

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING - **APPROVED** -  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198  
853-4000, Town Hall Room  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2008, **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting, Trustees Brixie, Veenstra, Woiwode  
ABSENT: Trustee Such  
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Director of Engineering & Public Works Ray Severy, Assistant Manager/ Personnel Director Paul Brake, 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.

Ganesh Reddy, 3614 Ponderosa Drive, Okemos, urged the Board to employ cost saving measures to fund road resurfacing. He spoke in support of the proposed park development at the northeast corner of Lake Lansing and Newton Roads.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

5. REPORTS/BOARD COMMENT/NEW WORRIES

A. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Hunting summarized delinquent personal property tax collections and 2008 distributions as of August 8, 2008; current fixed maturity investments by fund and non-fixed investments as of July 31, 2008.

Trustee Brixie noted Town Hall Meeting attendees Malinda and Dave Barr as well as Marsha Madle from Meridian Area Business Association (MABA) and MTEAM suggested ways to improve communication with the business community through a special Town Hall Meeting. At the following MABA meeting the next day, the issue was discussed and several members indicated they would like to be involved. Other ideas included tailoring meetings to the audience the Board is seeking input from (e.g., neighborhood associations) and informal round table discussions at coffee shops on weekday mornings, rotating the Board member(s) in attendance.

Clerk Helmbrecht announced Mary (Bert) Willems celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday last week.

Township Manager Richards indicated the Township has been approached by a movie production company to utilize the Historic Village this fall as a movie location site.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA — OR CHANGES

**Trustee Brixie moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Woiwode.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor McGillicuddy reviewed the consent agenda.

**Trustee Brixie moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Trustee Woiwode.**

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

The adopted Consent Agenda items are as follow:

A. Communications

(1). Board Determination (BD)

- 7D-1 Sandra L. Draggoo, CEO/Executive Director, Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA), 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing; RE: Recommendation for reappointment of Meridian Township representative Pat Munshaw to the CATA Board of Directors
- 9B/10A-1 Carol Apol, 2934 Mount Hope, #307, Okemos; RE: Opposition to MUPUD #08-05054 (DTN Management)

(2). Board Information (BI)

- BI-1 Ganesh Reddy, 3614 Ponderosa, Okemos; RE: Upholding First Amendment Rights and avoiding the cost of lawsuits
- BI-2 Ganesh Reddy, 3614 Ponderosa, Okemos; RE: Safe township roads and fiscal prudence
- BI-3 Shawn O'Brien, Partner, Alliance Commercial Group, LLC, 4055 Hunsaker Street, East Lansing; RE: Amendment of conditions for SUP at Meridian Crossings for Tim Hortons
- BI-4 Mark Kellenberger, Project Planner, Tim Hortons, 565 East Grand River Avenue, Brighton; RE: Withdrawal of appeal request for Special Use Permit #08-99071
- BI-5 John and Patricia Courtney, 6311 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

(3). 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 August 1, 2008

(4). On File in the Clerk's Office (OF)

Material available at the August 7, 2008 Board Meeting

- Iftiker Ahmad & Priscilla Wade, 6462 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41
- Anthony and Valerie Bartalone, 6271 Fenwick Court, East Lansing, RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41
- Christophe Dunbar, 16922 Thorngate Road, East Lansing, RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41
- David and Nancy Knecht, 6300 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing, RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41
- William and Janine Kahl, 6270 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing, RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41
- James and Diane Barnes, 6291 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing, RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41
- Gary and Jill Witzenburg, 2470 Overglen Court, East Lansing, RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Debra and Ali Farzam-Behboodi, 6500 Thorngate, East Lansing, RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Habib and Slyvia Jarwan, 6404 Ridgepond Place, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Louis and Mary Vlahakis, 6301 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Lynne Vandeventer, 3590 Okemos Road, Okemos; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Mitra and Javad Banisafar, 6311 Pine Hollow Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Steve & Ellen Trecha, 6441 Pine Hollow Drive, East Lansing; RE: Petition in opposition to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Mary Pethtel, 6204 Bridgewater Circle, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Sharon Stock, 6281 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Carole Ghanime, 6451 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

John Gobel, 6468 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Larry Cianciosi, 6243 Pine Hollow Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Michael and Margaret Brand, 6427 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Chandra K. & Manju Bisht, 6415 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Marylee Davis, 6371 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

William and Nancy Danhof, 6351 Pine Hollow Drive, East Lansing; RE: Petition in opposition to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

John and Barbara Tiffany, 6281 Pine Hollow Drive, East Lansing; RE: Petition in opposition to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Joseph J. Gadaletto, 6380 Pine Hollow Drive, East Lansing; RE: Petition in opposition to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

David Pasant, 6350 and 6360 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Richard R. Simonds, 6274 Mereford Court, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Martha S. Simonds, 6274 Mereford Court, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Bruce D. Potter, 2460 Overglen Court, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Michael E and Kathleen M. Bens, 2330 Pine Hollow Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Robert R. and Arylie Campbell, 6320 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Jenna and Joseph King, 6398 Ridgepond Place, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Jenn Yu and K.J. Liu, 6421 Ridgepond Place, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Ronald and Lynn Rycus, 6432 Island Lake Drive, East Lansing; RE: Objection to Whitehills Public Road Improvements SAD #41

Will Tyler White, 2142-½ Hamilton Road, Okemos; RE: Suggestions for better

communication between the Board and residents of Meridian Township  
Masomeh Behrouz Sticklen, 6397 Ridgepond Place, East Lansing; RE: Response from  
Ingham County Road Commission to her letter of objection to Whitehills Public Road  
Improvements SAD #41

**Trustee 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 Trustee Woiwode.**

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

B. Minutes

**Trustee Brixie moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the August 7, 2008 Regular Meeting as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Woiwode.**

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

C. Bills

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

Common Cash	\$ 372,752.72
Public Works	\$ 201,943.02
Total Checks	\$ 574,695.74
Credit Card Transactions	\$ 6,427.98
Total Purchases	<u>\$ 581,123.72</u>
ACH Payments	<u>\$ 338,600.50</u>

**Seconded by Trustee Woiwode.**

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

[Bill list in Official Minute Book]

D. Reappointment to CATA Board

**Trustee Brixie moved that Patricia Munshaw be reappointed to the CATA Board for a three-year term ending September 30, 2011. Seconded by Trustee Woiwode.**

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

E. Outdoor Gathering Permit - Meijer's MSU Moonlight Madness Event

**Trustee Brixie moved approval of the Outdoor Assembly License for the Meijer MSU Moonlight Madness Event at the Meijer Store on August 21, 2008, as detailed in the staff memorandum dated August 15, 2008. Seconded by Trustee Woiwode.**

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

- F. 2008 General Fund Budget Amendment – Replacement of Fire Gear  
**Trustee Brixie moved to approve an \$81,900 amendment to the Fire Department Activity of the General Fund for the purpose of purchasing replacement fire gear with funding to come from fund balance, if required. Seconded by Trustee Woiwode.**

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

- G. Plat Extension for Whitehills Lakes #8 Subdivision  
**Trustee Brixie moved [and read into the record] NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby grants the extension of Tentative Preliminary Plat #06032, Whitehills Lakes #8, for a period of one year, from August 15, 2008 to August 15, 2009, with the following condition:**

- 1. All previous conditions placed on the tentative preliminary plat approval shall remain in effect.**

**Seconded by Trustee Woiwode.**

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

**Trustee Brixie moved [and read into the record] NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, hereby grants the extension of Wetland Use Permit #06-09 and Wetland Use Permit #07-06-09, for a period of one year, from August 15, 2008 to August 15, 2009, with the following condition:**

- 1. All previous conditions placed on the wetland use permit approvals shall remain in effect.**

**Seconded by Trustee Woiwode.**

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

- H. Proposed Park Development at the Northeast Corner of Lake Lansing Road and Newton Road, Refer to the Planning Commission for Section 9 Review  
**Trustee Brixie moved to forward the proposed park development project at the northeast corner of Lake Lansing Road and Newton Road to the Planning Commission to complete the required review for location, character and extent. Seconded by Trustee Woiwode.**

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

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

9. HEARINGS

A. Champion Woods Streetlighting SAD #322

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened the public hearing at 6:15 P.M.

Director Severy summarized the proposed streetlighting special assessment district as outlined in staff memorandum dated August 15, 2008.

Supervisor McGillicuddy noted that the lightposts were already placed in the ground and was wondering if that made any difference for purposes of the hearing.

Director Severy explained that in many cases if the developer pays to have Consumers Energy place the lightposts in the ground, then Consumers will do the work and not turn the power on until approval is received by the governing body.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed the public hearing at 6:17 P.M.

B. Mixed Use Planned Unit Development #08-05054 (DTN Management), request for 7,311 square feet of commercial space in a PO (Professional and Office) zoned Mixed Use Planned Unit Development at the southeast corner of Mt. Hope Road and Hagadorn Road

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened the public hearing at 6:17 P.M.

Director Kieselbach summarized the request to locate commercial uses in a PO zoned MUPUD as outlined in staff memorandum dated August 14, 2008.

Allen Russell, 1690 Mack Avenue, Haslett, representative for DTN Management, stated they assessed as closely as possible, how the space will work out with the various tenant applicants and believed the 55% commercial and 45% office was representative of discussions with staff to date.

David Imig, 2990 Briarcliff, East Lansing, a spokesperson for the Briarcliff neighborhood, spoke in opposition to the proposal as he believed it did not represent an amenable transition from the adjacent residential neighborhood. He expressed concern with the unknown configuration of tenants and resulting traffic issues.

Ganesh Reddy, 3614 Ponderosa Drive, Okemos, indicated during the mixed use zoning ordinance approval process he, as a Planning Commissioner at that time, had in mind the Okemos and Hamilton Road intersection as it related to setback requirements. However, he believed, in retrospect, the ordinance should have included language that the setbacks "be in accordance with the characteristics and location and harmonious with the surroundings." Mr. Reddy urged the Board to utilize this language in the future. He felt the ratio of commercial and office should be left as approved for this development and the balance for future MUPUD's should be considered on the basis of location.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed the public hearing at 6:28 P.M.

10. ACTION ITEMS/ENDS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened public comment.

Scott Knapp, Dickinson Wright, 215 S. Washington Square, Lansing, representative for the land owner in SUP # 08-99071 (Tim Hortons), indicated Tim Hortons has withdrawn its appeal of the Planning Commission condition and has agreed to redesign the site so the vehicle stacking lane for the drive-through window is not located in the front yard area. He noted Tim Hortons request to amend Meridian

Crossing's SUP for multiple buildings exceeding 25,000 square feet in floor area will ultimately reduce the overall square footage of buildings in the Meridian Crossings development.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed public comment.

- A. Mixed Use Planned Unit Development #08-05054 (DTN Management), request for 7,311 square feet of commercial space in a PO (Professional and Office) zoned Mixed Use Planned Unit Development at the southeast corner of Mt. Hope Road and Hagadorn Road

Board members, staff and the applicant discussed the following:

- Need to follow usual Board process of holding a public hearing and then discussing the item during the same meeting with a vote to follow
- Considerable Board discussion on this development earlier in the year
- Board history on MUPUD amendments
- Amendment in April, 2008 allowed limited commercial type uses in an approved mixed use zoned professional office district (e.g., personal services, restaurants and cafes, outdoor seating for a restaurant and café, grocery stores, financial institution, retail merchandise establishment)
- Board as the ultimate decision maker on where the commercial use is located and the amount of commercial space dedicated in the mixed use
- Appropriate arrangement as the commercial would service the neighboring community as well as other businesses within the development
- Applicant has signed lease with a nail salon
- Applicant lease negotiations with two small restaurant users, large medical user, coffee shop
- Applicant discussion with tennis pro shop and interior decorating service
- Residential leases to commence the end of the week
- Pleasant appearance of the external railing amenity
- Applicant's willingness to bring the commercial/office ratio to approximately 50%-50%
- Amend the MUPUD ordinance to include setback requirements from railroads for safety reasons
- Amend the MUPUD ordinance to include minimum setback requirements
- Benefits incorporated into the MUPUD ordinance such as parking in the rear
- Traffic calming effect when buildings are closer to the street
- Development may generate walkability within the area
- MUPUD as a good use of the property

**Treasurer Hunting moved [and read into the record] NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby approves the amendment to Mixed Use Planned Unit Development #08-05054, to allow 7,311 square feet of commercial space within a PO (Professional and Office) zoned mixed use planned unit development, subject to the following conditions:**

- 1. Approval is granted in accordance with the floor plan received by the Township on June 30, 2008, subject to revisions as required.**
- 2. The commercial space on the site shall not exceed 7,311 square feet unless the applicant applies for and receives an amendment to the mixed use planned unit development.**
- 3. All previous conditions placed on the mixed use planned unit development approval shall remain in effect.**

**Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.**

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

- B. SUP #08-99071 (Tim Hortons), request to amend Meridian Crossing's SUP for multiple buildings exceeding 25,000 square feet in floor area  
**Trustee Woiwode moved [and read into the record] NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby approves Special Use Permit #08-99071, to construct a building on a site that already contains buildings over 25,000 square feet in gross floor area, subject to the following conditions:**

- 1. Approval of the special use permit is in accordance with the site plan prepared by KEBS Inc. dated April 22, 2008, subject to revisions as required.**
- 2. The total square footage of all buildings on the Meridian Crossing site shall not exceed 133,467 square feet unless an amendment to Special Use Permit #08-99071 is approved by the Township Board.**
- 3. All applicable conditions of SUP #99071 and SUP #05-99071 shall remain in effect.**

**Seconded by Trustee Brixie.**

Board members discussed the following:

- Appreciation for applicant's willingness to withdraw appeal after extensive discussions with the Board
- Fits with the design of the shopping center
- Small addition to the overall square footage of the shopping center

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

C. Local Road Repair Options

Manager Richards stated that after consultation with the Township Attorney, it was determined if the Board chose to place a ballot proposal on for the November election, language needed to be solidified and passed by August 26, 2008.

Board members discussed the following:

- Fourteen miles of roads resurfaced in 2003 for \$1 million
- Roads have continued to deteriorate over the last several years
- Each year roads are not fixed, repair costs increase due to further deterioration
- Inability of the Township to fix the roads on its own
- Cost of road repair continues to rise due to escalating cost of petroleum prices
- No cost to the Township to place the road repair millage language on the November ballot
- Continued road deterioration will lead to road rebuilding vs. road resurfacing if not acted upon soon
- Larger voter turnout in a general election
- Fairness of the road repair millage vs. special assessment districts
- Lower millage amount to .12 mills
- Preference for passage of a lower millage than failure of a larger one
- Cost of .25 mills is \$25.00/year on a \$200,000 home within the Township
- Lowering of millage amount may be adequate for passage
- Passage of a millage would result in no assessment for East End Drive and Circle
- Eight year old amount of \$500,000 per year for twenty (20) years to resurface all local roads in the Township
- Millage would be in addition to the \$115,000 from the Ingham County Road Commission with a Township match
- Current Ingham County Road Commission administrative fee of 7% would need to be budgeted in addition to our matching amount of \$115,000

- Resurfacing cost last year approximately \$100,000 per mile
- Asphalt prices have increased by approximately 50% to \$65/ton
- Approximately six (6) miles of road can be resurfaced every year with current county, township and proposed millage money
- Township has approximately 150 miles of local roads
- Money generated by approval of the millage would be twice as much as is currently spent on roads
- Option to offer incentives if neighborhoods vote to set up a special assessment district for road resurfacing
- Possible discussion with the ICRC at the Intergovernmental meeting in November regarding width reduction of roads which would lower the cost of resurfacing
- Need to change time to either six years for a gubernatorial election year or eight (8) years for a presidential election year
- Cost of rebuilt vs. repaved roads

**Trustee Woiwode moved [and read into the record] NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, approves the following millage ballot question language, subject to the final approval of the Township Attorney, and directs the Clerk to submit it to be placed on the November 4, 2008 election ballot:**

**ROAD REPAIR MILLAGE PROPOSITION**

**Shall there be an increase of 0.25 mills (\$0.25 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) in excess of the limitation on the amount of taxes that may be assessed on all property in the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan levied for a period of six (6) years, 2008 through 2013 inclusive, for the preservation, maintenance and resurfacing of roads within the Township, raising an estimated \$425,000 in the first year the millage is levied.**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**Seconded by Supervisor McGillicuddy.**

Continued Board member discussion:

- Obligation of the Board to take this issue to the voters
- Reasonable, prudent and conservative option for the citizenry
- Concern with passage of the proposal at .25 mills

**Trustee Brixie moved to amend the motion by reducing the mills to 0.20 mills and increasing the number of years levied to eight (8) years.**

**Seconded by Trustee Veenstra.**

Continued Board discussion:

- Wisdom of a unified Board vote on this issue
- Voters should accept responsibility for their own road safety
- Community will live with its decision
- Criticism by residents regardless of the number of mills proposed

**Supervisor McGillicuddy called the question on the motion to amend.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Veenstra  
NAYS: Trustee Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht,  
Treasurer Hunting  
Motion failed 2-4.

**Trustee Veenstra moved to amend the millage language by reducing the period of levy from six (6) years to five (5) years.**

**The motion died for lack of support.**

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

- D. Resolution of Support Regarding Community Media Public Access Cable Television  
Supervisor McGillicuddy and TV Coordinator Deborah Guthrie summarized the community media public access cable television center concept as outlined in staff memorandum dated August 15, 2008.

Board members discussed the following:

- Resolution to support for a regional cooperative effort to submit a grant application for a regional channel
- Regional channel would be in addition to the HOM TV channel
- Comcast is currently playing non regional tapes on the local public access channel
- Comcast statement that they have “regionalized” the public access channel
- Redesignation of the public access channel to a regional channel so that participating entities will simultaneously view the same program

**Trustee Brixie moved [and read into the record] NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby supports and commits to participate in committee discussions with other units of government, business entities, and organizations in this region to develop a plan for a regional community media center and channel; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a representative be selected by the administration to participate in these regional discussions on such a committee by providing input and reporting back progress on the effort; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any proposed regional agreement for a regional media center and channel be presented to this public body for approval; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN agrees to participate with other community businesses and organizations in the Centers for Regional Excellence Program of the State of Michigan to achieve collaboration in the development of a regional community media center and channel.**

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the citizens of this community will be kept fully informed and provided input into the process.**

**Seconded by Trustee Veenstra.**

Continued Board and staff discussion:

- Designation of 2% additional PEG fee for public access from uniform franchising agreements to fund community media channel
- Further Board action to expend monies will need to include language that no general fund monies will be used
- Community need for a public access studio
- No local match needed to apply for the grant
- Resolution does not authorize the Township to expend any funds

- Belief that the resolution should contain language which authorized the Township to apply for the \$25,000 grant

Procedure for authorization of grant applications: (See Agenda Item #8 (Questions for the Attorney))

Q. Is it necessary to have the resolution specify authorization to apply for the grant?

A. If that is the normal procedure that the Board always approves any grant that is applied for, then I think you need to add it like you always would. If that's not the procedure, then I don't think you need to. I guess I would defer to the Manager.

Continued Board and staff discussion:

- Normal procedure is to ask the Board to authorize the Township to apply for grants
- No authorization required to apply for the grant as there is no match necessary
- Board authorizes grant applications when there is money expended in excess of the amount the Manager is allowed to approve
- Resolution does not authorize application for a grant, but beginning of discussions among participating communities with regard to a regional media center

**Supervisor McGillicuddy called the question.**

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

Supervisor McGillicuddy recessed the meeting at 8:16 P.M.

Supervisor McGillicuddy reconvened the meeting at 8:27 P.M.

**Trustee Woiwode moved that the Township Supervisor, Clerk and Manager be authorized to apply for a \$25,000 grant from the Centers for Regional Excellence administered through the Michigan State Housing Development Authority and, if successful, to accept the grant. Seconded by Trustee Brixie.**

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

#### 11. DISCUSSION ITEMS/ENDS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened public comment

Kelly Rogers, 2924 and 2971 Briarcliff Street, Okemos, spoke in support of the Planning Commission recommendation for denial of Rezoning #08100.

Ganesh Reddy, 3614 Ponderosa Drive, Okemos, spoke in opposition to Rezoning #08100, in support of the millage because of the condition of the roads and the need for long term strategy of IT expenditures.

David Imig, 2990 Briarcliff, East Lansing, urged the Board to deny Rezoning #08100.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed public comment.

A. Champion Woods Streetlighting SAD #322

Board members discussed the following:

- Reduction of electrical consumption through consideration of the use of LED streetlights
- Design of the Township's streetlight system by an entity interested in energy conservation

**The consensus of the Board was to place this item on the consent agenda at the September 2, 2008 Board meeting.**

- B. Rezoning 5120, 5130, 5448, and 5485 Okemos Road from RAAA (Single Family-Low Density) to RR (Rural Residential)  
Director Kieselbach summarized the proposed rezonings as outlined in staff memorandum dated August 15, 2008.

Board members discussed the following:

- Keeping of horses contributes to the rural character of the Township
- Properties are non-conforming
- Three (3) of the four (4) properties would meet the requirements proposed by staff if added to the RAAA zoning district
- One hundred foot setback from the property line not necessary
- One hundred foot setback from a house would be appropriate
- Possibility of a special use permit in RRA and RAAA for the keeping of horses
- Concern with requirement which prohibits grazing in the front yard
- Concern with impact on neighbors regarding air pollution
- Right to Farm Act exempts agricultural activities that meet certain voluntary standards from nuisance claims by neighbors
- Right to Farm Act would take away the authority of the Township to regulate these activities

**The consensus of the Board was to discontinue Board discussion on this issue.**

- C. Rezoning #08100 (Johnson) request to rezone 4.92 acres addressed as 2946 Mt. Hope Road, 2950 Mt. Hope Road, and 4528 Hagadorn Road from PO (Professional and Office) to RC (Multiple Family-Medium Density)  
Director Kieselbach summarized the proposed rezoning as outlined in staff memorandum dated August 14, 2008.

Allen Russell, 1690 Mack, Haslett, representative for DTN Management, pointed to the staff report to the Planning Commission dated July 10, 2008 which offered reasons for approval.

Lanny Johnson, 4658 Chippewa, Okemos, spoke to his intent to bring usefulness and value to the property as well as the Township through the requested rezoning. He indicated the rationale for the rezoning request was the decline in office properties in general and the rehabilitation of the subject property. Mr. Johnson offered photos from various angles showing the landscape at several property lines.

Board members discussed the following:

- Staff routinely provides recommendations to both the Planning Commission and the Township Board for consideration during deliberations
- Current zoning is correct
- Changes occurring around the area indicate PO use is growing
- Possible applicant consideration of RD zoning as RC is too dense
- Flexibility of mixed use from site to site regarding setbacks
- RC zoning not consistent with the Master Plan
- Additional PO not currently needed in this area of the Township
- Property has been vacant for several years and needs redevelopment
- Screening from adjacent single family residential a necessity regardless of zoning designation
- Location across from MSU campus a reasonable site for residential use
- Possible MUPUD with PO for this site
- Proximity to MSU both an opportunity and a problem

**The consensus of the Board was to place this item on for action at the September 2, 2008 Board meeting.**

- D. Off-Street Parking Standards for Commercial and Office Uses  
**The consensus of the Board was to remove this item from tonight's agenda.**

E. Local Road Repair Options

**The consensus of the Board was to remove this item from tonight's agenda.**

12. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

Leonard Provenchur, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, expressed appreciation for the Board's meaningful discussion on local road repair. He also expressed support for the hard work and time of Board members.

Ganesh Reddy, 3614 Ponderosa Drive, Okemos, urged the Board to develop a long term IT strategy plan.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

13. POSSIBLE CLOSED SESSION

**Trustee Woiwode moved that the Township Board go into a closed session to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute. Seconded by Trustee Brixie.**

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

Supervisor McGillicuddy recessed the meeting at 9:57 P.M.

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

**Trustee Brixie moved to return to open session. Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.**

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

Supervisor McGillicuddy reconvened the meeting at 10:57 P.M.

**Trustee Brixie moved to go forward as discussed in closed session. Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.**

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

14. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McGillicuddy adjourned the meeting at 10:58 P.M.

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SUSAN MCGILLICUDDY  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

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MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT, CMC  
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Sandra K. Otto, Secretary