

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
REGULAR MEETING TOWNSHIP BOARD 2022 **-APPROVED-**
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Township Hall Room
THURSDAY, August 4th, 2022 **6:00 pm**

PRESENT: Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wilson, Wisinski

ABSENT:

STAFF: Assistant Township Manager and Director of Public Works Opsommer, Chief of Police Plaga, Fire Chief Hamel, Community Planning and Development Director Schmitt, Director of Economic Development Clark, IT Director Gebes, Multimedia Staff Samantha Diehl

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Jackson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLLCALL

Clerk's Guthrie called the roll of the Board. All Present.

4. PRESENTATION

A. Introduction of New EMT/Firefighter

Chief Hamel introduced new EMT/Firefighter Steven Schott to the board.

Mr. Schott thanked the board for the opportunity to serve the township.

B. 2022 August Primary Election Report- Clerk Guthrie

Clerk Guthrie gave a report on the August 2nd 2022 election. She noted that precinct 9, located at Church of the Nazarene will be relocated

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Jackson opened Public Remarks at 6:27 pm.

NONE

Supervisor Jackson Closed Public remarks at 6:27 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Assistant Manager Opsommer reported there was a bid opening for round two of the Local Road Programs bonds which had eight bidders. He noted the township was able to secure a great interest rate of 1.79648%. The MSU to Lake Lansing Trail phase I is going forward using the Transportation Alternative Program Grant with the hope the project will be bid and contracted by September. Phase II of the MSU to Lake Lansing Trail will likely go to bid in August or September. He met with MSU President Stanley, along with Trustee Wisinski, Supervisor Jackson and Chief Plaga to discuss enrollment trends and to give updates about housing in the township for students and staff.

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Sundland

- Attended Economic Development Corporation meeting where there was a focus on the 'Shop Local Road Block Program', adding the Meridian Mall to one of the Potential Intensity Change Areas and the Meridian Redevelopment Fund

Treasurer Deschaine

- Attended July 20th Zoning Board of Appeals and CATA Board Meeting
- Attended 28th Brownfield Authority Meeting
- Attended August 4th Economic Development Corporation Meeting

Trustee Hendrickson

- On July 29th attended a walkthrough of new Sparrow facility with Treasurer Deschaine

Trustee Wisinski

- Attended August 3rd Environmental Commission Meeting
- Oct 8th is an electronics and appliances recycling event at Chippewa Middle School

Supervisor Jackson

- Attended August 4th Economic Development Commission meeting
- Went on a Ride-A-Long with Chief Plaga on 'National Night Out'

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Wilson moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Wilson.

VOICE VOTE: YEAS: Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wisinski, Wilson

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor Jackson reviewed the Consent Agenda.

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Wilson.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wisinski, Wilson

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

A. Communications

Treasurer Deschaine moved that the communications not already assigned for disposition be referred to the Township Manager or Supervisor for follow-up. Seconded by Trustee Wilson.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wisinski, Wilson

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

B. Bills

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve that the Township Board approve the Manager's Bills as follows: Seconded by Trustee Wilson.

Common Cash	\$	202,521.74
Public Works	\$	855,790.71
Trust & Agency	\$	<u>1,327.10</u>
Total Checks	\$	1,539,458.96
Credit Card Transactions	\$	14,154.37
07/07/22 to 07/20/2022		
Total Purchases	\$	<u>1,553,613.33</u>
ACH Payments	\$	<u>583,080.10</u>

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wisinski, Wilson

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

C. Proposed CATA Route & Service Changes

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wisinski, Wilson

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY – NONE

11. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Planned Unit Development #22-014-3560 Hulett Road-Giguere Homes

Director Schmitt outlined Planned Unit Development #22-014 for Public Hearing

Supervisor Jackson Opened The Public Hearing at 6:45 pm.

Tomas Brown of Coldwell Banker spoke in support of Planned Unit Development #22-014.

Clerk Guthrie noted a Communication received from Radhika Prasad, 3547 Astilbe Dr., Okemos.

Jim Giguere, 16900 Pine Hollow Dr., East Lansing spoke in support of Planned Unit Development #22-014.

Supervisor Jackson Closed the Public Hearing at 6:49

12. ACTION ITEMS

A. Planned Unit Development #22-014-3560 Hulett Road-Giguere Homes

Director Schmitt outlined Planned Unit Development #22-014 for action.

Trustee Sundland moved to adopt the resolution approving the Planned Unit Development request from Jim Giguere, for the redevelopment of the property at 3560 Hulett Road. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wisinski, Wilson, Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

B. Ordinance 2022-08-Traffic Impact Study Standards-**Final Adoption**

Director Schmitt outlined Ordinance 2022-08 for final adoption.

Trustee Hendrickson moved to adopt the resolution approving for final adoption Zoning Amendment 2022-08 to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Meridian at multiple locations to update the standards for Traffic Impact Studies in the Township. Seconded by Trustee Wilson.

Trustee Hendrickson spoke in support of this item.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wisinski, Wilson, Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine,

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

C. Ordinance 2022-12- Refuse/Storage Container Regulations-**Final Adoption**

Treasurer Deschaine moved to adopt the resolution approving for final adoption Zoning Amendment 2022-12 to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Meridian to create regulations for temporary storage pods and temporary container units. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Sundland, Wisinski, Wilson, Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustee Hendrickson

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Prospective Resolution to the Legislature and Governor Regarding Local Control Under the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act

Assistant Manager Opsommer outlined prospective resolution to the Legislature and Governor regarding local control under the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act for discussion.

Treasurer Deschaine thanked Assistant Manager Opsommer for the overview but noted he doesn't believe this should move any further with the township board unless it becomes a bigger issue.

Trustee Hendrickson concurred with Treasurer Deschaine's statement.

Trustee Wisinski asked if firework related calls are more to report injuries or to report a nuisance.

Chief Plaga replied calls are more to report a nuisance and he cannot recall any injuries in recent history.

Clerk Guthrie stated the only reason she would like to see this brought back to the board is to make it more inclusive of other culture's celebrations.

B. Debt Management Policy

Assistant Manager Opsommer outlined the Debt Management Policy. He noted the township does not currently have a formal Debt Management Policy but had already been following these guidelines.

Treasurer Deschaine moved to suspend the rules and take action on this item tonight. Seconded by Clerk Guthrie.

VOICE VOTE: YEAS: Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wisinski, Wilson

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

Trustee Wilson moved to approve the Meridian Township Debt Management Policy. Seconded by Trustee Hendrickson.

VOICE VOTE: YEAS: Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wisinski, Wilson

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 7-0

C. Fund Balance Reserve Policy

Assistant Manager Opsommer outlined the Fund Balance Reserve Policy. He noted the township has no formal policy on the Fund Balance Reserve, but does have an informal policy that has been reference in all of the budgets since the 2014 budget adoption.

Treasurer Deschaine spoke in support of this item.

Supervisor Jackson asked what the average range of Fund Balance Reserve Policies is in local governments.

Assistant Manager Opsommer replied most polices are in the 20-25% range.

Supervisor Jackson asked what the negative effects of holding on to large amounts of money could be.

Assistant Manager Opsommer noted one downside could be devaluation of money through inflation.

Trustee Hendrickson asked to see a month-over-month view of the fund balance for the last several years when this comes back.

Director Garber stated as a former auditor she would like to see 18-20% reserve balance, but that townships generally have a higher percentage.

D. Right of First Refusal for 6160 Whitehills Lakes #5

Treasurer Deschaine outlined Right of First Refusal for 6160 Whitehills Lakes #5. He recommended the board take no action, but wanted to raise awareness.

14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Jackson Opened Public Remarks at 7:47 pm.

NONE

Supervisor Jackson Closed Public Remarks at 7:47 pm.

15. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Hendrickson asked Director Schmitt for a quick synopsis of the Five Year Master Plan.

Director Schmitt replied the Notice of Intent to Plan will be in front of the Planning Commission on August 8th, and he expects the Master Plan to be adopted by early 2023.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Wilson moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried 7-0

Supervisor Jackson adjourned the meeting at 8:09 pm.

PATRICIA H. JACKSON,
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

DEBORAH GUTHRIE
TOWNSHIP CLERK