

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING **-APPROVED-**
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Township Hall Room
TUESDAY, December 10, 2019 **6:00 pm.**

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Opsommer, Wisinski

ABSENT: Trustees Sundland, Jackson

STAFF: Township Manager Walsh, Director of Public Works Perry, Fire Chief Hamel, Police Chief Plaga, Community Planning Director Kieselbach, Information Technology Director Gebes, Principal Planner Menser, Economic Development Director Buck, Human Resource Director Joyce Marx, Finance Director Miriam Mattison

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Styka called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Styka led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

The Recording Secretary called the roll of the Board.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. 2020 Road Plan

Deputy Director Perry presented the 2020 Road Plan. The list of 2020 road projects and map is on the Township website. Discussed selection criteria, PASER ratings, proceeds of road bond, road preservation operations, bidding out process.

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Styka opened public remarks at 6:25 pm.

Supervisor Styka closed public remarks at 6:25 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Township Manager spoke on new Farmer's Marketplace on the Green, meeting with Drain Commission Office, meeting with Wayfair owners, Goal Setting at Special Board Meeting on December 12, 2019, Police Accreditation Process.

Supervisor Styka:

- Township Manager evaluation moved to January 2020, no closed session on December 12, 2019 during Township Board Special Meeting.

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Treasurer Deschaine:

- Attended Economic Summit at the Kellogg Center. Positive economic outlook for 2020 for the region.
- Annual Christmas Party for families in need on December 14, 2019 at noon at Murphy Elementary School.
- Township Board Retreat, Saturday February 22, 2020 scheduled at Central Fire Station.
- E-mail from Treasurer’s Office regarding Autopay was sent out, intending to be blind carbon-copied but was not, so citizens received emails with all citizens email addresses publicly listed. No personal or bank information was disseminated, preventative measures taken with IT Director, contact Treasurer with questions. Only fallout is that some may get junk mail.

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Opsommer moved to approve the Agenda. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried: 5 – 0

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor Styka reviewed the consent agenda.

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Trustees Opsommer, Wisinski

NAYS:
Motion carried: 5 – 0

A. Communications

Treasurer Deschaine moved that the communications be received and placed on file and any communications not already assigned for disposition be referred to the Township Manager or Supervisor for follow-up. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Trustees Opsommer, Wisinski

NAYS:
Motion carried: 5 – 0

B. Minutes – December 03, 2019 Regular Meeting

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 03, 2019 as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Trustees Opsommer, Wisinski

NAYS:

Motion carried: 5 - 0

C. Bills

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

Common Cash		\$	98,318.72
Public Works		\$	133,120.52
Trust & Agency		\$	24,816.96
	Total Checks	\$	256,256.20
Credit Card Transactions Nov 14th - Nov 25th		\$	7,020.28
	Total Purchases	\$	<u>263,276.48</u>
ACH Payments		\$	<u>68,631.77</u>

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Trustees Opsommer, Wisinski

NAYS:

Motion carried: 5 - 0

D. 2020 Proposed Non-Union Wage Schedule

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve the 5.7% wage increase for the Human Resource Director, Finance Director, and Economic Development Director in addition to a 2% wage adjustment for all other Non-Union team members, as presented. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Trustees Opsommer, Wisinski

NAYS:

Motion carried: 5 - 0

E. Approval To Change Polling Location For Precinct #20

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve the resolution “The Meridian Township Board Approves the Polling Location Change of Precinct #20 from New Hope Church, 1540 Haslett Road to New Hope Church, 2170 East Saginaw Road in Meridian Township.” Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Trustees Opsommer, Wisinski

NAYS:

Motion carried: 5 – 0

10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY – NONE

11. HEARINGS (CANARY)

12. ACTION ITEMS (PINK)

A. Trash Receptacle Ordinance-**Final Adoption**

Trustee Opsommer moved to Table the final adoption of the resolution amending Chapter 46, Section 46-2 to establish regulations for the placement and storage of trash and recycling receptacles. Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

Director Kieselbach referenced the Staff memo with concerns for the enforcement of the Ordinance as it is written and the citizen letter in the packet regarding problems with the draft Ordinance.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried: 5 – 0

B. Rezoning #19060 (Okemos Land Investment LLC) - **Introduction**

Director Kieselbach noted reason for replacement Resolution was the correction of a typo in the original document: meeting at 6 pm, not 7 pm, no change in content.

Treasurer Deschaine moved to adopt the resolution approving Rezoning #19060 with conditions to rezone approximately 96 acres located on the north side of Bennett Road, east of Hagadorn Road, and west of Hulett Road from RR (Rural Residential), RAA (Single Family-Low Density), and RAAA (Single Family-Low Density) to RAA (Single Family-Low Density) and PO (Professional and Office) with conditions. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

Board discussion: “what-if” scenarios regarding development not proceeding as planned, density concerns and need to provide public and Board with accurate density numbers, project liability, importance of determining baseline buildout using existing zoning before discussing increasing density through upzoning, clarification that 89 homes can be built under existing RR zoning, 135 homes can be built with a Planned Unit Development which requires Board approval (not a use by right), 150 homes can be built with rezoning proposal before Board and with attached conditions, belief that most neighbors support rezoning, neighbor

input important but not the only consideration – fiduciary responsibility to look at community as a whole, project advances goals of land preservation, rezoning offers a process of “orderly development,” rezoning might improve drainage, dangers of “spot zoning” 3 acres for Professional/Office, board member suggestion that identical rezoning proposal which includes 20,000 square foot office building can be approved by Board without changing zoning on part of parcel to PO, staff will provide more information from legal counsel over land preserve and pathway issues.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Opsommer, Wisinski, Supervisor Styka, Treasurer Deschaine

NAYS: Clerk Dreyfus

Motion carried: 4 – 0

C. 4th Quarter Budget Amendments

Finance and Accounting Director Miriam Mattison presented the 4th Quarter Budget Report.

Board discussion:

- \$9,500 added back into general fund due to increase in property taxes and interest totaling \$120,000, with offsetting expenses from various items including street lights and extra legal fees of \$110,500.
- \$55,000 budgeted for elections returned to General Fund due to no November election.
- \$20,000 in general fund interest and \$5,000 in water fund interest.
- \$395,000 adjustment for water fees attributed to wet late spring and early summer, last budget cycle increased water rates by 4%, water consumption down by 1%, population going up but purchasing more efficient appliances and residents practice more conservation.

Fund Balance at 12/31/18 per audit	\$ 7,961,297
Original Budgeted Use of Fund Balance 2019	\$ (591,660)
1 st Qtr. budget amendments	\$ (7,200)
3 rd Qtr. Budget amendments	\$ 262,500
4 th Qtr. Budget amendments	\$ 9,500
Projected Use of Fund Balance	\$ <u>(\$326,860)</u>
Projected Fund Balance at 12/31/19	\$ <u>\$7,634,437</u>
Fund Balance/Average Monthly Expenditures	\$ <u>4.56</u>

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve the 4th Quarter 2019 Budget Amendments with an increase in budgeted fund balance of \$326,860. Based on the results of the 2018 audited financials, the projected fund balance at December 31, 2019 will be \$7,634,437. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Wisinski, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustee Opsommer, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus

NAYS:

Motion carried: 5-0

D. Property Maintenance Code - **Introduction**

Director Kieselbach stated International Property Maintenance Codes are on a 3 year revision cycle, recent release of 2018 addition, major changes in Chapter 7 Fire Safety section, important to remain consistent with the State Building Code and Residential Code which use the International Property Maintenance Code.

Trustee Opsommer moved to approve the resolution for the introduction of the amendment to Chapter 14, Article III, of the Code of Ordinances to adopt the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code with Township amendments. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.

Board discussion: International Property Maintenance Code not adopted everywhere, difficulty of adopting across the state, health considerations are part of the code.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Clerk Dreyfus, Supervisor Styka, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Opsommer, Wisinski

NAYS:

Motion carried: 5-0

E. Police Canine Unit Retirement Agreement

Chief Plaga stated that police canine dogs usually live past age 9, but it's not healthy or effective to work a dog that age 12 hours a day so the Township retires them and an officer usually takes responsibility over them.

Treasurer Deschaine moved to authorize the Police Department to retire Police Canine Yukon to the Canine Handler – Sergeant Andy Tobias – for one dollar. Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

Board discussion: 2020 budget funds set aside for new handler and canine, costs vary, close to \$10,000 to purchase a trained police dog, typically 2 years old when the Police Department gets them, work utilization varies, legalization of marijuana does not create probable cause except for high schools, canine loaned to other cities.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Wisinski, Opsommer, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka Clerk Dreyfus

NAYS:

Motion carried: 5-0

F. 2020-2022 TPOAM Administrative Professional Employees Tentative Agreement

Director of Human Resources Joyce Marx provided an overview of the 2020-2022 TPOAM Administrative Professional Employees Tentative Agreement: 2% increase over the next 3 years of the contract, \$300 payment annual payment, new language in contract.

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve the 2020-2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement as tentatively agreed to and further ratified by the TPOAM Administrative Professional Employees. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Dreyfus Trustee, Supervisor Styka, Trustees Wisinski, Opsommer

NAYS:

Motion carried: 5-0

G. 2020-2022 TPOAM Non-Supervisory Professional Employees Tentative Agreement

Director Marx provided an overview: 2% increases over the next 3 years of the contract, annual payment of \$300 for contract approval, new language involving employee recognition program, increase for required footwear reimbursement.

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve the 2020-2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement as tentatively agreed to and further ratified by the TPOAM Non-Supervisory Professional Employees. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Opsommer, Wisinski, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Deschaine

NAYS:

Motion carried: 5-0

H. 2020-2022 Professional Supervisory Association Tentative Agreement

Director Marx provided an overview: 2% increase over the next 3 years of the contract, \$300 payment each year of the contract, new language added for employee recognition programs, updated language.

Clerk Dreyfus moved to approve the 2020-2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement as tentatively agreed to and further ratified by the Professional Supervisory Association. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski.

Board discussion: Board member question regarding Item 19: Municipal Services Agreement with Mason: Township provides building permits, other services for Mason. Township charges \$100/hour, collect between \$23,000 - \$30,000, Building Inspector Heckaman provides the service and makes an extra \$2.00 per hour – approximately \$4,000/\$5,000 annually.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Opsommer, Wisinski, Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Dreyfus, Supervisor Styka

NAYS:

Motion carried: 5-0

13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS (ORCHID)

A. Rezoning #19070 (Fedewa Holdings)

Director Kieselbach provided an overview of the request to rezone 2.99 acres on Dobie Road from RAA to RCC with conditions.

Board discussion: Developer discussed moving property line to reduce variances, moving building back to increase setback to 85 feet, moved parking lot more to east, fire lane turn-around, applicant proposing 24 rental units, types of rental properties, can move various units from front to back and vice-versa.

Ability to construct single-family homes using existing zoning, compatibility concerns of proposal with adjacent residential neighborhoods, proposed upzoning is an “outlier,” developer agreement with church (property owner), driveways and street alignment with existing single-family housing across the street, concern over stub connection, churches are struggling, concerns about safety and increase in traffic due to potential rezoning, suggestion for more analysis of property for best use, schools benefit from young families moving in and parcel is connected to Cornell Elementary School boundaries, vegetation and landscaping, road issues – current and future concerns, board member desire for housing projects that fill in the “missing middle,” future goals of Township.

Board consensus to place this item on the agenda for action at the next Board meeting.

14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Styka Opened Public Remarks at 7:26 pm.

Supervisor Styka Closed Public Remarks at 7:26 pm.

15. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Opsommer:

- Suggestion to meet with Granger to discuss to them placing courtesy notices in township tax notices and e-notices, listing certain hour requirements for residents to pick up trash receptacles. Self-policing by residents regarding trash receptacles.

Supervisor Styka:

- Suggested adding to the tabled ordinance a requirement to place receptacle on the side of the house with screening/landscaping.

Treasurer Deschaine:

- Supportive of two-day time limit to keep trash receptacles out in front of their house.
- Supportive of the hours of the ordinance, but not the requirement for location placement.
- Suggestion two separate ordinances, one concerning time, second placement.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Opsommer moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Wisinski.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried: 5-0

Supervisor Styka adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

RONALD J. STYKA,
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR



BRETT DREYFUS,
TOWNSHIP CLERK

