

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING - **APPROVED** -  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198  
853-4000, Town Hall Room  
TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2017 **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Treasurer Brixie, Trustees Deschaine, Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland  
ABSENT: Clerk Dreyfus  
STAFF: Township Manager Frank Walsh, Assistant Township Manager/Director of Public Works and Engineering Derek Perry, Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Police Chief Dave Hall, Communications Director Deborah Guthrie, Finance Director Miriam Mattison, Parks and Recreation Director LuAnn Maisner, Human Resources Director Joyce Marx, Director of Information and Technology Stephen Gebes, Stewardship Coordinator Kelsey Dillon

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Styka called the meeting to order at 6:01 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

A. Stewardship Activities in Park and Land Preserves-Kelsey Dillion, Stewardship Coordinator  
Director Maisner introduced Kelsey Dillon, the Township's Stewardship Coordinator, who then summarized the Township's Stewardship Accomplishments to date in 2017.

B. 2017 Celebrate Meridian Overview-LuAnn Maisner, Parks & Recreation Director  
Director Maisner provided an overview of the upcoming Celebrate Meridian Event to be held on July 1, 2017 at the campus of Central Park.

C. MERS Annual Report-Township Manager  
Township Manager Walsh provided an extensive summary of the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) Annual Actuarial Valuation Report as of December 31, 2016.

Board discussion:

- Township's two pronged approach to solving the pension issue, commitment to aggressively pay the unfunded liability in the shortest time frame possible and an explanation of the calculation of the one percent increase in the Township's funding position from 57% to 58%

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Styka opened Public Remarks.

Joe Pavona, 4726 Arapaho Trail, Okemos, read a prepared statement on behalf of the Indian Lakes Estates Homeowners Association Board of Directors, voicing concern with the Hannah Farms East project as proposed.

Luke Bowman, 4683 Ottawa, Okemos, asked several questions concerning his perception of the Township's handling of its MERS contributions.

Supervisor Styka closed Public Remarks.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Walsh reported the following:

- Meeting scheduled with the county on the Haslett area streetscape, MERS pension information, cost of police and fire services, DPW and Administrative Professionals funding status

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Sundland reported the following:

- Her attendance at the Communications Commission June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting and Fun in the Sun Day

Treasurer Brixie reported the following:

- Her attendance at Fun in the Sun Day, Meridian Area Business Association meeting and the retirement party of the Okemos Public Schools' Superintendent

Trustee Jackson reported the following:

- Her attendance at the June 13<sup>th</sup> Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) Board meeting

Trustee Opsommer reported the following:

- CATA Board of Directors will meet tomorrow at 4:00 P.M. and name a search committee to select a new CEO to replace Sandra Dragoo who will be retiring in February, 2018

Trustee Deschaine reported the following:

- His attendance at the Fun in the Sun Day, last week's Transportation Commission meeting,

Supervisor Styka reported the following:

- Attendance at one of the many neighborhood meetings conducted by staff to explain the Police and Fire Millage request, attendance at Okemos Public Schools' Superintendent Ash's retirement party and a meeting with City of East Lansing officials to discuss mutual issues

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

9. CONSENT AGENDA (SALMON)

Supervisor Styka reviewed the consent agenda.

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

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

A. Communications

(1) Board Deliberations (BD)

BD12A-1 Donna Rose, 6207 Cobblers Drive, East Lansing; RE: Accessible Crossing at Jolly/Okemos

(2) Board Information (BI)

- BI-1 Donna Rose, 6207 Cobblers Drive, East Lansing; RE: Correspondence and phone message relative to CATA
- BI-2 Dennis and Karen Rich, 4619 Okemos Road, Okemos; RE: Neighborhood Blight
- BI-3 Anna Fisher, 1407 Rensen Street, Lansing; RE: Request for the introduction of a resolution to decommission Enbridge’s Line 5 Pipeline under the Straits of Mackinaw

(3) SC-1 Director Maisner; RE: Celebrate Meridian Schedule for Saturday, July 1, 2017

(4) On File in the Clerk’s Office (OF)

Material handed out at the June 6, 2017 Board Meeting

Michael Hudson, Director, Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities, Michigan State University, 434 Farm Lane, #10, East Lansing; RE: Support for Audible Pedestrian Signals (APS)

Stephen M. Wickens, Wickens Group, 2510 Kerry Street, Suite #102, Lansing; RE: Opposition to CPUD #17014 as proposed

William Conklin, Manager, Ingham County Road Department, 301 Bush Street, Mason; RE: Audible Signals/Jolly-Okemos Intersection Project Update

**Treasurer 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 Opsommer.**

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

B. Minutes

**Treasurer Brixie moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the June 6, 2017 Regular Meeting as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.**

**Trustee Deschaine offered the following amendments:**

- **Amend Page 2 under Board Member Reports and Announcements by deleting all bulleted language beginning with Board discussion and inserting: “B. Board Reports: Board members reported attending Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) meeting, neighborhood leader meeting, Transportation Commission meeting, EDC Meeting, “Train the Trainer” session on June 7<sup>th</sup> for the new voting equipment, MSUFCU’s Diversity Symposium and Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA)**
- **Amend Page 5 under Board discussion for Agenda Item 12A by deleting the word “rights” after “redevelopment”, inserting “landscaping and other issues were discussed by the Board after “PICA” and deleting the remainder of that Board discussion section**
- **Amend Page 6 under Board discussion for Agenda Item 12A by deleting all bulleted language following the amendment and inserting “Street trees are a primary component of complete streets, Ingham County waiver needed, improvement of safety with design and concern with landscape plan coming back to the Board”**

- **Amend Page 8 under Board discussion for Agenda Item 12D by deleting all bulleted language following the main motion and inserting “Board discussed the benefits and cost of including Area 3 in the Urban Services Boundary and the competing Township values of greenspace and education, the impact on the Haslett School District as well as the impact on urban sprawl”**
- **Amend Page 8 under Board discussion for Agenda Item 12D by deleting all bulleted language following the amendment and inserting “Haslett Schools have begun relying on schools of choice for enrollment, inclusion continues development of Wood Valley and prevents further urban sprawl, concern that development is in the eastern third of the Township, belief that urban sprawl can be prevented through offset of high density with protected land”**
- **Amend 9 under Continued Board discussion for Agenda Item 12D by deleting “Motion” and inserting “Amendment to motion” in the first voice vote**

**The amendments were accepted by the maker of the main motion.**

Board discussion:

- Continued work towards adherence of the adopted Board policy toward shortening minutes and spirit of the adopted Board policy relative to shortening minutes

VOICE VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT: Motion carried 5-1 (Sundland)

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Deschaine, Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Supervisor Styka, Treasurer Brixie  
 NAYS: None  
 Motion carried 6-0.

C. Bills

**Treasurer Brixie moved that the Township Board approve the Manager’s Bills as follows:**

Common Cash	\$	205,726.86
Public Works	\$	525,966.17
Trust & Agency	\$	2,610.18
 Total Checks	 \$	 734,303.21
 Credit Card Transactions (June 1 to June 14, 2017)	 \$	 8,781.11
 Total Purchases	 \$	 <u>743,084.32</u>
 ACH Payments	 \$	 <u>606,880.19</u>

**Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Deschaine, Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Supervisor Styka, Treasurer Brixie  
 NAYS: None  
 Motion carried 6-0.

[Bill list in Official Minute Book]

D. Fireworks Display Permit-July 1, 2017

**Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the fireworks permit for the 2017 Celebrate Meridian Independence Day Celebration by Pyrotechnic Operation Night Magic Displays. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.**

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

- E. 2017 Sidewalk Order to Maintain SAD #17, **Resolution No. 1 & 2**  
**Treasurer Brixie moved to approve 2017 Order to Maintain Sidewalk Special Assessment District #17-Resolutions #1 and #2, which tentatively approve the improvements and the cost estimates of proposed improvements, and sets the date for a public hearing on July 18, 2017. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.**

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

- F. Georgetown #3 Streetlighting SAD #425, **Resolution No. 1 & 2**  
**Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the Georgetown #3 Public Streetlighting Improvement Special Assessment District #425- Resolution #1, ordering plans to be prepared showing the streetlighting improvement, location, and estimate of cost; and Resolution #2, filing the plans showing the improvement, location and estimate of cost with the Clerk's Office, tentatively declaring intention to install and maintain 21 traditional w/cut-off streetlights and defray the cost of operation and maintenance by special assessment against the 55 benefiting units, and setting a public hearing for July 18, 2017. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.**

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

- G. Rock the Block! Carriage Hills Liquor License  
**Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the Communications Department's request to apply for a one-day liquor license from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) for the Rock the Block! Carriage Hills event on August 12, 2017. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.**

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY (None)

11. HEARINGS (None)

12. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Distributed Antennae System (DAS)

Director Guthrie summarized the DAS and Small Cell Policy, Franchise Agreement and modified METRO Agreement as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 14, 2017.

**Trustee Jackson moved to adopt the DAS and Small Cell Policy to be used by the Township in negotiating a modified METRO Agreement and DAS Franchise Agreement for purposes of allowing DAS/Small Cell Wireless Systems in the Township's right of way. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.**

**Trustee Opsommer offered the following amendment:**

- **Amend 1.4.9 by inserting "or in the bordering right-of-way to areas zoned C-2 and C-3 Commercial and" after "conforming manner in", deleting "as defined by the Township Board and" after "designated districts", inserting "the" after "shown on", deleting "These districts shall include the following zones:" and inserting "1.4.9.5. Commercial Zoning Map"**

**Seconded by Treasurer Brixie.**

**Treasurer Brixie offered the following friendly amendment to Trustee Opsommer's amendment:**

- **Insert "draft" before "Master Plan" in 1.4.9.1, 1.4.9.2 and 1.4.9.3**

**The friendly amendment was accepted by the maker of the original amendment.**

VOICE VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT: Motion carried 6-0.

Board discussion:

- Clarification of concern expressed with legal ramifications over the use of the term "PICA" and "draft" prior to Board adoption of the Master Plan, benefits of this technology to Township residents and business owners, revenue generating policy sets a high aesthetic pole standard, application approval process, colocation hierarchy

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

**Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the DAS/Small Cell Franchise Agreement. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.**

Board discussion:

- Incorporation of a change to the order in which pole rates would be charged, staff to work with prospective applicants on pole preference

**Treasurer Brixie withdrew her motion.**

**Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the DAS/Small Cell Franchise Agreement template. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.**

Continued Board discussion:

- Expected provider opposition to components of the franchise agreement

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

**Trustee Opsommer moved to adopt the modified METRO Agreement. Seconded by Treasurer Brixie.**

Board discussion:

- Adoption as an important formality

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

B. Okemos/Jolly Intersection Resolution

Director Kieselbach summarized the Transportation Commission's recommendation as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 20, 2017.

**Trustee Opsommer moved to adopt the resolution to recommend the Ingham County Road Department install audible signals on all four corners of the Okemos/Jolly intersection and a north/south pedestrian crossing be installed on the east side of the Okemos/Jolly intersection. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.**

Board discussion:

- Staff to set up a meeting with Bill Conklin and Alaiedon Township to discuss pathway improvements on the south side of Jolly Road, possible grant/funding sources for the improvements

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

C. 2017 Local Roads

Director Perry summarized the 2017 Project List as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 20, 2017.

**Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the Local Roads 2017 Project List and authorize the Director of Public Works & Engineering to proceed with the project. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.**

Board discussion:

- Exclusion of streets previously listed to remain under the allocated amount, possibility for review of the list during the quarterly budget amendment process, staff working with a consultant to create a long range Township Pavement Asset Management Plan, 2.88 miles improved for the allotted amount, increased cost per mile for continued road deterioration and timing of letting projects out for bid and 2018 local road funds already earmarked for specific projects

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

D. Park Commission Appointment Recommendation

**Trustee Jackson moved to support the recommendation from the Park Commission to appoint Courtney Wisinski to the Meridian Township Park Commission to fill the seat vacated by Richard Baker on May 22, 2017. The term of the appointment will expire at the next general election at which time the seat will be filled by popular vote. Seconded by Trustee Deschaine.**

Board discussion:

- Selection process used by the Park Commission to vet the qualified eight (8) applicants

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

E. County Tax Property

Township Manager Walsh summarized the foreclosed property as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 15, 2017.

**Trustee Deschaine moved to authorize Township Manager Frank Walsh to notify Ingham County Treasurer Eric Schertzing that Meridian Township has no interest in the property described above. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. PUD and PRD Zoning Amendment

Director Kieselbach summarized the proposed amendment to the Township's Planned Unit Development (PUD) and Planned Residential Development (PRD) ordinances as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 16, 2017.

Board discussion:

- Inclusion of golf courses, which previously did not count as open space, provides another option and will now likely exceed the 50% open space requirement, inclusion will be an improvement to the PUD and PRD process

**It was the consensus of the Board to send this amendment to the Planning Commission for consideration and recommendation.**

B. Resolution Supporting Continued Adherence to the Paris Climate Accord

Supervisor Styka summarized the resolution to support continued adherence to the Paris Climate Accord as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 15, 2017.

Board discussion:

- Residents of the Township care about the environment, long-standing Board support of environmental practices and Board consideration of a Sustainability and Climate Action Plan in a few months

**Treasurer Brixie moved to suspend the rules to vote on this resolution at tonight's meeting. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

**Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the resolution in support of the Paris Climate Agreement. Seconded by Trustee Sundland.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Styka opened and closed Public Remarks.

15. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Supervisor Styka announced the next Board meeting will be held Thursday, July 6, 2017 due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

16. ADJOURNMENT

**Treasurer Brixie moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Jackson.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

Supervisor Styka adjourned the meeting at 8:00 P.M.

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RONALD J. STYKA  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

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BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC  
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Sandra K. Otto, Secretary