

**DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP**  
**1401 W. Herbison Rd. DeWitt, MI**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**February 8, 2010**

The regular meeting of the DeWitt Charter Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Galardi at 7:00 p.m. Eagle Scout Kyle Jonas and Eagle Scout Michael Draut lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Trustee Stephen Musselman

Also Present: Manager Rodney Taylor, Fire Chief Fred Koos, Community Development Director (CDD) Richard Trent, Deputy Clerk Judy Martiny, County Commissioner Bob Showers, DeWitt Public Library Director Jennifer Balcom, Library Board President Wayne Summers and special guests Eagle Scout Kyle Jonas and Eagle Scout Michael Draut.

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

**MINUTES**                **Ross moved, Daggy seconded, to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2010 Regular Board meeting as amended, correcting “Members Present” by removing Stephen Musselman, who was absent. Motion voted and carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** None.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT**

County Commissioner Showers provided an update on County business.

**RECOGNITIONS**

Trustee Ross introduced Eagle Scout Kyle Jonas and Eagle Scout Michael Draut and their respective families and stated that it is an honor for him to do this presentation as it was a mere 39 years ago that he, himself, received the Eagle Scout Award. He reviewed each of the Scout’s accomplishments and read, for the official record, each Certificate of Recognition. Ross also pointed out that today, February 8, 2010, marks the 100 year Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America.

**PRESENTATION**

DeWitt Public Library Director Jennifer Balcom gave a 2009 Year End Recap on the status of the DeWitt Public Library; advised the Board that it is the intent of the Library Board to place a renewal millage request on the August 3, 2010 Primary Ballot; the Library is currently in the process of putting together a Strategic Plan in the hope that this will aid the Library in prioritizing the decisions about programming and services in a time when resources and staffing are shrinking.

Library Board President Wayne Summers stated that in all the years he has been involved with the DeWitt Public Library he feels that the current Board is the best Board they have had since he has been on it and that makes it much better when everyone tries very hard and comes to the meetings prepared to work.

Correspondence included the following: January Activity Report; Memo from Robert Selig, Executive Director, Capital Region Airport Authority re: Airport Authority – A Decade in Review; Letter from Senator Carl Levin – 2009 Review; Fire Department Newsletter “Burning Issues”; Letter from Clinton County Sheriff Wayne Kangas re: METRO Contribution Request; Thank You from Prima Civitas Foundations for the Township’s support; Letter from Linda Hegstrom, DNR Grant Coordinator, re: DeWitt Area Recreation Plan; Comcast programming Update; Resolution 2010-1 from Clinton County Clerk re: Statutory Mandates; Clinton County Farm Service Agency Newsletter; Greater Lansing Regional Committee Newsletter; Coldwell Banker 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Year End Real Estate Market Report.

COMM & COMM  
REPORTS  
Public Safety

Trustee Seeger reviewed the minutes of the January 19, 2010 Public Safety Committee meeting.

**Seeger moved, Ross seconded, to receive and place on file the minutes of the Public Safety Committee meeting of January 19, 2010. Motion voted and carried.**

UNFINISHED  
BUSINESS

Ordinance Amendment 225.6 First Reading – Tabled at February 8, 2010 meeting and remains tabled.

NEW BUSINESS  
Police/Fire Millage

Clerk Mosier advised the Board that the currently levied millage of 1 mill for police and 1 mill for fire will be coming up for renewal on the August 3, 2010 Primary Ballot; there was some discussion during the 2010 Budget meetings as to whether the Board desired to ask for a change in that millage rate and the need to have the Clerk and the Township Attorney determine the options for placing any additional millage request on the ballot, if that be the case.

Lengthy discussion followed on the current economic status of the Township; the continued increasing expenses in the police and fire departments budgets; the health, safety and welfare of our public and the need for possibly increasing the millage, but not at the expense of losing the renewal. There was consensus that the current 1 mill for Police and 1 mill for Fire is essential, however, due to the economy, both a renewal and an increase in that millage on the ballot at the same time would not be advisable. Clerk Mosier stated that the November ballot is an option if for some reason the renewal fails in August.

**Calder moved, Seeger seconded, to authorize Clerk Mosier to request that Attorney Robinson prepare the ballot language and documents to submit to the County Clerk for renewal of the special voted police and fire millage. Motion voted and carried.**

Clerk Mosier commended Fire Chief Koos on the Fire Department recently acquiring the \$261,000 grant toward purchasing new fire apparatus.

BASIC  
Business Associate  
Agreement

Manager Taylor briefly reviewed the memorandum, dated February 5, 2010, advising that Board that the Township currently has a contract with BASIC for the administration of COBRA benefits, Health Savings Account management; to comply with the new HIPPA requirements, an updated contract is necessary.

**Mosier moved, Daggy seconded, that the Board approve the Business Associate Agreement with BASIC, as provided, and authorize the Township Clerk to execute the same. Motion voted and carried.**

VOUCHERS

**Seeger moved, Daggy seconded, to approve General Operating Fund Vouchers 56620 - 56673 and Tax Fund Vouchers 7177 - 7186. Motion voted and carried.**

REPORTS

Fire Chief Fred Koos advised that the original grant request was for \$450,000 and the Township received the Federal Grant of \$261,750 with the Township match being \$13,250 for a total of \$275,000; he sent the specifications out to the apparatus vendors the first week of February, requesting that bids be submitted by March 1<sup>st</sup>, which will give the Township an idea of what the cost will come in at; he is hopeful that perhaps, since receiving the grant monies, the Township Board will look favorably at the Fire Department purchasing both the pumper and tanker trucks.

Manager Taylor reported that the Assessor has been working on 2010 Assessments and Taxable values; it appears that, excluding personal property which is usually static, 2010 values will be approximately \$416,000,000 which reflects a 5% decrease from the original projection of a 6% decrease or \$436,000,000 in 2009; the final year end bookkeeping ended up better than what was originally projected and the fund balance carryover will be a little better than what was anticipated.

Trustee Ross reported that the Clinton County Department of Public Works met on February 4, 2010 and the Bingham Township Supervisor Jim Ostrowski advised that Bingham Township's sewer debt to the County was one of their highest priorities in 2010.

Treasurer Daggy stated that the property tax deadline for the 15<sup>th</sup> of February has been extended to the 16<sup>th</sup> of February as the Township offices will be closed on Monday the 15<sup>th</sup>; the tax payments have been coming in better than anticipated; the DARA Exploratory Committee has requested that the DeWitt Area Recreation Authority Director and the Bath Township Parks & Recreation Director get together a try to resolve some of the issues that have been expressed by Bath Township residents and their reluctance in joining DARA.

Twp Board Minutes  
February 8, 2010 Pg 4

Clerk Mosier advised that the May Bath School Election will be consolidated with Bath Township; the Bath Township Clerk will be running that election with DeWitt Township residents residing in the Bath School District voting at the Bath Township Hall. Letters will be going out to advise those residents of the consolidation.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT None.

ADJOURNMENT **Seeger moved, Calder seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Martiny, Deputy Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor