

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Rd. DeWitt, MI
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
February 26, 2007

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, Brian Ross, and David Seeger.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Steve Musselman

Also Present: Interim Manager/Planning Director Jeffrey Gray, County Commissioners Robert Showers and Eileen Heideman, Police Chief Brian Russell, Fire Chief Frederick Koos, Rodney Taylor, and several citizens.

AGENDA	Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to approve the Agenda, adding Manager’s Employment Agreement under New Business. Motion voted and carried.
MINUTES	Seeger moved, Daggy seconded, to approve the February 12, 2007 Board minutes, as presented. Motion voted and carried.
PUBLIC COMMENT	None.
CORRESPONDENCE	<p>Correspondence included the following: Legislative Update from the Michigan Township Association; information from the Greater Lansing Association of Realtors regarding their Legislative Breakfast; Thank You from the Fire Department; January Statistics from the Clinton County Sheriff; 2006 Year End Statistics from the Clinton County Sheriff; Thank You from the Clinton County Veteran’s Memorial Association.</p> <p>Trustee Ross suggested that we should keep an open line of communication with our Legislators regarding revenue cuts.</p> <p>Supervisor Galardi suggested that Trustee Ross take the lead in drafting a written communication to our legislators that could be signed by our Board members.</p>
REPORTS & COMMENTS	<p>Commissioner Heideman reported that the County has acquired property which will be the future Motz County Park, with a grant application being submitted to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for the project.</p> <p>Supervisor Galardi initiated discussion about the Clinton County Economic Development effort currently being formulated. He reported that he has acquired office space (free of rent if the group is interested) which would be located within Clark Corners.</p> <p>Supervisor Galardi reported attending, with Loretta Spinrad, a recent meeting of the Strategic Committee of the Lansing Visitors and Convention Bureau.</p>

Current focus is on “regional branding” and he has offered DeWitt Township as a prototype for use by the group.

Supervisor Galardi updated the Board on the pending Team Professionals (Feldpausch) v State of Michigan & DeWitt Charter Township lawsuit.

Clerk Mosier reported the following: the Library will be hold their first public forum on Wednesday, February 28th, at the Township Hall, to receive input on possible locations for a future library; an offer of donated property from Norm Farnum is being considered by the Library Board and will be discussed at the public forum; May school elections will be held on May 8th, with DeWitt Schools placing a sinking fund millage question on the ballot; the Township has received a Local Approval Notice and local application for the transfer of a liquor license previously associated with the Classic Pub, said consideration to be before this Board in March.

Treasurer Daggy reported that tax settlement with the Clinton County Treasurer will be on March 1st.

COMMITTEES &
COMMISSIONS

None.

VOUCHERS

Seeger moved, Daggy seconded, to approve General Operating Fund Vouchers 51433 – 51530, Tax Fund Vouchers 6647 – 6689, and Electronic Transfers Feb 4 – 8. Motion voted and carried.

UNFINISHED
BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Galardi stated that he feels he must abstain from the discussion and vote relative to the Traffic Control Ordinance for Arbor Meadows.

Ord 256/First Reading
Traffic/Arbor Meadows

Mosier moved, Daggy seconded, to approve the Supervisor’s abstention from discussing or voting on the Traffic Control Ordinance for Arbor Meadows.

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

Police Chief Russell reported on the process of working with John Fournier, President of the Arbor Meadows Condominium Association, to bring this Ordinance forward which will allow the Police Department to perform traffic control within the subdivision.

Calder moved, Daggy seconded, to approve Ordinance 256, Arbor Meadows Traffic Control, on First Reading.

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

Employment
Recommendations/
Fire Department

Seeger moved, Daggy seconded, to hire Monica Nickovich, Nicole Kitson, and Luis Torrez as at-will Paid-On-Call Fire Fighters pending completion of the physical examination. Motion voted and carried.

Discussion regarding the size of the current paid-on-call staff determined that we may need to refocus on recruiting members.

Budget Adjustments

Daggy moved, Mosier seconded, to approve the following budget adjustments: \$9,800 to 101-265-802-000 (Township Hall/Manager Search), \$5,000 to 101-263-977-000 (Capital Expenditures) \$14,800 from 101-000-390-000 (General Fund Balance). Motion voted and carried.

Employment Contract/
Manager Rodney Taylor

Supervisor Galardi explained that he has met with Julie Coleman, Clerk Mosier, and the new Manager, Rodney Taylor. He explained that he sees the new Manager's job as being different than the previous manager's job, therefore we have hired a candidate with a different field of expertise. He explained his concept, already discussed with the new Manager, to put systems in place, systems that are fully integrated, sustainable, and will take us into the next century. He welcomed the new Manager, Rodney Taylor, and expressed confidence in his qualifications and experience.

Supervisor Galardi initiated discussion about cultural changes he feels need to be initiated within the organization.

Ross moved, Daggy seconded, to approve the Employment Agreement between Rodney H. Taylor and DeWitt Charter Township, contingent upon completion of the physical assessment, and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the same.

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

EXTENDED PUBLIC
COMMENT

None.

BOARD COMMENTS

Fire Chief Koos reported that bids have been received for the Mobile Fire Training Unit, which is being purchased primarily with grant funds. He is completing some additional investigation, and this issue should be before the Board at the next meeting.

Police Chief Russell and Supervisor Galardi reported attending the Grand Opening of DeWitt's newest bank, Firstbank, which will also involve a charitable contribution to the Relay for Life in our community.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeger moved, Ross seconded, to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Motion voted and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor