

**ANN ARBOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES OF MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2009**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Ann Arbor Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Treasurer DiPietro at 7:35 p.m. at the Township Hall, 3792 Pontiac Trail, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48105.

Present: Clerk Rena Basch, Treasurer Della DiPietro, Trustees John Allison, Randolph Perry, and Claudia Sedmak.

Absent: Supervisor Michael Moran and Trustee Richard Dieterle.

Also Present: Township Attorney Sandra Sorini Elser, Controller Jerry Kruse and Fire Chief Rick Ericson.

II. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Catherine Braun inquired about the status of the PDR purchase of her property.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Corrections to the 9/21/09: On page 1 under item IV. A. strike the sixth and seventh sentences and insert "DiPietro said that a site plan requirement is too burdensome for the owner of a 5,000 square foot house and recommended it be increased to 6,000 square feet." **Perry moved to approval of the September 21, 2009 meeting minutes as amended. Basch seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

IV. 2010 BUDGET

Kruse presented the 2010 draft budget. Kruse provided the Board with an explanation section of each fund to aid the Board in their review. Kruse said he had to make some assumptions as to wages because there has been no action by the personnel committee. Kruse indicated the estimate for state revenue sharing has not been finalized, and he believes the revenues will be less than expected. The Board reviewed the general fund, public safety fund, fire fund, building department fund, street lighting fund, capitol improvements for fire fund, land preservation fund and utility fund. Kruse answered questions raised by the Board. **Sedmak moved to set a public hearing for the 2010 draft budget for November 16, 2009. Allison seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

V. ANNEXATIONS, ORDINANCES, CONDITIONAL USES, ZONING

A. Ayrshire Special Assessment District

The Township Engineer provided a report to the Utilities committee showing that the cost of the Ayrshire sanitary sewer project came in \$2445.49 less than the original estimate, for a new total of 421,439.51. Perry reported the Utilities Committee reviewed the outstanding bills for construction of the sanitary sewer, and concluded the Township will be within a few hundred dollars of the original estimate. Perry said the Utilities Committee recommends the Board defer making any changes to the special assessment roll and not to set a public hearing. The Board accepted the recommendation.

B. Annexation

DiPietro reported Jack and Brenda Cronin are requesting release of parcel I-09-35-165-002 in order to connect to City of Ann Arbor utilities. DiPietro said the property owners have paid

their 2009 summer taxes however they have not paid their 2008 summer and winter taxes and are delinquent with the County. DiPietro said it has always been Township policy not to release a parcel unless taxes are paid. **Sedmak moved to table the petition for annexation from Jack and Brenda Cronin until the issue of back taxes is resolved between the Township and County treasurers. Allison seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

VI. APPOINTMENTS, RESOLUTIONS, REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS

A. 2010 Water and Sewer Connection Fees

Allison reported the increases in connection fees are a reflection of increases passed on by the City of Ann Arbor. Allison said the City had a modest increase in tap fees effective July 2009 however the Township waited until their equity calculations were completed by the Township controller. Allison indicated group one rates for water and sewer will increase and group 2 rates for water and sewer will decrease slightly. Allison said the Utilities Committee recommends the rate increase effective October 20, 2009. **Allison moved to accept the Utilities Committee recommendation to establish new water and sewer connection fees commencing October 20, 2009. Perry seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

B. Utilities Department Monthly Report

Judkins submitted a written report to the Board.

C. Public Safety

1. Fire Department

Ericson reported he has encouraged all fire fighters to receive the H1N1 vaccine which is offered free through the county health department. Ericson said he needs to contact the new president of the Village of Barton Hills regarding low hanging branches along roadways. Ericson reported that Thomas Braun set his old barn on fire in violation of code, and he reported on a serious dirt bike crash.

2. Sheriff Department

Sergeant P. Cook submitted a written report to the Board

D. PA 116 Application

DiPietro reported the Township has not heard from all other governmental agencies regarding Pardon's PA 116 application and recommended deferring any action until their November meeting.

E. Supervisor's Report

Moran submitted a written report to the Board.

F. Clerk's Report

Basch reported on the Michigan Non-Entitlement Community Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Eligible Activities and presented a resolution to apply for the grant program. Basch recommending applying for technical consulting services, building energy audits, energy efficiency retrofits, and renewable energy technologies on government buildings grants. The Board added a provision authorizing the Clerk to submit the grant application. **Allison moved to approve the resolution to apply for Michigan Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program as amended. Sedmak seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

Basch updated the board on the November 3rd WISD millage election and reported the new Minutes On Demand software is up and running on the Township website. Basch reported the Verdura project is holding a community meeting on October 20th at 7:00 pm. She reported the Township has received a number of request permitting backyard chickens in residential areas. Basch said the City of Ann Arbor issues permits with neighbor approval. Basch also conferred with John Hamlin who feels that there are many ambiguities in our ordinances regarding farm animals and pets. Basch said this raises many issues and would like the Board's feedback on how to proceed. Sedmak said she has concerns in residential areas, but may be in favor of allowing residents to have chickens. Perry had concerns about the licensing procedure used by the City and would like to look into handling backyard chickens as a zoning matter. The Board decided to defer to the planning commission for further review and discussion. **Basch moved to refer the issue of backyard chickens in residential areas to the planning commission and zoning administrator for further investigation. Perry seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

G. Treasurer's Report

DiPietro submitted a written report to the Board.

H. Planning Commission

Allison reported on the Planning Commission meeting held on October 5, 2009. The minutes were included in the Board's packets.

I. Building Department

Hamlin submitted a written activity report to the Board. Hamlin requested a reduction in some of the fees for rental inspections to accurately reflect the cost of conducting inspections and managing paperwork. **Perry moved approval of the resolution of revised fine and fee schedule for the International Property Maintenance Code. Basch seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

J. Farmland Preservation Committee

Allison reported on the FOSPB meeting held on September 29, 2009.

K. Approval of Claims Listings

Allison moved approval of the claims listings for October 1, 2009 in the amount of \$86,467.97. Sedmak seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously. Sedmak moved approval of the claims listings for October 14, 2009 in the amount of \$85,645.31 Basch seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

VII. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS - Items were included in the Board's packets.

VIII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Catherine Braun commented that the sheriff is much more visible in the community. She expressed some concern regarding hobos walking along the rails near their property.

X. ADJOURNMENT – Basch moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m.