

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING - **APPROVED** -
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
349-1200, Town Hall Room
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2004, **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting, Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such (7:30 P.M.), Woiwode
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Police Chief Dave Hall, EMS/Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Personnel Director/Assistant Manager Paul Brake

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor McGillicuddy called the meeting to order at 6:04 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. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

Ann Alchin, 2227 Hamilton Road, Okemos, spoke regarding water/sewer billing at her residence for the period of November 5, 2003 through February 18, 2004.

Peter Youngs, Big 10 Party Stores, 2950 E. Jolly Road, Okemos, requested the Board place his concern on its agenda this evening to allow his business to tie into the Board of Water and Light utilities due to well failure.

John Anderson, 215 W. Newman Road, spoke regarding the 2004 General Election, traffic congestion, cell tower litigation and the alleged diminishing budget surplus.

John Veenstra, 320 Piper Road, Haslett, thanked the voters for electing him to the Township Board.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

5. REPORTS/BOARD COMMENT/NEW WORRIES

Treasurer Hunting addressed the ongoing misinformation regarding the \$5 million cell tower lawsuit and the current fund balance of the Township.

Supervisor McGillicuddy thanked the Clerk's office and volunteers for a well-run election.

A. Clerk's Report – Election Results

Clerk Helmbrecht expressed her appreciation to the approximate 220 workers for their hard work on election day. She indicated the Township experienced the highest number of voters in its history. The state had a 67.5% voter turnout statewide, with Meridian Township at approximately 73.5%.

Clerk Helmbrecht listed the winners of local races which affect the Township as follows: U.S. Congressman Mike Rogers; 69th District State Representative Gretchen Whitmer; Ingham County Clerk Mike Bryanton; Ingham County Treasurer Eric Schertzing; Ingham County Register of Deeds Paula Johnson and Ingham County Drain Commissioner Pat Lindemann.

The three county commissioners district winners were Curtis Hertel, Jr. in District 9, Dianne Holmann in District 11 and Deb Nolan in District 12.

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The only change in the Meridian Township Board was the election of John Veenstra to replace the seat currently occupied by Steve Stier.

The Park Commission has four new members out of five seats: Eckhart Dersch (incumbent), Teri Banas, Melanie Jaramillo, Rosemary Smith and Zach Wickham.

The bicycle/pedestrian pathway millage renewal passed by nearly 66% and the park renewal millage received 68% voter approval.

Trustee Woiwode thanked HOM-TV for the number of interns who worked diligently on election night.

Trustee Brixie stated an earlier comment by Mr. Anderson regarding the amount of money the Bipartisan Coalition spent on campaigning was inaccurate. She urged voters to check the State of Michigan or Ingham County website if there was interest in the actual amounts donated to or spent on campaigns.

Trustee Stier thanked the other board members for their balanced and thoughtful leadership in Meridian Township. He pointed to the fact the Township spent legal fees on a recent lawsuit won defending the citizens' right for referendum.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA — OR CHANGES

Trustee Brixie moved to approve the agenda amended as follows:

- **Add Agenda Item #7G – 2005 Regular Board Meeting Schedule**
- **Add Agenda Item #7H– Agreement with Board of Water and Light for 2950 E. Jolly Road**

Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor McGillicuddy reviewed the consent agenda.

Trustee Brixie moved to adopt the Consent Agenda amended as follows:

- **Amend Agenda Item #7E by deleting the year “2005” and inserting the year “2004” and insert at the end of the motion the words “and to a full term ending December 31, 2006”**
- **Amend Agenda Item #7G by inserting Saturday, January 22, 2005 at 8:00 A.M. for Policy Governance Review**

Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

The adopted Consent Agenda items are as follow:

A. Communications

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 Treasurer Hunting.

(1). Board Deliberation (BD)

10A Eleanor V. Luecke, President, LINC, PO Box 40, Okemos; RE: Rezoning #04030 (Hovey)

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(2). Board Information (BI)

- BI-1 John T. Anderson, 215 W. Newman Road, Okemos; RE: Notice of Intent to File Petition Pursuant to Rezoning #02080
- BI-2 Melissa K. Goodnoe, 4714 Powell Road, Okemos; RE: Notice of Intent to File Petition Pursuant to Rezoning #02080
- BI-3 Amy Baur, 1113 Tihart Road, Okemos; RE: Notice of Intent to File Petition Pursuant to Rezoning #02080
- BI-4 Lynne S. Page, President, Briarwood Home Owners Association, PO Box 210, Okemos; RE: Zoning Amendment #04080 (Township Board)
- BI-5 Ann L. Alchin, 2227 Hamilton Road, Okemos; RE: Water/Sewer Billing

(3) Regional Linkage (RL)

- RL-1 Mike Bryanton, Ingham County Clerk, PO Box 179, Mason; RE: Resolution Supporting the Use of Surface Transportation Program Funds and Dues Increase by the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission

(4). Staff Communication/Referral (SC)

- SC-1 Michigan Townships Association Legislative Fax October 15, 2004 Edition
- SC-2 Michigan Townships Association Legislative Fax October 22, 2004 Edition

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

B. Minutes

Trustee Brixie moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the October 19, 2004 Regular Meeting as submitted. Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

C. Bills

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

Common Cash	\$ 327,251.48
Public Works	\$ 185,622.06
Public Safety Bldg. Debt – Admin Free	
Check #1092 – JP Morgan Trust Co.	\$ <u>512.50</u>
Total Checks	\$ 513,386.04
Credit Card Transactions	\$ <u>14,262.72</u>
Total Purchases	\$ <u>527,648.76</u>
 ACH Payments	 \$ <u>581,887.53</u>

Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

[Bill list in Official Minute Book]

- D. Amendments to the Professional Supervisory Association Agreement
Trustee Brixie moved approval of the amendments as specified in the attached settlement agreement to the Professional Supervisory Employees Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2004-2006 and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the same. Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- E. Appointment to the Community Resources Commission
Trustee Brixie moved that Andrea M. Faes be appointed to fill the vacant position on the Community Resources Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2004 and to a full term ending December 31, 2006. Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- F. Township Manager's Employment Agreement Extension
Trustee Brixie moved that the employment agreement between the Charter Township of Meridian and Gerald J. Richards be amended to extend until December 31, 2006, and the salary for the Manager for 2005 be increased by 3.5% over the 2004 salary. Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- G. 2005 Regular Board Meeting Schedule
Trustee Brixie moved to adopt the 2005 Township Board Meeting Schedule Resolution. Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- H. Agreement with Board of Water and Light for 2950 E. Jolly Road
Trustee Brixie moved to authorize the Township Manager to negotiate and sign an agreement with the Lansing Board of Water and Light for providing water service to 2950 E. Jolly Road.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting
NAYS: None
Motion carried 6-0.

8. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY (None)
9. HEARINGS (None)
10. ACTION ITEMS/ENDS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened public comment.

John Anderson, 215 W. Newman Road, spoke in opposition to Rezoning #04030 (Hovey).

Tim Hovey, Hovey Co., 124 E. Washington Street, DeWitt, stated he spoke with the Township Engineer who confirmed there is sewer capacity for the location of Rezoning #04030. There also was a traffic study conducted in the area and the proposed development will not exceed current traffic conditions. Mr. Hovey gave history of the property over the last 50 years to bring the zoning into a more current status.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed public comment.

- A. Rezoning #04030 (Hovey), request to rezone approximately 6.9 acres at 5177 and 5241 Marsh Road from RR (Rural Residential) and RA (Single Family-Medium Density) to RC (Multiple Family-Medium Density)

Treasurer Hunting moved [and read into the record] NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby INTRODUCES FOR PUBLICATION AND SUBSEQUENT ADOPTION Ordinance No. _____, entitled “Ordinance Amending the Zoning District Map of Meridian Township Pursuant to Rezoning Petition #04030” RR (Rural Residential) and RA (Single Family-Medium Density) to RD (Multiple Family-Low Density).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Charter Township of Meridian is directed to publish the Ordinance in the form in which it is introduced at least once prior to the next regular meeting of the Township Board.

Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

Board members and staff discussed the following:

- Rezoning approved by the Planning Commission
- Rezoning does not meet the rezoning criteria
- 1993 Future Land Use Map designation as public was an error
- Historical development of the current zoning with the two (2) single family homes
- The entire seven (7) acres has been designated as residential since the early 1960's
- RD and RDD are consistent with proposed draft of the 2004 Master Plan Future Land Use Map
- Reconsideration as RDD at the next Board meeting

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting

NAYS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy
Motion defeated 2-4.

Staff was requested to prepare a resolution with RDD zoning at the next meeting.

- B. Rezoning #04130 (Planning Commission), request to rezone approximately 3.17 acres at 4536, 4544, 4552, 4558 and 4564 Van Atta Road and the entrance of Van Atta Woods Park from C-2 (Commercial) to RRA (Single Family, Suburban Estate)

Trustee Brixie moved [and read into the record] NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby INTRODUCES FOR PUBLICATION AND SUBSEQUENT ADOPTION Ordinance No. _____, entitled “Ordinance Amending the Zoning District Map of Meridian Township Pursuant to Rezoning Petition #04130” C-2 (Commercial) to RRA (Single Family-Suburban Estate) and RR (Rural Residential).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Charter Township of Meridian is directed to publish the Ordinance in the form in which it is introduced at least once prior to the next regular meeting of the Township Board.

Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.

Board members discussed the following:

- Downzoning of the property from commercial to residential
- Notification to property owners of this action

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

- C. Preliminary Plat #96022 (Eyde), request to extend approval of the 82-lot Central Park Estates subdivision located west of Powell Road and south of Central Park Apartments

Trustee Woiwode moved [and read into the record] NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, the extension of Preliminary Plat #96022, Central Park Estates, for a period of one (1) year, from October 29, 2004, to October 29, 2005, is hereby granted and all previous conditions placed on the preliminary plat shall remain in effect. Seconded by Trustee Brixie.

Board members discussed the following:

- Appropriate use of the property
- Existing sewer system is flawed and must be fixed
- Likelihood this is the last extension

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

- D. Bath Township Water and Sewer Approval

Trustee Woiwode moved the approval of the resolution to allow Bath Township to service two parcels in Meridian Township with water and sewer service. Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Woiwode, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

11. DISCUSSION ITEMS/ENDS (None)

12. VISION SESSION/ENDS: Intergovernmental Meeting – Possible topics for discussion: Students for school systems, 425 Agreements, Traffic, Phase II Storm Water, etc.

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened the Intergovernmental Meeting and introduced the Township's guests:
Bath Township

Mark Ritter, Superintendent

Roni Christmas, Trustee

City of East Lansing

Ted Staton, City Manager

Victor Loomis, Councilmember
Haslett Public Schools
Mike Duda, Superintendent
Mike Thibodeau, Board President
Kristen Beltzer, Board Secretary

Ingham County Drain Commissioner
Pat Lindemann, Commissioner

Lansing Township
John Daher, Supervisor

Okemos Public Schools
Dr. Lee Gerard, Superintendent
Bill Ruddock, Treasurer

Williamstown Township
Mickey Martin, Supervisor
Nancy Fink, Treasurer
Steve Zaban, Clerk
Al LeBlanc, Treasurer Elect

The representatives and Board members discussed the following areas of interest and potential cooperation:

BATH TOWNSHIP:

- Experiencing growth mainly through residential development
- Chandler Corridor road study with the City of East Lansing
- While considering Rails to Trails, county roads were narrow and lacked shoulder width and bike paths in rural townships are along roadways
- Four different school districts within Bath Township
- Stability of Bath schools
- Lack of enabling legislation at the state level for transfer of development rights (TDR)
- Approval of two (2) bond issues to aid in upgrading buildings within the school system

CITY OF EAST LANSING:

- Chandler Corridor road study will address concerns of residents on Harkson regarding noise and speed
- Lake Lansing Road traffic flow problematic at its intersection with Abbott
- East Lansing recently reached agreement with the Ingham County Road Commission on jurisdiction of Abbott Road in Ingham County. This will result in an immediate reduction in the speed limit from 45 to 35 miles per hour.
- Continued effort with adjoining governmental entities to connect into bicycle/pedestrian pathway system taken into consideration when traffic studies are conducted
- Traffic calming experiments, including pylons at Harrison & Grand River
- Lane reduction a deterrent of speed but creates back-ups during certain times of the day
- Families follow employment opportunities
- Passage of two ordinances within the last several years to address concern over conversion of single family homes to rental properties in the core neighborhoods of the city
- More effective enforcement of occupancy to better manage rental properties
- Creation of three (3) classifications of overlay districts in residential zoned neighborhoods
- Development of a large multi-unit complex near campus
- Current number of single family homes licensed for rental less than in 1998
- Reduction in the restrictions placed on owner-occupied rentals
- Drivers of housing demand: increase in MSU enrollment, increase in length of time to obtain a degree and lack of land

LANSING TOWNSHIP:

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- Traffic study of Lake Lansing Road and M-127 to be completed in February, 2005 regarding effect of Sam's Club and Walmart on present traffic
- Lack of schools on the east side of Lansing Township
- Two small elementary schools on the west side of Lansing Township
- Water Festival educational program for 4-6 grade students held at MSU

WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP:

- Speed limit lowered 10 miles per hour 45 minutes before school with blinking light on Mitchell Road
- Need for a light at Grand River and Zimmer Road near the post office
- Proposal for roundabout at Grand River and Zimmer Roads turned down at the state level
- Cross district utilization of services within school systems
- Fruition of a 425 Agreement with the City of Williamston
- Growth management through the reduction of spot rezonings and conversion of large commercial farm properties into smaller farm properties
- Passage of a Development Rights Ordinance
- Adoption of Ingham County's Development Rights
- Transfer of development rights issue sent to the Planning Commission

INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER:

Pat Lindemann discussed Phase II Storm Water

- Federal Clean Water Act was passed in 1972
- Phase I dealt with point source pollution issues: factories, combined sewer overflows, direct discharges
- Non-point source pollution deals with social behavior, (street sweeping, pet waste, land use design, etc.) as part of Phase II which took effect March 10, 2002
- Governmental entities have to secure discharge permit from the federal government meeting the terms conditions of the Phase II regulations from the EPA
- Phase II communities within the Tri-County area have coordinated the process of applying for the discharge permit with the same goals and objectives
- Regional standards with same goals and objectives
- Six minimum measures required by Phase II:
 - Public education and public outreach
 - Public involvement and participation (Earth Day, etc.)
 - Illicit discharges: find, map, test and eliminate them (most costly measure)
 - Construction site stormwater runoff control (largest contributor of nonpoint source pollution)
 - Post construction stormwater management (maintenance agreements)
 - Pollutant prevention and housekeeping for municipal operations (maintenance program)
- School districts have statutory requirements to meet Phase II discharge permits
- Township(s) concern regarding cost of implementation
- Ten year time limit for regulated communities to begin execution of their plan
- Probability of adding Williamstown Township as a mandated area within the next five (5) years
- Planning now will prevent costly retrofitting in the future
- Current Towar Gardens project in Meridian Township will surpass requirements for Phase II
- Towar Gardens project to begin construction in 2005 with soft engineering applications
- Towar Gardens project will remove thousands of gallons of water from the wastewater system and route water through a drain system into the Looking Glass River
- Development of design criteria for comprehensive stormwater management standards

HASLETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

- Approached by developers to create more affordable housing to bring in students
- Explore light situations on Marsh Road due to increase of student drivers at the high school
- Substantial rearrangement of light situation for schools on Marsh Road
- Looking into possible consolidation with adjacent school systems for some types of services
- Significant increase over the last five (5) years in the number of students being driven or driving to school
- Potential for HOM-TV "cool" commercials on high school students riding the bus to school

OKEMOS PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

- State law passed earlier this year to request reduction in speed on county roads during school hours may apply to Jolly, Okemos and Kinawa Roads
- Possibility of flashing speed limit signs near the schools
- Traffic issues created due to cutbacks in bussing
- Support and assistance of the Police and Fire Departments during traffic studies
- Benefits of the roundabout at Hulett and Bennett Roads
- Roundabout at Hulett and Bennett Roads safer for children crossing due to traffic coming from only one direction at each crossing
- Declining enrollment trend reversed in 2004
- Current rezoning of school owned land by the Township Board
- Encourage development of more affordable homes for parents with school-aged children
- Proposal A discouraged older homeowners to leave their homes so homes do not experience as much turnover
- Appreciation to Meridian Township for hosting intergovernmental meeting
- School of choice students within a district may be due to families inability to afford housing within that district
- Inability of the Board to control land prices which directly affects student population
- More traffic created by out of district students
- Budget constraints resulted in a decrease of public transportation to the schools with a resulting increase in traffic
- Construction of bicycle paths within Meridian Township an aid for students getting to and from school

Areas of potential regional cooperation:

- Continue collaborative effort to address regional concern over job losses
- Interurban Bicycle Trail
- Eventual hookup of bicycle trail to River Trail
- Regional collaboration to create new job growth
- New job growth will increase housing needs
- Regional cooperation to discourage auto traffic to and from schools and encourage non-automobile modes of transportation
- Other types of bussing (CATA) for school transportation
- Similar zoning categories for adjacent governmental entities
- Creation of Joint Planning Commissions

13. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

John Veenstra, 320 Piper Road, Haslett, spoke regarding the construction of the old Interurban Pathway. He thanked the Supervisor for inviting Pat Lindemann, the Ingham County Drain Commissioner to the Intergovernmental Meeting.

Mr. Veenstra also suggested a higher percentage of voter turnout based on his own calculation of the number of "true" registered voters.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McGillicuddy adjourned the meeting at 9:02 P.M.

SUSAN MCGILlicUDDY
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Sandra K. Otto, Secretary