

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING - **APPROVED** -  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198  
349-1200, Town Hall Room  
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2002, **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McGillicuddy, Treasurer Hunting, Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such (6:04 P.M.),  
Woiwode (6:55 P.M.)  
ABSENT: Clerk Helmbrecht  
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning & Development  
Mark Kieselbach, Director of Engineering & Public Works Ray Severy, Police Chief  
Gary Gibbons, EMS/Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Attorney Mike Woodworth

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor McGillicuddy called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

A. Appointment of Clerk Pro Tem.

**Treasurer Hunting nominated Trustee Brixie to serve as Clerk Pro Tem. Seconded by Trustee Stier.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 4-0.

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.

District Court Judge Beverly Nettles-Nickerson, introduced herself as a candidate for Ingham County Circuit Court.

John Covell, 6156 E. Lake Dr, Haslett; apologized to the Board for his remarks at the previous Board Meeting (March 5, 2002) and asked the Board to be careful in considering rezonings to higher densities.

[Trustee Such entered at 6:04 P.M.]

Thomas Stanley, Attorney, 1000 W. St. Joseph, Suite 100, Lansing, representing Entertainment Connection Inc. requested revisions to the proposed amendments to Chapter 115 Cable Communications System Ordinance.

Frank Webster, 3845 Roxbury Ave, Okemos, read from a prepared statement regarding the Eyde/Wal-Mart litigation settlement agreement.

Supervisor McGillicuddy closed Public Remarks.

5. REPORTS/BOARD COMMENT

Trustee Such reported the Library Task Force reviewed the final draft presentation of a proposal for siting of a library facility. He reported the task force is considering requirements for the number and size(s) of facilities to recommend to the Board within the next two (2) months.

Treasurer Hunting reported the collection of over \$150,000 from delinquent multi-year or pre-2000 personal property taxes. He reported his office is working to resolve issues with uncooperative taxpayers.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA — OR CHANGES (See Agenda Item #7 (Consent Agenda))  
**Trustee Such moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Brixie.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 5-0.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor McGillicuddy reviewed the proposed consent agenda:

**Trustee Brixie moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Trustee Such.**

**Treasurer Hunting offered an amendment to amend the Consent Agenda and meeting Agenda by moving Agenda Item #7J (Chapter 115 Cable Communications System Ordinance Amendments - Introduction) to Agenda Item #10F. Amendment accepted by maker and seconder of the motion.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
Treasurer Hunting  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 5-0.

The adopted Consent Agenda items are as follow:

A. Communications

(1). Board Information (BI)

- BI-1 Eleanor V. Luecke, President, L.I.N.C.; RE: Communication to Planning Commission Regarding Rezoning #02010 (Township Board)
- BI-2 Eleanor V. Luecke, President, L.I.N.C.; RE: Communication to Planning Commission Regarding Rezoning #02010 (Township Board)
- BI-3 Robert Regan, Superintendent of Schools, Haslett Public Schools; RE: Communication to Planning Commission and Ingham County Road Commission Regarding Preliminary Plat #02012 (DDSG, LLC)
- BI-4 Susan K. Wright & Michelle Kopcha, 460 Piper, Haslett; RE: Preliminary Plat #02012 (DDSG, LLC)
- BI-5 Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce; RE: March 6, 2002 "Event Line"
- BI-6 Patricia Killam, 2411 Burcham, East Lansing; RE: Editorial: "Meridian Board Struck Beneficial Deal on Wal-Mart Project" by Susan McGillicuddy, Lansing State Journal, March 13, 2002, page 11A.
- BI-7 Charles Louis Willems, 1387 Hickory Island, Haslett; RE: Freedom of Information Act Request (FOI 2002-08)
- BI-8 Charles Louis Willems, 1387 Hickory Island, Haslett; RE: Assessed Valuation of Homestead Parcel

(2). Staff Communication/Referral (SC)

- SC-1 Michigan Townships Association Legislative Fax, March 8, 2002 Edition

**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 Trustee Such.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
Treasurer Hunting  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 5-0.

B. Minutes - March 5, 2002 Regular Meeting

**Trustee Brixie moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the March 5, 2002 Regular Meeting as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Such.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
Treasurer Hunting  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 5-0.

C. Bills

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

General Fund/Special Revenue	\$ 83,390.80
Public Works	\$ 125,082.84
Public Safety Bldg Debt Bond P'mt	
<u>CK 1079 Bank One</u>	<u>\$ 200,688.75</u>
<u>Total Checks</u>	<u>\$ 409,162.39</u>
<u>Credit Card Transactions</u>	<u>\$ 14,441.56</u>
<u>Total Purchases</u>	<u>\$ 423,603.95</u>

**Seconded by Trustee Such.**

[Bill list in Official Minute Book]

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
Treasurer Hunting  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 5-0.

D. Pension Trustee Board Reappointments

**Trustee Brixie moved to reappoint the following to the Board of Pension Trustees: Susan Elder to a term ending December 31, 2004, and Daniel G. Garver to a term ending December 31, 2005. Seconded by Trustee Such.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
Treasurer Hunting  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 5-0.

E. Assessing Stipulations

(1) Farmer Jack Supermarkets

**Trustee Brixie moved that the Township Assessor be authorized to sign a stipulation with Farmer Jack Supermarkets on the following property:**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS OF PROPERTY</u>			
2000/2001	0276162	2673 Grand River			
<u>Assessment</u>	2000	<u>AV</u>	\$317,100	<u>TV</u>	\$317,100
<u>Assessment</u>	2001	<u>AV</u>	\$329,000	<u>TV</u>	\$327,247
<u>Proposed Assessment</u>	2000	<u>AV</u>	\$300,000	<u>TV</u>	\$300,000
<u>Proposed Assessment</u>	2001	<u>AV</u>	\$300,000	<u>TV</u>	\$300,000

**Seconded by Trustee Such.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
 Treasurer Hunting  
 NAYS: None  
 Motion carried 5-0.

(2) National Amusements, Inc.

**Trustee Brixie moved that the Township Assessor be authorized to sign a stipulation with National Amusements, Inc., on the following property:**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS OF PROPERTY</u>			
2000/2001/2002	277859	6365 Newton			
<u>Assessment</u>	2000	<u>AV</u>	\$1,399,400	<u>TV</u>	\$1,324,700
<u>Assessment</u>	2001	<u>AV</u>	\$1,375,600	<u>TV</u>	\$1,367,090
<u>Assessment</u>	2002	<u>AV</u>	\$1,296,400	<u>TV</u>	\$1,296,400
<u>Proposed Assessment</u>	2000	<u>AV</u>	\$1,150,000	<u>TV</u>	\$1,150,000
<u>Proposed Assessment</u>	2001	<u>AV</u>	\$1,150,000	<u>TV</u>	\$1,150,000
<u>Proposed Assessment</u>	2002	<u>AV</u>	\$1,150,000	<u>TV</u>	\$1,150,000

**Seconded by Trustee Such.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
 Treasurer Hunting  
 NAYS: None  
 Motion carried 5-0.

G. Appointment of Police Officer

**Trustee Brixie moved the ratification of John Pelong to the position of Police Officer contingent upon successful completion of those items stipulated in the conditional offer of employment. Seconded by Trustee Such.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
 Treasurer Hunting  
 NAYS: None  
 Motion carried 5-0.

H. Purchase of a Replacement Police Canine

**Trustee Brixie moved that the Township Manager be authorized to expend \$11,000 from the Narcotic Forfeiture Fund for the purchase of a canine and associated training for the handler. Seconded by Trustee Such.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
 Treasurer Hunting  
 NAYS: None  
 Motion carried 5-0.

I. Grant Application for Fire Safety House Replacement

**Trustee Brixie moved to authorize the Fire Chief to submit to the United States Fire Administration a FIRE Act Grant application for a fire prevention program. A ten percent (10%) funding match is required by Meridian Township and will be acquired by a budget amendment through the current Fire Department budget and/or by trade or sale of the existing fire safety house. Seconded by Trustee Such.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
Treasurer Hunting  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 5-0.

K. MNRTF Grant Application

**Trustee Brixie moved to approve the attached resolution, which supports submission of a grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for the acquisition of property at 2055 Towner Road. Seconded by Trustee Such.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
Treasurer Hunting  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 5-0.

L. Greater Lansing Regional NPDES Phase II Storm Water Regulations Commission

**Trustee Brixie moved that Director of Public Works & Engineering Raymond Severy be the Primary Representative to the Phase II Storm Water - 9 Community Committee and that Chief Engineer Younes Ishraidi be the Alternate Representative. Seconded by Trustee Such.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
Treasurer Hunting  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 5-0.

8. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY (None)

9. HEARINGS (None)

10. ACTION ITEMS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened and closed public comment.

A. SUP #02-86291 (St. Luke's Church)

Director Kieselbach introduced the proposed special use permit to increase the size of the building.

**Trustee Brixie moved [and read the resolution into the record] BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, the Township Board hereby approves Special Use Permit #02-86291 with the following conditions:**

- 1. Approval is granted in accordance with the revised preliminary site plans prepared by Ledy Design Group and building elevations prepared by Mayotte Jacob Architects, dated January 18, 2002, and revised drainage flow plan prepared by Ledy Design Group, dated January 22, 2002, subject to revisions as required.**
- 2. The final site plan, landscaping plan, and building elevations shall be subject to the approval of the Director of Community Planning and Development, including attached correspondence dated February 4, 2002.**
- 3. Approval is subject to conformance with the conditions placed on Special Use Permit #02-8629 (St. Luke Lutheran) by the Planning Commission for the church addition.**

**Seconded by Trustee Such.**

Board Members discussed the following:

- Unanimous support of Planning Commission
- Importance of condition No. 2 in addressing neighbor concerns
- Addressing of concerns related to trespassing during site plan review

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
Treasurer Hunting  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 5-0.

- B. Amendments to Chapter 105 for Joint Jurisdiction of Wetlands - **Final Adoption**  
**Treasurer Hunting moved [and read the resolution into the record] BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, the Township Board hereby Finally Adopts Ordinance No. 2002-02, entitled "Ordinance Amending the Code of the Charter Township of Meridian, Michigan, by amending Chapter 105." Seconded by Trustee Brixie.**

Board Members discussed the following:

- Single application processed through Township

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
Treasurer Hunting  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 5-0.

- C. HB 5267 Resolution

Director Kieselbach summarized the provisions of HB 5267 for Township Board approval authority for the Comprehensive Development Plan. He noted a correction to the proposed adoption resolution as follows: the third "Whereas" should change the phrase "the legislative body" to "the legislative body of a municipality".

**Trustee Stier moved [and read the corrected resolution into the record] BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, the Township Board hereby asserts the right to approve or reject the Charter Township of Meridian's Master Plan. Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.**

Board Members discussed the following:

- One year time limit to complete the Comprehensive Development Plan if the resolution is not adopted
- Accountability for the Comprehensive Development Plan to be moved from appointed to elected officials.
- Procedure for amending the Comprehensive Development Plan
- Board role in approval of the Comprehensive Development Plan
- Time constraints for adoption of the Comprehensive Development Plan
- Distribution of draft plan for public comment

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustees Brixie, Stier, Such, Supervisor McGillicuddy,  
Treasurer Hunting  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried 5-0.

- D. Approval of Grand River Pathway, south side, east of Cornell Road

Director Severy introduced the proposal to fill in gaps in the pedestrian/bicycle pathway on the south side of Grand River Avenue.

Board Members discussed the following:

- Bridging of wetland setbacks
- Extent of pathway encroachment into wetland setbacks

**Trustee Such moved that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian re-affirms its commitment that the Township's Pathway System Master Plan is the document to be followed in constructing the pathway system, and that construction of the pathway**

**along the south side of Grand River Avenue from Cornell Road to Oak Pointe Court is a high priority for 2002, with construction of the pathway along the north side of Grand River Avenue from Northview Drive to west of Bracken Woods Court to be constructed as soon as practicable thereafter. Seconded by Treasurer Hunting.**

Board Members discussed the following:

- Zoning Board of Appeals concerns addressed by Board
- Filling in pathway gaps along main roads
- Pedestrian/bicycle pathway as a health, safety and welfare issue
- Minimal encroachment into wetland setbacks
- Consideration of raised pathways

[Trustee Woiwode entered at 6:55 P.M.]

Board Members discussed the following:

- Importance of wetland setbacks
- Gaps in the pathway along the north side of Grand River Avenue
- Life span of a boardwalk and increased impact on wetland
- Need for pathway along both sides of Grand River Avenue to serve different neighborhoods
- Time considerations in completing the south-side pathway before the north side
- Long-term potential for MDOT widening of Grand River Avenue

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

- E. Approve Budget Amendment for Hawthorne Lane Water Main Loop Closure  
Director Severy introduced the proposed water main loop closure.

Board Members discussed the following:

- Water service to neighboring properties
- Property owner expenses paid for temporary connections
- Establishment of a future special assessment district

**Trustee Such moved to approve installation of a water main loop closure along Hawthorne Lane, and to authorize a budget amendment from water construction funds to pay for this work. Seconded by Trustee Stier.**

Board Members discussed the following:

- Need for inventory of temporary hookups in Township
- Need to address the current emergency
- Determination of total benefit charges paid by property owners for temporary connections

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

- F Chapter 115 Cable Communications System Ordinance Amendments - **Introduction**  
Manager Richards summarized the proposed amendments to the Cable Communications System Ordinance.

Board Members discussed the following:

- Attorney consideration of provisions for single ownership, single street crossing and number of occupied units

**Treasurer Hunting moved THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, the Township Board hereby Introduces for Publication and Subsequent Adoption Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_, entitled "Ordinance Amending the Code of the Charter Township of Meridian, Michigan, by amending Section 115-4(b)." Seconded by Trustee Brixie.**

Board Members discussed the following:

- Applicability of amendments to Brandywine Creek Apartments

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

## 11. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Zoning Amendment for Drive Throughs  
Director Kieselbach introduced the proposed zoning amendment.

Board Members discussed the following:

- Standards for Staff Memorandum Option No. 3
- Need for caution in granting of conditional approvals or uses by right
- Need to consider specific use for drive-through windows
- Energy waste associated with drive-through windows
- Challenge presented to walkable communities concepts
- Potential harm to quality of life goals
- Need for higher standards for drive-through window approval than those for site plan review
- Residential and C-1 (Commercial, Retail and Business) districts as primary focus of walkable communities principles
- Applicability of walkable communities principles to all zoning districts
- Need for Township Board review of special use permits for all drive-through windows
- Potential harm to pedestrian safety

- B. Haslett Road Improvement Project  
Director Severy introduced the Ingham County Road Commission's proposed Haslett Road project.

Board Members discussed the following:

- Community involvement in 1998 Charrette
- Advantages of a road median
- Proposal for a roundabout at the Green and Haslett Road intersection
- Maintenance v quality of life concerns in design of the project
- Distinctiveness of curb "bulb-outs"
- Apparent disregard of public input in the project design
- Need to address pedestrian and bicycle safety issues
- Value of a small town streetscape
- Ingham County Road Commission project timeline
- Need for resident communication with Ingham County Road Commission officials
- School Street pedestrian/bicycle pathway
- Possibility of a smaller median to satisfy multiple purposes and interests
- Communication of Township Board comments to the Ingham County Road Commission
- Distribution of Ingham County Road Commission proposal to participants of 1998 charrette
- Pedestrian crossing at Shaw Street

## 12. VISION SESSION: Greenways

Manager Richards discussed his recommendation to move forward on the greenways program by contracting the Planning & Zoning Center to develop a process to identify and implement program elements.



**The Board consensus was to consider a proposal from the Planning & Zoning Center as recommended by the Manager for action at its April 2, 2002 Regular Meeting.**

13. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McGillicuddy opened and closed Public Remarks.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McGillicuddy adjourned the meeting at 8:18 P.M.

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SUSAN MCGILLICUDDY  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

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JULIE BRIXIE  
CLERK PRO TEM

Paul J. Cassidy, Secretary