

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING **-APPROVED-**
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Township Hall Room
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019 **6:00 pm.**

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski

ABSENT:

STAFF: Director of Public Works Perry, Police Chief Plaga, Fire Chief Hamel, Information Technology Director Gebes, Community Planning Director Kieselbach, Economic Development Director Buck, Human Services Specialist Jackson

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Styka called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Styka led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

The Recording Secretary called the roll of the Board.

4. PRESENTATIONS - NONE

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Styka opened public remarks at 6:01 pm.

Lynn Page, 3912 Raleigh Dr., Okemos; spoke in opposition to Medical Marihuana Non-Zoning Ordinance – Introduction (Agenda Item 12B).

Jim Giguere, 6253 Fenwick Ct., East Lansing; spoke in support of Rezoning #18160 - Giguere, (Agenda Item 13A).

Supervisor Styka closed public remarks at 6:04 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Assistant Manager Perry reported: Township citizen survey presentations, Ingham County Road Commission projects, Haslett Road repairs, sustainability report.

Board discussion: Clerk suggested importance of using citizen survey data when discussing potential road millage in August 2019

B. Minutes – February 5, 2019 Regular Meeting

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 5, 2019 as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

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

NAYS:
Motion carried 7-0

C. Bills

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve that the Township Board approve the Manager’s Bills as follows, seconded by Trustee Opsommer:

Common Cash		\$	438,851.31
Public Works		\$	576,814.89
Trust & Agency		\$	2,065,874.15
	Total Checks	\$	3,081,540.35
Credit Card Transactions		\$	12,546.35
Feb. 1 to Feb 13			
	Total Purchases	\$	3,094,087.29
ACH Payments		\$	430,862.89

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

NAYS:
Motion carried 7-0

D. No Parking Traffic Control Order – 2019-1: MOVED TO AGENDA ITEM 12F

E. Board Meeting Schedule Change

Clerk Dreyfus moved to amend the 2019 Board Meeting Schedule by changing the Tuesday, May 7, 2019 Regular Board Meeting to Thursday, May 9, 2019 and by changing the Tuesday, August 6, 2019 Regular Board Meeting to Thursday, August 8, 2019. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

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

NAYS:
Motion carried 7-0

10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY – NONE

11. HEARINGS

A. Sierra Ridge #2 & #3 Streetlighting SAD 426

Director Perry introduced and explained the Special Assessment District proposal.

Supervisor Styka opened the hearing at 6:22 pm.

Supervisor Styka closed the hearing at 6:23 pm.

12. ACTION ITEMS

A. Rezoning #18140 (Hitch) – **Final Adoption**

Trustee Opsommer moved to adopt the resolution for final adoption of Ordinance No. 2019-02 pursuant to Rezoning #18140. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

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

NAYS:
Motion carried 7-0

B. Medical Marihuana Non-Zoning Ordinance - **Introduction**

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve the resolution for the introduction of the amendment to the Code of Ordinances to add Chapter 40 Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities and amend the Township Fee Schedule to include an Initial Application Fee of \$5,000 and Annual/Renewal Application Fee of \$5,000. Seconded by Trustee Sundland.

Board discussion: Number of facilities, medical marijuana permits in relation to future recreational marijuana permits, differences between 2018 recreational marijuana and 2008 medical marijuana proposals approved by voters.

Trustee Jackson moved to amend Page 3, Section 40-28 (2)(a) through (f) to not allow more than two permits each. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

Board discussion: concerns about potential future opt-in for legalized marijuana as it relates to medical marijuana ordinance, Michigan Municipal League opinion on future recreational co-locations, licensed medical marijuana facilities cannot switch to recreational marijuana facilities in the future, Meridian election results for statewide marijuana proposals support medical marijuana ordinance, current limits in ordinance are very reasonable, cross-use will not be allowed in facilities, legitimate examples – not extremes – should be the focus, current ordinance allows appropriate residential buffers, clarification needed on whether medical permits would allow recreational permits in the future, clarity of new legalized marijuana law, beliefs that the new legalized marijuana law is confusing vs belief new law is clear and understandable, provisioning centers plus other facility zoning requirements, Township Board has final control over whether to opt-in for recreational marijuana in the future.

VOICE VOTE

ON AMENDMENT: Motion failed 1 (Jackson) - 6

Board discussion: Increased punishment for violation, revocation of permit

Treasurer Deschaine moved to amend the proposed ordinance to include language to allow for the revocation of permits due to excess violation.

Motion failed due to lack of second.

Board discussion: Current fine structure discourages repeat violations, \$1,000 first offense / \$2,500 second offense / \$5,000 third offense, if a permit is issued and subsequently an application appears to contain false information – is revocation possible, State qualification process (LARA) already has provisions for loss of facility license if false information is discovered on application materials.

Trustee Opsommer moved to request legal counsel prepare language to include a “revocation provision” before final adoption. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

VOICE VOTE

ON AMENDMENT: Motion carried 7-0

ROLL CALL VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION: YEAS: Trustees Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski, Jackson, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus

NAYS:
Motion carried 7-0

C. Park Commission Appointment

Trustee Wisinski moved to support the recommendation from the Park Commission to appoint Ami Van Antwerp to the Meridian Township Park Commission to fill the seat vacated by Courtney Wisinski. The term of appointment will expire in 2020 at which time the seat will be filled by popular vote. Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

Board discussion: Quality of resume and experience, recommendation from Parks Commission.

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

NAYS:
Motion carried 7-0

D. Resolution to Revise Poverty Exemption Application and Guidelines

Trustee Jackson moved that the Township Board approve the resolution to adopt the Proposed Poverty Exemption Application and Guidelines. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

Board discussion: Details of the exemption process, guidelines will adjust annual with federal guidelines, number of residents applying for poverty exemption, response of 7-12 annually, awareness of program, application process, exemption standards.

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

NAYS: Motion carried 7-0

E. Grand River Water Main Extension – SAD #49 – Resolution #4

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve Grand River Avenue Public Water Main Improvement Special Assessment District #49 Resolution #4, which files the proposed final special assessment roll with the Township Clerk and sets the date for a public hearing on March 19, 2019. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

Board discussion: Details of extension, residents in SAD seek public water, increased service limits.

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

NAYS: Motion carried 7-0

F. No Parking Traffic Control Order 2019-1

Trustee Jackson moved to approve the No Parking Traffic Control Order on, or along, the cul-de-sac at the East end of Sylvan Glen Road, per the submitted plan. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

Board discussion: Details of no parking zone, input of residence and school, limitations of current parking situation, specific location of zone, where people can park once traffic control order is enacted.

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

NAYS: Motion carried 7-0

13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Rezoning #18160 (Giguere)

Director Kieselbach explained the proposed rezoning and provided site illustrations.

Board discussion: Amenable nature of developer, evolution of the proposal, rezoning allows for better use and layout of the land, positives of compromise.

Board consensus to place the item on for action at a future meeting.

B. Rezoning #18150 (Township Board)

Director Kieselbach explained the proposed rezoning and provided site illustrations.

Board discussion: Transfer allowed Township to obtain site at Meridian Mall for new Farmer’s Market, land swap needed for Meridian Mall to maintain compliance with impervious requirement, site is primarily wetland and floodplain, commercial PUD requires commercial zoning.

Board consensus to place the item on for action at a future meeting.

C. Sierra Ridge #2 & #3 Streetlighting – SAD 426

Board consensus to place the item on for action at a future meeting.

D. Village of Okemos Concept Plan

Director Buck explained the proposed development.

Bob Gibbs, Gibbs Planning Group on behalf of True North, provided a presentation of the proposed development.

Will Randle, True North, explained the proposed development and gave details on the construction.

Greg Presley, Presley Architecture, explained details on the architecture of the development and on ADA compliance.

Board discussion: Importance of consulting surrounding neighborhoods, phases of construction, 150 dwelling units for Block 1 and 50 dwelling unit for block 2, types of materials and architecture, request for upper-level dining, impact on Okemos Road, ADA compliance, varied frontage architecture, antique signs, coordination with Ingham County Road Commission, possible commercial tenants, increased height to 135 feet for power lines, placemaking amenities, possibility of public interaction zone/town square, future phase locations, environmental contamination test results requested for Board, identification of partners and investors currently in the project, California investor Patrick Smith (WestPac) is owner of Village of Okemos project, “collaborative workplace” tenants, project timeline, DEQ to perform portion of environmental cleanup.

Board consensus to see this item for further discussion at a future meeting.

14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Styka Opened Public Remarks at 8:38 pm.

Lynn Page, 3912 Raleigh Dr., Okemos; spoke in opposition of Agenda Item 12B, noted need for website updates on progress and consistent packet inclusion of communications.

Supervisor Styka Closed Public Remarks at 8:40 pm.

15. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Clerk Dreyfus requested brief time at the next Board meeting to present examples of public activated spaces and innovative town squares to help future development “visioning,” seeing no Board support the Clerk withdrew his request.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Opsommer moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 7-0

Supervisor Styka adjourned the meeting at 8:48 pm.

RONALD J. STYKA,
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

BRETT DREYFUS,
TOWNSHIP CLERK