

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820  
February 9, 2015 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, Clerk Diane Mosier, and Trustees Johanna Balzer, Brian Ross, and David Seeger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Treasurer Phyllis Daggy and Trustee Stephen Musselman

ALSO PRESENT           Manager Rodney Taylor, Police Chief Brian Russell, Planner Tory Niewiadomski, County Commissioner Ken Mitchell, and several citizens.

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

CONSENT AGENDA       **Seeger moved, Balzer seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda, which included approval of General Operating Fund Vouchers 64095 – 64159 and Tax Fund Vouchers 8118 – 8144; and approval of Township Board Minutes of January 26, 2015. Motion voted and carried.**

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT       None.

PUBLIC HEARING       Supervisor Galardi called to order the Public Hearing to hear comments relative to the Commercial Rehab Exemption Cert – Reno’s North  
Res 2015-02-03       Planner Niewiadomski explained that DBSJ Properties LLC is proposing to rehabilitate a substandard commercial property at 16460 South US27 and open their new business at this location. He also explained that the Economic Development Committee has utilized the Township’s evaluation criteria policy, and is making a recommendation to the Township Board to grant the Exemption Certificate as outlined in his memo, dated February 4, 2015.

Clerk Mosier and Planner Niewiadomski reported that written comments were received prior to this evenings hearing, and that only one call was received with questions from a taxing authority. No public comments were made.

Jessie Stipcak, owner of Reno’s North, was present to answer questions from the Board.

**Mosier moved, Ross seconded, to close the Public Hearing. Motion voted and carried.**

**Balzer moved, Mosier seconded, to approve, based on a unanimous recommendation from the Corridor Improvement Authority, Resolution 2015-02-03 to grant a Commercial Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate to DBSJ Properties LLC (Reno's North) for property located at 16460 S. US 27 identified as parcel 050-033-100-010-00 for an abatement period of ten years.**

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

Supervisor Galardi thanked Stipcak for her investment in the community and for being a large part of the revitalization of the southern tier.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER Commissioner Mitchell reported that the fall 2015 Clean Community Event will be August 29<sup>th</sup>, that the Tower Project for the southern tier of the County is back on track; and the Health Department is being considered for reorganization.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: the monthly Activity Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS LEAP Art Grant Manager Taylor reviewed his memo, dated February 6, 2015, providing information about the Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) Art Grant. The information provided was reviewed and discussed at length. It was determined that the Township will focus on the additional "area" signs (like the Gunnisonville sign), which were previously approved, and commit resources to moving that project forward rather than applying for the LEAP Grant this year. It was noted that additional LEAP Grant opportunities may be available in future years for consideration.

MNRTF Grant **Ross moved, Balzer seconded, to authorize the Township Clerk to execute the Declaration of Restrictions, dated February 9, 2015, for the Looking Glass Riverfront Park as required as part of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant. Motion voted and carried.**

Citizen Petition for Streetlights/Everett Manager Taylor reviewed his memo, dated February 6, 2015, explaining that property owners on Everett Street have submitted petitions to have streetlights installed. He explained the process, and requested that the Board schedule the required Public Hearing.

**Ross moved, Seeger seconded, to set a Public Hearing for March 23, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. to consider the creation of a Special Assessment District along Everett Street for the installation and operation of streetlights under Public Act 246 of 1931 and authorize the Clerk and Township Manager to provide the appropriate notices. Motion voted and carried.**

REPORTS Police Chief Russell reported that he recently attended the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police Conference, noting that he serves as President in District 7 of Mid Michigan. He also provided an update of recent incidents being handled by the department.

Manager Taylor provided an update on the Sidewalk/Pathway project in the southern tier.

Trustee Ross reported that the next meeting of the Next Michigan Development Corporation will be a strategic planning session on February 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

Clerk Mosier explained the possibility of consolidating precincts for the May 5<sup>th</sup> Election.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

ADJOURNMENT **Seeger moved, Balzer seconded, to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor