

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
16101 Brook Road, Lansing, MI 48906  
May 13, 2013 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. Supervisor Galardi commented on the season opener for the Miracle Field, which was held prior to the meeting. He commented that this project has been a significant change to the community and one all should be very proud to have located in the Township.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Rick Galardi, Clerk Diane Mosier, and Trustees Johanna Balzer, Steve Musselman, Brian Ross and David Seeger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Treasurer Phyllis Daggy

Also Present: Manager Rodney Taylor, County Commissioner Eileen Heideman, Firefighter Craig King, Police Officer Jason Jones (arrived late) and several citizens.

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

CONSENT AGENDA **Balzer moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda, which included approval of General Operating Fund Vouchers 61433 - 61528; approval of Township Board Minutes of 04/22/13; receive and file the Zoning Board of Appeals draft minutes of 4/17/13; receive and file the 2013 Revenue and Expenditure Report for 2013 First Quarter. Motion voted and carried.**

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT None.

COUNTY COMM. REPORT Commissioner Heideman reported that the Clinton County Agricultural Preservation program has been put on hold.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: legislative update from Representative Tom Leonard; Activity Report; Fire Department Burning Issues Newsletter; Central Michigan 211; information from Treasurer Daggy regarding the 2005/2006 Personal Property Taxes; Assessor Tafelsky correspondence to and from Lola Buckingham; from Clinton County Clerk/Register of Deeds/Zuker re: deeds and online access; May 7<sup>th</sup> Election results.

Clerk Mosier explained that the Library Board has some difficult decision to make in the very near future, relating to the recent election results. She provided a brief explanation of items being considered.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS  
Amd to Codified Ord Zoning/Mixed Use Second Reading was delayed for publication.

Rezoning Ord/Rathke IL to AG Second Reading was delayed for publication

Property Maintenance Code/Property Maint Code Ord/Violations Bureau Second Reading delayed.

NEW BUSINESS Panther Drive-Petition To Public Road Manager Taylor reviewed his staff report, dated May 13,2013, for the proposed conversion of Panther Drive to a public rather than the current private road, as petitioned by the property owners. The report outlines the process to date, and what needs to happen to complete the conversion of Panther Drive to a public road, assessing the costs to bring the road to public standards.

**Balzer moved, Mosier seconded, to adopt Resolution 2013-05-07, authorizing staff to proceed with the process to improve and accept Panther Drive as a Public Road, and Resolution 2013-05-08, defining the properties for special assessment and setting public hearing for notice of the same.**

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

Refinancing Bonds R2013-05-09 Manager Taylor explained the refinancing of the bonds (Twp Hall, Community Center) which will save approximately \$92,000 before the payoff date in 2020.

**Mosier moved, Ross seconded, to adopt Resolution 2013-05-09, authorizing the refinancing of the 1998 Unlimited Tax General Obligation Bonds.**

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

Exterior Lighting Retrofits Manager Taylor's memo, dated May 10, 2013, explained the conversion of Township Hall and Community Center Lighting to LED lights and the costs, payback, and incentives relating to the change.

**Ross moved, Balzer seconded, to approve the following budget adjustment for the replacement of exterior lighting at the Township Hall and Community Center: \$6,250 to 101-263-977-000 (Community Center –Capital) , and \$9,000 to 101-265-977-000 (Township Hall Capital) from 101-000-390-000 (General Fund Bal) and to authorize the Township Clerk to execute the contracts with ATI Group. Motion voted and carried.**

Summer Tax Agmts Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to approve the 2013 Summer Tax Agreements, as presented, and authorize the Supervisor and Treasurer to execute the same. Motion voted and carried.

Resignation/Planning Commission **Galardi moved, Ross seconded, to accept with regret, the resignation of Kimberly Smelker from the Planning Commission, effective April 3, 2013. Motion voted and carried.**

Acceptance of Parcel 1127 Greenwood Budget Adjustment Manager Taylor reviewed his memo, dated May 10, 2013, which explained that a parcel of land was purchased “by mistake” at a foreclosure auction, with said property badly blighted. He explained that our Code Official has recently sent the owner a letter about the state of the property. The owners have asked that they quick claim deed the parcel back to the County, State or Township, and since it appears that this badly blighted structure will eventually come back to the Township, he is requesting that we accept the property and demolish the structure in the interest of public safety.

Discussion determined that there seems to be no easy solution to this situation, but in the interest of the community, something needs to be done.

**Mosier moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the following budget adjust relating to the property located at 1127 Greenwood: \$22,000 to 101-265-977-000 (Twp Hall-Capital) from 425 General Fund Balance, and authorize the Township Manager to work with the Township Attorney to acquire and demo the home at 1127 Greenwood. Motion voted and carried.**

## REPORTS

Firefighter King reported that the new rescue vehicle has been received. He also noted concern with the detention/retention area near the Miracle Field, suggesting that it may need to be fenced.

Police Officer Jason Jones reported that the new officers are being processed into the department.

Manager Taylor reported the following: provided an update on the status of Treasurer Daggy’s recovery; noted that he continues to work on the Blight Elimination Grant Project; we will be filling the seasonal maintenance position soon, provided an update on the Art project for Sheridan/BR 27; Plant Professionals, a Township business, has offered to maintain the landscape at the Sheridan/BR 27 location.

Trustee Ross provided information regarding upcoming meeting with SCCMUA, Next Michigan, and DARA, noting that DARA has begun their Strategic Planning process.

Trustee Balzer noted that the Creating Entrepreneurial Community Business Awards was successful and a worthwhile program. She also noted that the next Gunnisonville History Preservation meeting will be May 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. She shared her experience attending the Michigan Township’s Association Legislative Day .

Clerk Mosier requested an update on the proposed BR 27 MDOT project.

EXTENDED None  
COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor