

**ANN ARBOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2007**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Ann Arbor Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Moran at 7:34 p.m. at the Township Hall, 3792 Pontiac Trail, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48105.

Present: Supervisor Michael Moran, Clerk Rena Basch, Trustees John Allison, Della DiPietro Richard Dieterle and Randolph Perry.

Absent: Treasurer Virginia Forshee.

Also Present: Township Attorney Sandra Sorini Elser, Fire Chief Rick Ericson, Utilities Superintendent Rick Judkins, Comptroller Colleen Coogan, and Township Engineer Damien Wetzel.

II. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION – No citizen signed up for participation.

Allison moved approval to amend the agenda to advance item V.A. after item III. DiPietro seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Corrections to 10/15/07 minutes: On page 3 in the fifth paragraph seventh line strike “has exhausted its resources and” and insert “expended significant resources on this issue, and she”.

DiPietro moved approval of the October 15, 2007 minutes as amended. Allison seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

V.A. Report of Compensation Commission

Moran emailed a copy of the report to all Board members and provided hard copies to members at the meeting. Brad Thompson was present to answer any questions of the Board. The Board discussed compensation for Trustees and how the compensation compares to other townships in the County. **Allison moved approval to accept the Compensation Commission’s report dated November 16, 2007. Dieterle seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

IV. 2008 Budget

A. Presentation

Coogan presented a brief overview of the 2008 budget. Coogan requested the Board accept the budget as presented and amend it in 2008 to incorporate the increases in compensation. The general fund reflects big ticket items for revenue: state revenue sharing, annexations, and property taxes. Legal and professional services are projected to decrease by 35%. The new public safety fund in 2008 will pay for police and fire services and will no longer be paid out of the general fund. Coogan outlined the projected estimated revenues and expenditures for the general, public safety, fire, building department, street lighting, capital improvement plan, farmland preservation and utility funds. Coogan requested the Board to adopt the resolution approving the 2008 General Appropriations Act.

B. Public Hearing

Moran opened the public hearing at 8:09 p.m. Eulalia Stewart, 4040 Danford, commented that the budget was very thorough. Moran closed the public hearing at 8:10 p.m.

C. Board Discussion and Action

Allison noted the revenues reflected in the resolution for the 2008 General Appropriations Act is counted twice in the fire fund and is overstated by \$945,000. Moran requested the actual revenues and expenditures be reflected in the resolution. Coogan indicated the fire fund should reflect \$213,000 for estimated revenues and the public safety fund should reflect estimated expenditures at \$594,012. **Basch moved approval to accept the 2008 General Appropriation Act resolution dated November 19, 2007 with the following changes; in item 5, estimated revenues for the fire fund should reflect \$213, 000 with total revenues of \$5,927,345; and in item 7, estimated expenditures for the public safety fund should reflect \$594,012 with total appropriations at \$4,931,649. Perry seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

V. ANNEXATIONS, ORDINANCES, CONDITIONAL USES, ZONING**A. Annexations – Table of Petitions**

Basch noted the City Council has not yet acted on the petitions for annexations. Moran indicated the petitions should be on the City Council's agenda within the next two weeks. **DiPietro moved approval for the release of annexation for parcels AZ-45-07 through AZ-105A& B-07. Dieterle seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

B. Amendment to Zoning Ordinance Sections 74-173(f), 74-174(f) and add 74-176, 74-542(j) and 74-542(k)

Moran explained these amendments are to clarify standards for granting extensions of expiration dates for site plan and area plan (PUD) approvals. The planning commission recommended approval at its November 5, 2007 meeting. The Township attorney informed the Board there were two cases where petitioners were not able to begin construction because of economic reasons and requested extensions of their site plan and PUD approvals. As part of the process the Township realized the current standards were not very good. These amendments set forth reasons the planning commission may find good cause for extending a site plan or PUD. The planning commission may grant up to a 12 month extension with no more than two 12 month extensions. If the petitioner misses the expiration deadline they can request that the planning commission grant an extension as part of a minor change to the site plan or PUD. **Allison moved approval of the recommended changes to the zoning ordinance to clarify standards for extensions of site plan and area plan approvals. Perry seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

C. Amendment of Zoning Ordinance Section 74-541 Public Lands District

Moran informed the Board the City is proposing some major renovations and improvements to the City's wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Some of the renovations include demolition and partial replacement of the facility that was built in the 1930's. The City is also proposing changing the method for dewatering sludge as well as other changes. The land is currently zoned recreational conservation which makes the WWTP a non-conforming use. Moran said he suggested that the planning commission change the zoning ordinance by adding the WWTP to the public land district as a conditional permitted use and to rezone the current site of the WWTP

from recreational conservation to public lands. The planning commission recommended approval at its November 5, 2007 meeting. Perry expressed concern that the ordinance, as written, would allow a WWTP as a principal permitted use under government buildings. After discussion the Board agreed to consult with the Township planner and have the ordinance amended at a later date to address this issue. **DiPietro moved approval of the amendment to the zoning ordinance section 74-541(b) (5) to add public services and related buildings, structures and facilities such as a public wastewater treatment plant or a public water treatment facility as a permitted conditional use. Allison seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

D. Rezoning for R-C to PL

Moran requested that the Board table this item to allow the Township to prepare the necessary paperwork and to consider the issue in December. **Dieterle moved approval to postpone consideration of rezoning of parcel I-09-36-100-007 from recreational conservation to public lands. DiPietro seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

V. APPOINTMENTS, RESOLUTION, REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS

B. Supervisor's Report

Moran reported the regional police authority had its second meeting with Virchow Krause and received its first report. Moran said the report contained a number of errors. Virchow Krause is in the process of correcting those errors and will be submitting a revised report. Moran explained even with pro-active patrol and a detective bureau the Township would still need fewer personnel than the county is currently charging and would spend less for police services in 2008. The Township has received 12 applications for the building inspector position and has interviewed five candidates. The County has commissioned a \$75,000 study to investigate burning wood to heat the jail. Moran also reported the Township needs two Board of Review candidates by March 2008 and one candidate for the ZBA.

C. Clerk's Report

Basch reported due to a recent court ruling, clerks cannot send out unsolicited AV ballot applications to persons over the age of 60. Basch also reported the January presidential primary is currently on hold due to a recent court ruling which claims the date is unconstitutional; the clerks have been ordered to cease work until a court of appeals decision is reached. Basch also requested that the Board set a date for an Election Commission meeting prior to the December 17th Board meeting. **Dieterle moved approval to set an Election Commission meeting on December 17, 2007 at 7:15 p.m. Allison seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

D. Treasurer's Report

Forshee submitted a written report to the Board.

E. Planning Commission

Allison reported on the planning commission meeting held on November 5th. The minutes were included in the Board's packets.

F. Public Safety

1. Fire Department

Ericson reported the department did a super job in his absence and that the chain of command worked very well. Ericson also reported the department is putting together a bid package for a self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) grant and is working on drafting a new ordinance for emergency radio coverage.

2. Sheriff Department

Lieutenant Heren submitted a written report to the Board.

G. Utilities Department

Judkins reported on the hydro designs back flow program. Judkins also reported he met with Pine Brook's engineer and that the project is moving forward and must be completed soon due to the weather.

H. Building Department

Dresselhouse submitted a written report to the Board.

I. Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board

Allison reported the FOSPB is working on a sustainable agriculture federal grant application for \$20,000; an urban cooperation agreement for the purposes of receiving state funds; and the small farm initiative.

J. Approval of Claims Listing

DiPietro moved approval of the claims listing for October 23, 2007 in the amount of \$4377.30. Allison seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

DiPietro moved approval of the claims listing for November 1, 2007 in the amount of \$481,708.93. Basch seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

DiPietro moved approval of the claims listing for November 14, 2007 in the amount of \$72,800.71. Dieterle seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ONLY ITEMS

Items were included in the Board's packets.

VII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Moran requested that the Board approve the resolution for property tax poverty exemptions. **Dieterle moved approval of the resolution approving guidelines for property tax poverty exemptions. Basch seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Eulalia Stewart, 4040 Danford, commented that she was glad to be at the meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Dieterle moved approval to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 p.m. Allison seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

APPROVED