

**DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP**  
**1401 W. Herbison Rd. DeWitt, MI**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**September 28, 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, Fire Chief Frederick Koos, Community Development Director Richard Trent, Assessor Laura Tafelsky, Chief Building Official Chad Miller, County Commissioner Robert Showers, and Clinton County Circuit Judge Michelle Rick.

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

**MINUTES**                    **Calder moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2009 Regular Board meeting, as presented. Motion voted and carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**   None.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER & CIRCUIT**

**JUDGE REPORT**        Judge Michelle Rick reported that she has been working with State Court Administrators (under the Supreme Court) to establish a year long trial, the first of its kind in the State, to establish a Small Claims Divorce Court. This court is designed to be user friendly in assisting unrepresented parties in divorce cases. She pointed out that this is an important issue to the Court, since the Court currently has jurisdiction in divorce cases until the last child involved turns 18 and properly settled divorce cases have a lower rate of reoccurring litigation.

Commissioner Showers reported on the County's 2010 Budget and the general financial state of Clinton County government. He commended County staff and administrators for their cooperative efforts in the budget process.

Supervisor Galardi commended Commissioner Showers and his fellow Commissioners for their fiscal responsibility and conservative approach to managing Clinton County.

**CORRESPONDENCE**   Correspondence included the following: Comcast update; a report showing Special Use Permits from January 2008 through July 2009 and their current status; a save-the-date notice for a Greening Mid-Michigan Workshop to be held at the Community Center on October 21, 2009.

COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS  
REPORTS & COMMENTS

Trustee Ross reviewed the Planning Commission minutes of September 8, 2009.

**Ross moved, Calder seconded, to receive and place on file the minutes of the Planning Commission meeting of September 8, 2009. Motion voted and carried.**

UNFINISHED  
BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS  
Employment-Fire Dept.

**Ross moved, Seeger seconded, to hire Calvin Sprague as a Paid-On-Call Firefighter/MFR at-will employee pending completion of an employment physical. Motion voted and carried.**

Ordinance 18.2-Peddlers,  
Solicitors, Transient  
Merchants-First  
Reading

Clerk Mosier reviewed the staff report, dated September 25, 2009, which outlined the process followed to draft and finalize the new Peddlers, Solicitors, and Transient Merchants Ordinance 18.2 presented for First Reading. She noted that the Ordinance now includes Transient Merchants, as discussed by the Board in May. She also explained that after a comparison of other community's fees, staff worked with Attorney Robinson to present to the Board fees that are both defensible and cover the costs associated with processing applications, issuing permits, and overseeing enforcement of the Ordinance.

**Mosier moved, Musselman seconded, to approve Ordinance Amendment, 18.2, Peddlers, Solicitors, and Transient Merchants, on First Reading.**

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

Resolution 090962

**Calder moved, Seeger seconded, to adopt Resolution 090962, establishing fees for Ordinance Amendment 18.2.**

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

Outstanding Citizen  
Nomination

The Board reviewed and discussed the nomination of Robert (Bob) Ancel for Outstanding Citizen recognition.

**Mosier moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the nomination of Bob Ancel for Outstanding Citizen recognition. Motion voted and carried.**

2010 Budget Presentation

A power point presentation by Manager Taylor provided the following points for

Discussion with the Board and Department Heads: ·Revenue trends and projections, which show decreases from all major sources ·Possibilities for increased revenues through raising the millage rate and/or implementation of the property tax administration fee ·Options for funding capital purchases such as borrowing from the Water Fund rather than a conventional loan to purchase the pumper/tanker ·Projecting expenditures through 2011 and 2012 when major deficits surface ·Sewer rates increases and the rising cost of maintaining an aging collection system.

Supervisor Galardi stated that he believes that community conversations will be necessary before these major decisions can be made. He noted that with the 2010 budget balanced, we have some time to communicate with the community to determine what measures should be implemented to manage the projected deficits anticipated in 2011 and 2012. He will work with Manager Taylor to formulate a plan for communicating with the residents and tax payers of DeWitt Township about these important issues.

It was noted that the 2010 Budget Public Hearing is scheduled for October 12, 2009.

VOUCHERS

**Seeger moved, Calder seconded, to approve General Operating Fund Vouchers 56152– 56210 and Tax Fund Vouchers 7096 - 7102. Motion voted and carried.**

REPORTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Manager Taylor thanked the Board and Township staff for their cooperation through the process to balance the 2010 Budget. He also reported that the State Road Property now belongs to the Township, which will provide State Road access to the Community Center. He noted that demolition of the existing buildings on the property will begin within a week, with the bids for that work ranging from \$14,000 to \$44,000.

CDD Trent reported that there will be a Community Workshop held on November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center to open discussion on the possibilities for public water expansion in the southern tier, provide updates to the South Central Area Plan, and begin providing information to citizens about the proposed implementation of a Property Maintenance Code.

Trustee Ross reported that the first meeting with DARA and Bath Township has been held. He also stated that he will be absent at the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting on the Budget, but that he will provide comments to Manager Taylor prior to the meeting.

Clerk Mosier reported on progress for the November 3<sup>rd</sup> School Election. She noted that she has received no information about the ballot question from DeWitt Schools and has struggled to forecast voter turnout for this election.

Supervisor Galardi spoke briefly on the recent Auto Owners announcement regarding expansion in Delta Township. He also noted that discussions with the Airport and the City of Lansing are ongoing.

Supervisor Galardi initiated discussion regarding the need for “branding” within our community.

ADJOURNMENT

**Seeger moved, Ross seconded, to adjourn at 10:05 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor