

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820  
April 25, 2016 Board Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the DeWitt Charter Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Galardi at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Rick Galardi, Clerk Diane Mosier, Treasurer Phyllis Daggy, and Trustees Johanna Balzer, Steve Musselman, Brian Ross and David Seeger

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT       Manager Rodney Taylor, DARA Coordinator Chad Stevens and DARA Program Coordinator Crystal Smith and several citizens.

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

CONSENT AGENDA   **Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda, which included Township Board Minutes of April 11, 2016; and approval of General Operating Fund Vouchers 65946 – 65989; Planning Commission Draft Minutes of 4-4-16; and Election Commission Meeting Minutes of 4-11-16. Motion voted and carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT   None

PRESENTATION       DARA Director Chad Stevens introduced Crystal Smith, the DARA Program Coordinator. He presented the DARA 2015 Annual Report and reviewed its highlights. The following topics were discussed: 1)DARA's financial health 2)rising enrollment and associated revenues 3)the need to look at the current structure/charges/contract with the Township to make sure the appropriate charges/financial considerations are in place 4)the ongoing need to explore additional avenues for programs and participation i.e. the engagement with senior citizens 5)the DARA Budget.

The Board agreed that the success of DARA has been a major asset to the community. Supervisor Galardi thanked Trustee Musselman for his contribution and service on the DARA Board and DARA Director Stevens for his outreach.

COUNTY

COMMISSIONER       None present.

CORRESPONDENCE   Correspondence included the following: Consumers Energy notice of 4-26-16 meeting; Activity Report; Thank You from Lois Baumer and Bruce Omundson

regarding the southern tier pathways and sidewalks; Clinton County Sheriff March Statistics.

UNFINISHED  
BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS  
Rezoning 16-880001  
Preston Commercial  
Properties 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Planner Wittenberg reviewed his staff report, dated April 12, 2016, for Preston Commercial Properties, LLC, rezoning application 16-880001 for 4.26 acres of property located on the north side of Herbison Road, south of Northway, east Hope Lutheran Church, and west of Old US 27.

**Mosier moved, Daggy seconded, to approve on First Reading, based on a unanimous recommendation from the Planning Commission, rezoning request 16-880001, as legally described on the application materials, to rezone approximately 4.26 acres from BSC (Business, Shopping Center) to the BC (Business, Community) district based on the fact that the request is not in conflict with the future land use recommendations of the Comprehensive Development Plan and is consistent with the existing land use pattern in the immediate area.**

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

It was noted that Second Reading of the rezoning ordinance will be held on May 23, 2016.

Fire Station 2  
Parking Lot Repair  
Contract & Bud Adj

Manager Taylor reviewed his memo, dated April 22, 2016 regarding the unexpected deterioration of the parking area at Fire Station 2. He explained that he is working with the Road Commission to make this fix in conjunction with another paving project in the area, saving the Township significant dollars.

**Ross moved, Seeger seconded, to authorize the Township Clerk and Township Manager to execute an agreement with the Clinton County Road Commission for removing and repairing 2,626 square feet of asphalt at Fire Station 2 in an amount not to exceed \$7,000; and to approve a budget adjustment to the 2016 General Fund Budget of \$7,000 to 101-262-931-000 (Physical Plant – Maintenance) from 101-000-390-000 (General Fund Balance). Motion voted and carried.**

Cortright & Bopps  
Drain Maintenance

Drain Commissioner Phil Hanses presented information and graphics showing the locations of the work proposed. Manager Taylor's memo explained that under state statute, the Drain Commissioner can expend up to \$5,000 a mile per year on maintenance, unfortunately, the two projects that are being recommended will be over this limit.

Two residents living in the Cortright Drainage District were present, one unidentified and Joseph Reed at 1585 W. Stoll Road. Both stated that they support the proposed improvements.

The assessment process was discussed.

**Mosier moved, Ross seconded, to adopt resolution R2014-04-06 that authorizes the Clinton County Drain Commissioner to expend funds for the maintenance of the Cortright Drain.**

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

**Mosier moved, Balzer seconded, to adopt resolution R2016-04-07 that authorized the Clinton County Drain Commissioner to expend funds for the maintenance of the Bopps Drain.**

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

Meadows Celebration  
Fireworks Contract

**Balzer moved, Daggy seconded, to authorize the Township Clerk to execute the agreement with Night Magic Displays for fireworks at the 2016 Meadows Celebration for an amount not to exceed \$6,000, and to also authorize the Clerk to execute the Application for Fireworks Display Permit and the Permit for Fireworks Display. Motion voted and carried.**

Set Joint Special  
Meeting

**Ross moved, Daggy seconded, to set a joint Special Meeting with the Planning Commission for Monday, May 9, 2016, at 7:30 p.m., to be held in a workshop format, to discuss current issues and work plans. Motion voted and carried.**

Blight Elimination  
Grant Contract

Manager Taylor reviewed his memo, dated April 22, 2016, regarding the Blight Elimination Grant Contract to assist with the costs for the demolition of the Hi-way Motel.

**Ross moved, Balzer seconded, to authorize the Township Manager to proceed with the demolition of the Hi-Way Motel (Apartments) at 16950 Old US-27 and authorize the Township Clerk to execute any agreements related to the Michigan Land Bank Fast Track Blight Elimination Grant. Motion voted and carried.**

REPORTS &  
COMMENTS

Manager Taylor reported the following: the Miracle League Annual Grand Opening will be held May 16th at Eagle Eye; the Community Showcase was a success; the Business Awards are May 5<sup>th</sup> at Hawk Hallow at 5:00; the first meeting of the ad hoc DeWitt Senior Committee was held with another scheduled; he has been appointed to the School Facilities Committee which is currently investigating a millage proposal: some discussion is underway with Case Cares to determine where specific funds will be spent for a playground for kids with all abilities and he will continue to keep DeWitt Township/Miracle League location in the discussion.

Trustee Ross reported that a Next Michigan Development Corporation Meeting will be held Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Balzer reported the following: Building Better Communities Council is working hard to serve clients in the 48906 Clinton County area; April 30<sup>th</sup> is the Historical Gunnisonville event from 1 to 3 p.m.; at the last Clinton County Township Officials meeting it was reported that the St. Johns Library is proposing some changes to align with their school district.

EXTENDED PUBLIC  
COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

**Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor