

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820
August 22, 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 & David Seeger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Brian Ross

ALSO PRESENT Manager Rodney Taylor, Police Chief Brian Russell, Fire Marshal Dave DeKorte, Clinton County Drain Commissioner Phil Hanses, DARA Director Chad Stevens, and several citizens.

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

CONSENT AGENDA **Seeger moved, Musselman seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda which included the following: Township Board Minutes of August 8, 2016 meeting; to receive and place on file the Planning Commission Draft Minutes of August 1, 2016, to receive and place on file the July Investment Report; General Fund Vouchers 66428-66489 & Tax Fund Vouchers 8363-8370. Motion voted and carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT Jeff Schooler, 3217 N. Cedar Street, made the following comments: he thanked the Board for their efforts in the Southern Tier/clean up of the corner of Sheridan Road and BR27 and the shut down and upcoming demolition of the Hi-Way Motel; he questioned what is being done to improve Rotunda Mobile Home Park, and what will be done with the More For Less site.

PRESENTATIONS Clinton County Drain commissioner Phil Hanses, provided an update on the issue Looking Glass River of whether the Looking Glass River is an Intercounty Drainage District. He Drainage Dist/CCDC explained that the Looking Glass Intercounty Drainage Board has been meeting Phil Hanses and doing research on this subject, and a conclusion appears to be reached as to what part of the Looking Glass River is actually in this drainage district, and it appears that only a small portion within Clinton County is/was included in the Looking Glass Intercounty Drainage District and none of DeWitt Township or DeWitt City is included.

There was lengthy discussion about what can be done to clear obstructions on the river within the Township/City and what, if anything, could be done by the Drain Commissioner or the Township. The following points were made:

1)Friends of the Looking Glass are not able to keep up with clearing jams from the river 2)significant jams remain within the Township, with no organized effort able to keep up with clearing them 3)the Looking Glass River is a recognized recreational feature within the Township 4)the Township should attempt to find out what the cost would be to clear existing log jams on the river, and the projected cost for maintaining to keep the river clear in the future.

Manager Taylor will follow up on this issue.

DARA 2017 Budget DARA Director Chad Stevens reviewed the 2017 DARA Budget.

Musselman moved, Balzer seconded, to receive and place on file the proposed 2017 DARA Budget. Motion voted and carried.

COMMISSIONER REPORT None present.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: Activity Report; Clinton County Sheriff July Statistics; invitation to the Granger Neighbors Open House.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS CCEA Contract Manager Taylor reviewed his memo, dated August 19, 2016, regarding the proposed new contract with the Clinton County Economic Alliance (CCEA) for economic development services. The contract included figures for 2016 (\$8,000) 2017 (\$10,000) and 2018 (\$12,000).

Mosier moved, Musselman seconded, to authorize the Township Clerk and Township Manager to execute an agreement with the Clinton County Economic Alliance to provide community and economic development services as detailed in their proposed contract. Motion voted and carried.

2017 Budget Presentation/Cont'd Expanding on the issues covered at the last meeting, Manager Taylor reviewed the following:
Relating to Revenues: 1)property values/all classes but noting that more than 70% of Township is classified Residential 2)how personal property tax reform has affected our revenues 3)the current and proposed millage rate at 3.9736 mills with a max of 4.4726 mills that could be levied, leaving a balance of .4999 mills available for levy without a vote of the people 4)surrounding millage rates, compared to DeWitt Township 5)current Revenue Sharing monies being

received from the State, and other sources of significant revenues in our 2017 Budget 6)overview of 425 revenues/reserves; 7)permit revenues and how they reflect growth; 8)Sewer Fund Revenues from usage fees and tap in fees.

Also reviewed relating to the 2017 Budget: MERS future debt and how it will be paid (equates to .2 mill tax increase, or \$90k per year, or \$25 for each \$250,000 home).

Discussion will continue at the next meeting when the proposed 2017 proposed Expenditures are presented.

REPORTS &
COMMENTS

Nancy Drolett, 13620 Juniper, thanked the Board for their commitment to our community. She also provided written invitations to the Gunnisonville Community Historical Day being held Sunday, August 28th.

Police Chief Russell reported that the Township Police Department was just approved for a couple of grants totaling approximately \$10,000.

Clerk Mosier commended the Chief/Police Department on their handling of the press and their outreach for community help relating to the recent hit and run on Airport Road.

DARA Director Chad Stevens noted that he recently had a ten year anniversary with DARA and he thanked the Board for their support during his tenure. Supervisor Galardi thanked Chad for his contribution to the success of DARA.

Manager Taylor reported the following: update on the Schavey Road Project, which is nearing completion; the Garden Club is looking for a place to plant daffodils and has reached out to the Township; the Hi-Way motel demo has been delayed until September due to State/DEQ requirements; the summer drought has affected the Old 27 (southern tier) pathway restoration, and reseedling is taking place this fall on some areas.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor