

**DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP**  
**1401 W. Herbison Rd. DeWitt, MI**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**May 22, 2006**

The regular meeting of the DeWitt Charter Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Galardi at 7:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Rick Galardi, Treasurer Phyllis Daggy, Trustees: Jeff Baumann, Max Calder, Steve Musselman, David Seeger.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Clerk Diane Mosier

Also Present: Manager Matthew Kulhanek, Police Chief Brian Russell, Fire Chief Frederick Koos, Planning Director Jeffrey Gray, County Commissioner Virginia Zeeb, and several citizens.

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

MINUTES **Daggy moved, Calder seconded, to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2006 meeting, as presented. Motion voted and carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: Opens Space Ad Hoc Committee Minutes & meeting dates; letter from MTA regarding annual membership dues; letter from Attorney Kolkema regarding McAnallen vs DeWitt Charter Township; letter from Attorney Rath regarding American Towing & John Finley vs DeWitt Charter Township; Metro Fire Regionalization Study; Remy-Chandler Intercounty Drain Board 4/13/06 draft minutes; DeWitt Township Fire Department Burning Issues Newsletter; Ingham County Board of Commissioners regarding Potter Park Zoo/County Park Task Force; Comcast regarding franchise renewal; DARA April Financial Statements; letter from Congressman Mike Rogers staff regarding input on local issues; information from Clinton County Drain Commissioner Hanses regarding Creekside Drain; price correction notice from Comcast; April statistics from the Clinton County Sheriff; letter providing updates from DACA; information from Granger on recycling; and a Legislative Update from Congressman Mike Rogers.

REPORTS & COMMENTS Supervisor Galardi reported that he attended a meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee for the Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau. He stated that regional branding was discussed. He also reported that East Lansing was present at the meeting, and he has since met with their Mayor to discuss their plans for development in DeWitt Township, specifically the Keilen farm. He stated that from the conversation, it became obvious that East Lansing will aggressively seek to acquire the Keilen farm and other land and have even documented plans to change school districts for property in

DeWitt Township and Bath Township. When discussing the Keilen farm, he told East Lansing that Bruce Keilen has no intention of annexing his property to East Lansing and the Mayor requested a letter from Bruce Keilen clearly stating his position. Keilen will provide the letter and he and Bruce will communicate with East Lansing officials.

Manager Kulhanek reported the following: the Crosswinds property has been cleared and is the site is being cleaned up; he and Tonia Olsen, representing Granger, attended the awards ceremony in Southfield, Michigan, of the Keep Michigan Beautiful Campaign where the President's Award was received by the Township and Granger for the Granger Meadows Park project; the senior lunch program at the Community Center ended on May 12<sup>th</sup> with participants encouraged to participate at the St. Jude site; the individual who did turfing damage in Granger Meadows Park was sentenced by the Judge Tahvonon to four months in jail and full restitution, approximately \$7,500, to the Township for the damages; although he was promised a response call from Lansing School District Superintendent Dr. Banks, he has been unable to get in touch or personally speak further with anyone from Lansing Schools about the Gunnisonville School property; a pre-application meeting with Auto Owners has been scheduled for early June, which is required in the Planned Office Development Zoning District prior to making application for rezoning; he provided a copy of the streetlight layout design for Riversides Estates (off from Willow Creek Farms) noting that input should be provided to him for relay to BWL.

COMMITTEE &  
COMMISSION  
REPORTS & ACTION  
Library Board

**Musselman moved, Seeger seconded, to receive and place on file the draft minutes of the Library Board meeting of May 9, 2006. Motion voted and carried.**

Planning Commission

**Seeger moved, Calder seconded to receive and place on file the draft minutes of the Planning Commission meeting of May 1, 2006. Motion voted and carried.**

VOUCHERS

**Musselman moved, Seeger seconded, to approve General Fund Vouchers 48760 – 48830, Tax Fund Vouchers 6077 – 6086, Debt Retirement Fund Voucher 1019, Sewer Fund Voucher 2973, Drug Forfeiture Fund Voucher 1264, and electronic transfers May 17, 18, 19. Motion voted and carried.**

UNFINISHED  
BUSINESS

Manager Kulhanek explained that he did not provide the supporting documents requested by the Board, and will gladly do so prior to the next meeting.

Ord. 103.1 First  
Reading

**Seeger moved, Daggy seconded, to postpone the Second Reading of Ordinance Amendment 103.1 until the next meeting. Motion voted and carried.**

NEW BUSINESS  
Rezoning Request  
06-880001 - Burns  
First Reading

Planning Director Gray reviewed his memo dated May 17, 2006, summarizing Rezoning Request 06-880001, from Ronald and Louise Burns, to rezone approximately .75 acres located at 16936 Turner Road from IL (Industrial, Light) to R5 (Residential Single and Two Family), and the Planning Commission recommendation for the same.

**Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to approve, on First Reading, Rezoning Request 06-880001, from Ronald and Louise Burns, as recommended by the Planning Commission, to rezone approximately 0.75 acres located at 16936 Turner Road from IL (Industrial, Light) to R5 (Residential Single and Two Family). Approval is recommended on the following basis: 1)the requested rezoning is consistent with the Future Land Use designation and residential land use goals of the Comprehensive Development Plan 2)the requested rezoning is consistent with the Growth Management Strategy component of the Comprehensive Development Plan 3)the site can be adequately served with the necessary public facilities, including public water and sanitary sewer.**

**AYES: Calder, Baumann, Daggy, Galardi, Seeger, Musselman  
NAYS: None Motion carried.**

Industrial Facilities Tax  
Abatement Policy-Set  
Public Hearing

Manager Kulhanek explained that the draft Industrial Facilities Tax Abatement Policy was been reviewed by Attorney Robinson where the lack of a definition for office furniture was identified as a concern. Manager Kulhanek explained the options available, and requested direction from the Board. He recommended removing the prohibition of an exception for office equipment due to issues involved in defining use of computers and like equipment and the associated depreciation of such equipment.

Treasurer Daggy stated that she believes we should make this an easy and clean process, and include the office equipment with the project when a request is made for an abatement.

Manager Kulhanek will amend the policy, as discussed, and provide another draft at the time of the Public Hearing. It was noted that a Public Hearing is not required in this instance, however, the Board expressed interest in soliciting public opinion on the issue.

**Seeger moved, Calder seconded, to set a Public Hearing on the proposed Industrial Facilities Tax Abatement Policy for June 12, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. at the DeWitt Charter Township Hall. Motion voted and carried.**

Resolution 060508  
Revise Fee Schedule

Manager Kulhanek reviewed his memo outlining the changes to the Fee Schedule.

**Calder moved, Seeger seconded, to adopt Resolution 060508 approving revisions , effective immediately, to Schedule B, C, D, and E of the Township's Schedule of Fees, effective immediately.**

**AYES: Calder, Baumann, Daggy, Musselman, Seeger, Galardi  
NAYS: None Motion voted and carried.**

Fire Department  
Employment  
Recommendation

Chief Koos explained that Dennis Boutwell resigned from the Fire Department due to his full-time employment priorities, however, he would like to return as a support staffer. He recommended that the Board approve this request as Dennis Boutwell was previously a valuable and committed member of the Fire Department.

**Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to re-hire Dennis Boutwell as an at-will Paid-On-Call support staff pending completion of a physical exam. Motion voted and carried.**

Manager Kulhanek explained that he is requesting a one-time waiver to the Township Personnel Policy for a full-time seasonal position, the need created by an employee who is temporarily on disability. He explained that through word-of-mouth we received two applications for the seasonal position.

**Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to authorize a one time waiver to the Township Personnel Policy regarding the employment of relatives and allow the township Manager to hire a seasonal employee for the Maintenance Department. Motion voted and carried.**

COMMENTS

Bruce Keilen thanked the Board for their support, and affirmed that he has no intention to become a part of East Lansing.

Supervisor Galardi initiated discussion on what should be done about the fact that the City of East Lansing shows lands from within DeWitt Township as a part of the growth area on the Comprehensive Development Plan.

Supervisor Galardi explained that Trustee Musselman invited DACA President Loretta Spinrad to attend a Rotary Convention in Kalamazoo with the theme "Vital Communities" Loretta Spinrad explained that community vitalization and revitalization was the major topic of discussion, however, she learned that community development comes before economic development, and the entire effort can only be accomplished with teamwork. Trustee Musselman stated that the event confirmed in his mind that we should promote our community on its strengths, which is our emphasis on family, our children and youth.

Supervisor Galardi stated that the issue of "regional branding" is being discussed in the greater Lansing area now, and he would like to involve Loretta when he participates in these discussions. He explained how he believes this will help both DACA and the Township.

Loretta Spinrad stated that DACA is looking for volunteers to work the Parade of Homes in a tent in Forsberg's Welcome Center within Lakeside Preserve, on June 3rd & 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>.

ADJOURNMENT

**Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Mosier

Rick Galardi, Supervisor