

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING **-APPROVED-**
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
517.349.1232, Virtual Meeting via Zoom
TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2021; 6:00 pm.

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie (arrived at 6:02 pm), Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland

ABSENT: Trustee Wisinski

STAFF: Township Manager Walsh, Fire Chief Hamel, Police Chief Plaga, Community Planning and Development Director Kieselbach, Information Technology Director Gebes, Finance Director Mattison, Human Resources Director Tithof, Economic Development and Neighborhoods Director Clark, Communications Manager Yates

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Styka called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Styka led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Manager Walsh called the roll of the Board.

4. PRESENTATIONS-NONE

5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Styka opened public remarks at 6:02 pm

Anne Hubbell, Las Cruces, New Mexico, voiced concern about a newly installed stone next to her father's grave in Glendale Cemetery and referenced the emails and family letters outlining their concern.

John Faichney, 3566 Kansas, stated Sparrow Hospital representatives have met with persons interested in their project and suggested an alternative location be investigated for the project.

Supervisor Styka closed public remarks at 6:20 pm.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Walsh provided an update on township projects and township goals, congratulated Lt. Bart Crane and Captain Rick Grillo on their recent promotions in the Police Department and announced upcoming meetings with the business community.

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Styka wished Happy Birthday to Trustee Pat Jackson. Trustee Jackson thanked everyone for the birthday wishes

Treasurer Deschaine:

- Attended the Capital Area Transportation Authority Board, Meridian Economic Development Corporation and Environmental Commission meetings
- April 26-29 attended the second year of the Michigan Municipal Treasurer's Association certification course. Although they are behind due to COVID, he will be certified in 2022
- April 30 hosted the Capital Area Treasurer's group meeting and the speakers were from Ingham County Treasurer Eric Schertzing office
- May 1 participated in the planting of 208 hardwood trees in Towar Woods Land Preservation which is part of the Meridian Conservation Corps program

Clerk Guthrie:

- Reported the May 4 Election was certified by the Board of Canvassers today and summarized the election results
- May 6 attended Capital Area District Library presentation on the micro-pantry at the Okemos Library and thanked everyone involved in the project

Supervisor Styka:

- Attended the Downtown Development Authority and Chamber of Commerce meetings

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Treasurer Deschaine moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Jackson

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Opsommer, Jackson, Sundland, Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Guthrie, Supervisor Styka

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor Styka reviewed the consent agenda.

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Trustee Sundland

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

A. Communications

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Trustee Sundland

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

B. Approval of Minutes – April 13, 2021 Virtual Regular Meeting

Trustee Jackson moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the April 13, 2021 Virtual Regular Meeting, as submitted. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Trustee Sundland

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

C. Bills

Trustee Jackson moved to approve that the Township Board approve the Manager’s Bills as follows: Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

Common Cash	\$	177,249.68
Public Works	\$	32,954.09
Trust & Agency	\$	<u>121.36</u>
Total Checks	\$	210,325.13
Credit Card Transactions	\$	10,878.57
04.15.2021 – 04.29.2021	\$	<u>221,203.70</u>
Total Purchases	\$	<u>221,203.70</u>
ACH Payments	\$	<u>877,807.85</u>

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Trustee Sundland

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

D. Ratification of New Police Officers

Trustee Jackson move to ratify the appointments of Bryant Martin and Taya Catherwood to the position of Police Officer contingent upon successful completion of those items stipulated in the conditional offer of employment. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Styka,
Clerk Guthrie, Trustee Sundland

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY – NONE

11. HEARINGS - NONE

12. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Zoning Amendment #21010 (Township Board) amend the Code of Ordinances to require Township Board approval of a special use permit for motor vehicle sales and service establishments and automobile dealerships in the C-2 and C-3 (Commercial) zoning district-
Final Adoption

Trustee Opsommer move to adopt the resolution for final adoption of Zoning Amendment #21010 to amend the Code of Ordinances to require Township Board approval of special use permits for motor vehicle sales and service establishments and automobile dealerships in the C-2 and C-3 (Commercial) zoning districts. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

Discussion:

- Trustee Opsommer outlined the proposed Amendment
- In order to avoid the issues that occurred on the Lafontaine site, the new process would require the Planning Commission to hold the initial hearing and make a recommendation. The Board would make the final decision on the special use permit

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Sundland, Opsommer

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

- B. Acceptance of Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) Public Art Grant

Director Clark outlined the Public Art Grant program offered by LEAP and their partner PNC Bank. The Township was chosen to receive a \$10,000 grant for public art to be placed at Marketplace on the Green. The contract has been signed and the request for proposals has been sent out. The final report is due to LEAP by October 31, 2021.

Trustee Jackson move accept the Public Art for Communities Grant for 2021 as described by Director Clark. Seconded by Clerk Guthrie

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Guthrie, Supervisor Styka, Trustees Sundland, Opsommer, Jackson

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

C. Final Plat #17012 (Powell Road Holding LLC) Silverstone Estates

Trustee Jackson moved to approve the resolution for Final Plat #17012 (Powell Road Holding LLC) Silverstone Estates, a single family subdivision of 25 lots on the east side of Powell Road, north of Grand River Avenue. Seconded by Treasurer Deschaine

Discussion:

- Director Kieselbach outlined the proposed subdivision
- Manager Walsh stated he will confirm which homes are affected by the special assessment being proposed for Powell Road

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Opsommer, Sundland, Jackson, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

D. Powell Road Public Road Improvement SAD #43 – Resolution #4

Treasurer Deschaine move to approve Powell Road Public Road Special Assessment District #43 Resolution #4; which files the proposed final assessment roll with the Township Clerk and sets the date for a public hearing on May 18, 2021. Seconded by Trustee Jackson

Discussion:

- Manager Walsh stated there is an increase of \$44,000 due to additional soil costs. The public hearing is scheduled to be held virtually on May 18. At that meeting, the assessment role will be set and assessments mailed in June. The reconstruction of Powell Road will be taking place over the next four weeks.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Sundland, Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

E. Resolution Celebrating Asian American Pacific Islander Month

Trustee Jackson move to approve the resolution Celebrating Asian American Pacific Islander Month which is in May. Seconded by Trustee Sundland

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Jackson, Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Guthrie, Supervisor Styka, Trustees Opsommer, Sundland

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Special Use Permit #18091 (Newton Pointe LLC) request of an extension of the special use permit for the square footage of buildings at Newton Place 6276 Newton Road

Director Kieselbach outlined the development proposal for Special Use Permit #18091 and review criteria for the extension request. The last two criteria have been met and the owner has submitted information on criteria one.

Chuck Holman, DTN, 2502 Lake Lansing Road, stated they are requesting an extension due to finalizing the financing. They are preparing to submit documents for site plan approval to the Township. The storm water system caused a delay in obtaining the necessary approvals from the Ingham County Drain Commissioner. When asked if COVID and lumber costs would stop the project, Mr. Holman replied they are on track to proceed with financing and final plans for the project.

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

14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Styka Opened Public Remarks at 7:00 pm.

Beth Hubbell, 1158 Woodside Drive, Haslett, voiced concern about the monument stone issues she is having at Glendale Cemetery.

Supervisor Styka Closed Public Remarks at 7:08 pm.

15. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS - NONE

16. CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Opsommer move to go into closed session to discuss the township attorney's confidential written legal opinion concerning the Lansing Board of Water and Light Franchise Fee. Seconded by Trustee Jackson

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Guthrie, Supervisor Styka, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

The Board entered closed session at 7:10 pm

Trustee Opsommer moved to return to open session. Seconded by Trustee Jackson

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Opsommer, Sundland, Jackson, Treasurer Deschaine,
Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

The Board returned to open session at 7:45 pm

17. ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Deschaine moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Jackson

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried 6-0

Supervisor Styka adjourned the meeting at 7:46 pm.

RONALD J. STYKA,
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

DEBORAH GUTHRIE,
TOWNSHIP CLERK