

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING - **APPROVED** -
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Town Hall Room
TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2010 **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McGillicuddy, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Brixie, Trustees Dreyfus,
LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra (6:03 P.M.)
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning & Development
Mark Kieselbach, EMS/Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Assistant Manager/ Human Resources
Director Paul Brake, Director of Finance Diana Hasse

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.

Assistant Township Manager/Human Resources Director Paul Brake reported Comcast's technical difficulties with the audio signal for HOM-TV have been resolved. He also announced the Downtown Okemos Art Walk will be held Saturday, June 19, 2010 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 P.M. in the Wonch Park area near the corner of Hamilton and Okemos Road. He stated the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is looking for volunteers who would like to be involved and requested any interested persons to contact him at the Township offices.

Mr. Brake noted the Community Regional Foundation has awarded a portion of the DDA's grant request which allowed them to acquire two (2) additional sculptures which will be installed in the downtown Okemos area on Thursday, June 17, 2010.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

5. REPORTS/BOARD COMMENT/NEW WORRIES

A. 2009 Audit Presentation by Shaun Krick and Gretchen Gomolka, Plante & Moran, PLLC
Shaun Krick, Audit Manager, Plante & Moran, 1111 Michigan Avenue, East Lansing, announced the Township again earned the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. He also indicated inclusion in the financial statement of an unqualified audit opinion which is the highest level opinion that can be received on a set of financial statements and means there are no exceptions to the financial report.

Gretchen Gomolka gave a graphic audit presentation highlighting the Township's financial status for 2009 year-end, noting a general fund revenue decrease of more than four percent (4%) from the prior year.

Mr. Krick stated the general fund fund balance decreased approximately \$610,000 from the 2008 figure due to \$650,000 in transfers to other Township funds. He stated the current on-hand fund balance represents approximately 2.7 months worth of expenditures, above the recommended two (2) month minimum. Mr. Krick stated one reason for the decrease from last year was the significant pre-payment for Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB). He stated that as of December 31, 2009, the general fund was in a healthy position.

Mr. Krick added that if the state budget is implemented as currently projected, the Township will lose approximately four percent (4%) of its state shared revenue in fiscal year 2011. He also noted there is an anticipated five to seven percent (5-7%) decrease in taxable values for the properties upon which the Township levies its property taxes.

Trustee Veenstra requested and received an explanation on funding for capital contributions.

Trustee Veenstra requested an explanation of language included in Plante & Moran's cover letter to the Board which states, "This report is intended solely for the use of the Board and management of the Township and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties."

Mr. Krick responded that he would follow up with Plante & Moran's standards department as to the rationale for inclusion of this language.

Trustee Veenstra inquired as to the statement on page 9 of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report with Supplemental Information dated December 31, 2009 which indicated the Land Preservation Fund monies will be held to purchase land in accordance with the purpose of the fund. He indicated it was his understanding the Land Preservation Fund balance was for future stewardship of the already acquired properties.

Clerk Helmbrecht clarified there are two separate funds; one which is being held and is currently being used for stewardship and the second fund which is used for acquisition.

Trustee Veenstra requested verification on the number of registered voters as reported in the table on page 93 of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report with Supplemental Information dated December 31, 2009.

Supervisor McGillicuddy thanked the auditors for their clear and concise public presentation so residents have a detailed explanation on how the Township's funds are being handled.

Trustee Ochberg announced the Economic Development Corporation met and accepted the resignation of one of its members. As a result, she noted there is a vacancy on its Board.

Treasurer Brixie reported her attendance at the Groundwater Management Board (GMB) meeting on June 3, 2010 where it was announced the GMB received a grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Energy (DNRE) to provide Meridian Township and East Lansing with an arc GIS planning tool. This planning tool will enable both governmental entities to more easily locate possible contaminants or wells near a project site.

Trustee Veenstra announced his attendance at Tri-County Regional Planning Commission's Transportation Review Committee meeting on June 9, 2010 where a letter was distributed from the Eaton County Road Commission (ECRC). He noted information contained in the letter stated while the ECRC was scheduled to receive federal funds for a Michigan Avenue extension in 2010, the county is postponing the project. As a result, the ECRC and the Ingham County Road Commission (ICRC) worked out a "trade" where the ICRC will now receive \$816,000 to resurface Mount Hope Road in 2010, not 2011. Trustee Veenstra stated this change could mean that Meridian Township may save some of the money approved at the Board's May 6, 2010 meeting for advance construction of the Mt. Hope repaving project.

Trustee Veenstra brought attention to an article in the June 4th edition of the *Lansing State Journal* reporting on Lansing Area Economic Partnership's (LEAP) lack of transparency in how its budget is spent. He expressed his desire for the LEAP Board to insist on obtaining details about how its staff spends money. Trustee Veenstra reiterated his continued concern that Meridian Township pays \$35,000 yearly in dues to an organization that does not function in a transparent manner.

Trustee Veenstra expressed concern Township Board members did not receive pertinent information at the last Board meeting regarding Board of Water and Light's (BW&L) inability to fulfill the project construction timeframe for installation of LED streetlights in downtown Okemos. He also noted the BW&L lighting expert believed the DDA streetlight project needs 42 streetlight fixtures to have uniform lighting in the DDA, not the 26 as presented in staff communications for the project.

Supervisor McGillicuddy reported urban growth boundary group met last week. She noted her interest in observing the growth patterns of the region when melding the master plans of all 17 communities. She indicated the group will be adding vacant/abandoned properties as well as empty commercial properties to the map to have a regional inventory for use by entities when they would like to locate within the region. Supervisor McGillicuddy announced the Capital Area Transportation Authority's (CATA) Steering Committee will meet June 17, 2010 and she will be bringing its recommendation regarding stop and end-of line locations at a future Board meeting.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor McGillicuddy reviewed the consent agenda.

Treasurer Brixie moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

The adopted Consent Agenda items are as follows:

A. Communications

(1). Board Information (BI)

BI-1 Pamela Zoeller Czubak, 5936 Blythefield Drive, East Lansing; RE: Request for a one time yard waste pickup for Meridian Township residents as a result of the recent storm

BI-2 Richard Postema, Richard Postema Associates PC, 1580 44th Street SW, Wyoming; RE: Request for an amendment to the Township's lighting ordinance

(2). Staff Communications (SC)

SC-1 E-mail to Director Kieselbach transmitting a copy of the City of Ludington's Wind Energy Resolution

SC-2 Memorandum from Cindy Cummings, Police Records Supervisor; RE: Current list of licensed vendors and non-licensed persons or nonprofit organizations engaged in soliciting or canvassing dated June 10, 2010

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 Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Minutes

Treasurer Brixie moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the June 1, 2010 Regular Meeting as amended. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried unanimously.

C. Bills

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

Common Cash	\$ 356,980.93
Public Works	\$ 488,387.24
Retainage – Check #1021	
Advance Rehab Technology	\$ 1,005.42
Total Checks	\$ 846,373.59
Credit Card Transactions	\$ 8,005.73
Total Purchases	<u>\$ 854,379.32</u>
 ACH Payments	 <u>\$ 318,831.04</u>

Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried unanimously.

[Bill list in Official Minute Book]

D. Assessing Stipulations

Treasurer Brixie moved that the Township Assessor be authorized to sign a stipulation with Bruce A. and Cynthia L. Bussing, Trust on the following property:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS OF PROPERTY</u>	
2009	0361194	5545 Wild Iris Lane, Haslett, MI	48840
2010			
 <u>Assessment</u>	 2009	 <u>AV/TV</u>	 \$163,600/163,600
	2010		\$143,400/143,400
 <u>Proposed Assessment</u>	 2009	 <u>AV/TV</u>	 \$152,700/152,700
	2010		\$134,000/134,000

Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Brixie moved that the Township Assessor be authorized to sign a stipulation with Ralph Long on the following property:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS OF PROPERTY</u>
2009 2010	0361068	850 Roxbury, Okemos, MI 48864
<u>Assessment</u>	2009 2010	<u>AV/TV</u> \$167,100/167,047 \$152,000/152,000
<u>Proposed Assessment</u>	2009 2010	<u>AV/TV</u> \$144,000/144,000 \$127,900/127,900

Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried unanimously.

E. Ratify Fire Department Promotions

Treasurer Brixie moved to ratify the promotion of William Janson to Battalion Chief, Greg Kueppers to Captain and Kenneth Phinney to the rank of Lieutenant. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried unanimously.

F. School Tax Collection Agreement for Haslett Public Schools

Treasurer Brixie moved that the Township Board approve the “2010 Summer School Tax Collection Request and Agreement” for Haslett Public Schools. Seconded by Clerk Helmbrecht.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried unanimously.

8. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY (None)

9. HEARINGS (None)

10. ACTION ITEMS/ENDS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened and closed public comment.

B. Special Use Permit (SUP) #10-08011 (Shaw’s on Newton), a request to construct 18 buildings with a total combined size greater than 25,000 square feet

Clerk Helmbrecht moved [and read into the record] NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby approves Special Use Permit #10-08011, to construct a group of buildings over 25,000 square feet in gross floor area as part of Mixed use Planned Unit Development #08014, subject to the following conditions:

1. **Approval of the conceptual site plan is in accordance with the site plan prepared by Nederveld Associates, Inc. and dated January 18, 2008, subject to revisions as required.**
2. **Special Use Permit #10-08011 is subject to all conditions of Mixed Use Planned Unit Development #08014.**
3. **The total building square feet of all buildings on the site shall not exceed 364,900 square feet unless the applicant applies for and receives an amendment to Special Use Permit #10-08011.**

Seconded by Treasurer Brixie.

Board members discussed the following:

- Concern this is a \$7,685,00 tax break for the developer
- Concern that less than 10% of the tax break is actually going to be used for Brownfield cleanup
- Concern that approximately ¼ of the tax break will come from Meridian Township
- Concern the Township is “giving away” over \$1.5 million in services in difficult economic times
- Any average and typical new store requires more in services than it pays in taxes to the Township
- Concern this development will not pay Township taxes for 21 years
- Meridian Township currently collects taxes on this property
- Sound mechanism provided by the County to clean up this vacant and contaminated land
- Township is not “giving up” \$1.5 million out of its budget as the Township is not receiving these monies
- Under the Brownfield plan, the tax break only applies to increases in value from future development
- Without the cleanup, there will be no future development and no mechanism to ever collect additional taxes beyond what is currently being collected
- Brownfield cleanup was approved by the Township Board two years ago
- Need to separate out the proposed project from the cost of the Brownfield cleanup
- Concern that the cost of the Brownfield cleanup is approximately \$1.5 million
- Concern this is an economic development package of \$5.5 million
- Funds for the capitalization of this project have not yet been obtained by the developer
- Township cannot change the federal law relative to Brownfield cleanup

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht
 NAYS: Trustees Dreyfus, Veenstra
 Motion carried 5-2.

- A. Zoning Amendment #10020 (Township Board), a request to amend various sections of Chapter 86 Zoning, Article VII Signs and Advertising Structures to update standards for signs above the roofline, community sponsored street light banners, A-frame signs in commercial districts, and the size of development entry signs in residential districts, **Introduction**

Treasurer 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 Code of the Charter Township of Meridian, Michigan, Chapter 86, Article I, Section 86-2, by amending Section 86-2; Article

VII, Section 86-685, by amending Section 86-685(b)(4) and Section 86-685(c)(2); Section 86-686 by amending Section 86-686(5); Section 86-687 by amending Section 86-687 and Section 86-687(3)(e) and by adding Section 86-687(13); Section 86-696 by adding Section 86-696(3)."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED 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 discussed the following:

- Business community will appreciate the changes
- Designation of A-frame sign placement in this ordinance is inconsistent with Township rules regarding political signs
- A-frame sign placement will impede the free flow of pedestrians and bicyclists
- A-frame signs are a distraction to passing automobile drivers

Trustee Ochberg offered the following friendly amendment:

- **Delete Sec. 86-687 (13) in its entirety for public safety reasons**

The amendment was not accepted by the maker of the main motion.

Trustee Ochberg offered the following amendment:

- **Delete Sec. 86-687 (13) in its entirety for public safety reasons**

Seconded by Trustee Dreyfus.

Continued Board member and staff discussion:

- One A-frame sign allowed per business in the commercial district
- A-frame signs anticipated to be used in the downtown areas where traffic is slower and businesses are closer to the road
- There have been no requests for A-frame signs from businesses located at Meridian Mall or any strip malls
- Wider walkway on Okemos Road in the downtown area
- Not intended to be used within a seven foot pedestrian bicycle pathway
- Three (3) foot clearance so the sidewalk cannot be blocked
- A-frame signs could not block driveways or ramps
- Three (3) foot clearance is inconsistent with other standards in the Township
- As written, language is inconsistent with several sections of the current sign ordinance
- A-frame signs used as a normal business practice in other communities
- A-frame signs should not be allowed to block the sidewalk
- Support for a minimum four (4) foot clearance

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees LeGoff, Ochberg
NAYS: Trustees Dreyfus, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht
Motion failed 2-5.

Trustee Veenstra offered the following friendly amendment:

- **Delete Section 86.687 (13) c. which reads: "A-frame signs shall not be located farther than five feet from the primary entrance of the business."**

The amendment was not accepted by the maker of the main motion.

Trustee Veenstra offered the following amendment:

- **Delete Section 86.687 (13) c. which reads: "A-frame signs shall not be located farther than five feet from the primary entrance of the business."**

Seconded by Treasurer Brixie.

Continued Board member and staff discussion:

- This section is unreasonably restrictive
- Budget constraints will not allow for staff enforcement of these types of regulations
- Distance from the entrance was established for the practicality of code enforcement

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy
 NAYS: Trustee LeGoff, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht
 Motion carried 4-3.

Trustee Ochberg offered the following friendly amendment:

- Amend Section 86.687 (13) b. to change “a minimum of three feet” to “a minimum of five feet”

The amendment was not accepted by the maker of the main motion.

Trustee Ochberg offered the following amendment:

- Amend Section 86.687 (13) b. to change “a minimum of three feet” to “a minimum of five feet”

Seconded by Trustee Veenstra.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Ochberg
 NAYS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Veenstra, Supervisor McGillicuddy,
 Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht
 Motion failed 1-6.

Trustee Veenstra offered the following amendment:

- Amend Section 86.687 (13) b. to change “a minimum of three feet” to “a minimum of four feet”

Seconded by Trustee Dreyfus.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Ochberg, Veenstra, Supervisor
 McGillicuddy, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Veenstra offered the following friendly amendment:

- Amend Section 86.687 (13) d. to remove the language “and stored indoors”

The amendment was not accepted by the maker of the main motion.

Trustee Veenstra offered the following amendment:

- Amend Section 86.687 (13) d. to remove the language “and stored indoors”

Seconded by Trustee Ochberg.

Continued Board member discussion:

- Unnecessary to designate where the sign should be stored after removal
- Concern A-frame signs could be propped against the building or the front/back doors which would make the site cluttered
- Concern approval of A-frame signs would lead to vandalism
- Language requiring indoor storage is an interference to the liberties of business owners/personnel

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Ochberg, Veenstra
 NAYS: Trustees Dreyfus, LeGoff, Supervisor McGillicuddy, Treasurer
 Brixie, Clerk Helmbrecht
 Motion failed 2-5.

- Requests to adjust the lumen value for a specific area, not the total allowed
- Amendment(s) would address the original lighting request of the Okemos Rehabilitation Center
- Concern that accent lights or well lights which point upward would be contrary to the Township's dark sky policy
- Accent lighting of Summit Bank's sign as an example if the Board does not allow spotlight or floodlight
- Okemos Rehabilitation Center's request before the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), which was denied, was to add a structure to the proposed sign to light the sign
- Staff recommendations for the proposed lumens is the standard waiver granted on projects which have come to the Township
- Proposed lumens "fit" within the total allowed lumen package
- Staff to provide Board members a list of projects which received waivers
- Reduction in the total lumens per acre would precipitate more requests for variances
- Landscape lighting for walkways or pedestrian areas must be directed downward
- Increase for wall mounted luminaires to 9000 lumens for safety purposes
- Increase in lighting would meet industrial standards for lighting
- Current ordinance has a indefinite grandfather clause for existing lights in place
- Once a bulb burns out or the fixture is replaced, the new standard must be met
- Wall mounted luminaire v. wall mounted decorative or architectural lighting
- Harris Nature Center as an example of bollard style lighting
- Method(s) to require existing businesses with excess lighting to reduce lighting after business hours
- Section 38-379 (q): Consensus to delete "intended object" and insert "sign"

It was the consensus of the Board to incorporate proposed amendments for Section 38-379 (f), (n), (o), (p) and (q). It was also the consensus of the Board to amend Table 1 in Section 38-380 to increase the maximum footcandles in any one spot for internal sidewalks in all zoning districts except one and two family residential from .5 to 3.

C. November Ballot Discussion

Township Manager Richards summarized Board discussion to date as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 11, 2010.

Board members discussed the following:

- Give residents the choice to preserve services at current levels which would require a full Headlee override
- 75% of general fund expenditures is used for personnel
- 65% of general fund monies is spent on public safety (police and fire)
- Need to look at ways to streamline "activities" without impacting public safety in the Township
- Some Police and Fire activity has significantly decreased over the past several years
- Explore alternatives in the delivery of public safety services
- Explore the option of regional cooperation in providing Fire/EMS and police services
- Few fire runs while a significant amount of ambulance runs
- Time to look at the way public safety operates in the Township as a separate issue from the Headlee Override
- Need for the Board to learn the Township's experience with public safety services
- Request for the Township Manager to negotiate with Alaiendon Township to allow Meridian Township to provide Fire/EMS services in the Jolly Road/I-96 area
- Request for the Township Manager to reach an agreement with East Lansing to allow East Lansing to provide Fire/EMS services to the Toward Garden area
- Meridian Township currently receives a fee to provide EMS services for Jackson National Life
- 911 Regional Cooperative Effort has taken years to take effect
- Public Safety endeavor under study for several months before it took effect
- Challenge of the prior public safety department was due to the impracticality of one individual being able to adequately perform Police, Fire and EMS services
- Concern with the amount of time and expense to cross train individuals in all three (3) areas
- Successful incorporation in other Michigan communities of only Police and Fire as public safety

- Unaware of any community in Michigan which incorporates Police, Fire and EMS in its public safety service department
- EMS services currently provided by Meridian Township a high priority with its residents
- Concern that if the Board does not place the Headlee override language on the 2010 ballot and personnel is reduced by 26 positions in 2011 and 2012, the next opportunity to place this issue on the ballot will cost the Township money to do so
- Voting booth is an effective method to reach residents
- View that the economic issue is global in nature
- Unfortunate circumstance that the Township Board will not be able to review the proposed 2011 budget before it needs to decide whether or not to place the Headlee Override issue on the November, 2010 ballot
- Need for the residents to understand what the cuts will look like
- Committee comprised of community members must “sell” this issue between August and November, 2010
- Request for the Township Manager to prepare preliminary budget data prior to the state law mandate of September 1st
- Two articles to be published in the *Towne Courier* regarding the property tax shortfall and the offer for residents to participate in the budget process
- Need for staffing reductions to be identified
- Partial Land Preservation millage renewal and partial Headlee override could allow for no increase in taxes for residents
- Need for the public to understand that even though the rate would increase with a Headlee override, total taxes paid would be less than the 2009 total
- Taxes would decline due to the fact that property values have decreased
- Concern that if the Headlee override is passed, when property values increase there could be a dramatic increase in taxes
- Board levies the taxes and tax rate and has the ability to reduce the operating millage commensurate with what is needed to provide the appropriate level of service to residents
- Suggestion that if the Headlee override is placed on the ballot and passes, the Board could commit to not levying the full amount of operating millage the first year based on projections

It was the consensus of the Board not to move forward with Headlee override language for the November, 2010 ballot at this time.

12. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened Public Remarks.

Will Tyler White, 2142-½ Hamilton, Okemos, indicated it was pointless to place a Headlee override language on the November, 2010 ballot. He believed the Board should look at combining police and fire into a public service department and treat EMS services separately. Mr. White addressed concerns he had with the Outdoor Lighting Ordinance, noting the lumens per acre for service stations is not applicable and the Board is micromanaging individual lights on landscaping and signs for businesses.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

13. FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Trustee LeGoff reported she heard a rumor the Haslett Library move was going to be delayed or cease entirely.

Township Manager Richards stated the fundraising is continuing and the design is near completion. He indicated his opinion that the move is on schedule.

Trustee Dreyfus reported HOM-TV will begin hosting the Capital Area Media Television Channel (CAMTV) on Tuesday, June 22, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. He noted this will be a regional channel which will feature programming for municipalities in the Tri-County area. Trustee Dreyfus stated the grant money received is what is being used to launch the channel. In response to a question from Treasurer Brixie, he indicated he was not aware of specific financial commitments from other communities.

Supervisor McGillicuddy responded to comment made by Trustee Veenstra during a previous Board meeting indicating he did not receive notification of an April 30, 2010 Joint Meeting with Union Township to discuss Policy Governance. She reviewed her correspondence and stated all Board members were copied on all e-mails regarding this issue.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McGillicuddy adjourned the meeting at 9:47 P.M.

SUSAN MCGILLICUDDY
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT, CMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Sandra K. Otto, Secretary