

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD SPECIAL MEETING - **APPROVED** -  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198  
349-1200, Town Hall Room  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2001, **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting, Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Woiwode  
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, Assistant EMS/Fire Chief Dale Monnier

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER  
Supervisor McGillicuddy called the meeting to order at 6:03 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. APPROVAL OF AGENDA — OR CHANGES  
**Trustee Woiwode moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Brixie.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

5. CONSENT AGENDA  
Supervisor McGillicuddy reviewed the Consent Agenda.

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

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

Therefore, the above actions were taken with the votes as follow:

A. Communications

(1). Board Deliberation (BD)

- 5H-1 Peter McClain, 3380 Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing; RE: Letter of Appeal of SUP #01-75041 (Brogan LLC)
- 5H-2 Peter McClain, 3380 Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing; RE: Letter of Appeal of SUP #01-75041 (Brogan LLC)
- 5H-3 Judith K. Hurst, 3418 E. Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing, Et Al; RE: Letter of Appeal of SUP #01-75041 (Brogan LLC)

(2). Board Information (BI)

- BI-1 Hugh & Naurine Sloane, 1803 Sherbrook Way, Haslett; RE: Correction of Address in 9-1-1 System
- BI-2 Michael W. Reinerth, 3983 Shoals Drive, Okemos; RE: Traffic Light at Intersection of Hatch and Dobie Roads
- BI-3 Henry R. Smith, 2343 Hulett Road, Okemos; RE: I-69 to I-96 Connector
- BI-4 Neighbors United for a Quieter Meridian Township, 2215 Burcham Drive, East Lansing; RE: Neighborhood Reduced Noise Areas

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- BI-5 Eleanor V. Luecke, President, L.I.N.C. RE: ZA #01090 (Planning Commission)
- BI-6 Sonia Fineout, Fineout Construction, 4612 Okemos Road, Okemos; RE: Request for Waiver of Utility Bills
- BI-7 Margaret W. Plagge, Board of Directors, Friends of the Hope Borbas Okemos Library, 4660 Ardmore Street, Okemos; RE: Appreciation for Retaining the Name of Hope Borbas on the Okemos Library
- BI-8 Eleanor V. Luecke, President, L.I.N.C.; RE: Draft Comprehensive Development Plan
- BI-9 Charles Louis Willems, 1387 Hickory Island, Haslett; RE: Replacement of Survey Stakes
- BI-10 Michigan Townships Association Legislative Fax, July 20, 2001 edition

(3). Freedom of Information (FOI) [On file in Clerk's Office]

- FOI-2001-29 Charles Louis Willems, 1387 Hickory Island, Haslett; RE: Letters Submitted from Self to the Township in 1997 & 98
- FOI-2001-30 Jan Grulke, PM Environmental Inc., 1035 E. Saginaw Hwy, Lansing; RE: Fire Inspection Records for Signatures American Grill

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

- OF-1 Lansing Board of Water and Light Board of Commissioners' July 24, 2001 Draft Meeting Minutes
- OF-2 Okemos Board of Education June 4, 2001 Meeting Minutes
- OF-3 Okemos Board of Education June 25, 2001 Meeting Minutes
- OF-4 Ingham County Board of Commissioners July 24, 2001 Regular Meeting Packet'

(5). Staff Communication (SC)

- SC-1 Current List of Licensed Vendors and Non-Licensed Persons or Nonprofit Organizations Engaged in Soliciting or Canvassing

**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 Clerk Helmbrecht.**

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

B. Minutes

- (1) July 24, 2001 Work Session
- (2) July 24, 2001 Regular Meeting

**Trustee Brixie moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the July 24, 2001 Work Session and Regular Meeting as submitted/amended. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.**

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

C. Bills

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

General Fund/Special Revenue	\$ 574,187.51
Public Works	\$ 347,622.80
<u>Total Checks</u>	<u>\$ 921,810.31</u>
<u>Credit Card Transactions</u>	<u>\$ 18,572.36</u>
Total Purchases	<u>\$ 940,382.67</u>

**Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.**

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. Employment Agreement - Director of Assessing  
**Trustee Brixie moved that the employment agreement with Suzanne Decocq be approved and that the Township Clerk and Supervisor be authorized to sign the agreement. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.**

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

- E. Library Task Force Mission Statement  
**Trustee Brixie moved that the proposed Mission Statement of the Library Task Force be approved. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.**

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

- F. Appointments  
**Trustee Brixie moved that Trustee Stier be appointed to the Meridian Economic Development Corporation to fill the remainder of a vacancy which expires December 31, 2004, that Patrick Cannon be appointed to the Capital Area Transportation Authority for a two-(2) year term beginning October 1, 2001 [Appointed Term Expires September 30, 2003], and that the Fourth of July Committee and the Community Center Task Force be discontinued. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.**

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

- G. Cell Tower Lease Proposal - HLH Towers LLC - Reset Public Hearing (August 21<sup>st</sup>)  
**Trustee Brixie moved that the cell tower lease proposal public hearing be rescheduled from the September 4, 2001 Board Meeting to the August 21, 2001 Township Board meeting. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.**

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

- H. Appeal of SUP #01-75041 (Brogan LLC) - Set Public Hearing (August 21<sup>st</sup>)  
**Trustee Brixie moved to schedule a hearing on the appeal of the Planning Commission's decision on Special Use Permit #01-75041 for the regular Township Board meeting on August 21, 2001. The hearing will address the two (2) appeals filed. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.**

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

- I. Authorization to Apply for Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) Grants  
**Trustee Brixie moved to authorize the Land Preservation Advisory Board to pursue conservation easement grants through the State of Michigan, Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) and authorize the Township Supervisor and Township Clerk to sign and submit the grant applications on behalf of the Charter Township of Meridian. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.**

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

6. TOWN HALL MEETING

Supervisor McGillicuddy explained the intent of and opened the Town Hall Meeting.

Bob Regan, Superintendent, Haslett Public Schools, discussed the following items:

- Appreciation for the Township's support of the Haslett Public Schools
- Status of school enrollment
- Request for priority of single-family housing in future development

Todd Haywood, Co-Founding Artistic Director, Sunsets with Shakespeare, 316 1/2 W. Lapeer, Lansing discussed the following items:

- Appreciation for outstanding support of the community for Sunsets with Shakespeare
- Promotion of current Sunsets with Shakespeare production

Dr. Michael W. Radke, President, Okemos Board of Education, discussed the following items:

- Appreciation for Township support of the Okemos Public Schools
- Challenges faced by declining school aged population

Lynn Ochberg, 4383 Maumee Drive, Okemos, discussed the following items:

- Support for the recent selection of a new law firm
- Support for the Interim Okemos Branch Library
- Future and importance of home-based businesses in the Township
- Importance of environmental conservation

Mark Ritzenhein, 4359 Heartwood, Okemos, discussed the following items:

- Growth management to restrict urban sprawl
- Preservation/cultivation of village identities
- Support for off-road and regional pedestrian/bicycle pathway development
- Proposal for Purchase of the Herron Creek Watershed for pedestrian/bicycle pathway use
- Proposal for merger of Meridian Township and City of East Lansing governments in a borough system

Frank Hatfield, 1578 Sylvan Glen, Okemos, thanked the Board for its advocacy of responsible growth.

Steve Osborn, 1942 Tamarisk Dr, East Lansing, discussed the following items:

- Appreciation for Township residents, government, and amenities
- Proposal for joint planning with the City of East Lansing for sound development
- Proposal for National Cycling Festival

Pat Gilbert, CATA, Director of Marketing, discussed the following items:

- Success of "Redi-Ride" program in Meridian Township
- Proposal for linking of the Township's and CATA's websites
- Promotion for consideration of mass transit solutions in addressing land use issues, traffic mitigation and economic development

Chris Savage, 3156 Biber Street, East Lansing, discussed the following items:

- Proposal for consideration of value received from developers in reviewing their proposals
- Advocation of Township leadership role in regional planning
- Description of Towar Community Concerns Committee (TC3)

John Coryell, 6282 Towar Ave, East Lansing, introduced himself as a representative from TC3.

Geraldine Snell, 6181 Rutherford Avenue, East Lansing, discussed the following items:

- Advocation of the expansion of the Snell Towar Recreation Center
- Proposal to seek donation of land from the City of East Lansing to recover the intended benefit of donated land
- Loss of green space in area and potential drainage problems

Christine Battiste, 2900 Northwind Drive #321, East Lansing; discussed the following items:

- Drainage implications of the proposed Wal-Mart development
- Concerns related to Eyde Company COO holding office on the Planning Commission

Watts Rozell, 4194 Indian Glen, Okemos, discussed the following items:

- Appreciation for Meridian Township Police Department
- Proposal for development of an On-line land use forum or course through Okemos Community Education

Eckhart Dersch, 2203 Butternut Drive, Okemos, discussed the following items:

- Appreciation for the Board's growth management strategy
- The importance of addressing the problem of urban sprawl

Ron Reed, 2444 M-78, East Lansing, discussed the following items:

- Appreciation for the Board's control of commercial development
- Concern regarding decisions of the Planning Commission
- Development of M-78 and Lake Lansing Road
- Potential Conflicts of Interest on Planning Commission and Land Preservation Advisory Board

Paula Zang, 4920 Chipping Camden Lane, Okemos, advocated the preservation of the rural character of Newman Road

Lynne Page, 3912 Raleigh Drive, Okemos, President, Briarwood Home Owners Association, read from a prepared statement addressing concerns of the Briarwood neighborhood. She thanked the Police Department and the Community Police Officers.

[Statement in Official Minute Book]

Judith Hurst, 3418 Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing; discussed the following items:

- Sewer backups in Towar area
- High Density of Towar area
- Need for green space in Towar area
- Need for a multi-purpose room at the Snell Towar Recreation Center
- Impact of Olde Farm development on existing sanitary sewer problems

Harry Hurst, 3418 Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing, discussed the following items:

- Agreement with previous speaker and statement of problems in Towar area
- Traffic problems on Lake Lansing Road

Jim Hewitt, 2728 Del Mar Drive, Okemos, discussed the need for traffic calming measures and a uniform and strictly enforced thirty-five mile per hour (35 mph) speed limit on Mt. Hope Road.

Ted Batkie, 5700 Shaw St #7, Haslett, discussed the following items:

- Pedestrian Safety on narrow shoulders along roads in the Lake Lansing area
- Need to address disrepair of Township roads
- Lack of community need for a local Wal-Mart store

Charles Louis Willems, 1387 Hickory Island, Haslett, discussed the following items:

- Advocation of a Township real estate inventory
- Sewer on lot 34 of the Hickory Island Platt runs outside of the sewer maintenance easement

Peter B. Holz, 2215 Burcham Drive, East Lansing, presented information on Wayside Horns at railroad crossings.

Mike Sternik, 2018 Tomahawk Road, Okemos, spoke in support of Wayside Horns.

Kathryn Summers-Coty, 2159 Quarry Road, East Lansing, stated a concern related to Wayside Horns and the impact on homes near the railroad fronting the road.

Jean Baker, 4194 Indian Glen Drive, Okemos, spoke in support of Wayside Horns.

Diana Engle, 2164 Quarry Road, East Lansing, spoke in opposition to Wayside Horns.

Susy L. Endara de Clipp, 5672 Shaw Street, Haslett, spoke in support of Wayside Horns.

Pat Engle, 2164 Quarry Road, East Lansing, spoke in opposition to Wayside Horns.

Rae Heintzelman, 4634 S. Hagadorn Road D-11, East Lansing, spoke in support of Wayside Horns.

Becky Holz, 2215 Burcham Drive, East Lansing, discussed the reduction of decibels in moving from a train horn to a Wayside Horn. She read selections of letters of support she received.

Marsha Numerich, 1449 Franklin, Haslett, spoke in opposition to Wayside Horns.

Barry Sedgwick, 1840 Lyndhurst Way, Haslett, spoke in support of Wayside Horns.

Ted Batkie, 5700 Shaw Street, Haslett, spoke in support of working with the train companies to limit the time and place of train horns before pursuing Wayside Horns.

Sarah Schreiber, 1620 River Terrace Drive, East Lansing, spoke in support of Wayside Horns.

Sally Sproat, 2161 Quarry Road, East Lansing, spoke in support of Wayside Horns.

Cheri Mann, 5934 Montebello, Haslett, spoke in support of documenting and reporting unnecessary use of the train horn by engineers.

Bruce Reizen, 2900 Northwind Drive, East Lansing, spoke in support of Wayside Horns.

Jo Ann Kistler, 1604 River Terrace, East Lansing, spoke in support of working with the train companies in reducing the frequency of train horns.

Tim Andersen, 5363 Burcham Drive, East Lansing, spoke in support of Wayside Horns.

Ted Black, 4714 Van Atta Road, Okemos, discussed the following items:

- Support for restoration of utility boundary and corresponding increased density in western two-thirds of the Township
- Advocation of the widening of Grand River Avenue to three-(3) lanes between Cornell and Meridian Road
- Advocation of a traffic light at the intersection of Van Atta Road and Grand River Avenue
- Advocation for consideration of moving the proposed stealth cell tower to the vicinity of the Township Service Center
- Support for protection of wetlands

Vance L. Kincaid III, 4530 Nakoma Drive, Okemos, discussed the following items:

- Appreciation for openness of the Board
- Opposition to closure of roads as a method of addressing traffic problems
- Necessity of repairs to the Central Fire Station
- Support for Interim Okemos Branch Public Library
- Need for comprehensive review of sidewalks and pedestrian/bicycle pathways

Keith Terry, 1616 Boulevard Drive, Okemos, speaking as resident, President of MABA, and Chair of the EDC, discussed the following items:

- Businesses as partners in the advancement of community interests rather than opponents
- Relationship between a high quality of life and business success
- Role of MABA in maintaining the viability of Township businesses
- Invitation to Members of the Board to rotate attendance at the regular MABA meetings
- Developing regional role of MABA

John Veenstra, 320 Piper Road, Haslett, discussed the following items:

- Opposition to Motor Vehicle Admission Fees under consideration by the Ingham County Park Board to include Lake Lansing Park - South
- Advocation of the restoration of the Urban Service Boundary
- Support for increased recycling
- Reduction of motor vehicle traffic
- Advocation of subdivision road standards that increase the thickness of pavement and decrease the width of lanes.
- Advocation of bicycle-friendly ordinance amendments
- Proposal for automatic payment of Township taxes

Marsha Madle, 1373 Sebewaing Road, Okemos, discussed the need to address the safety of the Dobie Road railroad crossing.

Supervisor McGillicuddy thanked the participants and closed the Town Hall meeting.

7. FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENT (None)

8. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McGillicuddy adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

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SUSAN MCGILLICUDDY  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

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MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT  
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Paul J. Cassidy, Secretary