

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Rd. DeWitt, MI
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 26, 2010

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, Trustees: Max Calder, Steve Musselman, Brian Ross, and David Seeger

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Also Present: Community Development Director (CDD) Rich Trent; County Commissioners Robert Showers and Eileen Heideman(arrived late) and several citizens.

AGENDA **Mosier moved, Calder seconded, to approve the Agenda, adding additional correspondence. Motion voted and carried.**

MINUTES **Musselman moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2010 Regular Board meeting, as presented. Motion voted and carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS None.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT Commissioner Showers updated the Board on actions of the Clinton County Board of Commissioners. He and Supervisor Galardi initiated discussion about Capital Region International Airport, plans to assist them with their desire to enhance their cargo business, and possible Clinton County representation in airport governance.

PUBLIC HEARING Corridor Improvement Authority Supervisor Galardi called to order the Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m.
CDD Trent provided a presentation outlining details of formation of a Corridor Improvement Authority, and what possibilities exist for use of captured tax dollars.

The following residents and/or business owners spoke asking questions regarding the proposed Corridor Improvement Authority: Scott Randall, Red Line Auto; Mark Watros, Michigan Off Road; Rose Mae Mason with Clinton Transit.

Scott Randall, owner of Redline Auto, 16040 US 27. asked questions which lead to a discussion about expansion about policing powers. Supervisor Galardi explained that we are in the process of establishing a property maintenance code, which should help address issues previously identified by residents in the southern tier relating to upkeep of properties, unsightly junk, junk vehicle storage, etc.

Ernest Timko, 407 W. Dill Drive, requested that an evaluation be done to determine what the corridor needs. He stated that some of the street improvements he has seen involve trees, which often block business signs, something that could hinder success of business in the area of the southern tier. He pointed out that he owns investment property in the southern tier, and does not

want to be forced to make improvements to the property until the time is right for him to capitalize on his investment.

Mark Watros, owner of Michigan Off Road, 16214 S. US 27, pointed out that these are bad economic times, and businesses in the area are struggling, and this would not be a good time to make further demands of business owners.

Rose Mae Mason, Clinton Transit, stated that she believes this would be, in the long term, an investment which will, at some point, bring in additional tax dollars.

Butch Mohre, owner of Mohre Soft Water, stated that this area needs help, or a “shot in the arm” so he says “let’s do it”. He pointed out that it has to begin somewhere and we can only change the future, not the past.

CDD Trent’s Staff Report, dated July 21, 2010, provided an overview of the background and next steps in the formation of a Corridor Improvement Authority.

Mosier moved, Seeger seconded, to adjourn the Public Hearing at 8:46 p.m. Motion voted and carried.

Discussion determined that the corridor in the southern tier will not be the “Pleasantville” shown in the example pictures, but could see significant change if dollars could be captured and reinvested in the area. No action was taken, and the issue is scheduled to be before the Board for action on September 27, 2010.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: invitation to the Appreciation Picnic; Activity Report; and email from Jim McGinn regarding the Meadows Celebration; DeWitt Township Fire Department Burning Issues Newsletter; Meadows sponsor thank you letter and sponsor list; information from the Michigan Township’s Association on gravel pit litigation; a draft of the proposed Medical Marijuana Ordinance.

COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS **Calder moved, Mosier seconded, to receive and place on file the draft minutes of the Planning Commission meeting of July 6, 2010. Motion voted and carried.**
Planning Comm

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS CDD Trent reviewed his memo dated July 20, 2010.

SUP10-990002 **Musselman moved, Calder seconded, to approved, based on a unanimous recommendation of the Planning Commission, Special Use Permit 10-990002 from Soldan’s Feeds and Pet Supplies to display and sell metal accessory structures on the property located at 12286 US 27, DeWitt, Michigan, on the following basis: 1)upon compliance with the conditions of the Special Use Permit, the plans will comply with the standards of the Basis for**
Soldan’s

Determination listed in Section 7.4.3 of the Zoning Ordinance 2)that the applicant confine the display and sales of accessory metal structures to the 21 feet by 67 feet area (1407 square feet) as indicated on the conceptual site plan submitted on May 4, 2010 3)that the display area as described in item number two (2) above, be located and restricted to the area south and west of the existing pole sign as described on the submitted conceptual site plan dated May 4, 2010. Motion voted and carried. Motion voted and carried.

Financial Services **Ross moved, Musselman seconded, to authorize the Township Clerk to execute the Financial Services Contract with Abraham & Gaffney. Motion voted and carried.**
Contract-Abraham & Gaffney

Local Dial Tone Serv- **Calder moved, Ross seconded, to authorize the Township Clerk to execute the contract with Westphalia Broadband (WBI) to provide local and long Westphalia Broadband the contract with Westphalia Broadband (WBI) to provide local and long distance service at the Township Hall and Fire Station #2. Motion voted and carried.**

VOUCHERS **Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to approve General Operating Fund Vouchers 57333 – 57403 & Tax Fund Vouchers 7218 – 7228. Motion voted and carried.**

REPORTS None

EXTENDED PUBLIC A man whose name could not be distinguished stated that he came to the meeting thinking that he was opposed to the CIA, but now knows that this will be a good thing for the area.

ADJOURNMENT **Ross moved, Seeger seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor