

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD JOINT MEETING - **APPROVED** -
PARK COMMISSION
PLANNING COMMISSION
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
349-1200, Town Hall Room
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2003, **6:00 P.M.**

TOWNSHIP BOARD

PRESENT: Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting, Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode
ABSENT: None

PARK COMMISSION

PRESENT: Chair Bohr, Commissioners Dersch, Black
ABSENT: Vice Chair Baugh

PLANNING COMMISSION

PRESENT: Chair Foster, Vice Chair Dreyfus, Secretary Jackson, Commissioners Arellano, Clark, Ochberg, Wilcox, Wolfe
ABSENT: Commissioner Reddy

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP

PRESENT: Acting Chair White, Members Keith, Thiel, Stier, Richards
ABSENT: Chair Terry, Vice Chair Miller, Members Vine, Tons

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

PRESENT: Vice Chair Guy, Members Hershiser, Dreyfus, Stier, Alternate Member Anne K. Hughes
ABSENT: Chair Shoup

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

PRESENT: Chair Clos, Vice Chair Thomas, Commissioners Eberhardt, Harding, Kielbaso, Black, Gregory
ABSENT: None

STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Director of Engineering & Public Works Ray Severy, Police Chief Gary Gibbons, EMS/Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Director of Parks & Recreation LuAnn Maisner, Senior Planner Gail Oranchak, Assistant Planner Dorothy Luckie, Attorney Andrea Ditschman

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
Supervisor McGillicuddy called the Township Board meeting to order at 6:04 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.

Frank Webster, 3845 Roxbury, Okemos, read from a prepared statement detailing the Meridian Senior Center's tax consulting services for elderly.

[Prepared statement in Official Minute Book]

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

5. REPORTS/BOARD COMMENT/NEW WORRIES (None)

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA — OR CHANGES

Trustee Woiwode moved to approve the agenda amended as follows: Add Agenda Items #7K. (Amendment to Previously Adopted Minutes of December 3, 2002) with proposed motion:

Move to amend the previously adopted minutes of the December 3, 2002 Regular Board Meeting to correct the intent of the speaker for Agenda Item #11 (Discussion Items/Ends) paragraph 2 as follows:

Strike the words: " exempt pedestrian/bicycle pathways from the wetland setback and natural vegetation strip."

And add, " create a task force to consider guidelines for variances from wetland setbacks for sidewalks and pedestrian/bicycle pathways.

#9A (Community VIZ Presentation); and #9B (Swearing-in of Appointed Officers). Seconded by Trustee Such.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

By unanimous consent the Board amended the agenda to add Agenda Item #7L. ((Amendment to Previously Adopted Minutes of January 3, 2002) with proposed motion:

Move to amend the previously adopted minutes of the January 3, 2002 Regular Joint Meeting to correct the day of the meeting in the header from Tuesday to Thursday.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor McGillicuddy reviewed the consent agenda.

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

The adopted Consent Agenda items are as follow:

A. Communications

(1). Board Information (BI)

BI-1 Article: "Otis White's Urban Notebook," Otis White, p. 12, Governing January 2003 Edition

BI-2 Kristin Kochheiser, 2100 Ashland Ave., Okemos; RE: Support for Rezoning #02080 (Eyde)

BI-3 Kelly J. Drummelsmith, 1113 Haslett Road, Haslett; RE: Opposition to Rezoning #02080 (Eyde)

BI-4 Pamela Fraker, 351 W. Newman, Okemos; RE: Opposition to Rezoning #02080 (Eyde)

BI-5 Mark S. Ritzenhein, 4359 Heartwood Rd, Okemos; RE: Opposition to Rezoning #02080 (Eyde)

BI-6 Monica M. Goble, 4875 Buttercup Lane, Okemos; RE: Opposition to Rezoning #02080 (Eyde)

BI-7 Arlene E. Hill, Secretary, Michigan Townships Association, 512 Westshire Drive, Lansing; RE: Official Notice of an Educational Conference and Annual Meeting

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- BI-8 William W. Hicks, Hicks Brothers Real Estate, LLP, 3450 Alaiedon Parkway, Suite 100, Okemos; RE: Replacement of Restaurant and Car Wash Buildings at Intersection of Grand River Ave. and Northwind Dr.
- BI-9 Article: "Grappling with Growth," John Bebow, The Detroit News, Sunday, December 22, 2002 Edition
- BI-10 Article: "Student [M]igration," Sheri Hall, The Detroit News, Sunday, September 29, 2002 Edition
- BI-11 Victor Liu and Vicky McAree, 1822 Sunhollow Ct., Haslett; RE: Opposition to Rezoning #02080 (Eyde)

(2) Regional Linkage (RL)

- RL-1 Ingham County Board of Commissioners 2003 Meeting Schedule
- RL-2 Kathleen A. Ellement, Treasurer, Capital Area Rail Council, East Lansing; RE: Request for Financial Support
- RL-3 Sharon Reid, City Clerk, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbott Road, East Lansing; RE: Notice of Planning Commission Public Hearing to Consider Ordinance No. 1026 to Rezone Approximately 11 Acres Located at the Southeast Corner of M-78 and Lake Lansing Road from Meridian Township C-1 (Commercial, Retail and Business) to East Lansing B-2 (Retail Sales Business District) and B-1 (General Office Business District)

(3). Staff Communication/Referral (SC)

- SC-1 Michigan Townships Association Legislative Fax, December 13, 2002 Edition
- SC-2 Michigan Townships Association Legislative Fax, December 20, 2002 Edition

Clerk Helmbrecht 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 Brixie.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode,
Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

B. Minutes - December 17, 2002 Regular Meeting

Clerk Helmbrecht moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the [December 17, 2003 Regular Meeting](#) as [submitted](#). Seconded by Trustee Brixie.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode,
Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

C. Bills

Clerk Helmbrecht moved that the Township Board approve the Manager's Bills as follows:

General Fund/Special Revenue	\$ 316,518.97
Public Works	\$ 65,687.28
Total Checks	\$ 382,206.25
Credit Card Transactions	\$ 14,787.47
Total Purchases	<u>\$ 396,993.72</u>

Seconded by Trustee Brixie.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode,
Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

[Bill list in Official Minute Book]

D. Fire Department Promotions

Clerk Helmbrecht moved to ratify the promotion of Randy Karnes to Battalion Chief, Jeff Stillman to Captain and Bill Janson to the rank of Lieutenant. Seconded by Trustee Brixie.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode,
Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

E. Assessing Stipulation

Clerk Helmbrecht moved that the Township Assessor be authorized to sign a stipulation with Ronald Weiss on the proposed stipulated values for Parcel Number 33-02-02-24-377-014:

**2002 Assessed Value: \$602,600 (-\$104,100)
2002 Taxable Value: \$386,030 (No Change)**

Seconded by Trustee Brixie.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode,
Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

F. Ratify Police Officer Appointments

Clerk Helmbrecht moved ratification of Richard Donald Grillo and Christopher Michael Gerard to the positions of Police Officer contingent upon successful completion of those items stipulated in the Conditional Offer of Employment. Seconded by Trustee Brixie.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode,
Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

G. Employee Computer Purchase Program Extension

Clerk Helmbrecht moved to reopen the Employee Computer Purchase Program until December 31, 2003. Seconded by Trustee Brixie.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode,
Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

H. Spring Lake #9 Streetlighting District - Resolution #2

Clerk Helmbrecht moved to approve Spring Lake #9 Subdivision Streetlighting District (Revised) Resolution #2, which confirms the plans and estimate of costs for the Spring Lake #9 Streetlighting District (Revised); directs the Supervisor to make a special assessment according to the roll submitted to the public hearing and confirms the assessment amount of \$487.52, and directs that amount to be assessed against the lands on that roll; orders the special assessment roll filed with the Township Assessor for spreading annually on the tax roll; authorizes Consumers Energy to proceed with the installation of the two (2) streetlights; and authorizes the Township Supervisor and Clerk to sign the Authorization for Change in Streetlighting Contract. Seconded by Trustee Brixie.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode,
Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

[Resolution in Official Resolution Book]

I. Fees for Temporary Utility Connections

Clerk Helmbrecht moved to approve the attached resolution [See Staff Memorandum from Raymond O. Severy, P.E., Director of Public Works & Engineering to the Township Board dated January 3, 2003] setting the benefit charge for a temporary connection to the public water system at \$2,000 and the benefit charge for a temporary connection to the public sewer system at \$3,000 effective on the effective date of the recodified Code of Ordinances. Seconded by Trustee Brixie.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode,
Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

[Resolution in Official Resolution Book]

J. Code of Ordinance - Adoption of Recodified Ordinance - **Final Adoption**

Clerk Helmbrecht moved THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, the Township Board hereby Adopts Ordinance No. 2003-01, entitled "Code of Ordinances Adopting Ordinance."

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode,
Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

[Resolution in Official Resolution Book]

K. Amendment to Previously Adopted Minutes of December 3, 2002

Clerk Helmbrecht moved to amend the previously adopted minutes of the December 3, 2002 Regular Board Meeting to correct the intent of the speaker for Agenda Item #11 (Discussion Items/Ends) paragraph 2 as follows:

Strike the words: " exempt pedestrian/bicycle pathways from the wetland setback and natural vegetation strip."

And add, " create a task force to consider guidelines for variances from wetland setbacks for sidewalks and pedestrian/bicycle pathways.

Seconded by Trustee Brixie.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode, Supervisor
McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

L. Amendment to Previously Adopted Minutes of January 3, 2002

Clerk Helmbrecht moved to amend the previously adopted minutes of the January 3, 2002 Regular Joint Meeting to correct the day of the meeting in the header from Tuesday to Thursday. Seconded by Trustee Brixie.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode,
Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

8. ACTION ITEMS/ENDS⁰ (PINK)

- A. Ordinance Continuing Misdemeanor Classification for Certain Offenses
Supervisor McGillicuddy opened the matter for discussion at 6:14 P.M.

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened the floor to the public.

No one spoke.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed the floor to the public.

Chief Gibbons introduced the proposed amendment and testified to the emergency nature of the ordinance as follows:

- The ordinance becomes necessary based on the recodification of the Code of Ordinances
- The new Code of Ordinances states that all offenses are classified as civil infractions unless otherwise noted
- Disorderly conduct, property damage, resisting and opposing a Police Officer, and other offenses were not intended to change classification from being misdemeanors to civil infractions and are unworkable as civil infractions
- Invoking the emergency adoption provision for the proposed ordinance provides continuity of enforcement

Trustee Woiwode moved [and read the resolution into the record] THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, that Ordinance No. 2003-02 entitled "Ordinance Amending Certain Penalty Provisions of the Code of Ordinances" is hereby declared to be an emergency ordinance and that Ordinance is hereby adopted at the same meeting at which it is introduced. Seconded by Trustee Brixie.

Treasurer Hunting commented the recently adopted Land Clearing Ordinance, under the emergency provisions became effective within days of adoption. He asked why the proposed ordinance would become effective after thirty (30) days.

Chief Gibbons deferred to the Township Attorney.

Attorney Ditschman answered that the emergency issue has to do with adopting the ordinance at the same meeting as introduced. She stated that the Board in adopting the resolution as moved, would be declaring the matter an emergency and as such adopting it tonight. She stated that the thirty-(30) day effective date is required because of the inclusion of penalties in the ordinance.

Treasurer Hunting asked for confirmation that there would be thirty (30) days after adoption and publication.

Attorney Ditschman stated there would be thirty (30) days. She stated the effective date of February 12, 2003 is based on a publication date of January 12, 2003.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode,
Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed the discussion at 6:20 P.M.

9. VISION SESSION/ENDS: Joint Meeting with Township Boards and Commissions

A. Community VIZ Presentation

Supervisor McGillicuddy introduced MSU Professor Mike Thomas and Assistant Planner Dorothy Luckie to present a demonstration of the Community VIZ software.

Dr. Thomas and Assistant Planner Dorothy Luckie presented a demonstration of the Community VIZ software.

Discussion:

- Determination of development impacts beyond a particular study area
- Estimation of pervious/impervious surface
- Use of Soils layer
- Practical applications for mathematical modeling software
- Real-time use of software during meetings of public bodies
- Evaluation of land preservation criteria for particular properties
- Access to developers
- Practicality of adding new layers
- Advantages of a tool to perform an impact analysis
- Inclusion of Code of Ordinance standards for permits and zoning
- Limitations of proprietary software and potential web availability

B. Swearing-in of Appointed Officers

Clerk Helmbrecht administered the Oath of Office to the following Appointed Officers:

Environmental Commission:

- Shari Gregory

Economic Development Corporation Board:

- Tricia A. Keith
- Craig Thiel

Planning Commission

- Alan Wolfe

Zoning Board of Appeals

- Jim Hershiser
- Anne K. Hughes

- Joint Meeting

The Chairs and Acting Chairs called their respective bodies to order at 6:55 P.M.

Supervisor McGillicuddy introduced the purpose of the joint meeting to discuss the goals and accomplishments of each body. She recommended the Boards' and Commissions' representatives present an annual report to the Township Board at the second Board meeting of November. She summarized the following Board accomplishments:

- Completion of contract for development of a Greenways Plan

Supervisor McGillicuddy summarized, requested and received staff updates on the following projects:

- Draft Subdivision Control Ordinance
- Clustered Housing Ordinance amendments
- Draft Sign Ordinance amendments
- Options for mixed-use districts
- Grand River Advisory Group
- Development of a Central Library facility

Supervisor McGillicuddy introduced the new Code of Ordinances. She invited input on the yet to be formulated 2003 Board Goals.

Meeting participants discussed the following topics:

- Role of dissent in local government
- Value of the Township website
- Invitation to School Boards to attend the November Joint Meeting

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- Representation of Meridian Township perspective in the Lansing State Journal

Meeting participants discussed the following topics:

- Increased opportunities for public input
- Representative attendance and participation at Township Board meetings
- Educating the public on the relationships between the different public bodies

Supervisor McGillicuddy asked the participants to discuss current projects and goals of their respective bodies.

The participants discussed current projects and goals of their respective bodies as follows:

Economic Development Corporation:

- Funding of Meridian Area Business Association (MABA) Expo
- Development of a business incubator
- Development of Okemos and Haslett Downtown areas

Park Commission:

- Hartrick Park Development as the primary interest
- Paving of parking lots
- Development of new Cedar Bend Heights Park
- Consideration of lands available for acquisition
- Maintenance of current parks
- Renewal of expiring Park Millage in 2004
- Determining appropriate balance of the parks budget for acquisition, maintenance and development
- Balance of active and passive recreation opportunities

Planning Commission:

- Completion of the Comprehensive Development Plan as the primary project for 2003.

Zoning Board of Appeals:

- Assisting in the development of an overlay district in the Lake Lansing area
- Assess impact, need and safety before proceeding before approving variances for wetland setbacks for pedestrian/bicycle pathways
- Encourage the elimination of pathway gaps

Environmental Commission:

- Provision of liaison to the Land Preservation Advisory Board
- Continuation of the Environmental Stewardship Awards Committee
- Provision of advisory reports to the Planning Commission and Township Board
- Continuation of Tree Study Group to submit recommendations
- Identification of habitat areas for special concern species for planning use
- Development of environmental impact standards for site plan and special use permits

Meeting participants discussed the following:

- Appreciation to Boards and Commission Members for service
- Reiteration of points discussed as possible action items/next steps at the January 3, 2002 Joint Meeting
- Difference between elected and appointed bodies
- October reminder to Chair's for annual reports
- Provision of web-based e-mail addresses for appointed officers/bodies

Supervisor McGillicuddy thanked the participants for their attendance.

10. PUBLIC REMARKS*

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

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John Veenstra, 320 Piper Road, Haslett, spoke in support of a central library facility larger than that proposed and in support of longer library hours.

Vernon W. McLellen, 1459 Cheboygan Road, Okemos, spoke in support of local participation in the Community VIZ project and in opposition to use by developers. He spoke in support of the use of board and commission liaisons and the establishment of Standing Board Subcommittees.

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened the floor to joint meeting participants for final comments.

Treasurer Hunting spoke in support of including those appointed bodies not present tonight in the same or similar forum.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

11 ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McGillicuddy adjourned the meeting at 7:50 P.M.

SUSAN MCGILLICUDDY
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Paul J. Cassidy, Secretary