

DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820
March 27, 2017 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: Dave Fedewa, Steve Musselman, Brian Ross, and David Seeger

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT Manager Rodney Taylor; Police Chief Brian Russell, Fire Marshal Dave DeKorte, Community Development Director Tory Niewiadomski, Clinton County Sheriff Larry Jerue, Clinton County Road Commissioners Gail Watkins and Kevin Holt, Randy Roost with the Board of Water & Light, and several citizens.

INTRODUCTIONS Supervisor Galardi invited introductions.

Dionne O'Dell introduced herself as being with the Lansing Arts Council, and stated that she is also affiliated with Michigan State University as an arts advocate. She stated that in conjunction with Art Appreciation Month, members of their groups are being sent out into communities to introduce their organizations and promote art advocacy. She spoke to the importance of art appreciation and the influx of tourists and dollars that art brings into a community.

Sheriff Larry Jerue introduced himself, stating that he is attempting to visit all municipalities since he took office in January. He provided information on the County Sheriff's Department and the Clinton County Jail. There was a brief discussion about the widespread illegal drug epidemic.

AGENDA **Musselman moved, Seeger 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: approval of the Township Board Minutes of March 13, 2017; to receive and file the Planning Commission draft minutes of March 6, 2017; and approval of General Fund Vouchers 67253 – 67303 and Tax Fund Vouchers 8535 - 8544. Motion voted and carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

PRESENTATIONS

Gail Watkins & Kevin Holt-CCRC Clinton County Road Commissioners Gail Watkins and Kevin Holt (appointed in January) introduced themselves and briefly addressed road issues in the County and the Township.

Board of Water & Light/Randy Roost Manager Taylor introduced Randy Roost, Senior Water Planning Engineer at the Lansing Board of Water and Light. Roost reviewed the DeWitt Charter Township Water Master Plan at length. Board members thanked Roost and commented on the valuable information provided.

COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT None present.

CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence included the following: Clinton County Sheriff February Statistics; Board of Review information from Assessor Tafelsky, 2016 Police Department Annual Report; Thank you from former Fire Chief Fred Koos.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS Step II Review Crowner Farms Site Condos Phase III Community Development Director Niewiadomski reviewed the Planning Commission's recommendation for Step II Review of Crowner Farms, Phase III Site Condominiums, lots 84-107. Developer Tom Motz was available to answer questions from the Board.

Musselman moved, Daggy seconded, to grant Step II approval for the Crowner Farms Condominiums Project (Phase III), based on the plans last revised on January 30, 2017, with a received date of February 1, 2017, based on a recommendation by the Planning Commission, subject to the following conditions: 1)The final plan shall indicate the presence of street lights that meets the requirements of the Township Engineer 2)The Master Deed shall be subject to review and approval by the Township Attorney prior to Step III final plan approval 3)the applicant shall comply with the requirements of all reviewing and permitting agencies 4)the applicant shall obtain all necessary permits and approvals by the DEQ. Motion voted and carried.

Pump Station Rehab/Internal Loan Manager Taylor reviewed his memo, dated March 24, 2017, which outlined a proposal to pay for the Sanitary Sewer Pump Station 102 replacement, the Sanitary Sewer Pump Station 501 Rehabilitation, and the 102 Sanitary Sewer Force Main replacement.

He proposed that the project costs of \$1,770,291 be paid as follows:
1)25% (\$442,500) from the Sewer Fund Balance
2)75% (\$1,327,500 from a loan from the Township's 425 Reserve
3)Repayment of the loan at 3.75% interest over 20 years=\$583,094

Manager Taylor listed the advantages of this approach:

- Keeps a healthy sewer fund balance for future project needs
- Saves bonding costs of \$75,000 to \$100,000 per year
- Better leverages funds currently earning approximately 2.75%
- Spreads the project costs over a long period, allowing future rate payers to pay a share of the improvements

The issue was discussed at length. An amortization schedule was provided.

Musselman moved, Mosier seconded, to authorize a \$1,327,500 20 year loan from the 425 Reserves (Committed Fund Balance) at a 3.75% interest rate for the 102/501 pump station work, and to approve the following budget adjustment to the 2017 Sewer Fund: \$1,270,291 to 590-537-977-000 (Sewer Capital Improvements) from 590-000-390-000 (Sewer Fund Balance). Motion voted and carried.

REPORTS & COMMENTS

Chief Russell reported on a recent incident that resulted in injury to one of our officers. He noted that although the officer is doing well, he has significant injuries to his face from the altercation.

Manager Taylor reported the following: Coleman Road Park is in disrepair, and some decisions will need to be made regarding the park; with current projects planned for the Community Development Department (Planning) and Director Niewiadomski leaving our employment, he has put together an RFP to contract with a consultant to complete work that is underway.

Trustee Ross reported that the Next Michigan Development Committee will meet April 12th at 2:30 pm.

Clerk Mosier reported on the process underway to select new voting equipment for the State and the County, a purchase largely funded through the State, using Federal Help America Vote Act dollars.

Supervisor Galardi addressed Community Development Director Niewiadomski, relating to his recent resignation and employment opportunity in Texas.

He thanked him for his dedicated service to DeWitt Township. Congratulations and well wishes were offered by the entire Board. It was noted that April 3rd will be his last day with the Township.

ADJOURNMENT **Seeger moved, Ross seconded, to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Motion voted and carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mosier, Clerk

Rick Galardi, Supervisor