

**ANN ARBOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2009**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Ann Arbor Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Moran at 7:33 p.m. at the Township Hall, 3792 Pontiac Trail, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48105.

Present: Supervisor Michael Moran, Clerk Rena Basch, Treasurer Della DiPietro, Trustees John Allison, Randolph Perry, Richard Dieterle, and Claudia Sedmak.

Also Present: Township Attorney Sandra Sorini Elser, Fire Chief Rick Ericson, Utilities Superintendent Rick Judkins, and Zoning Official John Hamlin.

II. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

No citizen signed up for participation.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Corrections to the 2/16/09 minutes: On page 3 in the second paragraph in the first line insert “owner’s” before “October” and in the second line after “but” insert “that there was”. On page 4 under item F. add “due to decline in property values” at the end of the second sentence. **DiPietro moved approval of the February 16, 2009 meeting minutes as amended. Basch seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

IV. ANNUAL MEETING WITH WASHTENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Steve Puuri Managing Director along with the Board of Road Commissioners and staff presented the WCRC’s summary of activities for local and primary roads, routine maintenance, and projects for 2008. Puuri also summarized the WCRC’s 2008 budget which was down by 3% from 2007 and another 5% reduction is expected for 2009. Puuri provided a summary of the WCRC’s preventative maintenance plan and the 5 year capital improvement plan for major investments. Eric Long presented an estimate for this year’s road improvement projects for the Township, and Jim Harmon provided the Board with an estimate for dust control. Moran and Allison stressed that Clark Road east of ~~HogbackDixboro~~ Road and Pontiac Trail south of the Township Hall are in very bad condition and in need of immediate repair. Dieterle also noted Maple Road is in poor condition. Harmon advised the Board that they need to decide on the local road projects by the middle of May.

V. ANNEXATIONS, ORDINANCES, CONDITIONAL USES, ZONING

A. Adoption of the International Property Maintenance Code Ordinance

Hamlin said he examined a number of community ordinances and spent time with Pittsfield Township’s ordinance enforcement officer. Hamlin explained what is proposed is a 2 year cycle with inspection and re-certification every 2 years, and allowing 18 months for existing structures to comply with the code. Hamlin added there are no state qualifications for inspectors. Ericson said the fire department allows 2 years for compliance and he would like to see some consistency between the ordinances. Perry recommended some language revision under section 104.2 and questioned whether the fee schedule was enough to cover the cost of inspections. The Township

attorney recommended tabling the matter due to the number of concerns raised tonight. **Allison moved to table. Dieterle seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

B. Construction within Rights of Way Ordinance

The Township attorney explained that utility companies can install underground utilities in rights of way without the Township's permission. The Township Attorney said the Utilities Director is concerned these companies may damage the Township's water and sewer lines. The proposed ordinance will provide notice to the Township and require the utility companies to obtain a permit for any work done in the right of way. Judkins said his goal is to protect the Township's water and sewer lines and recoup any costs incurred by the Township. Perry expressed concern the ordinance may be too broad and may affect homeowners' work in the right of way. Perry added the Township may be imposing another layer of regulation by charging fees in addition to the WCRC's fees. The Board decided to add Utility Director to the text under sections 50-4, 50-5 and 50-8. **Allison moved to approve the Construction in Right of Way Ordinance on first reading with modifications discussed tonight. Perry seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

C. Storm Water Management Ordinance

Moran said he does not expect the Board to take action on this matter tonight but he wanted to share his concerns about the ordinance. Moran said he agrees that certain measures need to be taken in filing a site plan; however he thought the ordinance was too wordy, and much longer than needed. Allison provided background on the planning commission's development of the ordinance. Moran said the ordinance re-enacts much of the site plan ordinance and he would like a developer to obtain all required information from one document. Perry noted the ordinance applies to preliminary plats and the requirements for preliminary plats may not be the same for site plans. Moran and Basch agreed to attempt to shorten the ordinance while the Township attorney researched the requirements for preliminary plats. **DiPietro moved to table the storm water management ordinance. Basch seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

VI. APPOINTMENTS, RESOLUTION, REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS

A. Utilities Department

Judkins submitted a written report to the Board. Judkins also reported on the Clark Road PRV/Meter Station, state of infrastructure reports, and the department's capital improvement plan.

B. Resolution

Moran explained this resolution involves the new water main connection at Clark Road. Moran said water pressure is currently in excess of 65 PSI. Moran indicated in order to correct the water pressure, a pressure reducing valve, metering and above ground facility and other equipment is needed. **Allison moved to authorize the Township not to exceed \$35,000 for placing the needed pressure reducing valve, metering and other equipment in an above ground facility. DiPietro seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

C. Public Safety

1. Fire Department

Ericson reported he will be taking a medical leave for 8 weeks due to surgery starting April 6, 2009.

2. Sheriff Department

Sergeant P. Cook submitted a written report to the Board.

D. Resolution

The Township attorney said she consulted with Mr. ~~Brownedman~~ and he doesn't know of anything that prohibits approval of a loan by the Board for the EDC. The Township attorney advised the Board they need to decide which fund to borrow from and the interest rate to impose.

Perry moved approval of the resolution authorizing a loan for EDC organizational expenses from the utility's fund at an interest rate of 4% per annum. DiPietro seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

E. Discussion regarding amendment of PDR Ordinance

Moran explained last month the board authorized the payment of \$25 for Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board members. Moran said the PDR ordinance doesn't allow payment to board members and would require an amendment to the ordinance. Moran indicated he would bring the amendment to the Board next month if everyone was in agreement to amend the ordinance.

F. Resolution – Participation Agreement in MERS Health Savings

Moran explained under the MERS plan the Township would agree to pay \$25 per member which is the basic administrative cost of the plan and the Township would have no other obligation. The fire fighters have agreed to pay a minimum \$5 per month per person into the plan with maximum being 100% of compensation. In addition, at the time a fire fighter severs their relationship with the Township they can roll over some or all of their banked time into the health care saving plan which then can be used to reimburse them for out of pocket expenses.

Perry moved approval of the participation agreement in the MERS Health Savings Plan subject to changes discussed tonight and subject to attorney review. DiPietro seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

G. Supervisor's Report

Moran reported there has been a lot of discussion regarding the proposed park and ride lot and whether the property is in the Township or City. Moran said it appears the Township released the parcel to the City back in the 60's upon petition by someone who didn't own it. Moran said he will continue to follow up on the park and ride issue. Moran reported the Board of Review held 60 hearings and reduced about 60-70% of appeals. Moran also reported the Township lost 20 million in taxable value due to 2008 annexations, and he has been appointed to the MTA legislative committee and to the finance subcommittee of the police services committee.

H. Clerk's Report

Basch reported she sent the recent ordinances to Municode for the first supplement, and the Election Commission met to consolidate precincts for the school board election.

I. Treasurer's Report

DiPietro submitted a written report to the Board. DiPietro requested United Bank and Trust Washtenaw to be added as an approved bank. **Allison moved approval of investing in United Bank and Trust Washtenaw. Basch seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

J. Planning Commission

Allison reported on the Planning Commission meeting held on March 2, 2009. The minutes were included in the Board's packets.

K. Building Department

Hamlin reported the Township owns a barn that is in need of repair. Hamlin also reported he continues to hear complaints from neighbors of Solid Rock Church. The City of Ann Arbor has started renovations on the wastewater treatment plant, and Dale Newman appealed the dangerous building ruling.

L. Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board

Allison reported there was no meeting for lack of a quorum.

M. Approval of Claims Listing

Allison moved approval of the claims listing for February 17, 2009 through March 2, 2009 in the amount of \$129,592.54. Basch seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously. Basch moved approval of the claims listing for March 11, 2009 in the amount of \$35,194.41. Dieterle seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

VII. INFORMATIONAL ONLY ITEMS

Items were included in the Board's packets.

VIII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

X. ADJOURNMENT

DiPietro moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 p.m. Allison seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.