

**Watertown Charter Township  
12803 S. Wacousta Road  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837**

**Board of Trustees Regular Meeting  
March 16, 2009 – 7:00PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Supervisor Adams with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Supervisor Deborah Adams, Clerk Melissa Freeman, Treasurer Janice Thelen, Trustees John Maahs, Ken Mitchell, George Weitzel and Dale Westrick.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Township Manager Jennifer Tubbs and Planning Director Andrea Polverento.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- **Harriett Smith**, DeWitt Public Library Board, presented the DeWitt Public Library's new Director, **Jennifer Thanasiu**. **Ms. Thanasiu** introduced herself to the Board and explained her goals for the library as its new Director.

- **Gloria Miller**, Friends of Looking Glass River, gave a presentation regarding the organization, explained their goals and objectives, current and future projects and erosion problems that are plaguing the river. She announced a rain garden seminar to take place on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM at the DeWitt City Fire Station. **Ms. Miller** explained their need for donations and that there is a website to find out more information: [www.lookingglassriverfriends.org](http://www.lookingglassriverfriends.org).

- **Kyle Knight**, Clinton County Sheriff's Department, reported on heightened traffic enforcement in our area, upcoming department training opportunities, partnership with the Clinton County Road Commission and construction to begin on I-96 in May.

- **Jean Husby**, 6810 Eaton Highway, explained her concerns regarding proposed Ordinance No. 31, health insurance benefits.

- **Jack Enderle**, Clinton County Commissioner, reported on the 911 call center, Sprint/Nextel rebanding, natural resource grants and announced that there is a special meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup> regarding the proposed airport incinerator.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Weitzel** requested that the Township Manager's report (Board Report #3) be added to the agenda, becomes New Business item #5. **Polverento** requested that her memo regarding Non-Motorized Plan and Crosswalk (Board Report #4) be added to the agenda, becomes New Business item #6. **Thelen** requested that the letter from Accu-Med (Correspondence #3) be added to the agenda, becomes New Business item #7. Motion by **Thelen** and seconded by **Mitchell** to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. **Motion carried.**

**AGENDA APPROVAL:**

**Adams** noted the Township Manager's report (New Business item #5), the Non-Motorized Plan and Crosswalk memo (New Business item #6) and the Accu-Med letter (New Business item #7). Motion by Weitzel and seconded by Mitchell to approve the regular meeting agenda as amended. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**February 17, 2009, Regular meeting:** Motion by Weitzel and seconded by Maahs to approve the February 17, 2009 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

**Adams** noted the additional bill list on the table. Motion by Thelen and seconded by Mitchell to approve the bill lists dated March 16, 2009 as presented.

A roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Yes: Mitchell, Maahs, Weitzel, Freeman, Adams, Thelen

No: Westrick

Motion carried.

**PENDING BUSINESS:**

**1. Ordinance No. 31 – Health Insurance Benefits**

Motion by Thelen and seconded by Weitzel that the Watertown Charter Township Board of Trustees adopts, upon second consideration, Ordinance No. 31, with an effective date immediately upon the publication date of March 22, 2009 and to approve the summary for publication as presented this day by Melissa Freeman, our Township Clerk.

A roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Yes: Maahs, Mitchell, Thelen, Weitzel, Freeman, Adams

No: Westrick

Motion carried, Ordinance adopted.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Appointments**

**A: Planning Commission, Charles Openlander**

Motion by Weitzel and seconded by Maahs to concur with the Supervisor's recommendation and appoint Charles Openlander to the Planning Commission for a term to expire March 31, 2012.

Motion carried.

**B: Planning Commission, Keri Kittmann**

Motion by Weitzel and seconded by Maahs to accept the resignation of Keri Kittman from the Compensation Commission effective immediately. Motion carried. Motion by Weitzel and seconded by Maahs to concur with the recommendation of the Township Supervisor and appoint Keri Kittmann to the Planning Commission to a term to expire March 31, 2012 effective April 1, 2009. Motion carried.

**C: Compensation Commission, Craig Landes**

Motion by Weitzel and seconded by Maahs that we concur with the recommendation of the Township Supervisor and appoint Craig Landes to the Compensation Commission for a term to expire January 1, 2014 and the term effective April 1, 2009. Motion carried.

**2. Wacousta United Methodist Church/Habitat For Humanity – Request to use Heritage Park on May 17 for a fundraiser and to waive rental fee**

Motion by Maahs and seconded by Thelen to waive the fee for the rental of Heritage Park for Wacousta United Methodist Church for their use of the park on May 17, 2009. Motion carried.

**3. Capital Improvements Yearly Review**

Polverento presented the review. Weitzel questioned why the purchase of a fire truck is not on the report and asked about item #18, the public safety warning system. Adams questioned item #25, ambulance sub-station. Thelen questioned item #14, East Side Park at Westwinds subdivision. Polverento stated that she will discuss the Board's concerns with the Planning Commission. She will re-distribute a revised report to the Board and will re-present this item at a future Board meeting. No action taken.

**4. Creation of Ad Hoc Committees**

Motion by Adams and seconded by Thelen that a By-laws Review Committee be created as an ad hoc committee of the Board of Trustees for the purpose of reviewing and updating our by-laws, with the committee to consist of Clerk Freeman, Trustee Weitzel, Manager Tubbs and Supervisor Adams, with a report to be made by the committee within 90 days. Motion carried.

Motion by Adams and seconded by Weitzel that a Computer Committee be created as an ad hoc committee of the Board of Trustees for the purpose of reviewing and analyzing our computer system, with the committee to consist of Clerk Freeman, Treasurer Thelen, Trustee Mitchell and Manager Tubbs, with a report to be made by the committee within 90 days. Motion carried.

**5. Township Manager's Report**

Board members and the Township Manager discussed various items on her report. No action taken.

**6. Non-Motorized Plan and Crosswalk**

Polverento commented on her memo. Motion by Maahs and seconded by Mitchell that the Watertown Township Board of Trustees grants permission to the Planning Director to contact the residents of 12850 Wacousta Road regarding the installation of concrete to prepare for a crosswalk installation and to apply for a permit from the Clinton County Road Commission to do so. Motion carried.

**7. Letter from Accu-Med**

The Board discussed correspondence received from Accu-Med. No action taken.

**DISCUSSION AND PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- **Charles Openlander**, 8461 Clark Road, commented that he had attended a meeting in Eagle Township where they discussed damage that had been caused by a tree falling and damaging headstones in the Niles Cemetery. He questioned whether the trees in the Wacousta Cemetery were healthy and if that should be investigated to prevent future damage. The Board suggested that be added to the next Cemetery Board agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by **Maahs** and seconded by **Mitchell** to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40PM.

Date approved: April 20, 2009

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Adams, Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Freeman, Clerk