

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING - **APPROVED** -
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Town Hall Room
TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2012 **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McGillicuddy, Treasurer Brixie, Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg,
ABSENT: Clerk Helmbrecht, Trustee Veenstra
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning & Development
Mark Kieselbach, Parks and Land Management Coordinator Jane Greenway

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor McGillicuddy called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor McGillicuddy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

The secretary called the roll of the Board.

4. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

Leonard Provencher, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, shared his letter to the editor in the August 4th edition of the *Lansing State Journal* regarding Meridian Township voters having a choice in whether to support Board members who voted to support “big business” (Phase 2 of the Lodges of East Lansing). He put Board members on notice that he intended to follow through on a statement he made last fall that he would be grading their performance in upcoming Board meetings.

Neil Bowlby, 6020 Beechwood Drive, Haslett, spoke to Board changes to the Planning Commission version of the urban services boundary.

Craig Philips, 2130 White Owl Way, Okemos, requested the Board ask the Ingham County Department of Transportation and Roads (ICDTR) to remove two “nuisance” stop signs on Hamilton Road immediately east of Okemos Road as they increase traffic congestion at the intersection of Okemos Road and Grand River Avenue.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

5. REPORTS/BOARD COMMENT/NEW WORRIES

Supervisor McGillicuddy reported her attendance last week at the monthly Urban Services Management Committee. She also noted Capital Area Transportation Authority’s (CATA) Bus Rapid Transport Committee met and will be submitting a new application later this year for bus rapid transport.

Trustee Ochberg reported her attendance at the last Planning Commission and indicated Commission members may attend the Board meeting en masse when the urban services boundary is before the Board. She stated the Planning Commission consensus was that the Township Board failed to use the ten (10) criteria set up by Tri-County Regional Planning Commission’s (TCRPC) Urban Services Management Committee for making decisions.

Treasurer Brixie attended the walkability audit for the DDA as well as the DDA meeting. She made an announcement on behalf of Capstone Collegiate Communities inviting citizens to a pre land clearing harvesting event on Friday, August 31, 2012 from 9:00 AM to noon at the Lodges of East Lansing Phase 2 site (southeast corner of Hannah Boulevard and Eyde Parkway). Capstone has requested residents bring their own buckets, shovels, etc.

Trustee Dreyfus announced Trustees are being bombarded with form e-mail petition signatures (over 600 to date) in support of the Douglas J mixed use planned unit development (MUPUD). He spoke to the inappropriateness of these emails being timed in one minute increments.

Treasurer Brixie clarified that of the emails she has read regarding the Douglas J project, over half of the petitioners were including personal comments in support for one of the oldest businesses within the community.

Trustee Ochberg remarked that she attended the DDA walkability audit in a wheelchair to assess handicap accessibility. She expressed appreciation for Mr. White's provided synopsis of discovered pros and cons from the audit. Trustee Ochberg noted the sewer grates and detectable warning plates for the blind are difficult to navigate in a wheelchair.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Seconded by Trustee LeGoff.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 5-0.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor McGillicuddy reviewed the consent agenda.

Treasurer Brixie moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Trustee LeGoff.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 5-0.

The adopted Consent Agenda items are as follows:

A. Communications

(1) Board Information (BI)

- BI-1 Nancy Hanson, 4100 Leeward Drive, Okemos; RE: Above ground and in ground fire pits
- BI-2 Karen Bednarek, 3302 Arlington Avenue, Muskegon; RE: Opposition to closing the Traveler's Club International Restaurant
- BI-3 Paul Gillan, 4848 Whitney Street, Montague; RE: Support for protecting the Traveler's Club International Restaurant from any change which hurts its attraction
- BI-4 Inetta Emerson, Battle Creek; RE: Support for the proposed Douglas J project in downtown Okemos
- BI-5 Darcy Fidler, Laingsburg; RE: Support for the proposed Douglas J project in downtown Okemos
- BI-6 Jackie Reed, St. Johns; RE: Support for the proposed Douglas J project in downtown Okemos
- BI-7 Debbie Gallaway, Leslie; RE: Support for the proposed Douglas J project in downtown Okemos
- BI-8 Randy S, Okemos; RE: Support for the proposed Douglas J project in downtown Okemos
- BI-9 Catherine Ferguson, 6177 Foster Drive, Haslett; RE: Appreciation to HOM-TV for its election coverage

(2) Commission Linkage (CL)

- CL-1 Greg Basolo, 2077 Fox Hollow Drive, Okemos; RE: Letter of resignation from the Assessing Board of Review
- CL-2 Donna Ullrich, 2525 Duryea Court, East Lansing; RE: Letter of resignation from the Cable Communications Commission

Treasurer 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 Trustee LeGoff.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
 Treasurer Brixie
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried 5-0.

B. Minutes

Treasurer Brixie moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the August 9, 2012 Regular Meeting as submitted. Seconded by Trustee LeGoff.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
 Treasurer Brixie
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried 5-0.

C. Bills

Treasurer Brixie moved that the Township Board approve the Manager’s Bills as follows:

Common Cash		\$ 418,847.40
Public Works		\$ 382,610.66
Retainage		
Check #1055 – One-Way Asphalt (Bituminous Repair)	\$ 930.27	
Check #1054 – Muns Directional Boring (Sanitary Sewer)	\$ 789.50	\$ 1,719.77
Total Checks		\$ 803,177.83
Credit Card Transactions		\$ 7,374.13
Total Purchases		<u>\$ 810,551.96</u>
ACH Payments		<u>\$ 388,418.16</u>

Seconded by Trustee LeGoff.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
 Treasurer Brixie
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried 5-0.

[Bill list in Official Minute Book]

D. Assessing Stipulations

Treasurer Brixie moved that the Township Attorney be authorized to sign a stipulation with Mason State Bank in accordance with the revised assessed and taxable values stated as follows:

**MICHIGAN TAX TRIBUNAL DOCKET NUMBER 393419
 MASON STATE BANK
 PROPOSED STIPULATION FIGURES**

Original Values

Parcel Number	Address	Year	Original Assessed Value	Original Taxable Value
33-02-02-08-276-003	5900 Park Lake Road	2010	\$385,700	\$385,700
33-02-02-08-276-003	5900 Park Lake Road	2011	\$372,400	\$372,400
33-02-02-08-276-003	5900 Park Lake Road	2012	\$363,900	\$363,900

Proposed Revised Values

Parcel Number	Address	Year	Revised Assessed Value	Revised Taxable Value
33-02-02-08-276-003	5900 Park Lake Road	2010	\$233,200	\$233,200
33-02-02-08-276-003	5900 Park Lake Road	2011	\$226,600	\$226,600
33-02-02-08-276-003	5900 Park Lake Road	2012	\$220,000	\$220,000

Seconded by Trustee LeGoff.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer Brixie moved that the Township Attorney be authorized to sign a stipulation with E & W Investments, LLC in accordance with the revised assessed and taxable values stated as follows:

**MICHIGAN TAX TRIBUNAL DOCKET NUMBER 399795
E & W INVESTMENTS, LLC
PROPOSED STIPULATION FIGURES**

Original Values

Parcel Number	Address	Year	Original Assessed Value	Original Taxable Value
33-02-02-33-452-014	2186 Jolly Road	2010	\$1,993,700	\$1,993,700
33-02-02-33-452-014	2186 Jolly Road	2011	\$1,948,800	\$1,948,800
33-02-02-33-452-014	2186 Jolly Road	2012	\$1,905,100	\$1,905,100

Proposed Revised Values

Parcel Number	Address	Year	Revised Assessed Value	Revised Taxable Value
33-02-02-33-452-014	2186 Jolly Road	2010	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000
33-02-02-33-452-014	2186 Jolly Road	2011	\$1,075,000	\$1,075,000
33-02-02-33-452-014	2186 Jolly Road	2012	\$1,075,000	\$1,075,000

Seconded by Trustee LeGoff.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer Brixie moved that the Township Attorney be authorized to sign a stipulation with Michigan Dental Association, Inc. in accordance with the revised assessed and taxable values stated as follows:

**MICHIGAN TAX TRIBUNAL DOCKET NUMBER 415814
MICHIGAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, INC.
PROPOSED STIPULATION FIGURES**

Original Values

Parcel Number	Address	Year	Original Assessed Value	Original Taxable Value
33-02-02-33-329-001	3657 Okemos Road	2011	\$2,114,200	\$2,114,200
33-02-02-33-329-001	3657 Okemos Road	2012	\$2,007,800	\$2,007,800

Proposed Revised Values

Parcel Number	Address	Year	Revised Assessed Value	Revised Taxable Value
33-02-02-33-329-001	3657 Okemos Road	2011	\$1,550,000	\$1,550,000
33-02-02-33-329-001	3657 Okemos Road	2012	\$1,550,000	\$1,550,000

Seconded by Trustee LeGoff.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 5-0.

E. Land Contract Extension - 2083 Towner Road

Treasurer Brixie moved that the Township Manager be authorized to execute an eighteen month extension of the land contract with Patrick A. Donlon for property commonly known as 2083 Towner Road, Haslett, Michigan. Seconded by Trustee LeGoff.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 5-0.

F. Ratify Full-Time Paramedic/Fire Fighter

Treasurer Brixie moved the ratification of Robert Caretti to the position of full-time paramedic/firefighter. Seconded by Trustee LeGoff.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 5-0.

G. Fire Department Promotions

Treasurer Brixie moved to ratify the promotion of Mark Vroman to the rank of Captain and Dennis Schrier to the rank of Lieutenant. Seconded by Trustee LeGoff.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 5-0.

8. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY (None)

9. HEARINGS (None)

10. ACTIONS ITEMS/ENDS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

Craig Phillips, 2130 White Owl Way, Okemos, spoke in strong support of the effort to control deer population in Meridian Township.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

A. 2012 Deer Management Plan

Jane Greenway, Parks and Land Management Coordinator, presented and overview of the 2012 Deer Management Plan. She noted this is the second year of the deer management plan.

Treasurer Brixie moved that the Meridian Township Board, recognizing that controlled hunting in township-owned properties may help control the overpopulation of white-tailed deer, authorize staff to conduct managed hunts from October 1, 2012, through December 31, 2012, and also during the early antlerless season on September 22 and 23, 2012, at the following properties:

Location/Name	Designation	Size
1. Meridian Riverfront Park	Park	204.5 acres
2. Red Cedar Natural Area	Park	56 acres
3. Central Park	Park	237 acres
4. Ted Black Woods	Park	74 acres
5. Forest Grove, "M-78 White"	Land Preserve	25 acres
6. Meridian Central Wetland, "Winter/Dunham/Boroughs"	Land Preserve	25 acres
7. Davis/Foster Preserve	Land Preserve	109 acres
8. Tihart/Cornell Roads, "Spalding"	Land Preserve	21 acres
9. Foster/Crouse	Land Preserve	18 acres
10. Red Cedar River East, "Howe"	Land Preserve	25 acres
11. Sower Woods	Land Preserve	18 acres
12. Southwest Meridian Uplands, "Sturk"	Land Preserve	60 acres
13. Northridge "Whitehills"	Land Preserve	25 acres
14. Central Meridian Uplands, "Rysberg"	Land Preserve	60 acres
15. Hubbel	Land Preserve	58 acres
16. Northwest Land Preserve	Land Preserve	125 acres
17. Transfer Station	Township	50.6 acres
18. SE Corner of Central Park and Okemos Road	Township	28.5 acres

TOTAL= 1219.6 ACRES

Seconded by Trustee Dreyfus.

Board members discussed the following:

- Appreciation to staff for the program
- Preference staff will devise a plan next year to address deer who reside in subdivisions
- Staff ability to provide residents with the names of approved participants who could hunt on their property
- Question on the state's volunteer registration form speaks to the hunter placing his/her name on a list that can be provided to private homeowners
- Availability of information on the Township website

- Process to match neighborhoods up with hunters
- State does not allow hunting within 450 feet of a occupied dwelling without written permission
- Inquiry if program will be expanded in the future to non-resident hunters
- Move to archery “only” addresses any noise or safety issue
- Suggestion that Township approved hunters wear orange to identify themselves
- State rule that bow hunters are not required to wear orange unless it is during firearm season

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Treasurer Brixie
NAYS: None
Motion carried 5-0.

11. DISCUSSION ITEMS/ENDS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

Neil Bowlby, 6020 Beechwood Drive, Haslett, expressed appreciation to Manager Richards for his innovative approach to online access of Board packets.

Leonard Provencher, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, spoke in support of the complete streets ordinance while expressing concern with the implementation and execution portions of the ordinance. He indicated his desire for Board oversight to ensure implementation to the fullest extent possible.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

A. Complete Streets Ordinance

Board members discussed the following:

- Support for this long overdue ordinance
- Ordinance will improve the walkability of the community
- Boulevards with landscaping (trees), when appropriate, adds value, slows down traffic, provides a cooling effect, is visually aesthetic and ties into the complete streets concept
- Appreciation for inclusion of suggestions which makes action more definitive
- American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) standards do not require a 20 foot boulevard
- Some sections were written in a broad format as the Township does not have the ability to regulate the road right-of-ways
- Possible insertion of median/boulevards in Section 58-38 (3)
- Possibility of staff raising the issue of median/boulevards with road agents when the projects are proposed

It was the consensus of the Board to place this item on for action at the September 4, 2012 Board meeting.

B. Online Access to Board Packets

Township Manager Richards summarized a potential process for online access to Board packets as outlined in staff memorandum dated August 17, 2012.

Board members discussed the following:

- Packets delivered to Board members after 5:00 P.M. on Fridays
- Board members preference for on-line access at 8:00 P.M. on Friday

It was the consensus of the Board to direct staff to provide an online Board packet by 8:00 P.M. on Fridays before a Board meeting.

12. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

Rick Leeper, 2109 Lac Du Mont, Haslett, spoke to fireworks being set off on New Year's. He addressed what an apartment complex in the Hiawatha/Chippewa Hills neighborhood along the Red Cedar River would do to the community, suggesting it would become a blight in two years. Mr. Leeper suggested a drive-in theatre and amusement park as development projects which would bring money into the community.

Neil Bowlby, 6020 Beechwood Drive, continued his earlier public comment regarding Board extension of the urban services boundary recommendation sent to the Board by the Planning Commission. He also discussed Ingham County's point of sale program.

Leonard Provencher, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, reported his attendance at the DDA's walkability audit. He expressed concern that traffic continues to turn when pedestrians have the walk signal at the southeast corner of Okemos and Hamilton Roads, creating a dangerous situation. Mr. Provencher believes concern with safety should be primary over traffic backup.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

13. FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Trustee Ochberg requested clarification on the Township's process when a citizen requests sewer extension, including how the extension is financed.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McGillicuddy adjourned the meeting at 7:00 P.M.

SUSAN MCGILLICUDDY
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT, CMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Sandra K. Otto, Secretary