

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Rd. DeWitt, MI
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
November 9, 2009

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: Steve Musselman, Brian Ross, Max Calder, and David Seeger.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Also Present: Manager Rodney Taylor, Police Chief Brian Russell, Community Development Director (CDD) Richard Trent, Deputy Clerk Judy Martiny and Cadgewith Farms Neighborhood Watch Patrol.

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

MINUTES **Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2009 Regular Board meeting and Executive Session. Motion voted and carried.**

PRESENTATION Chief Russell introduced the Cadgewith Farms Neighborhood Watch Patrol and presented them with a Unit Citation for Distinguished Volunteer Service advising that this group has been his “ace in the hole” on numerous occasions and their services have been an asset to the entire community, as well as within Cadgewith Farms.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT None.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: a letter from Brian Hiesrodt, Auto Owners Real Estate Department, regarding recent news media information relative to Auto Owners and their commitment to some day moving their headquarters to the Township; draft of Park & Recreation Five Year Plan; Parks & Recreation 5 Year Plan meeting notice; November 3, 2009 Unofficial Election Results; 2010 Clinton County Road Projects; Fire Department Newsletter “Burning Issues”; October Activity Report.

Trustee Ross requested that staff review the Road Commission projects for 2010 and coordinate with any potential sewer project opportunities. He also stated that he has received a lot of positive feedback about the Fire Department’s recent Open House.

Clerk Mosier pointed out that the Fire Chief’s wife, Judy Koos, was instrumental in the planning and implementation of the Open House, and she was supported

that evening by members of the newly formed “Auxiliary”, who are the significant others of our firefighters. This group is the support staff if there is a fire or major incident by providing coffee, cold drinks, or whatever need be when our firefighters are on duty. Mosier continued by requesting that a letter from the Township Board be sent to Judy Koos, and the auxiliary, thanking them for their much appreciated efforts and commending them for the positive feedback received on the Fire Department Open House.

COMM & COMM
REPORTS

Trustee Musselman reviewed the minutes of the October 21, 2009 Board of Appeals meeting.

Musselman moved, Seeger seconded, to receive and place on file the minutes of the Board of Appeals meeting of October 21, 2009. Motion voted and carried.

UNFINISHED
BUSINESS
Ordinance 259

Daggy moved, Ross seconded, to adopt Ordinance 259, Rental Property Sewer Deposit Ordinance 259, on Second Reading.

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

NEW BUSINESS
Commercial Rehab
Tax Abatement
Amendment

CDD Richard Trent reviewed his memorandum, dated November 6, 2009, regarding the proposed Amendment to Commercial Rehabilitation Tax Abatement Policy, providing a brief background behind the proposed amendment to the same.

Mosier moved, Calder seconded, as recommended by the Economic Development Committee of DeWitt Charter Township, that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed amendment to the Commercial Rehabilitation Tax Abatement Policy, dated November 9, 2009, which is intended to broaden the job criteria categories. Motion voted and carried.

Galardi moved, seconded by Mosier, to amend the second paragraph under Item III, Economic Development Committee, inserting the words “or Vice-Chairperson” after the word Chairperson to read “The Economic Development Committee shall consist of either the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson of the Planning Commission”, a Township Board member appointed by the Township Supervisor..... Motion voted and carried.

Musselman moved, Ross seconded, in a continuing effort to implement the South Central Area Plan and further encourage and support economic development activity within this geographic area, recommend a public hearing for November 23, 2009 and notification of property owners, taxing jurisdictions and the general public to obtain citizen input toward the proposed establishment of a Commercial Rehabilitation District for future consideration of a Commercial Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate(s) under the State of Michigan Commercial Rehabilitation Act, P.A. 210 of 2005, as amended, for the properties described as the Transition

Redevelopment Area of the South Central Area Plan and which contains a Qualified Facility or Facilities as defined by the Act and which is proposed for commercial rehabilitation. Motion voted and carried.

Musselman moved, Ross seconded, as required by Public Act 210, the Commercial Rehabilitation Act, as amended, and based on a complete application for commercial rehabilitation tax abatement exemption certificate filed by Northcrest & 27 LLC for the property located at 1011 Northcrest Road, the Board of Trustees set a public hearing for November 23, 2009 to consider public comment on the proposed exemption certificate. Motion voted and carried.

Appointment
Salary Comp
Commission

Calder moved, Daggy seconded, that the Township Board of Trustees concur with the Supervisor's appointment of Richard Byelich to the Salary Compensation Commission, effective immediately, for a five year term, ending December 31, 2014. Motion voted and carried.

2010 Calendar

Clerk Mosier briefly reviewed her memorandum, dated November 6, 2009, relative to Township meeting dates, closing and holiday schedules. Brief discussion followed.

Resolution 091166

Mosier moved, Musselman seconded, that the Township Board adopt Resolution 091166 establishing meeting dates for the Township Board for the year 2010.

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

Mosier moved, Ross seconded, that the Township Board approve President's Day, February 15th as an additional paid day off for non-union Township employees for 2010. Motion voted and carried.

Seeger moved, Daggy seconded, to approve the union employees Holiday Schedule for 2010 as per union contract. Motion voted and carried.

VOUCHERS

Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to approve General Operating Fund Vouchers 56312– 56362, and Tax Fund Vouchers 7111 – 7110. Motion voted and carried.

REPORTS &
COMMENTS

Chief Russell reported: The Township Neighborhood Watch groups have challenged each other with a food drive and donating all the food to the Redeemer Food Bank; December 3rd is the Sheriff Department's Shop-With-A-Cop and Bill Darnell was the first officer from our department to volunteer; December 5th the Township Police Department, along with Bath Township and DeWitt City, will be at L & L and Meijer for the "Fill-A-Cop-Car" event.

CDD Richard Trent reminded the Board of the Community Forum Meeting scheduled for November 10th from 6 to 8 p.m. and encouraged attendance. This

meeting is in response to the request for information about public water in the southern tier of the Township and to also request input on the proposed Property Maintenance Code Ordinance.

Manager Taylor reported the following: the Fire Apparatus Committee continues to meet and the committee made a recent decision, based on the economic challenges that the Township is facing and the price of the two proposed units, that the Township consider the replacement of just the Pumper at this time, and replace the Tanker when it is officially inoperable. Chief Koos, however, will be putting the specs together for bidding both the pumper and the tanker at the same time because of new emission standards that are going into place for diesel that would potentially raise the cost for the tanker by \$20,000 to \$30,000; he and Clerk Mosier attended the Wood Road land auction; the Michigan Parks and Recreation Association has tickets available for the Detroit Lions January 3rd game against the Bears and the Township staff, along with Bath Township and the City of DeWitt, is working on arranging an employee family event as a Community Government Worker Day for this event.

Trustee Ross reported on progress of the DARA Exploratory Committee and advised that the committee is ready to move forward and set public hearings, etc. The committee is also recommending that the committee be kept in place and be put back into place around nine months from now to look at the senior component and the potential to compete with various other "parent led groups" for other sport programs. Discussion followed.

Clerk Mosier reported that Larry Fitzgerald, SCCMUA Director has submitted his retirement notice and a reception will be held in his honor on December 15, 2009 and invitations are forthcoming; the manager's contract will be coming up for renewal after the first of the year and the supervisor will be in discussions with him relative to that contract and would appreciate comments from the Trustees relative to the manager's performance prior to any contractual discussions he might have with Manager Taylor.

Supervisor Galardi made the Trustee 2010 appointments to various committees and commissions. He appointed Brian Ross to SCCMUA, Max Calder to the Planning Commission, and reappointed Steve Musselman to the Board of Appeals and the Sister City Community Board and David Seeger to Public Safety.

Mosier stated that she is getting calls from residents who are having issues with the open burning of leaves due to asthma and other breathing conditions; she would like to have the Board members become more aware of the open burning issues and be prepared to address this with Chief Koos in the future.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT None.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Judy Martiny, Deputy, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor