

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES - **APPROVED** -  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198  
349-1200, Town Hall Room  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2000, **4:00 P.M. — 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such  
ABSENT: Trustee McGillicuddy  
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Police Chief Gary Gibbons, EMS/Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Director of Parks & Recreation LuAnn Maisner, Director of Finance Diana Hasse, Computer Specialist Stephen Gebes

1. CALL BUDGET WORKSHOP TO ORDER

Supervisor McCullough called the Work Session to order at 4:10 p.m.

2. PUBLIC REMARKS (None Present)

3. BUDGET REVIEW

- Director of Parks and Recreation – LuAnn Maisner  
Parks Commission .....pages 42-43  
Parks and Recreation Administration pages 44-45  
Snell Towar Recreation .....pages 46-47  
Park Development .....page 50  
Park Millage Fund .....pages 62-70  
Park Restricted/Designation .....pages 71-72  
Nancy Moore Park .....page 73

Board Members discussed:

- Internships/Seasonal Labor
  - Possible Snell Towar Recreation Facility Expansion
  - Nancy Moore Park Fund Use
- Township Manager – Gerald Richards  
Township Board .....pages 4-5  
Information Services .....pages 18-19  
Associations & Authorities pages 54-55  
CATA Millage Fund .....page 61

Board Members discussed:

- Pages 18-19 Add \$180,000 to Capital Items for Police Department Mobil Data Terminals
  - Mobil Data Terminals for EMS/Fire Department
  - Include Remarks to Clarify Source of Funds vs. Previous Budgets
  - New Workstations
  - Tri-County Regional Planning Commission Membership
  - CATA Redi-Ride availability
- Police Chief – Gary Gibbons  
Police Department pages ....page 30-31

Board Members discussed:

- Traffic Coordinator
- Police Cruiser Replacement Schedule
- Clarification of term "Equipment Rental" to include reference to Motor Pool
- Police Motorcycles
- Mobile Data Terminals
- DARE Programs

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, BUDGET WORKSHOP, OCTOBER 3, 2000-APPROVED

- Fire Chief – Fred Cowper  
EMS/Fire Department pages ....pages 32-33

Board Members discussed:

- Firefighter Overtime
- Firefighter Staffing
- Fire Services Radio System
- Digital Camera
- EMS Boat

The Board Members concurred to postpone the remainder of the budget discussion items until the next budget Workshop.

4. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McCullough opened Public Remarks.

No one spoke.

Supervisor McCullough closed Public Remarks.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McCullough adjourned the Workshop at 5:53 p.m.

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BILL McCULLOUGH  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

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MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT  
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Paul J. Cassidy, Secretary

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES - **APPROVED** -  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198  
349-1200, Town Hall Room  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2000, **6:00 P.M. — 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such  
ABSENT: Trustee McGillicuddy  
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Director of Engineering & Public Works Roger Buell, Police Chief Gary Gibbons, EMS/Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Personnel Director/Assistant Manager Paul Brake, Attorney Brian Goodenough

1. CALL WORK SESSION TO ORDER

Supervisor McCullough called the Work Session to order at 6:10 p.m.

2. QUESTIONS FOR ATTORNEY (None)

3. DISCUSSION ON 7:00 AGENDA ITEM TOPICS

The following 7:00 p.m. agenda items were discussed:

- Consent Agenda
- Manager's Bills
- MI Ballot Proposal #00-2

4. OTHER BUSINESS

The following other business items were discussed:

- Wolverine Pipeline

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McCullough opened Public Remarks.

Mark Grebner, 1038 Lilac, East Lansing, spoke regarding events in the Township Treasurer's life over the past twenty (20) years.

Supervisor McCullough closed Public Remarks.

6. POSSIBLE CLOSED SESSION

**Trustee Such moved to go into closed session to discuss pending litigation, which if discussed in open session would have a detrimental financial impact on the litigating or settlement position of the Township, and to discuss a confidential written legal opinion from the Township Attorney to the Township Board dated October 3, 2000. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such, Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

Supervisor McCullough recessed the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

The Township Board adjourned to the Administrative Conference Room to meet in closed session.

**Trustee Such moved to go into open session. Seconded by Trustee Squiers.**

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, WORK SESSION, OCTOBER 3, 2000 \*APPROVED\*

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such, Supervisor McCullough, Treasurer  
Klunzinger  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 5-0.  
Absent: Clerk Helmbrecht

Supervisor McCullough reconvened the Work Session at 7:10 p.m.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McCullough adjourned the Work Session at 7:12 p.m.

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BILL McCULLOUGH  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

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MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT  
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Paul J. Cassidy, Secretary

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING - **APPROVED** -  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198  
349-1200, Town Hall Room  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2000, **7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such  
ABSENT: Trustee McGillicuddy  
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Director of Engineering & Public Works Roger Buell, Police Chief Gary Gibbons, EMS/Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Director of Finance Diana Hasse, Personnel Director/Assistant Manager Paul Brake

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor McCullough called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

- A. Pledge of Allegiance  
Supervisor McCullough led in the saying of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- B. Introduction of New EMS/Fire Fighter  
Chief Cowper introduced Tavis Millerov.
- C. Introduction of New Police Officers  
Chief Gibbons introduced new Police Officers Erin Linn and Bret Reed.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA — OR CHANGES

**Treasurer Klunzinger moved to approve the agenda as amended by deleting item #11 (Treasurer's Report); and consent agenda to include items #3 (CORRECTION, APPROVAL & RATIFICATION OF MINUTES), 4 (COMMUNICATIONS), 15A(1) (Zoning Amendment #95010 (Township Board) Chapter 81 – final adoption), 16A (Bills), 16B (LLEBG FY 2000 Application), 16C (Road Closure Permit - Okemos High School Homecoming), 16D (Banner Permit Application - Okemos High School), 17A(1)i (Liquor License Transfer - Sheshang Garden, Inc.). Seconded by Trustee Such.**

3. CORRECTION, APPROVAL & RATIFICATION OF MINUTES (See Consent Agenda)

- A. September 14, 2000 Budget Workshop
- B. September 19, 2000 Work Session
- C. September 19, 2000 Regular Meeting

4. COMMUNICATIONS (See Consent Agenda)

- A. Appreciation & Commendation (AC)
  - AC-1 Patty Berry, Home Depot; RE: Appreciation to Sue St. Laurent for Firefighter involvement in "Kids Safety Weekend"
  - AC-2 Patty Berry, Home Depot; RE: Appreciation to EMS/Firefighters participating in "Kids Safety Weekend"
  - AC-3 Bob Hotaling, 5696 Shaw Street #10, Haslett; RE: Appreciation for Emergency Service Provided for Jeanne Hotaling
- B. Board Deliberation (BD)
  - BD-1 Susan McGillicuddy, Township Trustee; RE: Eyde Company Request for Amendment to Consent Agreement
  - BD-2 Charles C. Hagen, 4195 Van Atta Road, Okemos; RE: Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Master Plan Amendments
  - BD-3 Susan Bence, 1474 Hatch Road, Okemos; RE: Eyde Company Request for Amendment to Consent Agreement

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, REGULAR MEETING, OCTOBER 3, 2000 - APPROVED

- BD-4 Norman M. Gaffney, Jr., 3750 Beech Tree Lane, Okemos; RE: Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Master Plan Amendments
- BD-5 Phillip M. & Barbara J. Stevens, 4371 Van Atta Road, Okemos; RE: Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Master Plan Amendments
- BD-6 John Hoehn & Carol Sue Englert, 4341 Van Atta Road, Okemos; RE: Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Master Plan Amendments
- BD-7 Janis & Silvija Meija, 4221 Van Atta Road, Okemos; RE: Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Master Plan Amendments
- BD-8 Gary P. Boszak, 3796 Viceroy Drive, Okemos; RE: Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Master Plan Amendments
- BD-9 Anne O'Connor, 4495 Seneca Drive #2, Okemos; RE: Eyde Company Request for Amendment to Consent Agreement
- BD-10 Robert Niedbalski & Lynn Hughes, 600 Juneberry Lane, Okemos; RE: Eyde Company Request for Amendment to Consent Agreement
- BD-11 Terri A. Wolf, 3690 Powderhorn Drive, Okemos; RE: Eyde Company Request for Amendment to Consent Agreement
- BD-12 Stacy A. Hickox, 4411 Arbor Drive, Okemos; RE: Eyde Company Request for Amendment to Consent Agreement
- BD-13 Richard B. Foster, 4990 Country Drive, Okemos; RE: Eyde Company Request for Amendment to Consent Agreement
- BD-14 Randall Schaetzl, 2294 Hamilton Road, Okemos; RE: Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Master Plan Amendments
- BD-15 Ronald W. Clark, Vice President, Whitehills Development Corporation; RE: Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Master Plan Amendments
- BD-16 Sheri Disbrow, Manager, Central Park Pendleton, 5100 Marsh Rd, Ste E-1; RE: Eyde Company Request for Amendment to Consent Agreement

C. Board Information (BI)

- BI-1 Douglas Dunham, President, Burcham Hills Condo Association; RE: Burcham Drive and Park Lake Road Traffic Light
- BI-2 Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce; RE: Fall Legislative Breakfast
- BI-3 Judi Pressick, President, Concerned Citizens for Meridian Township; RE: Letter to Public Service Commission in Opposition to Wolverine Pipeline
- BI-4 U.S. Senator Carl Levin; RE: Reply to Chief Cowper Regarding Firefighter Investment and Response Enhancement Act (S.1941)
- BI-5 Ingham County Health Department, Eaton County Resource Recovery, City of Lansing, City of East Lansing, U.S.P.S., Granger; RE: America Recycles Day
- BI-6 Michigan Townships Association September Edition of MTA's E-News
- BI-7 Tri-County Regional Planning Commission; RE: MDOT Traffic Summits

D. Freedom of Information (FOI) [On file in Clerk's Office]

- FOI 2000-26 Steve Wilcox, News Director, Fox 47, WSYMTV Lansing; RE: Investigation of Possible Violations of State Law and Township Policy Regarding Political Activities
- FOI 2000-27 R. Jean Davis, 4503 Seneca Drive, Okemos; RE: Local Road Maintenance
- FOI 2000-28 Greg Goodrich, 1453 Biscayne Way, Haslett; RE: Easements or Encroachments Lots 53-56 Lakeview Heights #2
- FOI 2000-29 Dominika Proctor, Reporter, Lansing State Journal; RE: Alleged Police Officer Violations of Personnel Policy
- FOI 2000-30 George M. Brookover, Brookover, Fleischmann & Carr, P.C., East Lansing; RE: Bonds Received, Applications Made and/or Completed by Treasurer Klunzinger

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, REGULAR MEETING, OCTOBER 3, 2000 - APPROVED

- FOI 2000-31 Beth Thompson, Director, MI Republican Absentee Voter Program; RE: Absentee Voter Information
- FOI-2000-32 Charles Hagen, 4195 Van Atta Road, Okemos; RE: Consumers' Energy Agreements/Permissions for use of Electrical Easements for Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathways

E. News Release (NR)

- NR-1 Photography Workshop at the Harris Nature Center
- NR-2 Moonlight Stroll at the Harris Nature Center
- NR-3 Scout Badge Programs at the Harris Nature Center

F. On File in Clerk's Office (OF)

- OF-1 MI DEQ, Public Notice of Application of Northport of Meridian Condominiums for permit to place fill within a wetland to install a sidewalk
- OF-2 Joe Reeves, Business Manager, Capital Area District Library; RE: Form L-4029 for the Capital Area District Library for Collection of Winter Taxes.
- OF-3 Ingham County Board of Commissioners September 19, 2000 Statutory Annual Meeting Packet
- OF-4 Helen McNamara, Director of Finance, Ingham Intermediate School District; RE: Revised Form L-4029 for 2000 Summer Tax Collection.

5. QUESTIONS OF ATTORNEY (None)

6. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McCullough opened Public Remarks.

James Brazier, 4185 Cornell Road, Okemos, spoke regarding Communication BI-7, BI-3, BI-1, and MI Ballot Proposal #00-2.

John Esser, 5448 Okemos Road, Okemos, spoke in opposition to Rezoning #00120 (Fairmont).

Eleanor V. Luecke, President, L.I.N.C., spoke in opposition to Rezoning #00120 (Fairmont).

T. K. Wu, Owner, Sheshang Garden Inc., 3536 Meridian Crossing, Okemos, spoke in support of a recommendation for approval of a Class C liquor license transfer.

Donald Twohy, 2202 Haslett Road, East Lansing, spoke in opposition to Rezoning #00120 (Fairmont).

Supervisor McCullough closed Public Remarks.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

**Treasurer Klunzinger moved to adopt the Consent Agenda to include items: #3 (CORRECTION, APPROVAL & RATIFICATION OF MINUTES), 4 (COMMUNICATIONS), 15A(1) (Zoning Amendment #95010 (Township Board) Chapter 81 – final adoption), 16A (Bills), 16B (LLEBG FY 2000 Application), 16C (Road Closure Permit - Okemos High School Homecoming), 16D (Banner Permit Application - Okemos High School), 17A(1)i (Liquor License Transfer - Sheshang Garden, Inc.). Seconded by Trustee Such.**

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such

Nays: None

Motion carried 6-0

Therefore, the above actions were taken with the votes as follow:

- A. CORRECTION, APPROVAL & RATIFICATION OF MINUTES (Agenda Item #3):  
**Treasurer Klunzinger moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the September 14, 2000 Budget Workshop, the September 19, 2000 Work Session and Regular Meeting as submitted/amended. Seconded by Trustee Such.**

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,  
Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such  
Nays: None  
Motion carried 6-0

- B. COMMUNICATIONS (Agenda Item #4):  
**Treasurer Klunzinger 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 Such.**

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,  
Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such  
Nays: None  
Motion carried 6-0

- C. Zoning Amendment #95010 (Township Board) Chapter 81 – final adoption (Agenda Item #15A(1)):  
**Treasurer Klunzinger moved that the Township Board hereby Finally Adopts Ordinance No. 2000-12, entitled "Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of Meridian Township, Michigan, by Amending Chapter 81, Deleting Chapter 83, Chapter 88 and Chapter 89, Renumbering Chapter 84, Chapter 85 and Chapter 86 and Amending and Renumbering Chapter 87." Seconded by Trustee Such.**

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,  
Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such  
Nays: None  
Motion carried 6-0

[Signed and Sealed Resolution in Official Minute Book]

- D. MANAGER'S BILLS (Agenda Item #16A):  
**Treasurer Klunzinger moved that the Township Board approve the Manager's Bills as follows:**

General Fund/Special Revenue	\$301,634.71
Public Works	\$107,430.12
Total	<u>\$409,064.83</u>

**Seconded by Trustee Such.**

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,  
Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such  
Nays: None  
Motion carried 6-0

[Bill list for 10/3/00 in Official Minute Book]

- E. LLEBG FY 2000 Application (Agenda Item #16B):  
**Treasurer Klunzinger moved to approve acceptance of \$14,458 in LLEBG funds to be used for police technology and/or equipment purchases and \$1,606 in Township matching funds. Seconded by Trustee Such.**

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,  
Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such  
Nays: None  
Motion carried 6-0

- F Road Closure Permit - Okemos High School Homecoming (Agenda Item #16C):  
**Treasurer Klunzinger moved the following**

**WHEREAS, Section 247.323 of the Michigan Road Laws provides that highways may be temporarily closed on a request of an official authorized by the governing body of a city, village or township; and**

**WHEREAS, Meridian Township has requested various intersections of Kinawa Drive, Breckinridge Drive, Pine Knoll, Sashabaw Drive, Viceroy, Spring Lake Drive, Beech Tree Lane, Fairhills Drive, Birch Bluff and Summergate Lane be temporarily closed on October 20, 2000 from 4:30 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. for the Okemos High School Homecoming Parade.**

**Seconded by Trustee Such.**

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,  
Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such  
Nays: None  
Motion carried 6-0

- G Banner Permit Application - Okemos High School (Agenda Item #16D):  
**Treasurer Klunzinger moved the following:**

**WHEREAS, Meridian Township has requested that Okemos High School be allowed to hang a banner across Hamilton Road near the intersection of Hamilton and Ardmore from October 30, 2000, through November 13, 2000, to announce the Okemos High School's fall play. The banner will not obstruct traffic signals and/or signs and will be eighteen feet (18') above centerline of the road.**

**Therefore, I move the following: the Township Manager's Office is authorized to make a request to the Ingham County Road Commission to allow Okemos High School to hang a banner over Hamilton Road, near the intersection on Hamilton and Ardmore from October 30, 2000, to November 13, 2000.**

**Seconded by Trustee Such.**

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,  
Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such  
Nays: None  
Motion carried 6-0

- H Liquor License Transfer - Sheshang Garden, Inc. (Agenda Item #17A(1)i):  
**Treasurer Klunzinger moved approval of the transfer request from Sheshang Garden, of the Class C Licensed Business, at 3536 Meridian Crossing, Suite 200, Okemos, MI 48864, Meridian Township, Ingham County, and the Township Clerk be authorized to execute the appropriate resolution. Seconded by Trustee Such.**

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,  
Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such  
Nays: None  
Motion carried 6-0

8. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (None)

9. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT (None)

10. CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Helmbrecht reported the initial mailing of 3100 absentee ballots for the November General Election on Monday, October 2, 2000.

11. TREASURER'S REPORT (See Item #2)

12. TOWNSHIP BOARD

Trustee Squiers introduced a request from Discount Trees and Landscaping to donate \$10,000 in landscaping at the Marsh Road-Hamilton Road Roundabout.

Dan Dudley, Proprietor, Discount Trees and Landscaping, discussed the need for landscaping on the proposed site.

Supervisor McCullough directed the Infrastructure Committee to review the landscaping proposal.

**Trustee Such moved to send a formal request to the Ingham County Road Commission to review the landscaping proposal. Seconded by Treasurer Klunzinger.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

**Treasurer Klunzinger moved to instruct staff and the attorney to proceed in accordance with the discussion in closed session. Seconded by Trustee Such.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such, Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

Supervisor McCullough summarized the Board's public remarks policy.

13. SPECIAL HEARINGS/APPEALS

A. Proposed 2001 Budget

Manager Richards introduced the proposed 2001 budget.

Supervisor McCullough opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Supervisor McCullough closed the public hearing.

B. Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Master Plan Amendments

Trustee Such discussed the purpose of the hearing.

Supervisor McCullough opened the public hearing.

Hamilton Road Pathway

Phillip Dwyer, 2327 Hamilton Road, Okemos requested Hamilton Road from Short Street to Okemos Road be removed from the Master Plan as Hamilton Road is not suitable for sidewalks of any type.

School Street Pathway

Melissa Tyrer, 5644 School Street, Haslett spoke in support of a pathway being added to the master plan for the east side of School Street to address public safety needs. [She submitted: a petition in support of pathway, DeWeese Communication, Traffic Data from MTPD]

Hulett Road Pathway

Alan Sliker, 4330 Hulett Road, Okemos, spoke in opposition to Hulett Road pathway for the following reasons:

- Widening of the road would result in the loss of many mature trees
- Alternatively could put a pathway along the rail road tracks
- Pathway is a duplication of existing pathway between Okemos and Hulett Roads

Grand River Ave to Van Atta Road pathway through the Consumers' Energy easement:

The following spoke in opposition to the planned pathway:

- John Hoehn, 4341 Van Atta Road, Okemos [Submitted slide presentation]
- Charles Hagen, 4195 Van Atta Road, Okemos [submitted photo's]

Stated reasons for opposition:

- Pathway would likely increase trespassing, vandalism, crime, illicit sexual behavior, and policing costs
- Opens a remote area to the public
- Power Lines present an attractive nuisance
- Would likely increase liability exposure to Consumers' Energy and the Township
- There are significant wetlands in the area
- The area is in the floodplain
- The pathway endangers wildlife habitat

Ottawa Hills Subdivision Pathway

The following spoke in opposition to the planned pathway:

- Laura McDonough, 2369 Seminole Drive, Okemos [Submitted a communication from Dorothy & Robert Thomas, 2387 Seminole Drive]
- Karen Jackson, 2377 Seminole Drive, Okemos
- Sheila Masters, Secretary, Ottawa Hills Homeowners Association, 2370 Seminole Drive, Okemos

Stated reasons for opposition:

- The pathway provides no increase in safety
- Sidewalks would better serve the subdivision than pathways
- Little vehicular traffic in subdivision
- Endangers mature trees in subdivision
- A seven-foot (7') pathway would consume large areas of lawn

Van Atta Road Shoulder Pathway

The following spoke in opposition to the planned pathway:

- Keith Pingle, 5518 Van Atta Road, Okemos
- Mary Pingle, 5518 Van Atta Road, Okemos

Stated reasons for opposition:

- Construction would remove many mature trees
- Pedestrians and bicyclists do not use the existing shoulder
- Little vehicular traffic on Van Atta Road
- Likely increase of public trash thrown onto private property

The following spoke in favor of the planned pathway

- John Veenstra, 320 Piper Road, Haslett.

Stated reasons for support:

- Van Atta Road has a lot of pedestrian traffic which would benefit from the pathway
- Widening of the paved shoulder is preferable to a separate pathway

Dobie Road to Okemos Road Pathway through the Consumers' Energy easement

The following spoke in opposition to the planned pathway:

- Lance Thompson, President, Hidden Valley Homeowners Association, 1795 Sashabaw, Okemos
- Rick Coy, 1843 Cimarron Drive, Okemos
- Charles H. Wing, 2099 Tamarack Drive, Okemos

Stated reasons for opposition:

- Power lines are an attractive nuisance
- Duplication of east-west pathways along Kinawa Drive & Jolly Road
- Ingress to and Egress from the pathway require trespassing
- The Home Owners Association has placed a locked gate across the Consumer's Energy right-of-way to prevent off-road vehicles
- The pathway crosses to the rear of homes.
- Homeowners have current leases with Consumer's Energy for personal uses of land
- The pathway crosses Dobie Road at a dangerous point.
- There is an old cemetery in easement
- Likely increase in parking of bicyclists using the pathway
- Existing unimproved pathway is sufficient for local needs

Haslett Road to Piper Road Pathways

Judy Linn, 5435 N. Van Atta Road, Okemos, spoke in opposition to the planned pathway for the following reasons:

- Haslett Road to Van Atta Road and south to Piper Road violates the rural nature of the north-east section of the Township and is a duplication of existing routes
- All Consumers Energy easements should be removed from the master plan
- Cross-country pathways endanger farming operations and public safety
- Public pathways increase the likelihood of trespassing, trash dumping, Litter, Arson, killing of livestock, poaching, illegal use of firearms, criminal activity, rising insurance premiums, rising liabilities, destruction of environmentally sensitive lands and wildlife corridors, and increasing public safety costs
- Use of utility easements goes beyond their original purpose

Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Master Plan

The following spoke about the master plan:

- Christina Riddle, League of MI Bicyclists, 2049 Hamilton Road, Okemos. [Submitted recommendation for a Non-Motorized Advisory Committee]
- Dick Janson, 8902 Bath Road, Laingsburg, Shiawasee County.
- James Brazier, 4185 Cornell Road, Okemos
- Mary Jane Kuschinski, 3817 Viceroy Drive, Okemos

Comments/Recommendations:

- Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathways do not resolve cyclist issues.
- There is no east to west bike route through the Township
- Improving road conditions with wider curbs serve the need of bicyclists better than adding separate pathways
- A Recommendation to add Towar Ave and Birch Row Drive to the master plan as these are busy residential streets and Towar Ave is on the truck route
- Spoke against utility rights-of-way
- Use of Consumers Energy easements encroaches on wetlands and presents public safety risks
- Pathway system increases public access to private properties
- Pathway system promotes criminal activity

[Additional communications received include: Brenda Howser, 2381 Hulett Road, Okemos, requesting the addition of a pathway on Hulett Road; Dr. & Mrs. Andrew M. Duda, in opposition to the use of the Consumers' Energy easement from Okemos Road to Dobie Road; & Joseph Hanley, 4180 Van Atta Road, Okemos, in opposition to a pathway on Van Atta Road from Grand River Avenue to Jolly Road, and across the Consumers' Energy easement. See Communications for additional letters received regarding this hearing]

Supervisor McCullough closed the public hearing.

Supervisor McCullough recessed the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Supervisor McCullough reconvened the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

- C. Eyde Co. Request to Amend Central Park Drive Property Consent Agreement - Informational  
Director Kieselbach introduced the request from the Eyde Company.

Mark Clouse, 4660 S. Hagadorn, East Lansing, representing the Eyde Company, presented a request to amend the Central Park Drive Property Consent Agreement.

- Needs of the community have changed
- Retail Industry has changed
- Retailers are drawn to regional shopping areas
- Loss of movie screens at the Meridian Mall and the Super Cinema on Old M-78
- City of East Lansing is losing retailers because it did not support the needs of the community and the retail industry
- Proposal supports the need of Meridian Mall
- Proposal has been evolving over two (2) years in discussion with the Township
- Amendment to the agreement can stipulate the particular use of the property for a cinema or revert to an RDD (Multiple Family-Low Density) equivalent use.

Gary Geiger, CEO Neighborhood Cinema Group (NCG), 314 E. Comstock, Owosso, discussed the proposed facilities and how NCG would participate in the community.

Mike Barnett, Partner, JDN Development Company, 6060 N. Central Expressway, Suite 320, Dallas, TX 75206, representing Kohl's Department Store, described the development operations of JDN and the marketing operations of Kohl's.

Supervisor McCullough opened the public hearing.

The following spoke in favor of the request:

- Joel Cohn, 4650 Wellington Drive, Okemos
- Kelly Rossman-McKinney, 920 N. Washington, Lansing, Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce Regional Task Force, Capitol Choice - Executive Committee
- Irvin Kebler, 3590 Fairhills Drive, Okemos
- Libby Woodbury, Lite-R-Side Café, Inc., 1754 Central Park Drive, Okemos
- Bryan Webster, 437 Charles Street, East Lansing
- Joseph Geiger, 437 Charles Street, East Lansing
- Pat O'Boyle, 2535 Abbott Road Apt 2056, East Lansing

Stated reasons for support:

- The proposed site is not developable for residential use
- A local modern cinema is a desirable development
- Quality of Life amenities are important for a community
- Quality of Life amenities over time have moved from Meridian Township to Delta Township
- The proposal would benefit the entire Lansing Region
- The Planning Commission's Economic Analysis assesses that non-residential development in the Township grew at the same rate as the regional market
- The Planning Commission's Economic Analysis assesses economic development is shifting to the west
- The Planning Commission's Economic Analysis assesses that Meridian Township is viewed as one of the best retail locations in the region
- The Planning Commission's Economic Analysis assesses the Township would be well served to bolster retail near the Meridian Mall to reinforce existing stores.
- Success of Lite-R-Side Cafe relying on expectation of development of site
- Eyde Company has been a good landlord and would try to do the right thing for the community
- The city of Owosso has been well served by the NGC theater
- MSU students may be better served by a Meridian Township cinemas because of the proximity and availability of public transportation

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, REGULAR MEETING, OCTOBER 3, 2000 - APPROVED

The following spoke in opposition to the request:

- William Ray, 4169 Indian Glen, Okemos.
- Vance Boyd, 88 W. Sherwood, Okemos.
- Richard Foster, 4990 Country Drive, Okemos  
[Submitted written remarks]
  
- James Brazier, 4185 Cornell Road, Okemos
- Joan Guy, 1083 Woodside Drive, Haslett.
- Richard Baumgartner, 1064 Cliffdale, Haslett
- Stacy Hickox, 4411 Arbor Drive, Okemos  
[Submitted a written statement]
  
- Christie Bleck, President, Natural Areas Association  
[Submitted a written statement]
  
- Theresa McKenna-Climes, 4367 Satinwood Drive, Okemos
- Debra Oliva, 2430 Maumee Drive, Okemos
- Eleanor V. Luecke, President, L.I.N.C.
- Ann Woiwode, 5088 Powell Road, Haslett
- Clark Berry, 2066 Lac Du Mont, Haslett
- Jean Doss, 2276 Hulett Road, Okemos
- Tina Kahn, 734 W. Grand River Ave #62, Okemos
- Daria Schlega, 2446 Burcham Dr, East Lansing
- John Veenstra, 320 Piper Road, Haslett
- Patricia Hagen, 4135 Wabaningo, Okemos
- Julie Brixie, 2294 Hamilton Road, Okemos
- Betsy Becker, 500 Newman Road, Okemos

Stated reasons for opposition:

- The original Consent Agreement established use categories as requested by the Eyde Company
- Distrust of Eyde Company
- Township residents would not benefit from this development
- The proposal should be considered a rezoning rather than an agreement amendment
- The proposal should be sent to the Planning Commission
- There should be a traffic impact study on neighborhoods in the area before further consideration
- An RA (Single Family-Medium Density) equivalent use supports the school district
- The proposal eliminates the PO (Professional Office) buffering between residential and commercial uses
- There is no demonstrated community need
- Existing and proposed CS (Community Service) zoned acreage goes significantly beyond the projected need through 2010 from the 1993 Comprehensive Development Plan
- There should be studies done on the demands on public safety, water, sewer, and the road system resulting from the proposal
- The Comprehensive Development Plan designates property east of Central Park Drive for mixed use zoning rather than the proposed commercial zoning
- The road system does not support the Township's central commercial area becoming a regional shopping area
- The Amendment would not restrict the Eyde Company's development of the site
- The proposal may increase storm water runoff and increased sediment in rivers
- The wetlands on the site may be destroyed
- Traffic and automobile accidents may increase
- The Planning Commission should complete its revisions of the Comprehensive Development Plan before considering the request further.
- The Meridian Mall is sufficient for the community
- The recent failure of movie theaters in the Township demonstrates a lack of need

- The Eyde Company should donate the land for a park
- Meridian Mall will be opening new movie screens
- The proposed development threatens the rural east side
- The site may be developable as condominiums
- There is no need for additional retail
- The proposal will reduce the amount of open space in the Township
- Commercial development threatens resident flight to less developed communities
- Vehicle and truck traffic has been increasing in the Township and this proposal would worsen the situation
- The proposal threatens property values in the community
- Warehouse retailing is a better fit near highways
- The Okemos School District relied on the Township's Comprehensive Development Plan in purchasing property near this site
- Eyde Company misrepresents zoning to south of property as CS (Community Service) zoning rather than existing residential zoning
- Financial periodicals document poor financial health of the entire cinema industry (Periodicals cited: Wall Street Journal, New York Times; Barons Financial)
- If the region market is considered as a whole, there is no reason to duplicate services provided on the west side.
- The request comes too close to the election for proper consideration
- Favor restrictions on development along Powell Road to single-family
- Proposed development does not protect viability of local business
- The proposed development does not support public schools by reducing residential zoning
- Proposed development does not protect local residents through responsible development
- Opposed to rezonings in community
- The proposed development does not promote mixed use.
- Companies cannot be trusted to be responsible in development (i.e. Estes-Leadley)
- The Community Attitude Study shows new commercial zoning is not desired by residents
- Contention that this is contract zoning
- The Township should involve owners of the Meridian Mall for the best ways to protect the economic viability of the mall.
- The proposed businesses on this site should go into the mall

Supervisor McCullough closed the public hearing

Mark Clouse, 4660 S. Hagadorn, East Lansing, representing the Eyde Company, rebutted

- Central Park Drive would serve the site and was paid for by private developers
- Utilities are available and were paid for by the Eyde Company
- Surrounding uses and prohibition of Powell Road access makes the site undevelopable as single-family
- Opposition to request are opposed to commercial and residential single-family development
- Proposal provides economic growth and additional services to residents
- Township theaters have failed because of poor site selection and poor facilities
- Township can specifically restrict use of site through amendment to the consent agreement

Treasurer Klunzinger asked Anne Woiwode as Chair of the Planning Commission during the amendment to the consent judgement: 1) why the amendment was not treated as a normal rezoning; and 2) why access was prohibited to Powell Road considering the limited access for emergency services to the residential areas.

Anne Woiwode answered the Board concluded that the amendment provided an increase in green space, but could have gone through the regular rezoning process. She responded there was consideration of potential emergency accesses through the wetland or the south residential development from Central Park Drive.

[See Communications for additional letters received regarding this hearing]

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (None)

15. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

A. Unfinished Business

(1) Zoning Amendment #95010 (Township Board), amendment to Chapter 81 of the Code of Ordinances – final adoption (See Consent Agenda)

(2) Rezoning #00120 (Fairmont)

Director Kieselbach introduced the request to rezone 5559 Okemos Rd from RR (Rural Residential) to RAA (Single Family-Low Density) - final adoption

**Trustee Milliman moved that the Township Board hereby Finally Adopts Ordinance No. 2000-13, entitled "Ordinance Amending the Zoning District Map of Meridian Township Pursuant to Rezoning Petition #00120 from RR (Rural Residential) to RAA (Single Family-Low Density)." **Seconded by Trustee Such.****

Board Members discussed the following points:

- Surrounding RAA (Single Family-Low Density) zoning
- P.U.D. process
- Preservation of Open Space

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such, Supervisor McCullough,  
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

[Signed and Sealed Resolution in Official Minute Book]

B. New Business (None)

16. MANAGER'S REPORT, INVOICES & BILLS

A. Bills (See Consent Agenda)

B. LLEBG FY 2000 Application (See Consent Agenda)

C. Road Closure Permit - Okemos High School Homecoming (See Consent Agenda)

D. Banner Permit Application - Okemos High School (See Consent Agenda)

E. MI Ballot Proposal #00-2

Manager Richards introduced the topic for discussion and possible action.

**Trustee Such moved to adopt a resolution declaring the Board of the Charter Township of Meridian opposes State Proposal 00-2 and urges its defeat at the November General Election. **Seconded by Treasurer Klunzinger.****

Board Members discussed the following:

- Appropriateness of Board taking official position on State Proposal
- Significance of change in State Constitution
- Probable Reduction in state and federal revenues to Townships
- Board Resolution determined to be legitimate per Court Ruling
- Disadvantages township form of governance

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such, Supervisor McCullough,  
Treasurer Klunzinger

NAYS: Clerk Helmbrecht

Motion carried 5-1.

17. BOARD MEMBER, BOARD COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Standing Committee Reports

(1) Physical Operations & Activities

i. Liquor License Transfer - Sheshang Garden, Inc. (See Consent Agenda)

(2) Financial Planning and Budgeting (None)

- (3) Personnel (None)
- (4) Planning and Development (None)
- (5) Infrastructure
  - i. Community Septic Field - Grand River Ave, East of Van Atta Road  
Director Buell introduced the proposed Community Septic Field.

**Trustee Such moved adoption of the resolution attached to staff memorandum dated October 3, 2000, concerning an alternate waste water collection, treatment and disposal system be approved subject to review by the Township's Attorney. Seconded by Treasurer Klunzinger.**

Trustee Such discussed the Infrastructure Committee's consideration of, the need for, and safeguards on the project.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Milliman, Squiers, Such, Supervisor  
McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 6-0.

[Signed and Sealed Resolution in Official Minute Book]

- Trustee Such reported the next meeting would be October 18, 2000 at 5:15 p.m.

- (6) Public Safety (None)
- (7) Recreation

Trustee Milliman reported the fall & winter recreation guide is out and updated the Board on the status of classes offered.

- B. Special Committees (None)
- C. Liaison Representative Reports (None)

18. OTHER REPORTS (None)

19. NEW BUSINESS (None)

20. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McCullough opened public remarks.

Mark Grebner, 1038 Lilac, East Lansing, objected to the Board's Policy and handling of public remarks. He assailed the credentials of Treasurer Klunzinger.

Joan Guy, 1083 Woodside Drive, Haslett, spoke in support of following a process similar to the one used in 1996 in considering the Eyde Company's request.

Irvin Kebler, 3590 Fairlane Drive, Okemos, continued remarks regarding the Planning Commission's economic analysis in support of the Eyde Company's request.

Bruce Hunting, 2365 Club Meridian, Okemos, objected to the Board's Policy of limiting the first public remarks to agenda items only.

John Veenstra, 320 Piper Road, Haslett, objected to the Board's Policy of limiting the first public remarks to agenda items only.

Supervisor McCullough closed public remarks.

21. FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Squiers commented that the Board's public remarks policy supports efficient meetings and efficient government. He discussed the over-riding issue of property rights in considering proposals for development and the costs in denying them.

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Treasurer Klunzinger rebutted public remarks regarding his credentials for public office.

Supervisor McCullough rebutted accusations that the Board does not provide opportunities for public comment. He rebutted accusations of accepting campaign contributions "under the table."

22. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McCullough adjourned the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

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BILL McCULLOUGH  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

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MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT  
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Paul J. Cassidy, Secretary