



1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820
February 28, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the DeWitt Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Galardi at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT Supervisor Rick Galardi, Clerk Adam Cramton, Treasurer Sandy Stump, and Trustees David Seeger, Brian Ross, and Steven Smith.

MEMBERS ABSENT David Fedewa.

ALSO PRESENT Manager Andrew Dymczyk, Police Chief Mike Gute, Fire Chief Dave DeKorte, Community Development Director Brett Wittenberg, Planner Alex Bahorski, and several residents.

AGENDA **Ross moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the agenda as amended to address correspondence as the next agenda item.**

AYES: Seeger, Ross, Smith, Stump, Cramton, Galardi.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Fedewa.

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA **Smith moved, Galardi seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda which included the following: Board of Trustees Regular Meeting draft minutes, February 14, 2022; Planning Commission Regular Meeting draft minutes, February 7, 2022; General Vouchers 73925-73951, Tax Vouchers 9392-9405.**

AYES: Seeger, Ross, Smith, Stump, Cramton, Galardi.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Fedewa.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

PRESENTATION None.

PUBLIC HEARING None.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT County Commissioner Ken Mitchell was in attendance for the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: DeWitt Township Police Department January 2022 activity report; DeWitt Township Fire Department January 2022 activity report; ACD Net Metro Act letter of intent; and SCCMUA Plant upgrades and SRF funding.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS

Rezoning 21-880004 – Robert Greenhoe is requesting to rezone approximately 42,427.44 square feet from the IL (Light Industrial) zoning district to the BC (Community Business) zoning district. The subject site is located west of Old S US 27, on the south side of Mak Tech Drive, south of Valley Road, part of the southeast ¼ of Section 33 of DeWitt Charter Township (Site Address: 1125 Mak Tech Drive; Parcel #050-305-000-006-00).

Presently, Robert Greenhoe owns the subject property, sized at approximately 0.97 acres, and contains an existing 6,900 building along with the associated parking and access drive. In December 2021, Mr. Greenhoe submitted the rezoning application to the DeWitt Township Planning Department to allow for a wider range of land uses which are inherently permitted in the BC (Community Business) zoning district, as opposed to the IL (Light Industrial) zoning district.

The subject property is designated for Community-Oriented Commercial (CC) use on the Future Land Use Map. All other parcels on Mak Tech Drive and in the general vicinity are planned for Community-Oriented Commercial (CC) with the parcel to the south being designated as Light Industrial (IL). The proposed change from IL (Light Industrial) to the BC (Community Business) zoning district is compatible with the existing land uses in the area.

A public hearing was conducted on the proposed rezoning request on February 7, 2022 in which the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval. There were no public comments received regarding the request.

Smith moved, Seeger seconded, based on a unanimous recommendation from the Planning Commission, to approve the first reading of rezoning request 21-880004, from Robert Greenhoe as legally described on the application materials and survey documents, from IL (Light Industrial) to the BC (Community Business) zoning district based on the fact that the request is not in conflict with recommendations of the Comprehensive Development Plan and is consistent with the existing land use pattern in the immediate area.

AYES: Seeger, Ross, Smith, Stump, Cramton, Galardi.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Fedewa.

Motion carried.

Clinton County Solid Waste Council appointment

Trustee David Seeger currently serves as the DeWitt Township appointee on the Solid Waste Council for Clinton County. His four-year term is set to expire on April 1. Trustee Seeger has expressed an interest in continuing his appointment, and the Clinton County Board of Commissioners, who make the appointment, are in need of a recommendation from the DeWitt Township Board of Trustees.

Cramton moved, Galardi seconded, to recommend to the Clinton County Board of Commissioners that Trustee David Seeger be appointed for another four-year term on the Clinton County Solid Waste Council expiring on April 1, 2026.

AYES: Seeger, Ross, Smith, Stump, Cramton, Galardi.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Fedewa.

Motion carried.

Officer Stump
separation of
employment

Multiple residents have requested that the Board reconsider the recent separation of employment with Officer Robert Stump.

Molly Stump, wife of Officer Bob Stump, presented to the board the hardship that her family has felt both from Officer Stump's injury, and from Officer Stump's receipt of notice of separation from Manager Dymczyk. She calls upon the Board to overturn the separation and reinstate her husband. Several residents echoed Mrs. Stump's sentiments.

Clerk Cramton presented, in response to the question of Manager Dymczyk's authority to terminate employment with Township staff, that the authority is granted to him by resolution of the Township Board and by Statute in the Charter Township Act of the State of Michigan.

Manager Dymczyk offered an apology to Officer Stump and his family for the hardship that his actions caused. He calls upon himself to be better in the future.

Township Attorney Helen Mills assisted Manager Dymczyk in presenting the Board with the limits of options available to the Board. On one end, the option to stand by the action of separation, on the other, to direct Manager Dymczyk to pursue negotiation with Officer Stump and the Union to extend Officer Stump's roster status and benefits for a minimum duration of one year to afford time for an additional surgery, recovery, and return to work.

Non-Supervisory Union Steward Officer Trevin Bernat and Supervisory Union Steward Kyle Kolka informed the Board that a grievance has been filed in this matter. Officer Bernat also sought clarification of the options available for Board decision.

Police Chief Mike Gute spoke of his support for Manager Dymczyk and the history of support that the Police Department has received from the Manager's Office. He is committed to Officer Stump and his family and would like to see him reinstated and sworn in if it could be accommodated during the meeting.

Galardi moved, Smith seconded, for purposes of discussion, to direct Manager Dymczyk to explore mutually beneficial outcomes at the meeting with Officer Stump and the Union during the week of March 7, at a minimum extending his employment and benefits to February 2023 allowing for 8 months of recovery following for a presumptive surgery in May 2022. Galardi then opened the floor for public comment with a vote on the motion to take place following.

Many residents and Police Officers spoke in support of Officer Stump and his family, and offered suggestions and considerations for injury-loss-of-work situations in the future. Residents and Officers also offered their support for Police Chief Mike Gute. Residents, and the Stump family, expressed a desire for the Board to review the processes through which this separation occurred and called on the Board to take corrective actions if Manager Dymczyk was found to have acted outside his authority.

Galardi moved, Seeger seconded, to form a Personnel Sub-Committee comprised of Supervisor Galardi, Clerk Cramton, and Trustee Smith, to evaluate the Manager's decision to separate employment with Officer Stump, to set meetings on March 7th at 1:00 PM and March 14th at 1:00 PM, with any actions or recommendations to be brought before the Board.

AYES: Seeger, Ross, Smith, Stump, Cramton, Galardi.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Fedewa.

Motion carried.

Supervisor Galardi then called for a vote on the motion directing Manager Dymczyk. The motion is restated below.

Galardi moved, Smith seconded, to direct Manager Dymczyk to explore mutually beneficial outcomes at the meeting with Office Stump and the Union during the week of March 7, at a minimum extending his employment and benefits to February 2023 allowing for 8 months of recovery following for a presumptive surgery in May 2022.

AYES: Seeger, Ross, Smith, Stump, Cramton, Galardi.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Fedewa.

Motion carried.

Clerk Cramton performed the Oath of Office for Police Officer Robert Stump.

EXTENDED PUBLIC, STAFF, & BOARD COMMENTS Fred Koos, former DeWitt Charter Township Fire Chief, offered to the Board that there are personnel evaluation processes in place that could be beneficial in the review of Officer Stump's situation with Manager Dymczyk.

Faye Hagy, resident, feels that public should not be involved in the determination of personnel issues, and that it would be beneficial for the staff member's direct supervisor to participate in the process.

Fire Chief Dave DeKorte presented that he has been informed that the MMRMA RAP grant for cameras will be fully funded, and he will present the acceptance of the grant at the next Board meeting. He also informed the Board that the county-wide switchover to the new radios is scheduled for March 8th.

Police Chief Mike Gute presented that the Department continues to be busy on the south end of the Township.

Planner Alex Bahorski informed the Board that the Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) meeting for March has been cancelled.

Manager Dymczyk offered the following updates:

- SCCMUA Plant upgrades will be presented by SCCMUA Director Brad Gurski at the next Board meeting.
- ARPA conversation with the Board is forthcoming. A workshop will be scheduled.
- Clinton County Road Commission local roads evaluation program is underway. A review of road condition, as presented by the County, will take place soon.
- Board Room and Conference Room Audio-Visual training for department heads will be held in March.
- Municipal Building South (MBS) Committee has held its first meeting and will meet with the architect this week.
- The Remy-Chandler Intercounty Drain Commission meeting scheduled for this week in the Board Room has been cancelled.

- Hotel and Motel inspections are currently ongoing for annual licensing.

Trustee Smith thanked everyone that showed their support to the Stump family. He also has seen the Fire Department's LUCAS device in real-world application and feels that the Township should have one at each Fire Station.

Trustee Ross presented that there will be a Lansing Board of Water and Light meeting on Tuesday at 5:30 PM.

Treasurer Stump offered that today was the last day for tax collection, and delinquent taxes are being turned over to the county. Treasurer Stump also stated her respect and gratitude for Officer Stump and all he has endured on behalf of the Township. She also expressed her support for Manager Dymczyk and Chief Gute, and recognizes their professionalism in the face of, at times, misrepresented facts presented in media.

Clerk Cramton offered that the Remy-Chandler Intercounty Drain commission meeting has been rescheduled for March 18th at 2:00 PM at DeWitt Township. He will be attending Clerk's Institute in Mt. Pleasant the week of March 21, and will be on vacation with his family the week of March 28. He complimented all who reached out to him concerning Officer Stump's situation for maintaining respect and professionalism, and called on those who were less than respectful to endeavor to be better in the future.

Supervisor Galardi acknowledged the tough conversations that were had, and that will continue to be had, and complimented everyone in attendance with maintaining decorum and civility.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeger moved, Ross seconded, to adjourn at 10:11 PM.

Motion voted and carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Adam Cramton, Clerk



Rick Galardi, Supervisor