

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD BUDGT DELIBERATIONS - **APPROVED** -
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Town Hall Room
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2007, **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Hunting, Trustees Brixie,
Veenstra, Woiwode
ABSENT: Trustee Such
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Engineering & Public Works Ray
Severy, Police Chief Dave Hall, EMS/Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Director of Finance
Diana Hasse, Director of Information Technology Stephen Gebes

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor McGillicuddy called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M. She requested a moment of silence for those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 and our armed forces personnel fighting in the Middle East.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor McGillicuddy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Supervisor McGillicuddy called the roll of the Board.

4. PRESENTATION OF THE 2008 BUDGET

Director Hasse reviewed the budget process and summarized the 2008 Budget Highlights for the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Public Works and the Motor Pool.

Board members and staff discussed the following:

- Budget to be placed on the Township's website
- Landscape intern to give recommendation regarding the Township's landscaping needs for its facilities and implement the smaller projects
- Cost for elections include the 2008 presidential primary of approximately \$40,000 for Meridian Township
- Cost of the IT Department operation comes from the General Fund
- Bids obtained for IT hardware and software where there is more than one vendor of a product
- BS & A Software as the most reasonably priced software available
- Revenue payments received from the state approximately every 2 months
- Next appropriated state revenue sharing payment slated for October in the neighborhood of \$400,000
- State shared revenue is approximately 17.4% of the Township's budget
- Two components to revenue sharing; one is constitutional and the other is appropriated by the Legislature
- Major portion of state revenue sharing for Meridian Township is constitutional
- Last of ten (10) installment payments of \$34,000 for a HVAC system
- Township's matching portion for local road resurfacing moved out of the General Fund and transferred to the Special Revenue Funds in a new fund entitled Local Streets Include narrative on page 61 when budget is placed on the website that the Township is continuing to provide matching funds for local road resurfacing
- Snell Towar funding now included in the Parks and Recreation portion of the General Fund
- Discussion on increasing the Township's contribution to the Lake Lansing Watershed Management Special Assessment District by \$5,000
- Ingham County Parks Board currently considering whether to increase the County's contribution
- Expectation by the county that we will match its contribution
- Passage of the budget as presented until additional information is available
- Increase the Township's funding for the Lake Lansing Watershed Management Special Assessment District now to indicate to the other contributing entities that the Township is committed to the idea

it should be properly funded

- 2007 projection includes the November election
- Use of carryover money termed, in part, as “deficit”
- Difference graphically in treatment of revenues v. expenditures
- Replacement of water main lines
- Construction of the North Okemos Road Lift Station and Force Main

[Trustee Brixie left the room at 7:10 P.M.]

- Possible use of hybrid cars for Motor Pool replacement vehicles
- Consideration of cost of the vehicle v. life cycle cost of the vehicle

[Treasurer Hunting left the room at 7:12 P.M.]

- Proposed increase in ambulance fees
- “Thank yous” for donations to the Fire Restricted/Designated Funds
- \$35,000 annual cost for voting membership to Lansing Economic Area Partnership, Inc. (LEAP, Inc.)
- All major governmental units in the Tri County area are members except Meridian Township
- LEAP, Inc.’s use of membership dues
- Meetings over the past three years with governmental unit leaders to create an urban service boundary to stop sprawl and work towards tax sharing across jurisdictions to have a functioning transit system in the Tri County area
- REDTeam seat on LEAP, Inc.
- Possible “green power” electrical purchase option
- Board policy of energy efficiency

[Trustee Woiwode left the room at 7:24 P.M.]

5. OTHER POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ITEMS (None)

6. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

John Anderson, 215 W. Newman Road, Okemos, alleged the Township’s expenditures are outpacing its revenues.

Carl Harmon, 1924 Birchwood, Okemos, noted that most fees were increasing but the cost of building permits are not. He expressed appreciation for the Township’s professional ambulance staff.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McGillicuddy adjourned the meeting at 7:35 P.M.

SUSAN MCGILLICUDDY
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT, CMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Sandra K. Otto, Secretary