

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD SPECIAL MEETING - **APPROVED** -  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198  
853-4000, Town Hall Room  
TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2014 **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor LeGoff, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Brixie, Trustees Scales, Styka, Veenstra  
(6:04 P.M.), Wilson  
ABSENT: None  
STAFF: Township Manager Frank Walsh

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER  
Supervisor LeGoff called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
2. ROLL CALL  
The Supervisor called the roll of the Board.
3. PUBLIC REMARKS  
Supervisor LeGoff opened Public Remarks.

Leonard Provencher, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, spoke to his positive interactions in each of his dealings with the Township Manager. He expressed appreciation for Manager Walsh's prompt response to his concerns and addressed the Township Manager's demonstration of strong leadership, believing his service to be more than satisfactory over the past year. Mr. Provencher requested the Township Board convey to the public its appraisal of Manager Walsh's performance at a later time. He expressed appreciation that one Board member acknowledged their "human nature" when that particular member stated he had made a mistake regarding the fire station ballot issue.

Supervisor LeGoff closed Public Remarks.

4. ANNUAL TOWNSHIP MANAGER PERFORMANCE REVIEW  
**Treasurer Brixie moved to go into closed session to conduct a performance evaluation for the Township Manager. Seconded by Trustee Styka.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor LeGoff recessed the meeting at 6:08 P.M.

The Board adjourned to the Administrative Conference Room for a closed session.

**Trustee Styka moved to return to open session. Seconded by Trustee Veenstra.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor LeGoff reconvened the meeting at 7:24 P.M.

Board and Township Manager discussion:

- Dialogue transpired between Board members and the Township Manager in closed session
- Summary document will be presented and adopted at the May 8, 2014 Board meeting regarding the assessment process
- Township Manager exceeded the Board's expectations
- Board members to discuss the future of the Township under the leadership of the Manager
- Preference by the Manager for his contract to be sent to committee for finalization after input by the full Board
- Board member preference for a one-year extension of the Manager's current contract to create a "rolling" two-year contract

5. FIRE STATION APPEAL PROCESS

Township Manager Walsh offered rationale for placement of the fire station on the agenda in order to discuss legal representation at the upcoming hearings. Subsequent to that decision, Judge Draganchuck ordered a hearing on the temporary restraining order for tomorrow, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 P.M. Due to time constraints, Manager Walsh met with Michael Woodworth of the Hubbard Law Firm and decided the Township would be well represented by him as he is familiar with the Ingham County court system and the entire fire station issue.

Manager Walsh noted the case is an appeal of the special use permit issued by the Township Board.

Board discussion:

- Location of Judge Draganchuck's courtroom
- Case law exists which states that when a decision is made by a legislative body (i.e., Township Board), the comments of one member are meaningless as it is a collective decision
- Township Board "speaks" through its motions

6. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor LeGoff opened Public Remarks.

Leonard Provencher, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, expressed a desire for the public to be informed of any new elements the Board adds to the Township Manager's responsibilities.

Trustee Styka clarified the Board will fulfill Mr. Provencher's request in Fall, 2014.

Clerk Dreyfus addressed comments relative to compensation in closed session. He indicated it is imperative to follow the correct procedures and absent a definitive answer, he will research and have a response at the next Board meeting.

Supervisor LeGoff closed Public Remarks.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor LeGoff adjourned the meeting at 7:33 P.M.

---

ELIZABETH LEGOFF  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

---

BRETT DREYFUS  
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Sandra K. Otto, Secretary