

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

May 17, 2010 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

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

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Harriett Smith, DeWitt Public Library Board, commented on the library schedule and library millage renewal.

Jack Enderle, Clinton County Commissioner, stated that the county's assessed value is down 2.5% and that the taxable value is down 2%. He also informed the Board that the county's wind ordinance was approved.

Sgt. Kyle Knight, Clinton County Sheriff's Office, provided his monthly report to the Board.

Dan Zay, Parks & Recreation Committee Chair, provided an update to the Board with regard to the Memorial Day festivities.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Treasurer Thelen, seconded by Trustee Mitchell, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

A roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Yes: Trustee Mitchell, Trustee Maahs, Trustee Weitzel,
Treasurer Thelen, Supervisor Adams, Clerk Freeman

No: Trustee Westrick

Motion carried.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

Item number 11, Establish Policy & Personnel Committee meeting date, was added to the agenda. Motion by Trustee Maahs, seconded by Trustee Mitchell, to approve the Agenda as amended. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Treasurer Thelen, seconded by Trustee Weitzel, to approve the April 19, 2010 Board of Trustees regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Motion by Treasurer Thelen, seconded by Trustee Maahs, to approve the special bill list as presented. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Committee Re-Appointment Application – Lawrence Barr, Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion by Clerk Freeman, seconded by Trustee Mitchell, to re-appoint Lawrence Barr to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term from June 9, 2010 to June 9, 2013. Motion carried.

2. FY 2009 Township Audit Presentation

Dave Fisher of Rehmann Robson gave a brief presentation on the 2009 township audit.

Motion by Treasurer Thelen, seconded by Trustee Maahs, to accept and place on file, the 2009 township audit. Motion carried.

3. Escheatable Funds

Motion by Trustee Maahs, seconded by Treasurer Thelen, to approve Treasurer Thelen's recommendation to place in the custody of the State of Michigan Treasury Department, check number 33552, dated November 3, 2008, payable to Mike Rogers, in the amount of \$7.00. Motion carried.

4. Dangerous Buildings Ordinance

Motion by Trustee Maahs, seconded by Trustee Mitchell, that the Watertown Charter Township Board of Trustees establish an ad-hoc committee to review and make a recommendation to the township board regarding the establishment of a dangerous buildings ordinance, which may consist of a Planning Commissioner, Township Board member and the Planning Director, with a report to be provided at or before the December 2010 regular Board of Trustees meeting.

A roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Yes: Trustee Mitchell, Supervisor Adams, Clerk Freeman,
Trustee Maahs, Trustee Weitzel, Trustee Westrick

No: Treasurer Thelen

Motion carried.

5. Parks & Recreation Committee Report

Trustee Westrick expressed his concerns about the merry-go-round in Heritage Park.

Motion by Trustee Westrick, seconded by Treasurer Thelen, to remove the merry-go-round in Heritage Park because of safety and liability concerns.

A roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Yes: Trustee Maahs, Trustee Weitzel, Trustee Westrick,
Treasurer Thelen, Clerk Freeman, Supervisor Adams

No: Trustee Mitchell

Motion carried.

6. SCCMUA Remaining 2009 Fund Balance

Motion by Trustee Weitzel, seconded by Trustee Maahs, that Watertown Township's SCCMUA fund balance of \$73,876.60 be held in reserve at SCCMUA for Watertown's portion of the heating and cooling system replacement project.

A roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Yes: Supervisor Adams, Trustee Mitchell, Trustee Maahs,
Trustee Weitzel, Clerk Freeman, Trustee Westrick

No: Treasurer Thelen

Motion carried.

7. Herbison Road Bridge Railing Cost

Manager Tubbs presented the bridge design options offered by the Clinton County Road Commission. She explained that the grant that the road commission received for this project will only pay for a particular concrete bridge design in which the sides of the bridge would be deficient in height and thus present a safety risk. The expense for any railing needed to increase the height of the bridge would need to be paid for by the township. The board members discussed the options available to increase the height of the bridge to ensure safety for pedestrians, children, bicyclists, horseback riders, etc. Also taken into consideration was the aesthetical aspect in order to preserve the rural character of the existing bridge.

Motion by Trustee Maahs, seconded by Trustee Mitchell, that in keeping with the Township Master Plan's intent to preserve rural character, and also to increase public safety, to approve the additional cost to install iron railing on the Herbison Road bridge at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.00.

A roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Yes: Treasurer Thelen, Trustee Mitchell, Supervisor Adams,
Trustee Maahs, Trustee Weitzel, Clerk Freeman

No: Trustee Westrick

Motion carried.

8. Road Contracts

No action taken.

9. Township Manager's Report

Motion by Treasurer Thelen, seconded by Trustee Weitzel, to accept and place on file, the Township Manager's report dated April 14, 2010 to May 12, 2010. Motion carried.

10. Citizen of the Year Committee Recommendation

The Citizen of the Year Committee recommended to the Board that Harriett Smith be named 2010 Citizen of the Year.

Motion by Trustee Maahs, seconded by Trustee Weitzel, to name Harriett Smith as the recipient of the 2010 Citizen of the Year Award.

A roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Yes: Trustee Weitzel, Trustee Westrick, Supervisor Adams, Clerk Freeman,
Trustee Maahs, Trustee Mitchell, Treasurer Thelen

No: None

Motion carried.

11. Establish a Policy & Personnel Committee Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Policy & Personnel Committee was established as May 25, 2010 at 4:00pm.

PENDING BUSINESS:

1. Gateway Committee – Formation Recommendations

Motion by Trustee Maahs, seconded by Treasurer Thelen, to form an ad hoc committee to work on the gateway project. Motion carried.

Supervisor Adams recommended Ronald Overton, Ulrika Zay, Michael Largo, Trustee Mitchell, Planning Director Polverento, and Manager Tubbs to serve on this committee.

Motion by Treasurer Thelen, seconded by Trustee Weitzel, to concur with the Supervisor's recommendation of members to the committee. Motion carried.

2. Resolution No. 5-17-2010-1, DeWitt Public Library Name Change Resolution

Motion by Trustee Maahs, seconded by Trustee Weitzel, to waive the reading of the resolution. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Weitzel, seconded by Trustee Maahs, to adopt Resolution No. 5-17-2010-1, a resolution to amend district library organizational plan to change library name from DeWitt Public Library to DeWitt District Library.

A roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Yes: Trustee Maahs, Trustee Mitchell, Trustee Weitzel, Supervisor Adams,
Trustee Westrick, Clerk Freeman, Treasurer Thelen

No: None

Motion carried, resolution adopted.

DISCUSSION AND PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Mitchell, seconded by Treasurer Thelen, to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18pm.

Date approved: June 21, 2010

Deborah Adams, Supervisor

Melissa Freeman, Clerk