provided assistance above and beyond the call of duty July 9<sup>th</sup> at a Eskes Street residential fire. Patrol Officer Kyle Kolka and K-9 partner Ares were recognized for their participation in a Fire Department presentation to the Japanese Sister City student exchange event.

Supervisor Galardi stated that the working relationship between Township departments, and in this case the Police and Fire Departments, is a model for other communities, and the residents of DeWitt are the benefactors. He thanked the numerous public safety staff present for their dedication and professionalism in their service to the community.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER       Commissioner Ken Mitchell provided information about current County Commissioner business. He also thanked the Board for their dedicated service to the community.

CORRESPONDENCE       Correspondence included the following: information on the upcoming statewide ballot proposal from the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks; a memo from Fire Chief Koos regarding the increase in incident responses for January 2015; Port Lansing E-Newsletter; Activity Report; January Statistics from the Clinton County Sheriff; Legislative Update from State Legislator

Tom Leonard; notice from the Clinton County Drain Commissioner regarding Turkey Creek Drain; information from SCCMUA Attorney regarding SCCMUA's ability to issue debt; Solid Waste Management Plan Update from the Clinton County Waste Management Department; Thank You from Community Mental Health.

UNFINISHED  
BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS  
Feral Cats/Discussion

Police Chief Russell reviewed his memo which provided information regarding problems and possible solutions to feral cat infestations, which have been reported in specific areas of the Township. He stated that there have been complaints, but not widespread, and there appears to be a problem in the Turner/Herbison Road area, some of the mobile home communities, and he fears that it might get worse due to some residents feeding the feral cats. He initiated discussion about other communities experiencing this problem, and solutions they have attempted to implement, including adoption of local ordinances to prohibit feeding feral cats. The Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program was also discussed.

Clerk Mosier shared her personal experience with feral cats in her neighborhood.

Manager Taylor will attempt to get additional information about how widespread this is within DeWitt Township and what, if anything, can be done by the Township.

R2015-02-04  
Utilities/Sewer  
Ord Amd 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Manager Taylor explained the need to amend the Sewer Use Ordinance in his memo, dated February 20, 2015. He explained that SCCMUA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit is regulated by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). He noted that at SCCMUA, there is currently excess capacity in four specific types of "compatible" pollutants: 1)Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), 2)Total Suspended Solids (TSS), 3)Ammonia Nitrogen, and 4)Total Phosphorus. He explained that a Special Allocation Limit (SAL) could be approved by the MDEQ to allow approved industrial users to discharge additional "compatible" pollutants. He explained the pros and cons of establishing a SAL program, noting that this proposed amendment, should it be adopted by the four constituent municipalities, establishes the SAL. He also explained that the proposed Resolution establishes a Wastewater Discharge Ordinance Delegation Agreement, delegating SCCMUA to administer and enforce programs such as the Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) and the SAL.

The amendment was discussed at length. It was also noted that Wastewater Discharge Ordinance Delegation Agreement does not change anything that SCCMUA has already been doing for 40 years, it simply codifies and clarifies the relationship that already exists.

**Mosier moved, Ross seconded, to adopt Resolution 2015-02-04 that approves the introduction and First Reading of the Amendment to Chapter 40 – Utilities, Article II – Sewers, and to authorize the Township Clerk to execute the Wastewater Discharge Ordinance Delegation Agreement between the Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority, Bath Township, the City of DeWitt, and Watertown Township.**

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

REPORTS

Police Chief Russell stated that he has always been impressed with the great working relationship and cooperation between the Police, Fire, and EMS personnel here in the Township, which has not always been the case in previous communities where he was employed.

Manager Taylor reported the following: discussions are taking place about creating a Historic District in the Gunnisonville area; a joint meeting with the Planning Commission is being scheduled, and the fourth Monday in March has been suggested; he reviewed the changes being implemented for the Clean Sweep program scheduled for the month of May, with some drop off on the first Saturday of May; May 7<sup>th</sup> is the date for the Community Business Awards at Hawk Hollow; the Township has again been awarded the Distinguished Budget Award.

Trustee Ross reported that the Next Michigan Development Corporation/Leap Partnership has reduced its meeting schedule to two meetings per year.

Trustee Balzer reported that she heard praise from a resident for Officer Monica Lee for her work with an autistic son of that resident. She also reported that the Center for Michigan/Community Conversations has been locally scheduled for April 15<sup>th</sup>.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

ADJOURNMENT **Seeger moved, Mosier seconded, to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor