

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES - **APPROVED**

5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198

349-1200, Town Hall Room

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1999, 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Supervisor Little, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,  
Trustees McCullough, McGillicuddy, Squiers, Such

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning &  
Development Mark Kieselbach, Director of Engineering & Public Works Roger  
Buell, Police Chief Gary Gibbons, Personnel Director/Assistant Manager Paul  
Brake, Finance Director Diana Hasse, Attorney Steve Schultz, Attorney Steve  
Lasher.

1. CALL WORK SESSION TO ORDER

Supervisor Little called the Work Session to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. QUESTIONS FOR ATTORNEY

Trustee McGillicuddy asked the attorneys about the annexation of property by East Lansing and what kind of enforceability Meridian Township had with the agreement. Attorney Schultz explained that the agreement between the parties is in the nature of a contract and that Meridian Township could force the contract and bring an action to compel the City of East Lansing to comply with its obligations. Attorney Schultz noted the agreement is enforceable, and on proper action and order from the circuit court Meridian Township could obtain compliance.

Trustee McCullough asked Attorney Schultz to confirm that his response meant that Meridian Township would have to file a lawsuit if East Lansing did not comply with the contract. Attorney Schultz replied yes, it would require a lawsuit to be filed to enforce compliance.

Trustee McGillicuddy pointed out that the State Legislature is looking into making annexation more difficult and asked if it would not be to the benefit of the Township to hold off on this vote because if East Lansing were to try to pursue it, Meridian Township could possibly put an injunction on it of some kind. She stated that the State House is looking into the issue currently; this could hold off the annexation at this time. Attorney Schultz responded that in terms of waiting for the legislature to take action that may or may not affect the Township, he is not sure if the Township should make a decision today on something that has not even been introduced or would have to be reintroduced. He noted that if the Board chose to go that way, it would be fine, but he would not count on the legislature fixing all the Township's problems.

Trustee McGillicuddy asked if the Board chose not to allow the annexation, and East Lansing filed for annexation, what recourse would the Township have. Attorney Schultz noted the Township already has an action pending right now based on its view that the city's attempt to annex the property is not proper under the prevailing law and is continuing to pursue that action. An agreement could also be pursued with the City of East Lansing to try to resolve both the annexation and the lawsuit.

Trustee Such asked about the letter the that Trustees had received addressed to the Clerk concerning the enforceability of rental housing ordinances in the Township. He asked Attorney Schultz what more could be done to enforce these ordinances. Clerk Helmbrecht noted she and Director of Community Planning and Development Mark Kieselbach had already discussed the letter and asked him to provide an update on what has taken place. Director Kieselbach noted that Officer Mankowski has gone around and informed residents to park according to the ordinances. Director Kieselbach has also met with the letter writer, Jean Smith, several times. He noted that one (1) house listed in the letter is not a rental and that the other four (4) have all been inspected in the last three (3) to four (4) months. None of them was over-occupied as assumed. There have been ongoing inspections, and code enforcement officials have been out regularly checking for code infractions. Trustee Such asked if the Meridian Township rental code matched the City of East Lansing's code. Director Kieselbach noted that the East Lansing occupancy levels are different. Trustee Such asked Director Kieselbach to do a comparison study in order for the Board to consider changing the rental codes to mirror East Lansing's so people would not have an advantage coming to Meridian because it is a lesser law to contend with. Trustee McGillicuddy would also like to pursue a change to the occupancy code from no more than three (3) unrelated individuals to two (2) unrelated individuals, so Meridian does not have areas becoming student rentals and lose its owner-occupied base.

3. DISCUSSION ON 7:00 AGENDA ITEM TOPICS

The following 7:00 p.m. agenda items were discussed:

Consent Agenda

Town Hall public address system

4th Quarter budget amendments

CADL

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Manager Richards referred to a communication to the Board regarding the abandonment of Zephyr Drive. The letter writer pointed out she was not provided proper notice of the action taken by the Board and requested reopening the issue. It was the consensus of the Board to return the issue to the Infrastructure Committee to look at again and determine if it needs to be reopened by the Board.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor Little opened Public Remarks.

There were no public remarks.

Supervisor Little closed Public Remarks.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Little adjourned the Work Session at 6:40 p.m.

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BRUCE A. LITTLE  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

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MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT  
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Janis L. Haskell, Acting Secretary

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING - **APPROVED**  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198  
349-1200, Town Hall Room  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1999, 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Supervisor Little, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,  
Trustees McCullough, McGillicuddy, Squiers, Such  
ABSENT: None  
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning &  
Development Mark Kieselbach, Director of Engineering & Public Works Roger  
Buell, Police Chief Gary Gibbons, Personnel Director/Assistant Manager Paul  
Brake, Finance Director Diana Hasse, Attorney Steve Lasher.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Little called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A. Introduction of new Police Sergeant

Police Chief Gary Gibbons introduced Ken Plaga, new Police Sergeant, to the Board.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - OR CHANGES

TREASURER KLUNZINGER MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS SUBMITTED,  
WITH THE DELETION OF ITEMS #17.E. (Accounting Software Replacement) and  
#18.A.(5)(a) (Amend Pathway Master Plan for Times Square Drive) AND CONSENT  
AGENDA TO INCLUDE ITEMS #4.A. & B. (Correction, Approval & Ratification of Minutes,  
December 7, 1999 Work Session, December 7, 1999 Regular Meeting); #5. (Communications);  
# 16.A.1. (Unfinished Business, Refer Zoning Amendment #98150 (Planning Commission),  
amendments to Chapter 82 (NS, CS, RS Districts) to the Planning Commission); #17.A. (Bills);  
#17.B. (Assessing Stipulation); #17.C. Town Hall Room PA System --Capital Item); #17.D.  
(4th Quarter Budget Amendments); #18.A.(3) (b) Ratification of POAM Labor Agreement).

MOTION SECONDED BY CLERK HELMBRECHT.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

4. CORRECTION, APPROVAL & RATIFICATION OF MINUTES (See Consent Agenda)

A. December 7, 1999, Work Session

B. December 7, 1999, Regular Meeting

5. COMMUNICATIONS (See Consent Agenda)

A. Application for Public Service (APP)

APP-1 Jonathan Laureto, 5130 Jo-Don, EL; RE: Planning Commission & Zoning Board of  
Appeals

APP-2 Alan Wolfe, 2298 Bennett Rd., OK; RE: Planning Commission

B. Board Deliberation (BD)

- BD-1 Cornerstone Outreach Ministries; RE: Withdrawing their Special Use Permit Appeal
- BD-2 Rolland Hartman, Project Supervisor, Michiana Land Services, Inc.; RE: Have been hired to update Landowner Ownership and other vital information along the existing Total/UDS pipeline system
- BD-3 Eduardo Gonzalez, 2566 Sundance, Okemos; RE: Installing safety gates at the railroad tracks on Hulett Road
- BD-4 Alan J. Wolfe, EDC Chairperson; RE: EDC Appointments

C. Board Information (BI)

- BI-1 Kay Dunn, Police Records Supervisor; RE: Current list of licensed vendors and non-licensed persons or nonprofit organization engaged in soliciting or canvassing
- BI-2 Juan Arellano, Ottawa Hills Homeowners Association, to Dave Sonnenberg, Director of Traffic & Safety, Ingham County Road Commission; RE: Speed Humps in Ottawa Hills Subdivision
- BI-3 Michigan Townships Association, Legislative Fax, December 3, 1999, edition
- BI-4 Michigan Townships Association Fax, December 4, 1999, RE: SB 205, amending the Right-to-Farm Act
- BI-5 News Release from Darnell Earley; RE: Ingham County Hires Economic Development Staff
- BI-6 Darnell Early, Deputy Controller for Administrative Services & Budget; RE: Reorganizing its economic development activities
- BI-7 Ruth Linnemann, 1217 Ascot Place, Haslett; RE: Opposing the Wal-Mart development
- BI-8 Senator Dianne Byrum, RE: Passing of SB 205 which drastically erodes authority over zoning in townships
- BI-9 Robert Scholle, 3915 Binghampton, Okemos; RE: Thanking the Township Board for scheduling the recently held "Meridian Township Police Citizens Academy"
- BI-10 Jean Smith, 2768 Brentwood, East Lansing and Susan Birdsall, 2776 Brentwood, East Lansing; RE: Enforcement of the Rental Housing Ordinance which allows no more than three (3) unrelated individuals to live in rental homes.
- BI-11 Michigan Townships Association Legislative Fax, December 10, 1999 edition
- BI-12 Ingham County Road Commission; RE: Snow clearing priorities
- BI-13 Paul N. DeWeese, 67th District State Representative; RE: House Bill 4310 which will award \$150,000 to Meridian Township for the renovation of Ferguson Park.
- BI-14 Michigan Townships Association Legislative Fax, December 17, 1999 edition

D. On file in Clerk's Office

- OF-1 Okemos Public Schools December 6, 1999 agenda and November 8, 1999 minutes
- OF-2 Ingham County Road Commission's December 14, 1999 agenda and November 9, 1999 minutes

5. QUESTIONS OF ATTORNEY (None)

6. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor Little opened Public Remarks.

Judy Schwary, 6347 Gossard, East Lansing; RE: Annexation of Gossard/Tower area property to East Lansing and concerns about East Lansing adhering to the conditions of the agreement.

Randy Liliemark, 2416 Emerald Forest Circle, East Lansing; RE: supports continued membership in CADL.

Diane McLeod, 6289 Gossard, East Lansing; RE: concerns about the aquatic center and annexation by East Lansing.

Denise Purves, 1748 Maple Ridge, Haslett; RE: concerns about CADL's internet policy regarding children's usage of the internet.

Pat Hagen, 4135 Wabaningo, Okemos, RE: supports continued CADL membership.

Supervisor Little closed Public Remarks.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

TRUSTEE MCGILLICUDDY MOVED TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA TO INCLUDE ITEMS #4.A. & B. (Correction, Approval & Ratification of Minutes, December 7, 1999 Work Session, December 7, 1999 Regular Meeting); #5. (Communications); # 16.A.1. (Unfinished Business, Refer Zoning Amendment #98150 (Planning Commission), amendments to Chapter 82 (NS, CS, RS Districts) to the Planning Commission); #17.A. (Bills); #17.B. (Assessing Stipulation); #17.C. Town Hall Room PA System --Capital Item); #17.D. (4th Quarter Budget Amendments); #18.A.(3) (b) Ratification of POAM Labor Agreement).

SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MCCULLOUGH.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Squiers, Supervisor Little

NAYS: None

Motion carries 7-0.

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

A. CORRECTION, APPROVAL & RATIFICATION OF MINUTES (Agenda Item #4.A.&B.)  
TRUSTEE MCGILLICUDDY MOVED TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 7, 1999 WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING AS SUBMITTED.  
SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MCCULLOUGH.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Squiers, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Supervisor Little.

NAYS:None

Motion carried 7-0

B. COMMUNICATIONS (Agenda Item #5)

TRUSTEE MCGILLICUDDY 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 OR FURTHER DISPOSITION. SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MCCULLOUGH.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Squiers, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Supervisor Little.  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 7-0

C. REFER ZONING AMENDMENT #98150 (PLANNING COMMISSION), AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 82 (NS, CS, RS DISTRICTS) TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION (Agenda Items #16.A.)

TRUSTEE MCGILLICUDDY MOVED TO REFER ZONING AMENDMENT #98150 TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MCCULLOUGH.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Squiers, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Supervisor Little.  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 7-0

D. MANAGER'S BILLS (Agenda Item # 17.A.)

TRUSTEE MCGILLICUDDY MOVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD APPROVE THE MANAGER'S BILLS AS FOLLOWS:

|                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| General Fund/Special Revenue | \$238,611.90               |
| <u>Public Works</u>          | <u>\$655,060.39</u>        |
| TOTAL                        | <b><u>\$893,672.29</u></b> |

SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MCCULLOUGH.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Squiers, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Supervisor Little.  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 7-0

E. ASSESSING STIPULATION (Agenda Item #17.B.)

TRUSTEE MCGILLICUDDY MOVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR BE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN A TAX TRIBUNAL STIPULATION WITH CAMPUS HILL ASSOCIATES L.L.C., ON THE FOLLOWING COMMERCIAL PROPERTY:

| <u>YEAR</u>                 | <u>DOCKET NO.</u> | <u>ADDRESS OF PROPERTY</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1999/1998/1997<br>1996/1995 | 260818/227552     | 4965 Campus Hill           |
| Assessment/Taxable          | 1995              | \$858,500/\$858,500        |
|                             | 1996              | \$858,500/\$858,500        |
|                             | 1997              | \$858,500/\$858,500        |
|                             | 1998              | \$858,500/\$858,500        |
|                             | 1999              | \$872,300/\$872,236        |

SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MCCULLOUGH.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Squiers, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Supervisor Little.

NAYS: None

Motion carried 7-0

- F. TOWN HALL ROOM PA SYSTEM -CAPITAL ITEM (Agenda Item #17.C.)  
TRUSTEE MCGILlicuddy MOVED TO AMEND THE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR IMPROVEMENTS T THE TOWN HALL ROOM PUBIC ADDRESS SYSTEM TO \$3,440, LINE ITEM 230-750.806-980.010, AND AWARD THE BID TO COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS GROUP.

SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MCCULLOUGH.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Squiers, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Supervisor Little.

NAYS: None

Motion carried 7-0

- G. 4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER BUDGET AMENDMENTS (Agenda Item #17.D.)  
TRUSTEE MCGILlicuddy MOVED THAT THE AMENDED 1999 BUDGET, AS OUTLINED ON PAGE 2 OF THE DECEMBER 21, 1999 MEMORANDUM TO THE TOWNSHIP BOARD FROM THE FINANCE DIRECTOR, BE APPROVED.

SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MCCULLOUGH.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Squiers, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Supervisor Little.

NAYS: None

Motion carried 7-0

- H. RATIFICATION OF POAM LABOR AGREEMENT (Agenda Item #18.A.(3)(b))  
TRUSTEE MCGILlicuddy MOVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD APPROVE THE AGREEMENT WITH THE POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN FOR 1999-2001, APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO PROPERLY IMPLEMENT THE

PENSION CHANGE THEREIN AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR AND CLERK TO SIGN THE SAME.

SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MCCULLOUGH.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Squiers, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Supervisor Little.

NAYS:None

Motion carried 7-0

8. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (None)

9. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT (None)

10. CLERK'S REPORT

TREASURER KLUNZINGER MOVED TO RESCIND THE MEETING SCHEDULE APPROVED AT THE LAST BOARD MEETING AND THAT THE ALTERNATE MEETING SCHEDULE, WHICH IS THE FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAYS UNLESS CONFLICT (TUESDAY, JULY 4 CHANGED TO WEDNESDAY, JULY 5 AND TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 CHANGED TO THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9) BE APPROVED AS OUTLINED ON THE Y2K MEETING SCHEDULE FOR MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP BOARD. SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MCGILLICUDDY.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Squiers, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Supervisor Little.

NAYS:None

Motion carried 7-0

11. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Klunzinger noted taxes are still coming in steadily and checks are being sent out to the schools.

12. TOWNSHIP BOARD

A. Capital Area District Library (CADL) Membership

Discussion prior to any motion included:

- Easier to do nothing
- If regional cooperation is important, why did CADL leave the Capital Area Co-op?
- Concerns about stated number of librarians per square foot, i.e. thirty (30) librarians would lose their jobs if Meridian leaves CADL, which works out to one (1) librarian per 233 square feet of library, far in excess of any other library
- Concerns about hours of operation being inadequate
- Agreement with CADL precipitated on an election for a new library
- Voters said no, but issue keeps being brought back to Board
- Concerns about lack of action to monitor internet
- Could contract for library services for a lot less than CADL agreement would cost
- CADL spends \$500,000 per year in Meridian, while Township contributes \$1.5 million per year

- Agreement over 4-5 years results in a \$6 million investment with maybe a \$2 million return

TRUSTEE SUCH MOVED TO REAFFIRM MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE CAPITAL AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY. SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MCCULLOUGH.

Treasurer Klunzinger stated this motion was not necessary; this point was confirmed by Attorney Lasher.

Discussion following motion included:

- Important to maintaining good library services in the Township
- Confident that once Meridian builds a new facility, CADL will respond and properly staff and stock the facility.
- Concerns about definition of world class library.
- Not a good financial deal for the Township
- Not the best way to run a library for the Township

[Note: Treasurer Klunzinger left the room at this time.]

- Meridian Township could successfully operate its own library and keep all the money in the Township
- Good thing and right thing to do for the Township.
- Were looking at a lot higher millage and longer term a short time ago
- Three (3) year term rather than five (5) year term
- Not convinced Meridian Township can run its own library.
- If agreement is made to stay with CADL, but citizens say no at election in August, it will make no difference what voters say, Township is stuck with agreement.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Clerk Helmbrecht  
NAYS: Trustee Squiers, Supervisor Little  
Motion carries 4-2.

[Note: Treasurer Klunzinger returned to the meeting at this time.]

CLERK HELMBRECHT MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS THE MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP BOARD RECOGNIZES THAT IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CAPITAL AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY TO ESTABLISH POLICY FOR THE LIBRARIES WITHIN THE LIBRARY DISTRICT, AND

WHEREAS THE POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE CAPITAL AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY WILL BE MEETING ON JANUARY 3, 2000 TO CONSIDER MODIFYING THE CADL POLICY ON INTERNET ACCESS, AND

WHEREAS PARENTS SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE DECISION TO ALLOW THEIR CHILDREN ACCESS TO THE INTERNET USING COMPUTERS OUTSIDE THE HOME, AND

WHEREAS SOME LOCAL LIBRARIES AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAVE APPARENTLY SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE DECISION TO ALLOW THEIR CHILDREN TO ACCESS THE INTERNET,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP BOARD RESPECTFULLY ASKS THE POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE CAPITAL AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY AND THE ENTIRE CADL BOARD TO ADOPT AN INTERNET ACCESS POLICY THAT ENCOURAGES PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN ACCESSING THE INTERNET BY CHILDREN.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP BOARD ASK THAT THE CADL POLICY COMMITTEE CAREFULLY STUDY THE POLICY AND PROCEDURES USED BY THE OTHER DISTRICTS USED IN INVOLVING PARENTS IN THE DECISIONS CONCERNING INTERNET ACCESS BY CHILDREN.

SECONDED BY TRUSTEE KLUNZINGER.

Discussion included:

- Policy of doing nothing not good
- Everyone's responsibility to protect children
- Parents must be allowed to be involved in effort to monitor, filter children's access on internet in public facilities

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Squiers, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Supervisor Little.

NAYS:None

Motion carried 7-0

- B. ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE CITY OF EAST LANSING  
TRUSTEE SQUIERS MOVED THAT THE RESOLUTION APPROVING ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE CITY OF EAST LANSING BE ADOPTED. SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SUCH.

[Resolution on file in Clerk's office]

Discussion included:

- Concern about legal expenses incurred to enforce East Lansing to abide by contract
- If annexed without support, Township has no recourse in helping residents
- Concern that action sets stage for East Lansing to take additional property
- Residents not educated enough about the issue
- Not sure Township would enforce conditions
- Not in best interest to just hand over the property

- Let East Lansing try an annexation
- Only way to have control over situation is to give up control
- Possibility not very strong that East Lansing voters would turn down the annexation
- East Lansing already owns the property
- Only way to protect every day life of area residents is to have the annexation agreement
- No reason why action wouldn't be pursued if agreement is not followed
- Best long term result is to support agreement

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Such, Squiers, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Supervisor Little.

NAYS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough

Motion carried 5-2

14. SPECIAL HEARINGS/APPEALS

A. Water Meter Charges

Roger Buell, Director of Engineering and Public Works provided a background on the proposed water meter charges, noting the proposed costs are for new installations only. The costs for a typical water connection for a new residential unit will increase from \$1,857 to \$2,100. Current customers would not be charged when meter is replaced. Benefits of using the new radio-read units include ability for more meters to be read per day with a decrease in equipment and staff; reports could be automatically generated to tell what meter or remote readers need maintenance or repair, readings could be automatically downloaded to a billing computer for bill generation.

Supervisor Little opened the Hearing to public remarks.

Bob Homan, 2176 Hamilton Road, Okemos; RE: pleased to see a significant benefit as a result of the increased charges.

Supervisor Little closed the Hearing to public remarks.

15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (None)

16. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

A. Unfinished Business (See Consent Agenda)

- (1) Refer Zoning Amendment #98150 (Planning Commission), amendments to Chapter 82 (NS, CS, RS Districts) to the Planning Commission

B. New Business (None)

17. MANAGER'S REPORT, INVOICES & BILLS

A. Bills (See Consent Agenda)

B. Assessing Stipulation (See Consent Agenda)

C. Town Hall Room PA System - Capital Item (See Consent Agenda)

D. 4th Quarter Budget Amendments (See Consent Agenda)

E. Accounting Software Replacement (Deleted from Agenda)

F. Cost of Ice Time at ARC Ice Sports - Discount Passes

Manager Richards outlined the proposed plan for the Meridian Skate at the ARC Ice Center. Dates are Saturday, January 22 from 4:15 - 6:15 p.m. and Saturday, February 26, 4:15 – 6:15 p.m.

TRUSTEE MCCULLOUGH MOVED TO SUPPORT THE TOWNSHIP IN OFFERING TWO “MERIDIAN SKATES”, OPEN SKATING EVENTS, AT THE ARC ICE CENTER FOR A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$175/HOUR INCLUDING SKATE RENTAL FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$700. SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SQUIERS.

Discussion included:

- Can accommodate 400 people at a time
- Important to get out good communications to residents
- Blurb in upcoming Monitor
- Questions whether ponds behind park could be used for skating
- Ponds too risky, too deep and dangerous to promote skating
- Consider possibility of having discount passes available at Township office
- Good that a special event out of the ordinary is being held and money being spent in the Township

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees McGillicuddy, McCullough, Such, Squiers,  
Treasurer Klunzinger, Clerk Helmbrecht, Supervisor Little

NAYS:None

Motion carries 7-0.

G. 6151 PARK LAKE ROAD SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT #44

TREASURER KLUNZINGER MOVED TO APPROVE 6151 PARK LAKE ROAD SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT #44 RESOLUTION #4, WHICH SETS THE PUBLIC HEARING ON JANUARY 18, 1999, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING AND HEARING OBJECTIONS TO THE 6151 PARK LAKE ROAD SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT #44 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL. SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SUCH.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee McCullough asked for information from Manager Richards regarding a grant recently awarded Ferguson Park. Manager Richards pointed out a \$150,000 grant had been awarded the Township for a canoe launch, refurbishing the bank and playground improvements at Ferguson Park; the Township has budgeted for its twenty-five percent (25%) contribution towards the project.

Manager Richards also reported that the Township recently received a favorable ruling from the judge regarding the veteran’s preference hearing that the Board had previously heard; the case was dismissed in the Township’s favor.

18. BOARD MEMBER, BOARD COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Standing Committee Reports

- (1) Physical Operations & Activities (None)
- (2) Financial Planning and Budgeting (Minutes from last meeting distributed in the Board packet)
- (3) Personnel
  - (a) Non-Union Pension Program

Personnel Director/Assistant Manager Paul Brake provided an outline of the research on the pension program for non-unionized personnel, which encompasses primarily the department directors currently in the defined contribution program. As a result of the research, the Personnel Committee has made a recommendation to change the contribution levels made on behalf of the Township with a proposed implementation date for the first of the year.

TRUSTEE MCCULLOUGH MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE REVISED PENSION PROGRAM FOR NON-UNIONIZED EMPLOYEES AS PRESENTED IN THE MEMORANDUM DATED DECEMBER 15, 1999 AND AUTHORIZE THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS. SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SUCH.

Discussion included:

- Bargaining employees pay for their own pension upgrades
- Non-union employees were just given a raise
- Non-union employees are at-will employees
- Will make Township more competitive, better able to attract, retain directors
- Five (5) or six (6) years since this program was last reviewed
- Large disparity when compared with other Township pension programs
- Should look at whole compensation program for non-union employees on a regular basis
- Should the Board member who is currently participating in this program abstain from the vote.

CLERK HELMBRECHT MOVED TO BE ALLOWED TO ABSTAIN FROM THIS VOTE ON THE NON-UNION PENSION PROGRAM. SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SUCH.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Squiers, Such, McCullough, McGillicuddy,  
(On abstention) Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Supervisor Little.  
NAYS: None  
Motion carries 7-0

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Squiers, Such, McCullough, McGillicuddy,  
(On main motion) Treasurer Klunzinger  
NAYS: Supervisor Little  
ABSTAIN: Clerk Helmbrecht  
Motion carries 5-1.

- (b) Ratification of POAM Labor Agreement (See Consent Agenda)

(4) Planning and Development (None)

(5) Infrastructure

(a) Amend Pathway Master Plan for Times Square Drive (Deleted from agenda)

Next meeting January 6, 2000 at 5:15 p.m.

(6) Public Safety

Next meeting January 10, 2000 at 5:15 p.m.

Discussion at last meeting regarding responsibility of police and fire service for research facility at Jolly Road; memorandum of April, 1997 indicated those buildings have an MSU police response, but remain Meridian fire and ambulance response. Manager Richards will clarify whether this is still the case.

Clerk Helmbrecht also noted there was discussion at the last meeting about making Meridian Township the home for the hazardous materials truck for the county. There was also discussion of continuation of the volunteer fire fighter status; further discussion will take place on both issues.

(7) Recreation

Meridian Skates for all Meridian Township residents on January 22, 2000 and February 26, 2000 4:15-6:15 at the ARC Ice Center; two hours of ice time, all skate rental included.

B. Special Committees (None)

C. Liaison Representative Reports (None)

18. OTHER REPORTS (None)

19. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee McGillicuddy asked for clarification regarding the letter from Michiana Land Services and if they would be removing any vegetation in the process. Manager Richards noted major cutting was done two years ago, but periodic cutting takes place to keep the line clear. Trustee McGillicuddy also asked if there was a plan to respond to any leaks and it was noted a standard operating procedure would address that procedure.

20. PUBLIC REMARKS (None)

21. FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Clerk Helmbrecht announced the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is holding a public hearing on wetlands and flood plain issues surrounding the Eyde property where Wal-Mart is going. Trustee Squiers noted the Board does not have any legal recourse to stop what has been proposed on that particular private property.

Supervisor Little noted a wetlands notice is required to be sent out before the first of the year, and it is currently part of the Meridian Monitor. He questioned whether a separate notice could be sent regarding the wetlands notice and not rush the production of the Monitor. Treasurer Klunzinger noted it would be better for Township communications to have more substantive articles in the Monitor.

Trustee Such recommended Supervisor Little, Clerk Helmbrecht and Treasurer Klunzinger get together and develop a proposed policy on the Monitor, including when, where and how it would be distributed and what should be included in it and bring back recommendations to the Board in January.

Trustee McCullough encouraged a resource that could be used for the Monitor would be the public relations firm the Township has been using.

TRUSTEE SUCH MOVED TO SEND OUT THE REQUIRED WETLANDS NOTICE SEPARATE FROM THE MONITOR. SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MCGILLICUDDY.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carries unanimously.

22. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Little adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

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BRUCE A. LITTLE  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

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MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT  
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Janis Haskell, Acting Secretary