

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Road
DeWitt, MI 48820
November 13, 2012 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.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Rick Galardi, Clerk Diane Mosier, Treasurer Phyllis Daggy, and Trustees Max Calder, Steve Musselman, Brian Ross and David Seeger

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Also Present: Manager Rodney Taylor, Trustee Elect Johanna Balzer, Fire Chief Frederick Koos, County Commissioner Robert Showers, and several citizens.

Clerk Mosier issued the Oath of Office to Supervisor Galardi, Treasurer Daggy, and Trustees Johanna Balzer, Brian Ross, Steve Musselman, and David Seeger, noting that the new Term of Office begins on November 20, 2012.

Supervisor Galardi commended Trustee Calder for over 30 years of service, varying from service to his fellow employees to service to his community and county. He thanked Max Calder for his objective governance on this, his last meeting serving as Township Trustee.

AGENDA **Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to approve the Agenda, as presented.**

CONSENT AGENDA **Calder moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda, which included General Operating Fund Vouchers 60771 – 60847 and Tax Fund Vouchers 7640 – 7650; Township Board Minutes of 10/22/12 with a spelling correction; and Zoning Board of Appeals draft minutes of 10/17/12. Motion voted and carried.**

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT None.

COUNTY COMM. REPORT Commissioner Showers reported that Larry Jerue, Police Chief in the City of DeWitt, will be the new Clinton County Undersheriff; some changes are being made to the freeway road plowing contracts within the CCRC; he provided an update on the Capital Region International Airports most recent efforts to bring in international business.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included: unofficial November 6, 2012 Election results; Activity Reports; Burning Issues Fire Department Newsletter; Better Buildings Update; Georgia Ellwanger regarding her energy assessment; Comcast information regarding Xfinity.

UNFINISHED
BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS
R2012-11-59 Poverty
Exemption/Guidelines

Assessor Tafelsky's report, dated November 1, 2012, was reviewed and discussed.

Ross moved, Seeger seconded, to adopt Resolution R 2012-11-59 which amends the Township's Policy and Guidelines for Poverty Exemptions to include the 2013 Federal Poverty Guidelines and rescinds Resolution 11-12-67.

AYES: Musselman, Seeger, Galardi, Mosier, Daggy, Calder, Ross

NAYS: None Motion carried.

Employment/
Fire Department

Ross moved, Calder seconded, to concur with the Fire Chief's recommendation to hire Joseph Spagnuolo II as a Paid-On-Call Firefighter/MFR at will employee, pending completion of an employment physical. Motion voted and carried.

Lease Agreement/
Wood Road Prop

Manager Taylor explained the proposed lease agreement for the Wood Road property, which would extend the Township's arrangement with the current lease.

Trustee Ross stated that he would like to see some changes to the lease agreement, especially to add a provision for an earlier release, in the event it is needed. Manager Taylor will take the suggestions back to the table to discuss with the leasee. No action was taken.

Joint Meeting/DCT/
DeWitt City/ DPS

Manager Taylor stated that Board members have likely already received an invitation to a Special Meeting requested by the DeWitt District Library Board to discuss Library issues, especially relating to the need for a new Library.

Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to set a special joint meeting at the DeWitt High School Media Center on December 13, 2012, at 7pm, with the DeWitt District Library, City of DeWitt, DeWitt Schools, and representatives from Watertown Township, to discuss the DeWitt District Library. Motion voted and carried.

Road Asset Mgt Plan

Manager Taylor reviewed his report, dated November 9, 2012, explaining the need to create a multi-year asset management plan for Township roads, similar to what we have done for the Township's sewer system. He is proposing to partner with Bath Township and Clinton County to contract with C2AE to develop the plan, with a total cost of \$23,500, and the Township's share to be \$7,834.

Ross moved, Mosier seconded, to authorize the Township Clerk to execute the agreement with C2AE for the development of a Road Asset Management Plan with the Township's share not-to-exceed \$7,834, contingent upon Bath Township and the Clinton County Road Commission also approving the same agreement. Motion voted and carried.

MERS Pension Plan
Contributions

There was discussion regarding the MERS (Police) funding, noting that this is the only benefit which creates legacy costs for the Township.

Calder moved, Musselman seconded, to approve Resolution R2012-11-61 to change the employee contribution rate for the MERS benefit for the Supervisory Unit of the POLC Union, and Resolution 2012-11-60 to change the employee contribution rate for the MERS benefit for the Non-Supervisory Unit of the POLC Union.

AYES: Ross, Calder, Daggy, Mosier, Galardi, Seeger, Musselman
NAYS: None Motion carried.

R2012-11-62
Pancreatic Cancer
Awareness Month

Supervisor Galardi explained that a constituent, James Kurt, requested that the Township recognize November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month, in hopes that additional research will be funded to find a cure for the cancer that took his wife in 2006.

Galardi moved, Daggy seconded, to adopt Resolution R2012-11-62 proclaiming November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

AYES: Daggy, Mosier, Galardi, Seeger, Musselman, Ross, Calder
NAYS: None Motion carried.

REPORTS

Manager Taylor reported the following: the Township has been approved for the Competitive Assistance Grant with DeWitt City and Bath Township to evaluate joint inspection services/code enforcement; a request has been received to make Panther Drive, off Clark Road, and access to Shadybrook Subdivision (developer L.D.Clark), a public road, and special assessments are being investigated as an avenue to make this happen; the rate of inflation has been established at 2.47%; the Benefits Committee is reviewing and analyzing quotes, including for Health Insurance; the MDNR Grant Application for a canoe launch, partnering with the City of DeWitt for improvements to their river access on Bridge Street, has made it through the first cut, scoring quite high; MDOT will be studying speeds on BR27 on November 27th; he will be gone for the balance of this week.

Trustee Ross commented on the Better Buildings Program and the correspondence validating the value of this service to our residents.

Treasurer Daggy reported on recent business of the DARA Board. She stated that as our Board discussed DARA's 2013 Budget, so did the City of DeWitt, who expressed some concerns with changes proposed to the Budget. She also explained that she will be absent for approximately three months, recovering from surgery, and that she plans to resign temporarily from the DARA Board so that the Township Board can appoint someone to serve on the DARA Board while she is absent. Supervisor Galardi requested that the resignation and appointment be placed on the Agenda of the next meeting.

Clerk Mosier reported the following: Ken Pung recently visited our office, explaining that he and his neighbors have had enough of the mining activity what he referred to as the Kazenko pit. He stated that they feel they have been patient, and it is past time for this activity to cease. He stated that they have rights too, and these rights are being trampled beyond what is reasonable; an overview of what is taking place post election, both in balancing precincts and reporting to the state; the DeWitt High School mock election was a success, and she thanked Trustee Musselman for assisting her staff and the students who conducted the election.

Clerk Mosier stated that she would be remiss in not mentioning the recent and sudden passing of Attorney Robinson. She stated that he is missed already.

Supervisor Galardi outlined some of the plans for moving forward into next year. He explained that he is working with Manager Taylor to develop a more global agenda, and that the Township intends to compete for new business and residents in this improving economy.

Trustee Calder thanked the Supervisor for his kind words. He stated that over the years he has appreciated the fact that this Board can disagree without being disagreeable. He stated that Johanna Balzer will be a great addition to this Board.

EXTENDED
COMMENTS

Trustee Elect Johanna Balzer thanked the Board for their support and encouragement. She stated that she looks forward to serving the community.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeger moved, Calder seconded, to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Motion voted and carried.

Trustee Calder declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor