

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING **-APPROVED-**
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Township Hall Room
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2019 **6:00 pm.**

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Wisinski

ABSENT: Trustee Sundland

STAFF: Township Manager Walsh, Director of Public Works Perry, Police Chief Plaga, Information Technology Director Gebes, Community Planning Director Kieselbach, Fire Chief Hamel, Principal Planner Menser, Communications Director Guthrie, Economic Development Director Buck

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Styka called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Styka led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

The Recording Secretary called the roll of the Board.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Citizen Survey Results

Assistant Township Manager Perry provided a summary of the results collected from the 2018 Citizen Survey.

B. 2018 Township Annual Report

Township Manager Walsh provided details on the 2019 Township Annual Report; available online, at Township buildings, and at local libraries.

C. ADDED – Recognition of Parks and Recreation Director LuAnn Maisner

Director Maisner was recognized for receiving the prestigious Michigan Recreation and Park Association Fellowship Award.

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Styka opened public remarks at 6:26 pm.

Lynne Page, 3912 Raleigh Dr., Okemos; spoke in opposition to the Medical Marihuana Non-Zoning Ordinance (Agenda Item 12C).

Tom Hitch, 601 Abbot Rd., East Lansing; spoke in support of Rezoning #18140 (Hitch) – Introduction (Agenda Item 12B).

Randy Kindy, 5642 Creekwood Ln., Haslett; spoke in support of the Copper Creek mediation efforts (non-agenda) and PUD #18014 (Haslett Holding LLC) Copper Creek (Agenda Item 12A).

Supervisor Styka closed public remarks at 6:34 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Township Manager reported: Farmer's Market relocation update, MSU Sustainability Department meeting, Citizen Survey to be shared, upcoming Village of Okemos concept plan, Parks Commission appointment, Robin's Way rezoning.

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clerk Dreyfus reported:

- Was asked to join the Michigan Municipal League Elections & Municipal Services Committee; provided first meeting details.

Trustee Jackson reported:

- Attended Lansing Economic Area Partnership meeting; discussed local economic growth.

Treasurer Deschaine reported:

- Taxes due February 14th; postmarks not accepted, drop-box available, auto-pay/credit card payment available.
- Attended Transportation Commission meeting; discussed future of CATA Redi-Ride.
- Attended Capital Area Treasurer's Association meeting.
- Economic Development Corporation meeting at 7:30 am, February 7th.

Trustee Opsommer reported:

- Township recently accepted Marketplace on the Green donation from Walmart Foundation.

Trustee Wisinski reported:

- Attended the recognition event for Director Maisner.
- Announced current Park Commission opening.
- Attended the North Meridian Road Park Pavilion ribbon cutting and sledding event.
- Patronicity fundraiser for Marketplace on the Green continues until February 8th.

Supervisor Styka reported:

- Attended CIA meeting; survey to businesses along GR corridor.
- Announced the Chinese New Year celebration at the Meridian Mall, February 6.

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Opsommer moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor Styka reviewed the consent agenda.

Clerk Dreyfus moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Dreyfus, Trustees Wisinski, Opsommer, Jackson, Supervisor Styka

NAYS:
Motion carried 6-0

A. Communications

Clerk Dreyfus 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 Trustee Jackson.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Dreyfus, Trustees Wisinski, Opsommer, Jackson, Supervisor Styka

NAYS:
Motion carried 6-0

B. Minutes

(1) January 22, 2019 Regular Meeting

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 22, 2019 as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

(2) January 15, 2019 Joint Meeting

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the Joint Meeting of January 15, 2019 as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Dreyfus, Trustees Wisinski, Opsommer, Jackson, Supervisor Styka

NAYS:
Motion carried 6-0

C. Bills

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve that the Township Board approve the Manager’s Bills as follows, seconded by Trustee Jackson:

Common Cash		\$	266,972.40
Public Works		\$	18,344.22
Trust & Agency		\$	1,741,166.35
	Total Checks	\$	2,026,482.97
Credit Card Transactions		\$	7,181.71
Jan. 18 th to Jan. 31 st			
	Total Purchases	\$	2,033,664.68
ACH Payments		\$	757,923.20

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Dreyfus, Trustees Wisinski, Opsommer, Jackson, Supervisor Styka

NAYS:
Motion carried 6-0

D. Okemos Boardwalk Project Bid Approval

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve the 2019 Okemos Road Boardwalk project contract to Eastern MI Contracting in the amount of \$886,620.00, and authorize Assistant Township Manager, Derek Perry, to sign the contract. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Dreyfus, Trustees Wisinski, Opsommer, Jackson, Supervisor Styka

NAYS:
Motion carried 6-0

E. Georgetown #4 SAD – Resolution #4

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve Georgetown #4 Public Streetlighting Improvement Special Assessment District #427- Resolution #4, which sets a public hearing for March 5, 2019, for the purpose of reviewing and hearing objections to the special assessment roll. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Dreyfus, Trustees Wisinski, Opsommer, Jackson, Supervisor Styka

NAYS:
Motion carried 6-0

10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY – NONE

11. HEARINGS - NONE

12. ACTION ITEMS

A. PUB #18014 (Haslett Holding LLC) Copper Creek

Trustee Jackson moved to adopt the resolution approving Planned Unit Development #18014. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

Board discussion: lot size/set-back waivers, standards of emergency roads, type of emergency road construction, paved vs unpaved, use of pedestrian pathway,

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Opsommer, Jackson, Wisinski, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Deschaine

NAYS:
Motion carried 6-0

B. Rezoning #18140 (Hitch) – **Introduction**

Trustee Jackson moved to adopt the resolution to introduce Rezoning Petition #18140 for publication and subsequent adoption. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.

Board discussion: other possible rezoning options., fittingness of Office and Professional zoning.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Clerk Dreyfus, Supervisor Styka, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Opsommer, Jackson, Wisinski

NAYS:
Motion carried 6-0

C. Medical Marihuana Non Zoning Ordinance – **Introduction**

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve the resolution for the introduction of the amendment to the Code of Ordinances to add Chapter 40 Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities and amend the Township Fee Schedule to include an Initial Application Fee of \$5,000 and Annual/Renewal Application Fee of \$5,000. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

Board discussion: Board began official community discussion on marijuana at August 8, 2018 Board meeting, concerns extensively discussed include odor, location of facilities, proximity to neighborhoods, number of provisioning centers, safety, economic factors, election results in Meridian Township: 2008 – 64% voted yes for medical marijuana, 2018 – 60% voted yes for recreational marijuana, Police Chief opinion, processing and secure transporting operation permits vs. market demand, prequalification from LARA, specifications of future zoning ordinance.

Treasurer Deschaine moved to reduce Processor Permits and Secure Transporter Permits on Page 3, Section 40-28(2) from “6” to “3” permits. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

VOICE VOTE ON AMENDMENT: Motion carried 6-0

Trustee Opsommer moved to add language on Page 5, Section 40-30(1)(c)(1)(ii) after “Documentation sufficient to prove that an owner...” that reads “...or a combination of owners...” Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

Board discussion: wording of amendment, residency requirements. Specific language to be provided by attorney.

VOICE VOTE ON AMENDMENT: Motion carried 6-0

Trustee Opsommer moved to have Township attorneys consider adding language in the ordinance to set a time-limit for submitting pre-qualification to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs before applying with the Township. Seconded by Trustee Deschaine.

Trustee Opsommer withdrew his motion to amend. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

Motion withdrawn.

Trustee Opsommer moved to add language on Page 5, Section 40-30(1)(c)(1)(iii) after “...30 months after issuance of the Permit” that reads “...and final qualification through the Department” Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

Board discussion: Application time-limit language, set date vs period after application, existing pre-qualification requirement, number of months required to maintain business before selling. Attorney to provide language consistent with motion.

VOICE VOTE ON AMENDMENT: Motion carried 6-0

Trustee Opsommer moved to have Township attorneys consider adding a provision that states the Township does not accept any “provisional qualification” from The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

VOICE VOTE ON AMENDMENT: Motion carried 6-0

ROLL CALL VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION:

YEAS: Trustees Wisinski, Jackson, Opsommer, Supervisor Styka, Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Dreyfus

NAYS:

Motion carried 6-0

D. Resolution Commemoration Black History Month

Trustee Wisinski moved to approve the resolution commemoration Black History Month. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

Board discussion: Trustee Wisinski read the resolution.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried: 6-0

E. ZBA Appointment

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve the appointment made by Supervisor Styka of Rick Shafer, as an alternate, to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3-year term ending 12/31/2021. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried: 6-0

F. Resolution Approving Interlocal Tax Sharing Agreements

Trustee Opsommer moved to adopt the resolution approving the Interlocal Tax Sharing Agreements. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

Board discussion: Support of downtown redevelopment, Tax Increment Financing (TIF) plan should be presented after a concept plan is presented, scope of project can be concern, TIF can be effective tool, DDA can't be amended before a proposal, downtown Okemos developer identified, determining costs of environmental clean-up, taxing jurisdictions support, resolution allows entering into agreements with taxing jurisdictions, development plans will be reviewed by Board, TIF will allow for improvements regardless of Board's acceptance of plan.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Opsommer, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Trustees Wisinski, Jackson

NAYS: Clerk Dreyfus

Motion carried 5-1

13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Transportation Commission Recommendation on Local Road Millage

Board discussion: Resolution passed by Transportation Commission, importance of road quality, support of 2 mills, support of achieving good/fair levels, Board evaluation at end of 10 years, current road millage is ¼ mill, positives of asset management plan, lack of statewide construction capacity, high interest from citizens, importance of millage education, use of new millage, road maintenance issues, analysis of road bed quality, proposed millage goal is all roads in Township at "good or better" within 10 years and ongoing maintenance.

Board consensus to see this Agenda Item at a future Board meeting.

14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Styka Opened Public Remarks at 8:29 pm.

Lynne Page, 3912 Raleigh Dr., Okemos; stated that Board/public dialogue is important. Spoke in opposition to Agenda Item 12C.

Chris Buck, 2442 Loon Ln., Okemos; spoke on the issue of the Interlocal Tax Sharing Agreement (Agenda Item 12F).

Supervisor Styka Closed Public Remarks at 8:32 pm.

15. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

16. CLOSED SESSION – Review Pending Litigation

Treasurer Deschaine moved the Township Board meet in closed session under sections 8E and H regarding settlement strategy in connection with Meridian Mall Limited Partnership v. Meridian Charter Township, and Michigan Department of Treasury as co-respondent, MTT Docket #18-001420. Seconded by Trustee Jackson

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Wisinski, Trustee Opsommer

NAYS:

Motion carried 6-0

Supervisor Styka moved into closed session at 8:36 pm.

Clerk Dreyfus moved to return to open session. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0

Supervisor Styka moved the meeting out of closed session at 8:38 pm.

Clerk Dreyfus moved that the Township moved forward with the settlement agreement recommended during Closed Session. Seconded by Trustee Deschaine.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Wisinski, Trustee Opsommer

NAYS:

Motion carried 6-0

17. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Opsommer moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Deschaine.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0

Supervisor Styka adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

RONALD J. STYKA,
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

BRETT DREYFUS,
TOWNSHIP CLERK