

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND BLANC
Minutes for Township Board Committee-of-the Whole Meeting
Held on Tuesday, April 6, 2010

In the absence of Supervisor Hoffman, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Clerk Cathy Lane with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Present: Clerk Cathy Lane, Treasurer Earl Guzak, and Trustees: Larry Anderson, Paul Bush, Hans Rodgers, and Ryan Thompson*.

Board Absent: Supervisor Marilyn Hoffman.

Staff Present: Township Manager Richard Dunnill, Township Attorney David Lattie, Finance Director Debi Barriger, DPW Director Kirk Richardson, Planner Michael Deem, and Consultant Dan Potter.

Motion by Trustee Bush, supported by Trustee Anderson, for Treasurer Guzak to chair the meeting in the absence of Supervisor Hoffman. Voice vote. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Absent: 2 [Hoffman, Thompson]. Motion approved.

Motion by Clerk Lane, supported by Trustee Anderson, to approve the Agenda, as presented. Voice vote. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Absent: 2 [Hoffman, Thompson]. Motion approved.

104-2010 – Public Comment

- **Craig Banasiak, 2469 Greenacres**, believes the City is doing the right thing because they are paying for a study of Act 57. The City and Township have representatives on the Fire Commission; but, an objective review is appropriate for a better understanding of Act 57.
- **Ed Erdt, 7212 Porter Road**, stated the Genesee County Road Commission is responsible for snow plowing – not the Township. There are budget problems and monies should be utilized in others areas such as the Fire Department. He wanted to know the reason for modifying the mailbox policy because of snow plowing.
- **William Thewalt, 7046 Iris Court**, cannot remember a time when snow plowing was not done by the Township. It is done for health and safety reasons and there is an agreement with Genesee County Road Commission. If the Township does not plow the roads, GCRC will not plow the roads. Subdivisions provide a lot of tax revenue and stopping snow plowing would be a significant loss of service for the residents. It should be considered a duty not a favor. Look at other areas to cut spending.

*Trustee Thompson arrived during Public Comment.

105-2010 – Review Township Board Agenda for Thursday, April 8, 2010

The Board reviewed items on the April 8, 2010, Agenda and addressed their concerns:

- **2010 DPW Budget.** DPW Director Kirk Richardson met with some Board members and reviewed the 2010 DPW Budget. In the near future, it will be necessary to raise the Ready-to-Serve Charge from \$6 to \$7 for

Water Fund to be adequately maintained. The Board recognized the 2010 Budget is a work in progress and the Ready-to-Serve Charge would be discussed at Thursday's meeting.

- **Employee Handbook.** Prior to Thursday's meeting, Clerk Lane will e-mail Department Heads and select two individuals to serve on her Subcommittee, along with Attorney Lattie and Township Manager Dunnill. The Board concurred DPW Director had many responsibilities at this time and should not be on this committee.
- **Temporary Traffic Control Order for "No Parking Signs" for the Greek Festival.** Chief Stamm recommended the Buick Open "No Parking" signs be utilized and the DPW erect and remove the signs. At this time, the Outdoor Gathering Permit does not provide for staff time related to the event to be reimbursed by the Applicant; but, the Board may consider it in the future.
- **Saginaw Street Sidewalk Design Bids.** DPW Director Richardson is reviewing the bids for compliance with the specifications and will make a recommendation on Thursday.
- **Mail Box Snow Plowing Policy.** DPW Director Richardson explained the current policy – when a mailbox is damaged because of the weight of the snow, the DPW erects a temporary replacement. In the Spring, the temporary mailbox is removed and a new post and approved mailbox are erected. If the property owner had a decorative mailbox, they are mailed a check for \$42 towards the replacement. Mr. Richardson requested the Board to consider mailing a check to all property owners and eliminate the staff time. After a snow-plowing season, there could be seventy (70) to eighty (80) mailboxes replaced.
- **Dust Control.** There are 9.58 miles of public, gravel roads, .43 miles of private roads in the road right-of-way, and \$20,000 in the 2010 General Fund Budget. In previous years, the County has paid for the first application and the Township has paid for two additional chloriding treatments. The 38% treatment provides better coverage. The first application is in late April or May, the second in late June, the third in September. The Township would pay for all three applications in Bicentennial Park because it is private property.
- **NPDES Permit.** The Township is required to handle storm water on its property, which includes this campus and Fire Station #3.

106-2010 – Items for Future Consideration

- **Update of SGT, Ltd. 1, [Ghassan M. Saab]** to obtain a Grand Blanc Township "Quota" Class C Liquor License for "Ichiban Grill," a Japanese restaurant, to be located in The Silverton Collection on Hill Road. Attorney Lattie reported the project has received Site Plan Approval and Special Lane Use. It is still in the process of coming into compliance with the building permits and some barrier free issues. Committee requested additional data: financial information required by the LCC; a business plan to show its viability; a menu to insure liquor is not the primary business; the lease between the Mr. Saab and the tenant. Mr. Saab will retain ownership of the license and would be able to utilize it with another tenant. DPW Director Richardson reported businesses have opened and operated while their liquor license was pending. Board members noted there were other sites where a liquor license would be appropriate. Attorney Lattie indicated it may be ready for the Board's consideration later in April.
- **Level of Snow Plowing for 2010/2011 Season.** DPW Director Richardson is compiling information to determine the costs in order to provide factual information. Board wants to make a decision by June to insure there is time to order salt; determine staffing costs; implementation plan; the number of miles of private roads; evaluate equipment needs; liability issue; budgetary concerns; how it will be paid; and setting a long term vision. Plan for discussion at the May Committee of the Whole meeting, which allows sufficient time to gather any additional information.
- **Level of exposure for Special Assessments.** Because the Township will be bonding for road repairs/reconstruction, the Board needs to determine exposure on an annual basis so we can have meaningful dialogue with the subdivisions on what we projects can afford each year. We have to be able to

handle payment of bonds when foreclosures or defaults limit the funding. Treasurer Guzak stated we have an AA bond rating and it should not be jeopardized. Treasurer Guzak will discuss the best limits for bonding with our auditors and Finance Director Barriger.

- **Level of information to be provided the Board.** Consensus of the Board – the Board wants to be well informed; each item will be judged separately; and a Department Head will be notified when insufficient information is submitted in their packet; there is a balance between too much or too little information; Township Manager Dunnill can be the conduit to make that determination.

107-2010 – Management Reports

- **Township Manager Richard Dunnill** - Monthly report e-mailed today to the Board.
- **Township Attorney David Lattie**

At the March meeting, there was discussion of the 2010 Lawn Mowing Contract that was awarded to Alpine Facilities at the same costs. Three individuals involved with Ace reorganized the business and divided the business in December 2009. The Board decided to continue the service with the two principals who had worked with our staff. Attorney Lattie requested the maker of the motion and supporter amend the motion be when the Minutes are approved to clarify our records and reflect the additional information received by the Board.

- **Department Heads**

Monthly written reports were provided by: Assessing Department – Assessor Peggy Nolde; DPW Director Kirk Richardson for Building, Code Enforcement, Fire Prevention and DPW; Finance Director Debi Barriger; Fire Chief James Harmes; GIS Coordinator Robbie Beller; Planner Michael Deem; and Police Chief David Stamm. Planner Deem stated, due to a scanning problem, the two Planning items for information were not included in the packet; they will be provided in a future packet.

108-2010 – Executive Session

Motion by Clerk Lane, supported by Trustee Rodgers, to go into Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. to discuss pending litigation at the request of Attorney Lattie. Roll call vote. Ayes: Rodgers, Thompson, Anderson, Guzak, Lane, Bush. Nays: 0. Absent: 1 [Hoffman]. Motion approved.

Motion by Trustee Bush, supported by Trustee Anderson, to reconvene the regular meeting and adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Voice vote. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Absent: 1 [Hoffman]. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Clerk Cathy Lane

Board Approved: May 13, 2010