

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820
October 28, 2013 Board Minutes

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, Treasurer Phyllis Daggy, and Trustees Johanna Balzer, Steve Musselman, Brian Ross and David Seeger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Clerk Diane Mosier

Also Present: Manager Rodney Taylor, Police Chief Brian Russell, County Commissioner Jack Enderle, DARA Director Clay Summers, and Deputy Clerk Judy Martiny

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

CONSENT AGENDA **Musselman moved, Seeger seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda, which included approval of General Operating Fund Vouchers 62206 - 62246 and Tax Fund Vouchers 7845 – 7853; approval of Township Board Minutes from the 9/23/13 and 10/14/13 meetings; approval of Budget Workshop Minutes from the 10/14/13 meeting; to receive and file the Planning Commission Draft Minutes of 10/7/13. Motion voted and carried.**

BRIEF PUBLIC
COMMENT None.

COUNTY
COMM. REPORT County Commissioner Enderle advised the Board that the Clinton County Animal Control facility on Townsend Road has been completed and staff moved in to the building October 25th. Enderle also updated the Board on other recent County business.

PRESENTATION
DARA 2014
Budget DARA Director Clay Summers provided the Board with the 2014 DARA Budget and reviewed the same.

 There was brief discussion about the various programs DARA provides and the continuous growth of DARA programs. Director Summers advised that the 5 year Master Plan is coming up for review.

K-9 Introduction K-9 Officer Kyle Kolka introduced his new working partner, a black german shepherd puppy named Ares. He advised that the dog was born in Poland and has already had some tracking and drug training. Kyle and Ares will be leaving on November 4th for five weeks of joint training before they actually start their active duties together.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: Coldwell Banker 3rd Quarter Real Estate Market Report.

UNFINISHED

BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS

Res. R2013-10-64
Pancreatic Cancer
Awareness Month
Manager Taylor briefly reviewed Resolution R2013-10-64 and noted that this Resolution should be amended to read "November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month."
Discussion followed on other organizations that are out there and the reason for recognizing this specific organization versus others.

Galardi moved, Ross seconded, that the Township Board approve Resolution R2013-10-64 declaring the month of November "Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month" in DeWitt Charter Township.

Ayes: Ross, Musselman, Daggy, Balzer, Galardi

Nayes: Seeger

Absent: Mosier

Motion voted and carried.

2014 Budget

Res. R2013-10-65
Adopting Budget
Res: R2013-10-66
Budget Appropriation
Manager Taylor reviewed his memorandum, dated October 25, 2013, advising that the Township Board held a workshop and also, as required, a public hearing on the 2014 Proposed Budget. He also advised that the Budget being presented this evening is the final draft.

Ross moved, Balzer seconded, to approve Resolution R2013-10-65 adopting the 2014 Budget as presented.

Ayes: Ross, Balzer, Musselman, Daggy, Seeger, Galardi

Nayes: None

Absent: Mosier

Motion voted and carried.

Ross moved, Balzer seconded, to approve Resolution R2013-10-66 that authorizes the appropriations for the 2014 Budget.

Ayes: Balzer, Ross, Daggy, Musselman, Seeger, Galardi

Nayes: None

Absent: Mosier

Motion voted and carried.

Res. R2013-10-67

Slum & Blighted
Area

Manager Taylor reviewed his memorandum, dated October 25, 2013, pointing out that as part of the process for receiving the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's Grant for Blight Elimination for acquisition of property located at 16164 Old US 27 (the former Chip's Bar), the Township must declare the property a Blighted and Slum Area. A Resolution needs to be adopted declaring said property as a blighted and slum area, including an explanation as to why this particular property meets that definition.

Said Resolution was read for the official record. Musselman moved, Seeger seconded, to adopt Resolution R2013-10-67 designating three (3) parcels (050-470-000-046-00, 050-470-000-044-00 & 050-470-000-047-000) located at 16164 Old US 27 as a “Slum and Blighted Area.”

Ayes: Musselman, Seeger, Ross, Daggy, Balzer, Galardi

Nays: None

Absent: Mosier

Motion voted and carried.

Res. 2013-10-68
Transportation
Alternative Grant
Old US 27

Manager Taylor reviewed his memorandum, dated October 25, 2013, advising that this grant will assist the Township in the installation of sidewalks and pathways along Old US 27, between Sheridan Road and Northcrest Road, with sidewalks being installed on the west side of the corridor and a pathway being installed on the east side of Old US 27 in approximately the same general area. Taylor stated that by applying for the Transportation Alternative Funding Grant, the Township would have the opportunity to complete 6 of the projects that are listed within the top 15 of the recently adopted DeWitt Township Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.

Lengthy discussion followed relative to the definition of sidewalks and pathways, location of the pathways versus the location of the sidewalks, total project cost, what portion would be paid by the Township, cost of maintenance once the sidewalk and pathways are in place, and the need for public input regarding the proposed project.

Daggy moved, Balzer seconded, to approve Resolution R2013-10-68 authorizing the Township Manager to pursue funding for the installation of sidewalks and pathways along Old US 27 from Sheridan Road to Northcrest, to authorize the Township Manager to continue to move forward with the application of the grant and development of any necessary agreements, and authorize the Township Clerk to sign a project agreement upon receipt of a funding award after final Board approval.

Ayes: Daggy, Balzer, Ross, Galardi, Seeger, Musselman

Nays: None

Absent: Mosier

Motion voted and carried.

Sidewalk Variance
Theresa Alvardo

Manager Taylor reviewed Assistant Planner Tory Niewiadomski’s memorandum, dated October 22, 2013, providing a background on the sidewalk variance request from Theresa Alvardo, 11525 Wood Road, DeWitt, for property with frontage along Wood Road where a twenty (20) bed adult foster care facility is proposed. Taylor pointed out that the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of this request as the property is quite removed from residences and would not need sidewalks along the frontage given that there is a lack of sidewalks within close proximity of this site.

Ross moved, Daggy seconded, that the Board, based on a unanimous recommendation from the Planning Commission, approve the sidewalk variance request from Theresa Alvarado for the proposed 20 Bed Adult Foster Care Facility located at 11525 Wood Road, DeWitt, on the following basis: That the applicant request satisfies Condition (2) under Section 34-21 of the Codified Ordinance. Motion voted and carried.

REPORTS &
EXTENDED
PUBLIC COMMENT

Police Chief Russell advised the Board that he was recently appointed to Clinton County Adult Protective Services for Clinton, Gratiot and Shiawassee counties by the Clinton County Department of Human Services where he will be involved in investigations for the elderly; Department Assistant interviews are ongoing.

Manager Taylor advised that the tentative date for the unveiling of the art sculpture on the northwest corner of Sheridan Road and U.S. 27 (BR) is November 12th at 3:30 p.m.; the installation of 4 new pieces of playground equipment at Valley Farms Park is now complete.

Trustee Balzer reported on recent actions that were taken at the October 16th Zoning Board of Appeals meeting. Minutes from said meeting will be provided to the Township Board at their November 12, 2013 meeting.

Treasurer Daggy reported that the Winter Tax roll has been prepared and ready to be reviewed and verified by the Clinton County Treasurer on Wednesday, October 30, 2013. Once the assessment roll is complete and verified, the tax bills will be mailed. There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT **Seeger moved, Daggy seconded, to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Martiny, Deputy Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor