

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING - **APPROVED** -
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Town Hall Room
TUESDAY, March 17, 2009 **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie, Trustees LeGoff,
Ochberg, Veenstra
ABSENT: Trustee Dreyfus
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning & Development
Mark Kieselbach, Police Chief Dave Hall, EMS/Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Assistant
Manager/ Human Resources Director Paul Brake, Director of Parks & Recreation LuAnn
Maisner, Attorney Andria Ditschman

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
Supervisor McGillicuddy called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Supervisor McGillicuddy led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. ROLL CALL
Supervisor McGillicuddy called the roll of the Board.
4. PUBLIC REMARKS
Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

Molly Wingrove, 2649 Melville Drive, East Lansing, read from a prepared statement expressing opposition to the possible school reconfiguration option currently under discussion by the Okemos School Board to close Wardcliff Elementary School.

[Prepared statement in Official Minute Book]

Ganesh Reddy, 3614 Ponderosa Drive, Okemos, urged the Board to keep honesty, transparency, respect and fiscal prudence in mind when conducting Township business. He suggested the Okemos School Board choose to close a school such as Central Elementary instead of a neighborhood school. Mr. Reddy expressed caution regarding possible violation of citizens' constitutional rights with passage of Zoning Amendment #07050. He urged the Township Board to find a solution to repeated flooding occurrences on North Okemos Road. Mr. Reddy also suggested the elimination of two department head positions and that department heads should utilize cars from the pool instead of having their own Township vehicle.

Leonard Provenchur, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, spoke to the "functional deficiency" of repeated flooding of North Okemos Road. He spoke in support of Zoning Amendment #07050 and requested equitable enforcement of this amendment.

Lynne Page, 3912 Raleigh Drive, Okemos, spoke concerning the Okemos Public Schools long range planning process. She expressed appreciation for Treasurer Brixie's participation as the Township Board representative on the Okemos Public Schools' Long Range Planning Steering Committee. She urged Board members to become informed about the school reconfiguration options currently under consideration, specifically those which affect alternative uses for empty school buildings. She requested the Board place this issue on their agenda as a discussion item before the process is completed.

Teri Banas, 5606 Creekwood Lane, Haslett, introduced a group of students participating in the Stand Up and Speak Out, a student driven enrichment learning program through Murphy Elementary School. She explained that these students have explored what it means to be an active participant in democracy, culminating in circulating petitions on a recreational and environmental issue to bring before policy makers.

Bradley Hudson, 4th grader, Murphy Elementary School, 1875 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett, presented a petition requesting the Board build a spray park near their community.

Jacob Koerner, 5th grader, Murphy Elementary School, petitioned the Board to fix the condition of Lake Lansing Road in front of Murphy Elementary School.

[Petitions on file in the Clerk's office].

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

5. REPORTS/BOARD COMMENT/NEW WORRIES

Trustee LeGoff congratulated the Township on receiving the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness Gold Award for 2008. She expressed disappointment that the Okemos Public School system is considering closing Wardcliff Elementary School. Trustee LeGoff inquired when the Board would revisit the tree ordinance.

Trustee Veenstra also expressed concern regarding the possibility of closing Wardcliff Elementary School. He voiced appreciation that the quarterly status of current litigation is no longer marked confidential which speaks to the Board's policy goal of openness and transparency. Trustee Veenstra added he has learned that a canoe or kayak which is not motorized or being used commercially does not require a registration sticker from the Secretary of State.

Treasurer Brixie announced a semi-annual business breakfast and seminar will be held at the Okemos Library with Chris Holman, Successful Small Business, Yes We Can on Friday, April 24, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. She added she met with a group of residents at their request who are interested in improving bicycling within the Township. Treasurer Brixie stated one of the issues talked about was improving bicycle parking in the Township and inquired if the Board was interested in placing this topic on a future agenda for discussion.

Treasurer Brixie reported the final public hearing for the Okemos Public School Steering Committee was held on March 16, 2009. She stated the steering committee will hold its final meeting to formulate its recommendation to the school board on Thursday, March 19, 2009 from 4:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Meridian Senior Center. Treasurer Brixie asked her fellow Board members to think about future uses of public school buildings which may no longer be used for school purposes. She indicated that, as the Township representative, she gave information to the steering committee that all schools in the Okemos School District are on land zoned residential, provided them with types of uses which are allowed in the residential zoning district by special use permit (.e.g., daycare, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, etc.) and the Township's rezoning procedures.

Manager Richards announced a special Recycling Event on Saturday, April 25, 2009. He indicated some of the accepted items are colored glass, polystyrene, all plastic and pharmaceuticals.

Supervisor McGillicuddy reported her attendance at the Michigan Municipal League meeting during which she inquired of Grand Rapids as to its parking code. She learned Grand Rapids does not have parking requirements for the downtown area; however, there are parking requirements for surrounding and outlying areas of a maximum of two (2) parking spaces for every 1,000 feet.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA — OR CHANGES

Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Veenstra.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor McGillicuddy reviewed the consent agenda.

Treasurer Brixie moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie

NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

The adopted Consent Agenda items are as follow:

A. Communications

1). Board Information (BI)

BI-1 Neil J. Lehto, Attorney and Counselor at Law, 1197 Eaton Road, Berkley; RE:
Video Franchise Update

(2). Staff Communication/Referral (SC)

SC-1 Memorandum from Cindy Cummings, Police Records Supervisor; RE: Current list
of licensed vendors and non-licensed persons or nonprofit organizations engaged in
soliciting or canvassing dated February 27, 2009

SC-2 Memorandum from Cindy Cummings, Police Records Supervisor; RE: Current list
of licensed vendors and non-licensed persons or nonprofit organizations engaged in
soliciting or canvassing dated March 5, 2009

SC-3 Memorandum of transmittal from Assistant Township Manager/Human Resources
Director Paul Brake; RE: Elected Officials Compensation Commission
Determination of Salaries for Elected Officials - 2009 and 2010

**Treasurer Brixie moved that the communications be received and placed on file, and any
communications not already assigned for disposition be referred to the Township Manager
or Supervisor for follow-up. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie

NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

B. Minutes

**Treasurer Brixie moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the March 3, 2009 Regular
Meeting as amended. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie

NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

C. Bills

Treasurer Brixie moved that the Township Board approve the Manager's Bills as follows:

Common Cash	\$ 292,930.42
Public Works	\$ 277,917.03
Flex Spending	
- Check #1 (Meritain)	605.50
Total Checks	\$ 571,452.95
Credit Card Transactions	\$ 7,225.19
Total Purchases	<u>\$ 578,678.14</u>
ACH Payments	<u>\$ 348,993.11</u>

Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

[Bill list in Official Minute Book]

D. Amendments to Teamster Collective Bargaining Agreement

Treasurer Brixie moved approval of the amendments to the Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2009-2011 as tentatively agreed to and approved by the Teamsters as described in the March 13, 2009 staff memorandum and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the same. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

E. Parks Grant Applications' Resolutions

1. Towner Road Park Development, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the resolution to authorize grant application for improvements to Towner Road Park – Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor
McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

2. North Meridian Road Park Restroom Building, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the resolution to authorize grant application for improvements to North Meridian Road Park – Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor
McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

3. Central Park Fishing Dock, DNR Inland Fisheries Grant
Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the resolution to authorize grant application for improvements to Central Park – Inland Fisheries Program. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor
McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

4. Central Park Fishing Dock, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the resolution to authorize grant application for improvements to Central Park – Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor
McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- F. Harris Nature Center Foundation Gap Funding Request
Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the “Resolution to support the Harris Nature Center Foundation Grant Application.” Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- G. Disposal of Surplus Township Vehicles
Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the sale of the following four (4) surplus Township vehicles for public auction, internet auction, or by sealed bid:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Make & Model</u>	<u>VIN Number</u>
2003	Ford Expedition	1FMOU15L03LCO3738
2002	Ford Crown Victoria	AFAFP71W42X149376
2003	Ford Taurus	1FAHP53083G207263
2000	Ford Ranger	1FTYR10X6YTA23742

Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

8. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY (See Agenda Item # 10A)

- Q. I note that what we just passed on behalf of the Harris Nature Center Foundation Gap Funding Request is part of an item on our Public Improvement Programs for the expansion of the Harris Nature Center. Does there need to be two what used to be called “Section 9 Reviews” or one and when would be the appropriate time to have the hearings for such a project?
A. When they’re scheduled or if they’re scheduled?

DIRECTOR KIESELBACH RESPONSE: Those projects have not been referred yet to the Planning Commission.

- Q. When is the appropriate time in a grant procedure like this?

DIRECTOR KIESELBACH RESPONSE: The way the act is stated it is prior to construction.

9. HEARINGS

- A. Herron Creek Sanitary Sewer SAD #50
Supervisor McGillicuddy opened the public hearing at 6:35 P.M.
Director Kieselbach summarized the sanitary sewer special assessment district as outlined in staff memorandum dated March 13, 2009.

Craig Sturk, 2824 Bennett Road, Okemos, representative for ICD Properties, WI Properties, Schultz Veterinary Clinic and Dr. and Mrs. William Schultz, requested the Board consider a twenty (20) year assessment instead of the proposed ten (10) years due to the downturn in the economy.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed the public hearing at 6:38 P.M.

10. ACTION ITEMS/ENDS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened public comment.

Will Tyler White, 2142-1/2 Hamilton Road, Okemos, believed Zoning Amendment #07050 would create more problems than it would solve. He urged the Board to move to the next step beyond Zoning Amendment #08120 and look at the entire Township relative to on street parking, parking structures and shared parking with mixed use.

Lynne Page, President, Briarwood Homeowners Association, 3912 Raleigh Drive, Okemos, expressed appreciation for Board action on Zoning Amendment #07050 and requested the Board continue work by amending the ordinance to prohibit storage of recreational vehicles in the public road right-of-way.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed public comment.

- A. Zoning Amendment #07050 (Planning Commission), request to amend Section 86-2 Definitions, Section 86-368(b)(9) Outdoor Storage of a trailer or recreational vehicle, and Section 86-506 Outdoor Storage of commercial vehicles and trailers, to facilitate regulation of recreational and utility trailer storage in single-family residential districts, **Final Adoption**

Clerk Helmbrecht moved [and read into the record] NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby FINALLY ADOPTS Ordinance No. 2009-02 entitled “Ordinance Amending the Code of the Charter Township of Meridian, Michigan, Chapter 86, Article I, by amending Section 86-2, and Chapter 86, Article V, Division 2, by amending Section 86-503.”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Clerk of the Charter Township of Meridian is directed to publish the Ordinance in the form in which it is finally adopted at least once prior to the next regular meeting of the Township Board. Seconded by Trustee Ochberg.

Trustee Veenstra offered the following amendment:

- **Delete proposed language in Section 86-503(a) and insert the following:
“No inoperative recreational vehicle, watercraft and/or trailer shall be stored outdoors in any residential district, or if it is leaking fluids.”**

Seconded by Trustee LeGoff.

Board members discussed the following:

- Belief the proposed amendment simplifies the language and removes duplicate and subjective language
- Amendment would delete the Township requirement for registration
- Amendment would prohibit additional leaking fluids, e.g., antifreeze, brake fluid, etc.
- Belief that the registration requirement to store recreational vehicles is an invasion of an owner’s property rights

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Veenstra
NAYS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie
Motion failed 1-5.

Necessity for republication if amendments are added: (See Agenda Item # 8 (Questions for the Attorney))

Q. Do we have to republish the first time if we change the word “fuel” to “fluids”?

A. You do not need to republish it.

Trustee Ochberg offered the following amendment:

- **Delete the word “fuel” and insert the word “fluids”**

Seconded by Trustee LeGoff.

Board members discussed the following:

- Determination that water and Kool-Aid are fluids

Trustee Ochberg withdrew her amendment.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht
NAYS: Trustees LeGoff, Veenstra, Treasurer Brixie
Motion failed 3-3.

ATTORNEY COMMENT: It fails, because a zoning amendment needs four (4) affirmative votes.

Trustee Ochberg moved to reconsider the vote on Zoning Amendment #07050.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Board members discussed the following:

- Belief that under Board adopted Robert's Rules of Order, a member voting in the affirmative must move for reconsideration
- Reconsideration of this vote at the next Board meeting

- B. Zoning Amendment #08120 (Township Board), amendment to reduce the number of off-street parking spaces required for office uses

Treasurer Brixie moved [and read into the record] NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby INTRODUCES FOR PUBLICATION AND SUBSEQUENT ADOPTION Ordinance No. _____, entitled "Ordinance Amending the Code of the Charter Township of Meridian, Michigan, Chapter 86, Article VIII, Division 2, by amending Section 86-755." Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- C. Final Plat #05012 (Eyde), Georgetown #2

Trustee Ochberg moved [and read into the record] NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN re-approves the Final Plat of Georgetown No. 2. Seconded by Treasurer Brixie.

Board members discussed the following:

- Addition of a ten foot easement to provide access to Franklin Park South

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- D. Essential Wetland Determination, Delta Dental

Treasurer Brixie moved [and read into the record] NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, pursuant to Section 22-156 of the Township Code of Ordinances, hereby identifies Township Wetland #28-6 (Wetland A), two unnumbered Township Wetlands (Wetland B and C), and Township Wetland #28-4 (Wetland D), located at 4100 Okemos Road, as essential to the preservation of the natural resources of the Charter Township of Meridian. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

Board members discussed the following:

- Determination necessary to allow remediation for work done in the wetland
- Wetland A is .6 acres in size
- Language in the resolution concerning wetlands providing wildlife habitat for migratory waterfowl seems contradictory to plans included in the special use permit for the Delta Dental expansion project which provided for natural vegetation where geese congregate in order to eliminate them
- Delta Dental wetland currently draws waterfowl other than geese

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

11. DISCUSSION ITEMS/ENDS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened public comment.

Lynne Page, President, Briarwood Homeowners Association, 3912 Raleigh Drive, urged maintenance and utility of the portion of Okemos Road north of Grand River to keep the road from flooding. She expressed opposition to a reduction in the current number of lanes on Okemos Road to install a roundabout at the intersection of Okemos and Hamilton Roads.

Craig Sturk, 2824 Bennett Road, Okemos, representative for ICD Properties, WI Properties, Schultz Veterinary Clinic and Dr. and Mrs. William Schultz, amended his earlier public comment to state he supports the Herron Creek Sanitary Sewer SAD only if the Board approves the assessment for twenty (20) years.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed public comment.

A. Herron Creek Sanitary Sewer Special Assessment District #50

Board members discussed the following:

- Financial impact on the Township to change the assessment payback from ten (10) years to twenty (20) years
- Monies already expended from the TIRF Fund
- Township has consistently charged five percent (5%) interest to affected property owners
- Twenty (20) year payback districts have previously been approved
- Small number of property owners in the assessment district to repay approximately \$600,000 offers rationale to extending the terms of repayment to twenty (20) years in these difficult economic times
- Nonpayment of special assessment districts is treated the same as real property taxes and turned over delinquent to Ingham County on March 1st which could result in forfeiture proceedings at the end of two (2) years

It was the consensus of the Board to place this item on for action at the April 7, 2009 Board meeting.

B. Bill Conklin, Managing Director, Ingham County Road Commission (ICRC)

Board members and Mr. Conklin discussed the following:

- Appreciation to Meridian Township Police Department for addressing speeding motorists during ICRC patching of Mt. Hope Road
- North Okemos Road water course contains Pine Lake Outlet which works its way down to the Red Cedar River south of Grand River
- North Okemos Road has a low lying road grade combined with fairly high water surface
- Only real solution is to raise North Okemos Road and build a long bridge over the wide, flat, slow moving water course
- Water course has little hydraulic gradient which is essentially the slope of the water surface going “downstream”

- Large amount of water in the basin backs up by nature
- Area is also an ancient valley which has filled in with deep muck
- Raising the road would require extensive sediment excavation with use of sheet piling
- Other creative ideas include pilings and cribbing which would also be expensive
- Approximate project cost of \$6 to \$10 million to raise the road and correct the problem
- Estimate of bridge structure cost at \$4-\$6 million with \$3-\$4 million for road reconstruction
- Installation of multiple large culverts as a less desirable option due to snagging of debris and uneven equalization of water flow among culverts results in “silting up” which requires more maintenance
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) practice is to raise the road and construct a bridge structure
- Mr. Conklin to apprise Tri-County of the change in its long range plan option list from widening North Okemos Road to five (5) lanes to correcting the grade and building a bridge structure
- Tri-County’s long range plan option list is “out” for public input at this time
- Estimate for widening North Okemos Road did not anticipate the need to raise the road and build a bridge structure
- Flooding of North Okemos Road seen as a health and safety concern as it impedes emergency vehicles
- First priority in fixing the Township’s roads was to fill the biggest and most damaging potholes on primary and major roads
- Material currently in use by ICRC is cold patch material at a cost of \$103 per ton
- More detailed patching in the Township will begin next week with the use of hot mix asphalt purchased at half of the cold patch cost from Michigan Department of Transportation’s asphalt plant set up to repair US-127 between I-96 and I-496
- Potholes not filled to the top in cold weather to avoid being scraped out by snow plows
- Low and small potholes will be “topped” next week with hot mix asphalt
- Subdivision potholes will be filled next week
- Cornell Road has several deep muck deposits and would be safer for motorists if pulverized into crushed asphalt
- Primary roads needing road repair in the Township identified as Bennett, Dobie, Hamilton, Haslett, Kinawa, Lake Lansing, Marsh, Mt. Hope and Okemos Roads
- ICRC repair in 2009 for primary roads using conventional federal aid and stimulus monies:
 - Hamilton between Okemos and Marsh Roads (conventional federal aid monies)
 - Some work on the Marsh roundabout and then north on Marsh to Grand River Avenue (conventional federal aid monies)
 - Marsh Road from Tihart to the Grand Trunk/CNN railroad overpass south of Haslett (stimulus monies)
 - Marsh Road from Baker Street (north of Lake Lansing Road) to BL-69 in conjunction with Clinton County (stimulus monies)
- ICRC road crew to repair Dobie Road just north of Hatch Road and near Jolly Road this summer using a recycling machine
- ICRC road work in 2010 scheduled for all of Mt. Hope Road using conventional federal aid monies:
 - Portion of Mt. Hope east of Farm Lane will be widened to accommodate parking expansion relative to the Super Collider and other Michigan State University development
 - Outer lanes of Haslett Road between Hagadorn and Okemos Roads need to be drilled and explored to determine if there are drainage structure and drainage pipe failures and then extensive links of the outer lanes will require reconstruction
- ICRC road work on the conventional federal aid list for 2013:
 - Lake Lansing Road from and including Okemos Road over to Marsh Road
 - Possibility of the Township working with ICRC to “advance construct”
 - ICRC proposal to convert the four (4) lane section from Bois Isle east towards Marsh Road to three (3) lanes with bicycle lanes on each side
 - Widen the two (2) lane section west through to Okemos Road to provide a left turn lane onto southbound Okemos and then continue the three (3) lanes to Sleepy Hollow Street
 - Haslett Road between Okemos and Marsh Roads
- Construction of modern roundabouts in Meridian Township

- Ideal roundabout for the Okemos/Hamilton Road intersection should be two (2) lanes all the way around to have a northbound and right turn lane occur together from the south leg of Okemos Road to accommodate evening peak hour traffic
 - Two (2) lanes needed from the east leg of Hamilton Road heading south on the south leg without interfering with southbound Okemos Road joining the roundabout during the morning peak hour traffic
 - ICRC belief the location of Okemos and Hamilton Roads is not large enough to accommodate the number of lanes most desired to operate without traffic backups
 - ICRC recommendation for a design charrette or a public workshop and more hearings to determine the sensitivity of the available data from the consultant regarding traffic delays
 - Other creative solutions if two (2) lanes are not feasible such as some of the “ring” streets handling a portion of the traffic
 - Other desired benefits of the proposed roundabout are traffic calming, accident reduction, increased accessibility to businesses and enhancement in pedestrian safety
- Conventional federal aid projects require a twenty percent (20%) local match and the ICRC is asking Meridian Township to contribute ten percent (10%)
- The ICRC sometimes “borrows” from outlying projects to complete current projects if the Township cannot meet the ten percent (10%) portion of the match which has a trickle down effect of delaying those outlying projects from year to year
- Suggestion by Mr. Conklin for the Township to borrow ICRC’s local match portion of its local road program for funding primary roads
 - Such action would be a resource allocation decision which decreases available funding for local road repair
- ICRC’s matching program administrative fee
 - Fee revised from a blanket seven percent (7%) to a formula based on reimbursable labor costs and overhead operating charges assessed only to the labor
- Meridian Township to receive between one-fourth and one-third of the stimulus funding received in Ingham County (\$650,00 of just over \$2 million)
- Stimulus funding for Ingham County equaled approximately one year of conventional federal aid revenue
- ICRC generally allocates approximately one-half of the urban federal aid money to Meridian Township for road repair
- ICRC allocation of stimulus dollars and conventional federal aid dollars evenly assigned within the urban townships
- Hannah Boulevard currently listed as a local road but needs to be changed
- Primary and local road designations are governed by PA 51 of 1951 and MDOT administrative rules
- ICRC will look at the key road parameters (traffic volume, speed, functional importance, functional classification) to determine if the Hannah Boulevard designation can be changed to a primary road
- Completion of proposed developments in the area may change the status of Hannah Boulevard
- Benefit of making the change for Hannah Boulevard from a local to primary road would be difficult to detect
- Possible future Board discussion on changing Hannah Boulevard to a primary road
- Increase in the state gas tax would provide additional road repair funds for the ICRC
- Marsh Road between Grand River Avenue and Tihart Road on Tri-County’s long range plan options list for potential future widening (including a center turn lane where one does not currently exist)
- Possible redistribution of unused stimulus money to Michigan could be used to repair Marsh Road between Grand River and Tihart
- Spray patching and cold patching can result in some loose stones and traffic is expected to compact the material
- Caution when walking roads within the Township which have posted loose stones signs

12. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

Ganesh Reddy, 3614 Ponderosa Drive, Okemos, pointed out the quarterly status of current litigation was not in this evening's public packet. He expressed appreciation for Board attention to the flooding of North Okemos Road.

Lynne Page, President, Briarwood Homeowners Association, 3912 Raleigh Drive, Okemos, spoke in support of a change to the wording in Zoning Amendment #07050 from "oil or fuel" to "liquids". She believed residents did not intend for the Township to use road preservation millage monies on primary roads. Ms. Page endorsed holding public hearings before more Township and/or DDA funds are expended on a proposed roundabout at the Hamilton/Okemos Road intersection.

Ms. Page added Bennett Road between Okemos Road and the Hulett roundabout is in poor condition. She noted a sawhorse with an inoperable flashing light has been placed in one of the potholes and is dangerous at night. She inquired if there is right of way to extend the right turn lane for eastbound Bennett Road at Okemos due to stacking on the shoulder of the road. Ms. Page asked if a list of road construction and repair using road preservation millage monies will be posted as public information.

Will Tyler White, 2142-1/2 Hamilton Road, Okemos, spoke in support of widening both North Okemos Road and Lake Lansing Road to three (3) lanes.

Louis Shelburg, 2825 Roseland, East Lansing, spoke to the reconfiguration option currently under discussion by the Okemos Public School Board for Wardcliff Elementary School.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

13. FINAL BOARD COMMENT

Trustee Veenstra urged Board members to support his amendment on Zoning Amendment #07050 and he will support the regulation on outdoor storage of recreational vehicles. He suggested staff prepare an amendment for the next meeting to prohibit outdoor storage of recreational vehicles in the public right of way.

Trustee Veenstra expressed support for improved bicycle parking and hoped the Board would support incorporated language in the Township's code to require it. He also voiced support to renew a tree protection ordinance and inquired when it would be on a future agenda.

Trustee Veenstra asked when the Board would receive a report on the Township's energy conservation efforts.

Manager Richards responded he will provide a report at the next meeting.

Trustee Veenstra requested staff provide a report on Township use of LED parking lot lights and streetlights.

Manager Richards added he is working with Consumers Energy and dependent upon its schedule. He noted the Consumers Energy engineer stated LED lights do not really save energy. Manager Richards indicated staff is working with Consumers Energy to have a test site here, one of which is in the parking area by replacing the current cobrahead lights.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McGillicuddy adjourned the meeting at 8:52 P.M.

SUSAN MCGILLICUDDY
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT, CMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Sandra K. Otto, Secretary