

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820
February 10, 2014 Board Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the DeWitt Charter Township Board was called to order by Clerk Mosier at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Clerk Diane Mosier, Treasurer Phyllis Daggy, Trustees Johanna Balzer, Brian Ross and David Seeger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Supervisor Rick Galardi and Trustee Steve Musselman

Also Present: Manager Rodney Taylor, Police Chief Brian Russell, Assistant Planner Tory Niewiadomski and several citizens.

Mosier moved, Daggy seconded, to authorize Trustee Ross to Chair the meeting in the absence of the Supervisor. Motion voted and carried.

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

CONSENT AGENDA **Seeger moved, Balzer seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda, which included approval of General Operating Fund Vouchers 62576 - 62641 and Tax Fund Vouchers 7932 – 7943; and approval of Township Board Minutes of 01/27/14 with a correction under Reports/Comments/Trustee Ross. Motion voted and carried.**

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT Alberta Coon, 1330 Northcrest Road, stated that she would like to complain about her road, which was worked on but not restored properly, since they now have bumps from the road into their drive and holes in the road like the one at Northcrest and BR27. She provided her phone number and Manager Taylor will contact her with information about her road.

COUNTY COMM. REPORT None present.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: a letter from Officer James Terrill regarding his employment at the Township and also his notice of retirement; Activity Reports.

Clerk Mosier initiated discussion regarding Officer Terrill's retirement.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS Assistant Planner Niewiadomski reviewed his staff report and Planning Commission Step II Review/ recommendation for Step II Review of the Crowner Farms Phase II Condominiums project. Crowner Farms Ph II Discussion included clarification on the future plans for the Homeowners Association,

Site Condos whether streetlighting needs to be turned back on, and how the Property Maintenance Code will affect the need to maintain vacant lots. Tom Motz, (Motz Homes Inc.) applicant and owner/developer of Crowner Farms was present and participated in the discussion. He explained that it is his intention to combine all Phases of the development to eventually have one homeowner's association.

Mosier moved, Daggy seconded, to approve, as recommended by the Planning Commission, Step II for the Crowner Farms Phase II Condominiums project, applicant/owner/developer Tom Motz, Motz Homes, Inc., based on the plans last revised on November 15, 2013, subject to the following conditions: 1)the final plan shall indicate the presence of streetlights and street trees that meets the requirements of Section 20-301(15) of the Subdivision Control Ordinance 2)the Master Deed shall be subject to review prior to final plan approval, and shall include provisions for assuring that the Condominium Association can adequately maintain open spaces and other common areas 3)the applicant shall comply with the requirements of all reviewing and permitting agencies. Motion voted and carried.

Appointments/
Election Common Clerk Mosier explained that there may also be the need to open Lansing School District precincts in May, which will be determined before the February 25th filing deadline.

Mosier moved, Daggy seconded, to concur with the Supervisor's appointment of Trustee Balzer and Trustee Seeger to the Election Commission, effective February 10, 2014. Motion voted and carried.

Alltel Lease Amdt **Seeger moved, Balzer seconded, to authorize the Township Clerk and the Township Manager to execute the Fifth Addendum to the Lease Agreement between the Charter Township of DeWitt and Alltel Communications Wireless for addition to equipment on the Township's water tower. Motion voted and carried.**

Police/Fire Millage/
August Primary Clerk Mosier explained that this is the year for renewal of the Township's Police and Fire Millage which is generally presented to the voters in the Primary Election of the Governor's election year. She initiated discussion on the following: 1)renewal or increase? 2)duration of levy, four years or eight years?

Discussion determined consensus for renewal of the one mill for police and one mill for fire – presented as one question, which is the status quo since the late 60's. There was some support for a 8 year duration, but general consensus was that all members could support the four year renewal, which is also status quo since the late 60's. Clerk Mosier will return with language drafted consideration at the next meeting. She will communicate with Supervisor Galardi and Trustee Musselman about the Board's discussion.

Members of the public present expressed their thought that the status quo should be maintained for the millage. Faye Hagy stated that she could be persuaded to vote for an increase, because Public Safety is important to her.

Strategic Plan Update Manager Taylor explained that he would like the Board to be prepared to discuss the update of the Strategic Plan at the February 24, 2014 Board meeting.

REPORTS &
COMMENTS Manager Taylor reported the following: Fire Chief Koos is on medical leave; the tentative date for a joint Planning Commission/Township Board meeting is March 31st, the fifth Monday of the month.

Trustee Seeger reported on his attendance at the MTA Conference.

Trustee Balzer reported attending the LUHRT (Land Use and Health Resource Team) meeting with about 40 people in attendance. She reported the following: DeWitt Township is either already doing or in the process of doing many of the recommendations coming from LUHRT. However, approximately 9% of Clinton County residents do not live in safe, healthy, affordable housing. That number is not broken down by township, but DeWitt Township has many people that would fall into that category. The standard is that no more than 30% of household income should be spent on housing.

Treasurer Daggy reported that Friday is not just Valentine's Day, but the last business day for payment of winter property taxes without penalty.

Clerk Mosier reported that the Township Newsletter will be going out about March 1st.

Faye Hagy, 1745 E. Clark Road, stated that she is thankful for the Vision Collision business here in the Township. She had recent occasion to use their service and was very pleased.

ADJOURNMENT **Seeger moved, Balzer seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor