

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING - **APPROVED** -
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Town Hall Room
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2010 **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie, Trustees Dreyfus (6:11 P.M.), LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra (6:06 P.M.)
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Police Chief Dave Hall, EMS/Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Assistant Manager/Human Resources Director Paul Brake, Director of Finance Diana Hasse, Director of Parks & Recreation LuAnn Maisner

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor McGillicuddy called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor McGillicuddy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

The secretary called the roll of the Board.

4. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

Judge Tom Boyd, Chief Judge of the 55th District Court, 700 Buhl Avenue, Mason, thanked the Meridian Township Police Department for its assistance in the Court to Schools Program held on September 29, 2010 at Haslett High School. He addressed the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and provided a brochure with both national and local emergency numbers. Judge Boyd defined domestic violence as an individual dominating the life of an intimate partner through the use of coercive control. He also provided Board members and the public with a Citizens Guide to the District Court.

Carol Webster, 3845 Roxsbury, Okemos, spoke in support of Potter Park Zoo and its many programs. She urged citizens to vote for the Potter Park Zoo millage renewal on the November 2, 2010 ballot.

Jamerson Reis, 6306 Gossard Avenue, addressed the lack of action taken at the last Board meeting relative to the Medical Marihuana Moratorium. He requested the Board rescind its vote and move to have the moratorium in place until rules and regulations can be discussed and implemented for dispensaries.

[Prepared statement in Official Minute Book].

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

5. REPORTS/BOARD COMMENT/NEW WORRIES

A. Greening Mid-Michigan Initiative – Harmony Gmazel, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission

Ms. Gmazel, Land Use Planner, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, 913 W. Holmes Road, Suite 201, Lansing, offered highlights of the project as follows:

- Greening Mid-Michigan as a collaborative effort between community agencies and offices including county conservation districts, the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance, county community development departments, Eaton County Parks, Regional Committee for Stormwater Management, Clinton and Ingham County Agricultural Preservation Boards,

- Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP), Inc., Ingham County Health Department's Land Use and Health Resource Team as well as the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Project was a multi-year process
 - Greening Mid-Michigan as a way to plan for a green infrastructure system in the Clinton, Eaton and Ingham County region
 - Green infrastructure as a system of larger hub areas, larger parks which are linked with smaller sites such as farmers' markets, school grounds, etc. by trails, other non-motorized facilities, riparian corridors or wildlife corridors from a regional viewpoint
 - Athletic complexes, zoos, museums, conservancy areas, wetlands, working lands, gardens, markets, historic sights can be included in a green infrastructure system
 - Planning for green infrastructure include human health and wellness benefits, ecological benefits derived from open space protection (including environmental impacts, i.e., groundwater, riparian areas), cultural and educational benefits
 - Oakland County's decision to hire a consultant to ascertain the economic benefit of promoting an improved and enhanced green infrastructure plan resulted in an estimate of millions of dollars in property tax values
 - Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) supported Phase I of this project through creation of a conservation area inventory which identified areas which contained high quality habitat and vegetation
 - Second phase was a workshop held in February, 2010 attended by approximately 150 people from mid-Michigan, grouped by geographical area, to sketch their "vision" of a regional green infrastructure system
 - Typical land use snapshot in a township within the Mid-Michigan region includes a strong agriculture or business component, village or city centers, fragmented by a freeway system, usually contains a high quality riparian or river area and experiencing urban encroachment
 - Importance of having master plan policies which promote development while protecting agricultural business and natural areas on a regional basis
 - Implementation tools include low impact development strategies, trails and greenway planning, private property practices, farmland preservation efforts and master planning
 - Creation of an on-line toolkit with the assistance of MSU's Urban Collaborators Program, a grant through the Michigan Department of Community Health's Building Healthy Communities and the Ingham County Health Department
 - Interactive tool kit, which includes 17 proven tools for green infrastructure planning, is available at www.greenmidmichigan.org
 - Request to the Township Board for support of this project through passage of a resolution

Board members and Ms. Gmazel discussed the following:

- Tie-in with TCRPC's work on the regional urban services boundary
- TCRPC's Urban Services Boundary Committee is currently performing a urban services management study with the assistance of Land Information Access Association out of Traverse City
- Urban Services Boundary Committee is looking at development patterns in the urbanized area (e.g., Lansing, East Lansing and the surrounding nine (9) urbanized townships) to assess the feasibility of managing the expansion of water and sewer service into the more rural areas in an effort to shape future growth in core areas
- Having an inventory similar to the conservation area inventory is critical, both inside and outside of the urban services management area to ascertain where growth should be focused and how to mitigate its impact

Supervisor McGillicuddy announced the Michigan Grand River Avenue Corridor Transportation Study will hold an open house in the Town Hall Room of the Meridian Municipal Building on

Thursday, November 11, 2010 beginning at 5:00 P.M. The stops being considered by the Transportation Committee for the rapid bus transport system will be displayed.

Supervisor McGillicuddy announced the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) met yesterday where discussion took place regarding the streetlights being installed in downtown Okemos. She indicated the underground irrigation system is currently being constructed. Supervisor McGillicuddy noted Winter Fest, currently scheduled for the weekend of December 4th and 5th was also discussed.

Supervisor McGillicuddy reported her attendance at the Tri-County Shared Services Workshop, along with two (2) department heads and the Township Manager. She noted interest in how other communities are sharing their services.

Supervisor McGillicuddy announced Meridian Township's Reuse/Recycling Event will be held at Chippewa Middle School's Senior Center on October 9, 2010 from 9:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. She listed acceptable items to be plastics, polystyrene, clothes, telephone books, used books, bicycles (all or part) and large metals.

Treasurer Brixie attended the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce Intergovernmental Meeting last week. She displayed for Board members and the viewing public a Certificate of Recognition received by HOM-TV on behalf of the Relay for Life Planning Committee.

Trustee LeGoff reported her attendance at the Michigan Municipal League (MML) conference last week where walkability and physical design were discussed. She noted several speakers discussed new ways Townships could contact its citizens through the use of social media while other sessions discussed public transportation options. Trustee LeGoff indicated medical marijuana regulations were discussed among members and noted East Lansing will be conducting a public hearing on this issue Monday, October 18, 2010. She requested our liaison work with Hubbard Fox and East Lansing on this topic and voiced her willingness to revisit the medical marijuana moratorium.

Trustee Dreyfus also reported his attendance at the MML conference last week, noting a federal program titled MORE (Matching Opportunities and Resources for Entrepreneurs). He indicated it is also a statewide project in Michigan in which Meridian Township can partner, through a memorandum of understanding. Trustee Dreyfus explained MORE creates a database of resources which local entrepreneurs can access through the Township's website. He added it is a guided intelligence system to help entrepreneurs access information. Trustee Dreyfus indicated he would pass information regarding MORE along for review in the event the Township would like to become involved in the program.

Trustee Veenstra reported his attendance at the September 22, 2010 Tri-County Regional Planning Commission meeting where Tri-County's 2011 fiscal year budget was adopted. He reported long-time Director Jon Coleman announced his retirement at year's end.

Clerk Helmbrecht announced the initial batch of absentee ballots was mailed on Thursday, September 30, 2010. Absentee ballots will be available until 2:00 P.M. on Saturday, October 31, 2010 for voters wishing to receive a ballot. October 31st is the last day to mail a requested absentee ballot. She added her support of meeting with Hubbard Fox to look further into the medical marijuana issue.

Based on Trustee LeGoff's earlier comment, Supervisor McGillicuddy noted that four (4) Board members expressed continued exploration of the medical marijuana moratorium and that she would look to place this item back on the agenda at a future meeting. She noted that as Board Liaison to the City of East Lansing, she has been working with them on the medical marijuana issue.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor McGillicuddy reviewed the consent agenda.

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

Board members and staff discussed the following:

- Requested detail by staff on the expenditure for phragmites treatment at Lake Lansing by helicopter
- Special assessment for Lake Lansing clean-up through TIRF funds
- Township contribution of \$10,000 for TIRF funds

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

The adopted Consent Agenda items are as follows:

A. Communications

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 Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Minutes

Treasurer Brixie moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the September 21, 2010 Regular Meeting as submitted. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Bills

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

Common Cash	\$ 169,804.20
Public Works	\$ 346,017.85
Total Checks	\$ 515,822.05
Credit Card Transactions	\$ 5,150.40
Total Purchases	<u>\$ 520,972.45</u>
ACH Payments	<u>\$ 310,382.35</u>

Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

[Bill list in Official Minute Book]

8. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY (None)

9. HEARINGS

A. 2011 Budget

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened the public hearing at 6:40 P.M.

Township Manager Richards summarized changes discussed at the September 21, 2010 Board meeting.

Tim McCarthy, 6076 Columbia, Haslett, expressed concern that passage of the Headlee proposal would result in increased taxes. He spoke to an article in the October 3, 2010 edition of the *Towne Courier* relative to recommendations from the Budget Work Group to have a balanced budget irrespective of the Headlee override. While acknowledging the 2011 Recommended Budget without the Headlee override factored in appeared "very tough," Mr. McCarthy stated residents are living in tough times without a mechanism to acquire additional funds.

Daria Schlega, 2446 Burcham, East Lansing, suggested shopping malls and businesses bear some of the true cost of Meridian Township police and fire services to their establishments. She requested statistics on how much public safety time is spent responding to the needs of commercial interests.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed the public hearing at 6:46 P.M.

10. ACTION ITEMS/ENDS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened and closed public comment.

A. Resolution of Support for Greening Mid-Michigan Initiative

Trustee Dreyfus moved [and read into the record] NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby declares its support for the Greening Mid-Michigan Plan and Toolkit. Seconded by Trustee Ochberg.

Board members discussed the following:

- Best interest of the Township to participate in a viable regional green plan
- Resolution of support previously adopted by the Planning Commission

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Extended Hours of Construction (Capstone), the Lodges of East Lansing

Treasurer Brixie moved to waive the requirements of Section 50-84(4) of the Code of Ordinances to allow construction activities at the Lodges of East Lansing to take place Monday through Sunday until 9:00 p.m., effective through August 31, 2011. Seconded by Trustee Dreyfus.

Board members discussed the following:

- Board member objection to the name of the facility as it is in Meridian Township
- The project is located in Meridian Township but has an East Lansing mailing address

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

11. DISCUSSION ITEMS/ENDS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened and closed public comment.

A. 2011 Budget

Township Manager Richards noted a resident's comment that the police were writing more tickets to increase revenue. He added statistics from the Police Department indicate there was approximately 20% fewer tickets written to date this year compared to the same time frame in 2009. Manager Richards indicated this was due, in part, to fewer officers on the road.

Board members and staff discussed the following:

- List of changes to the 2011 recommended budget were included in the Board packet, most of which were either typographical in nature or do not affect actual budget numbers
- Reminder of Board member request for list of employees salaries and benefits
- Approximately 16% increase in traffic accidents over 2009 figures
- Impact of fewer firefighters manning stations resulted in an increased response time of nearly two minutes, which equates to approximately a 40% increase
- Two minutes viewed as a "long time" in a medical emergency
- The Fire Department had nine (9) fire personnel staff at the stations on a daily basis last year, which equates to one (1) more ambulance than currently available for calls
- When all ambulances are out on runs, the next ambulance comes from another available jurisdiction within the mutual aid network
- Policy governance dictates a standard response time
- National EMS response time is approximately eight (8) minutes; fire response time is approximately five (5) minutes
- National response time is due to the fact that 90 percent of fire departments are volunteer; only ten (10) percent are career
- Meridian Township response time holds true to the national average in both fire and EMS
- Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) shows construction of a central fire station to begin in 2012 and completed in 2013 through a \$4.3 million expenditure in each of those years funded through revenue bonds
- No staffing plan commensurate with construction of a central fire station within the CIP
- Staff comment that the CIP plan for the central fire station should have been moved further out than 2012
- CIP viewed as a laundry list of possible needs
- CIP recognizes the strong need for replacement of the current central fire station
- Board member requests to review LEAP's financial statement before including dues to this organization in the 2011 budget
- 83.33% of the Budget Advisory Group recommended elimination of non-required educational opportunities but it was not included in the 2011 budget
- 2011 budget was balanced by not filling the vacant eight (8) public safety positions
- When costs need to be reduced in 2012, all areas will be considered for reduction
- Public safety positions for 2011 viewed as more important than non-required educational opportunities
- \$750,000 in cuts projected for 2012 (assuming no additional revenue) would require public safety employees hired in 2011 to be laid off in 2012
- Board member statement there appears to be a \$50,000 shortfall in balancing the proposed capital improvements for parks with the revenues for 2011
- Expenditure of \$50,000 is in the park millage funds
- Need for a dog park to be centrally located within the Township
- Request that no funds be expended on a dog park or planning for South Legg Park until consideration is given to a central location for a dog park
- Concern a promise was made in the 1980's that Legg Park was to provide equal opportunity for both passive and active recreational uses
- Comment that South Legg Park was purchased and originally designed for some active recreation (e.g., lighted tennis courts, baseball diamonds or soccer fields)
- Concern with Board member inability to support the entire budget if a specific line item is not altered
- Spirit of compromise on the budget must prevail
- Need to keep funds available for professional development and associated costs
- Amount of the total budget spent on educational conferences is miniscule
- Closing of the Towar Recreation Center, the Transfer Station and the Central Fire Station due to personnel reductions will not take place in 2012 if the Headlee override passes

- Rationale for increased fire and EMS response time mainly due to fewer fire and EMS personnel
- Minimum personnel allows for staffing of three (3) ambulances, while staffing of 8 or 9 fire personnel allows for staffing of four (4) ambulances at any given time
- Increase of 100 EMS runs per month over the last four months compared to 2009 is another factor in longer response times
- Positive impact of increased paramedic/firefighter personnel on shortening the response time
- \$50,000 increase in ambulances fees for the first 8 months of 2010 due to increased runs
- Increase in overtime charges due to fewer paramedic/firefighter personnel
- Suggestion to immediately begin the process to fill one vacant paramedic/firefighter position funded, in part, from the revenue obtained through increased ambulance fees and overtime savings
- Private ambulance services do not have the ability to respond to Meridian Township emergencies as they do not receive 911 calls from our dispatch center
- When the new dispatch center is built and operational, one priority will be to establish a CAD system which will determine the closest ambulance to the call irrespective of jurisdiction or private services
- Concept of contracting with private ambulance service to perform runs as a result of less EMS personnel
- Need for EMS transport to the hospital will continue to increase as the population is aging
- Citizen input to Board members on the balance of competing needs
- Budget Advisory Group provided input to staff over the course of four (4) meetings
- 61% of attending Budget Advisory Group members voted at the last meeting for the Headlee override
- In a continuous round the clock operation, paramedic/firefighters work an average of 50.4 hours per week and it takes slightly more than four (4) full time positions to have one additional person on staff during the 24/7 operation
- Passage of the Headlee override would result in immediate posting for vacant police and fire positions in order for the Township to be in a position to hire after the first of the year
- Board member request for copies of the budget pages where changes were made
- Board member request that testing of the four day work week for three months should be removed from the Manager's 15-point list and considered separately from the budget process
- Four day work week would result in heating, cooling and lighting cost savings
- Some employees may volunteer to reduce their hours which would result in a cost savings without having to enforce furlough time
- Four day work week would require discussions and agreements with unions whose membership would be impacted
- Consensus of the Board was to include testing of the four day work week in the budget
- Impractical to adopt contingent budgets dependent upon passage of the Headlee override and the Land Preservation reduction/renewal millage
- Cost of approximately \$2,500 to print the recent edition of the *Meridian Monitor*
- Concern that the recent edition of the *Meridian Monitor* was "pro-Headlee" and an alternative view was not presented
- Several recommendations from the Budget Advisory Group were not included in the 2011 Recommended Budget
- Content of the *Meridian Monitor* was reviewed by the Township Attorney
- Waiting until after the November General election to have the ability to vote on only one 2011 budget precludes notification to the Treasurer by November 5th of the amount of millage to be levied and the County Board of Commissioners vote and certification of that amount
- Distinction between deciding the amount of millage to be levied prior to winter tax bills being sent on December 1st and adopting the budget by the end of the year

The consensus of the Board was to place the budget, as presented by the Township Manager, on for action at its October 19, 2010 Board meeting.

[Supervisor McGillicuddy recessed the meeting at 8:10 P.M.]

[Supervisor McGillicuddy reconvened the meeting at 8:21 P.M.]

B. Haslett Library Relocation Lease Agreement

Township Manager Richards summarized the proposed lease agreement as outlined in staff memorandum dated October 1, 2010.

Board members and staff discussed the following:

- Occupancy of the building projected to take place prior to January, 2011
- Annual costs to the Township anticipated to be approximately the same as the first year (\$18,000), subject to negotiations between parties based on actual costs associated with provided services
- Disappointment there has not been a greater community effort to have one central Township library
- Cost savings with one central Township library
- Appreciation for the opportunity given by the Haslett Public Schools to use this space
- Public/public/private partnership to have an expanded Haslett branch library through relocation to this site
- Good reuse of an existing building which was not being fully utilized
- \$18,000 yearly library expenditure will be in next year's budget under facilities maintenance within Public Works (located on page 75 of the 2011 budget)
- Library expenditure will be a separate line item in subsequent budgets
- Established timeline gave the fundraising group sufficient time to procure funds
- Township Board discussion earlier in the year that this project would not move forward without procurement of \$100,000 in private contributions
- Cost avoidance through payment to the Haslett Public Schools for outside maintenance services of the new facility and the Township no longer performing outside maintenance at the current library location
- Board member concern with language in the lease which prevents staffing or use of the library space by persons convicted of a felony other than a "listed offense" as defined in MCL 28.722 (Sex Offenders Registration Act)
- Language in lease regarding requirement to prevent staffing or use of the library space by persons convicted of a "listed offense" as defined in MCL 28.722 was requested by Haslett Public Schools

It was the consensus of the Board to place this item on for action at its October 19, 2010 Board meeting.

C. Special Use Permit (SUP) #08101 (Eyde), Request for extension of SUP for Central Park Drive Mixed Use Planned Unit Development (MUPUD)

Director Kieselbach summarized the request for extension of this special use permit as outlined in staff memorandum dated September 16, 2010.

Board members discussed the following:

- Request is for a one-year extension
- The Township's bicycle parking ordinance was implemented after passage of the original SUP
- Residentially zoned property to the north, south and part of the east side viewed as changed circumstances
- Tree removal on this property was discussed during site plan review
- Zoning was subject to a lawsuit
- Residential component would allow residents to live within the Township's commercial core and promote walkability
- Economic development does not always pay for itself due to increased infrastructure, road and public safety costs
- Continued concern with approval of multi-phase development without having a specific timeline for completion
- Disincentive for entrepreneurs to locate in an area where there are many existing commercial vacancies
- Board member statement that vacant commercial buildings are vandalized much more than occupied ones
- Extension is being requested by the developer as the project is not viable at this time

- Board member request for staff to provide background information submitted by the applicant during the original SUP process

It was the consensus of the Board to place this item on for action at its October 19, 2010 Board meeting.

- D. Special Use Permit (SUP) #08121 (Eyde), Request for extension of SUP for Marsh Road Mixed Use Planned Unit Development
Director Kieselbach summarized the request for extension of this special use permit as outlined in staff memorandum dated September 16, 2010.

Board members discussed the following:

- Request for a one-year extension
- Rezoning to C-2 subject to this site being used as a MUPUD
- Request for staff to research if state law allows for petition to revert land back to its original zoning designation
- Rezoning of the site, located on the west side of Marsh Road, was approved prior to the MUPUD request

It was the consensus of the Board to place this item on for action at its October 19, 2010 Board meeting.

- E. Water Main Extension Request, Grand River Avenue
Director Kieselbach summarized the water main extension request as outlined in staff memorandum dated October 1, 2010.

Board members, staff and the applicant discussed the following:

- 960 feet of 12” water main would service only the new gas station
- Concern with protecting the eastern third of the Township and keeping it rural
- Request for staff to provide information on the unmet conditions of the settlement agreement specific to the project reviewed under CR #02013 (a similar request for extension of water and sewer in this area)
- Applicant has already received the special use permit for expansion on this site
- Applicant has proposed a second well to meet fire suppression requirements for the site
- Property is zoned commercial, similar to surrounding properties in this section of the Van Atta Road and Grand River Avenue
- One of the most common types of contaminated sites is leaking underground storage tanks
- Rationale for public water and wastewater treatment systems includes preservation of the water supply and keeping it clean
- Concern that drilling of an additional well would be environmentally inferior to municipal water extension at the site of a gas station
- Connecting to public water would minimize the impact to the groundwater supply
- To develop the site as submitted, the applicant must receive a closure report from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to ensure the groundwater is not contaminated
- Closure report necessary for the applicant to obtain funding from a lending institution
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the applicant’s environmental consultant recommend public water as a safety measure
- Renovation would include a new underground double walled fiberglass tank with a leak detection system
- Reminder that there is an existing gas station on the site that is allowed to continue its operation
- Wells are a primary source of contaminants to the aquifer
- Applicant would pay total upfront costs of the water main and a payback district would be established for future connection by neighbors
- One argument is there are greater land planning issues involved
- Board member statement that nobody is “entitled” to anything in the Township
- Concern that development follows water and sewer
- Urban service boundaries are a land use planning tool used to preserve rural areas

- Request for additional information about the “safety” of the well and septic system prior to looking at the land planning issues involved
- Underground storage tank leak was identified in 2002 and the old tanks were replaced
- Contaminated soil around the tank was removed and monitoring wells were installed
- Existing small three compartment fiberglass tank is six (6) years old and will remain
- Removal of the gas pumps from the front of the building to the back of the property was a condition of site plan approval
- Board must approve the water extension in order for the Planning Commission can conduct a Section 61 Review as to the location, character and extent
- Planning Commission must make a recommendation back to the Board for the location, character and extent
- Section 61 Review is conducted for all public improvements, public structures and Land Preservation purchases
- Wellington Estates, subdivision to the west on the north side of Grand River, has public water

It was the consensus of the Board to place this item on for action at its October 19, 2010 Board meeting.

- F. Essential Wetland Determination (METC/ITC), Van Atta Road
Director Kieselbach summarized the essential wetland determination as outlined in staff memorandum dated September 30, 2010.

Board members discussed the following:

- Township’s environmental consultant determined five (5) of the ten (10) essential criteria have been met for determination as an essential wetland
- This pocket wetland did not show up during the 1990 Township wetland inventory

It was the consensus of the Board to place this item on for action at its October 19, 2010 Board meeting.

- G. Mixed Use Planned Unit Development (MUPUD) Ordinance Amendments

It was the consensus of the Board to hold discussion of this item over to its October 19, 2010 Board meeting.

12. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

Tim McCarthy, 6076 Columbia, Haslett, spoke to the “slant” of the latest edition of the *Meridian Monitor* regarding the Headlee override. He voiced opposition to hearing that “we don’t have to worry about little things because it’s not worth saving any money on.” Mr. McCarthy indicated every nickel, dime and penny should be looked at. He expressed concern there be consistency from one meeting to the next with the budget relative to cost savings associated with a four day work week. Mr. McCarthy expressed concern that although Meridian Township rates above the national average in EMS response time and has lower crime rate, sentiment exists that there will be problems with adequate Township public safety in 2012 and beyond. He urged residents to read the entire paragraph on the Headlee override ballot language.

Marvin Johansen, 6236 W. Reynolds, Haslett, spoke to the one-sided nature of Township presentation of the Headlee override in the *Meridian Monitor*. He believed it was a bad time to bring this issue before the voters. Mr. Johansen encouraged residents to visit the Township’s website to review the findings of the Budget Advisory Group and to read the article in the Forum section of the October 3rd edition of the *Lansing State Journal*. He questioned the need for the Headlee override request for six (6) years and encouraged residents to vote no on the Headlee override ballot question.

Beth Bechtel, 1165 Cliffdale Drive, Haslett, expressed concern with the toxic chemicals being individually applied to Lake Lansing and the Township expenditure for phragmites treatment to the lake. She requested a more cautionary approach from the Lake Lansing Watershed homeowners as it does affect public users of the lake. Ms. Bechtel requested the Board's opinion on sustainable controls for Lake Lansing.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

13. FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENT (None)

14. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McGillicuddy adjourned the meeting at 10:00 P.M.

SUSAN MCGILLICUDDY
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT, CMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Sandra K. Otto, Secretary