

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING – **APPROVED AS AMENDED** -
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Town Hall Room
TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2017 **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Brixie, Trustees Deschaine, Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Township Manager Frank Walsh, Assistant Township Manager/Director of Public Works and Engineering Derek Perry, Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Finance Director Miriam Mattison, Officer Bart Crane

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
Supervisor Styka called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS
Supervisor Styka led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. ROLL CALL
The secretary called the roll of the Board.
4. PRESENTATION (None)
5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS
Supervisor Styka opened Public Remarks.

HASLETT RESIDENTS Tim McCarthy, 6076 Columbia; ~~Haslett~~ JOHN WARBACH, 1597 BASS STREET; CURT ARMBRUSTER, 6411 E. REYNOLDS ROAD; TERESA BASS, 6070 COLUMBIA STREET; DAVID STIRDIVANT, 6369 W. REYNOLDS ROAD AND STEVE CARPENTER, 6397 W. REYNOLDS ROAD, AND PRESIDENT OF THE LAKE LANSING PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, spoke in support of the Lake Lansing Special Assessment District (SAD) renewal.

~~John Warbach, 1597 Bass Street, Haslett, spoke in support of continuation of the Lake Lansing SAD renewal.~~

Bruce Little, 5015 Meridian Road, Williamston, offered comments in opposition to the Police and Fire Millage proposal.

~~Curt Armbruster, 6411 E. Reynolds Road, Haslett, spoke in support of the renewal for the Lake Lansing SAD.~~

Anna Fisher, 2363 Burcham, East Lansing, and member of Indivisible Environmental Action Committee, spoke in support of the resolution to shutdown Enbridge Line 5 Pipeline in the Straits of Mackinac.

~~Teresa Bass, 6070 Columbia Street, spoke in support of the continuation of the Lake Lansing SAD.~~

~~David Stirdivant, 6369 W. Reynolds Road, Haslett, spoke in support of continuation of the SAD for Lake Lansing through Resolution #1 and #2~~

~~Steve Carpenter, 6397 W. Reynolds Road, Haslett and President of the Lake Lansing Property Owners Association, spoke in support of the Lake Lansing SAD renewal.~~

Supervisor Styka closed Public Remarks.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Walsh reported the following:

- Community Conversation last night with Township neighborhood residents, North Fire Station has been reopened since the lightning strike last week, 24th Neighborhood Meeting with Tacoma Hills will be held tomorrow night, Brownfield Redevelopment Authority will convene in two (2) weeks to select officers and draft its bylaws, Joint Meeting between the Township Board and Planning Commission on July 24, 2017 to review the Draft 2017 Master Plan and responded to previous citizen statements concerning Meridian Township taxes and its pension fund

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clerk Dreyfus reported the following:

- Deadline for requesting an absentee voter (AV) ballot to be mailed is Saturday, August 5th, August 7th is the last day to obtain and vote an AV ballot, 2,564 ballots have been mailed to residents with receipt of 877 as of July 17th, continuation of use of an AV Counting Board, and a New Election Equipment Open House to be held on July 26th from 10:00 AM-11:30 AM and 4:30 PM-6:00 PM in the Town Hall Room

Trustee Jackson reported the following:

- She worked as a volunteer at the Gus Macker Basketball Tournament over the entire weekend

Trustee Opsommer reported the following:

- His attendance at last night's Community Conversation, the next Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) Board meeting will be held tomorrow at 4:00 PM at CATA headquarters, first meeting of the CEO search committee was conducted, a listening session will be held July 31st from 7:00 PM-8:30 PM at the Hannah Community Center to gather input from the public on qualities and priorities they would like to see in the next CEO and issues which need to be discussed as CATA moves forward and an online survey can be filled out at <https://www.cata.org/CEOSurvey> for those who cannot attend the session

Supervisor Styka reported on the following:

- Inquiry on the transmission of CATA's forensic audit reports to the Board; law firm to review inclusion in Board packet

Treasurer Brixie reported on the following:

- Harris Nature Center will host A Turtle Toast Gala on Saturday, July 22, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM as part of Meridian Township's 175th Anniversary Celebration
- Her attendance at the July 12th Tri-County Regional Planning Commission's (TCRPC) Transportation Review Committee Meeting where revisions were approved to the Transportation Improvement Program, including improvements and a pathway for Saginaw Highway along the portion which will host the new Costco development

Trustee Deschaine reported the following:

- Transportation Committee will meet on July 20th where Redi-Ride will be discussed, appreciation for the commencement of the Township's road paving projects and success of

the Gus Macker Tournament, with 2-1/2 times greater team participation than when the event was previously held in Ingham County

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

9. CONSENT AGENDA (SALMON)

Supervisor Styka reviewed the consent agenda.

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

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

A. Communications

(1) Board Information (BI)

BI-1 Donna Rose, 6207 Cobblers Drive, East Lansing; RE: Thank you to Board members for their service

BI-2 Jie Wang, 1740 Maple Ridge, Haslett; RE: Wrong spelling of names on tax bill

BI-3 Lynn Hildebrandt, 4890 Chipping Camden Lane, Okemos; RE: Letter to the Township Board from LINC

BI-4 Mark Holoweiko, 1190 Teakwood Circle, Haslett; RE: Support for a Vacant Property Ordinance

BI-5 Carol Trojanowski, 5653 Ventura Place, Haslett; RE: Thank you for removal of dangerous tree on the northwest corner of Hillview and Haslett Road

BI-6 Tracy Darnell, LotusVoice Integrative Therapies, 4994 Park Lake Road, East Lansing; RE: Appreciation for the Celebrate Meridian event

BI-7 Thomas Hranilovich, 3422 Ridgefield Road, Lansing; RE: Mt. Hope Pathway Project

Clerk Dreyfus moved that the communications be received and placed on file, and any communications not already assigned for disposition be referred to the Township Manager or Supervisor for follow-up. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Minutes

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the July 6, 2017 Regular Meeting as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Bills

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

Common Cash	\$	3,748,255.16
Public Works	\$	315,537.76
Trust & Agency	\$	453,375.79
 Total Checks	\$	 4,517,168.71
 Credit Card Transactions (June 29 to July 12, 2016)	\$	 6,802.60
 Total Purchases	\$	 <u>4,523,971.31</u>
 ACH Payments	\$	 <u>433,814.80</u>

Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

[Bill list in Official Minute Book]

10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY (None)

11. HEARINGS

A. 2017 Order to Maintain Sidewalk SAD #17

Supervisor Styka opened the public hearing at 6:35 P.M.

Director Perry summarized the proposed 2017 Order to Maintain Sidewalk Special Assessment District #17 as outlined in staff memorandum dated July 18, 2017.

Supervisor Styka closed the public hearing at 6:36 P.M.

B. Georgetown #3 Streetlighting SAD #425

Supervisor Styka opened the public hearing at 6:36 P.M.

Director Perry summarized the proposed Georgetown #3 Public Streetlighting Improvement Special Assessment District #425 as outlined in staff memorandum dated July 18, 2017.

Supervisor Styka closed the public hearing at 6:37 P.M.

12. ACTION ITEMS

A. Lake Lansing SAD - Resolution #1 and #2

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve Lake Lansing Watershed Management Special Assessment District (2018-2027) – Resolution #1 and #2, which files the plans and cost estimate with the Township Clerk, tentatively declares the Township Board’s intention to continue to make the public improvements of watershed management and weed control in Lake Lansing for an additional period of ten years, tentatively designates a special assessment district, and sets the date for a public hearing on August 15, 2017. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

Board discussion:

- Compelling evidence by those receiving the benefit the SAD is necessary to keep the lake clean and functioning
- \$10,000 contribution by the Township may need to be spread throughout the benefactors in Tier 1 and 2 if Township discretionary funds are not available
- Township Board has not yet set the cost to each benefactor as the resolution(s) only set the public hearing and the total amount can be altered by the Board based on available discretionary funding
- Appreciation for the support of lake residents in both tiers

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Deschaine, Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Supervisor Styka, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

B. 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments

Finance Director Mattison summarized the 2nd quarter budget amendments as outlined in staff memorandum dated July 14, 2017.

Board discussion:

- Revenue received from both schools for hosting the May 2, 2017 Election
- Inquiry regarding the inclusion of overtime costs for the upcoming August 8th Election
- Request for clarification on how East Lansing bills for its portion of the May 2, 2017 Election hosted for Meridian Township voters
- Salaries, staffing, hiring and overtime costs for the May and August Elections
- Transfer out for the local road fund paid for the quiet zone engineering analysis

It was the consensus of the Board to submit questions to the Finance Director and bring this item back for action at the August 1, 2017 Board meeting.

13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 2017 Sidewalk Order to Maintain SAD #17

Board discussion:

- Explanation of the Order to Maintain process through Resolution #5, including the number of departments involved (Engineering, Clerk, Assessing, Treasurer)
- Option for residents to have the work performed by their own contractor and then be removed from the roll
- Neighbors work together with the same contractor to reduce the cost of their repair

It was the consensus of the Board to place Resolution #3 (public hearing) on for action at the August 1, 2017 Board meeting.

B. Georgetown #3 Streetlighting SAD #425

Board discussion:

- SAD was resident initiated through the petition process
- Requirement is for a minimum 20% property owner initiated, with a desired 50% buy-in

It was the consensus of the Board to place Resolution #3 (public hearing) on for action at the August 1, 2017 Board meeting.

- C. Resolution to Decommission Enbridge's Line 5 Pipeline Under the Straits of Mackinaw
Supervisor Styka summarized the proposed resolution to decommission Enbridge's Line 5 Pipeline Under the Straits of Mackinac as outlined in staff memorandum dated July 13, 2017.

Treasurer Brixie moved to suspend the rules to act on this item at tonight's meeting. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Brixie moved [and read into the record] NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, supports halting the transportation of oil through Line 5 under the Great Lakes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, supports halting the transportation of oil through Line 5 under the Great Lakes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, supports shutting down Line 5.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, supports Michigan House of Representatives Resolution 51 and Michigan Senate Bill 292, calling on Governor Rick Snyder and Attorney General Bill Schuette to take action to shut down Line 5.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Charter Township of Meridian shall send a copy of this resolution to Governor Rick Snyder, Attorney General Bill Schuette, State Representative Sam Singh, State Senator Curtis Hertel, U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow, and U.S. Representative Michael Bishop calling on them to take swift action to bring about the shutdown of Line 5.

Seconded by Trustee Deschaine.

Trustee Opsommer offered the following amendment:

- Amend the last BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED clause by adding " members of the Michigan Pipeline Safety Advisory Board," prior to "Governor Rick Snyder,"

Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

VOICE VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT: Motion carried unanimously.

VOICE VOTE ON THE MAIN MOTION: Motion carried unanimously.

D. Short-term Rentals

Director Kieselbach summarized the overview of policy options to regulate short-term rentals as outlined in staff memorandum dated July 12, 2017.

Board and staff discussion:

- Preference to identify acceptable locations for Airbnb sites (i.e., cabins/cottages on Lake Lansing)
- Complaint from a resident of Lake Lansing about a short-term rental on the lake
- Short-term rentals could be useful during Michigan State University (MSU) football and basketball seasons given the shortage of hotel rooms in the Township
- Preference to seek community input regarding this issue
- Concern with safety of short-term rentals
- Township currently has a registered short-term rental
- Manager's previous experience in a different municipality resulted in ultimately limiting short-term rentals to one (1) district - industrial/waterfront special areas
- Issue is a "moving target"
- Current state legislation will preempt local governments from having a zoning ordinance to regulate short-term rentals
- Preference for more data and a review of other communities' experience with this issue
- Request for a map of the lake and the Township where a color overlay designates properties which pay non-homestead property taxes
- Aforementioned map should show which properties don't have a non-homestead property tax exemption (i.e., primary occupied residence)
- Existence of short-term room rentals currently in primary residences
- Staff suggestion to send letters to Tier 1 and Tier 2 Lake Lansing properties as well as the Wardcliff neighborhood requesting input on this issue
- Staff focus should be in two (2) areas: around Lake Lansing and near the MSU campus
- Staff request to first ascertain if this issue warrants the amount of time necessary to adequately research the issue given the myriad on-line methods for short-term rentals
- Direction for staff to inquire concerning neighboring communities' short-term rental programs
- History of the Township's rental registration ordinance
- Hosted v. non-hosted rentals
- Direction for staff to look at short-term rentals sites during football weekends

It was the consensus of the Board to direct staff to track data, research this issue and bring back to the Board at a future date.

14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Styka opened and closed Public Remarks.

15. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Supervisor Styka discussed two (2) proposed budgets, one with and one without approval of the Police and Fire Millage proposal.

Board and staff discussion:

- Proposed cuts will be more significant than those which occurred during "The Great Recession"
- Timing of presenting the Board with an alternate budget if the August 8th millage does not pass

- Staff has already prepared the necessary two (2) budgets
- Inquiry if staff could provide Board members with a generic summary of proposed cuts
- Board members will receive a copy of the proposed budget in the last week of August
- Summary and timeline of the steps involved in the budget process
- Board members preference to get the appropriate budget after the August 8th election

Supervisor Styka announced the Board will host a joint meeting with the Planning Commission on July 24th to address any technical, content or wording changes needed prior to the public hearing on the draft 2017 Master Plan. He also stated the Board's Special Meeting on August 22nd will be a study session on medical marihuana.

Township Manager Walsh reported that a Township police car tested positive this afternoon for carbon monoxide emission, which affected the health of one of our police officers.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Brixie moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Deschaine.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Styka adjourned the meeting at 8:12 P.M.

RONALD J. STYKA
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Sandra K. Otto, Secretary