

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND BLANC**  
**Minutes for Township Board Regular Meeting**  
**Held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 27, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor Hoffman with Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Staff Present: Township Manager Richard Dunnill, Finance Director Debi Barriger, DPW Director Kirk Richardson, and Planner Michael Deem.

Motion by Trustee Bush, supported by Clerk Lane, to approve the Agenda with the removal of Item 4C, Act 57 for future consideration. Voice vote. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Motion by Trustee Rodgers, supported by Trustee Bush, to move Item 4B, Fire Department Millage, to the end of New Business on the Agenda. Voice vote. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

**122-2010 – Public Comment**

- **Craig Banasiak, 2469 Greenacres**, stated the Board needs to get the General Fund under control in these economic times. Does not believe this is the time for a millage for the Fire Department or to implement Act 57.
- **Laura Allen-Besser, 7517 Porter Road**, appreciated Chief Stamm's efforts to monitor the traffic at Woodland Park Academy. Suggested the Woodland Park Academy Board be encouraged to apply for a "School Zone" designation to protect children and parents in the area. Metro Alliance has scheduled a free "Trails Summit" meeting for 8:00 a.m. on May 4, 2010, at U of M Flint for non-motorized trails. Metro Alliance has scheduled "Freight Connectivity" meetings on the roads in Genesee County for April 27 at the Grand Blanc Police Department;
- **Daniel Coates, 1320 Deer Track Lane**, lives on a private [gravel] road that the neighbors pay to snow plow. Questioned the Township saying they snow plow roads for health and safety on public roads; yet, they are ignoring the private roads. It is funded from the General Fund, which should be providing services for the vast majority of the taxpayers. It has been said there is millions of dollars invested in equipment and we would lose money if it was sold. It is costing money to maintain the equipment and the workers who operate the equipment. He does not want a Special Assessment.
- **Ernestine Tune, 5176 Cortland**, has videotaped the Genesee County Road Commission on the roads: the Road Commission has jurisdiction over any roads not the Township; if the Township gets rid of their equipment, the County will eventually get to snow plowing the roads; County does not work on private roads; and they do not have Special Assessments. She has 32 hours of videotaping on the lawsuit between the Grand Blanc Schools vs. Grand Blanc Township and the Genesee County Drain Commission.

**123-2010 – SGT, Ltd. 1, Request for Township Quota Class C Liquor License**

Mr. Ghassan M. Saab stated, about four years ago, he developed The Silverton Collection strip mall on Hill Road and has been struggling to find tenants. He has spent a significant amount of money to accommodate the new tenant, **Ichiban Grill**, a full-service Japanese restaurant and believes this will be a successful, upscale dining opportunity for our community.

Clerk Lane stated the Subcommittee comprised of Township Manager Dunnill, Township Attorney Lattie, Supervisor Hoffman, Chief Stamm, DPW Director Kirk Richardson, Planner Michael Deem have been meeting to review all the information that has been submitted over the last several months by Mr. Saab relative to the financial stability of the operation, the business plan and menu, the Lease Agreement, and updates from the Building Department as the tenant space was converted to a restaurant. The Subcommittee believes the documentation is sufficient for the Township Board to consider its recommendation to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission of Mr. Saab's request for one of the Township's remaining four Quota Class C Liquor Licenses.

Motion by Trustee Bush, supported by Trustee Thompson, to approve the request of Ghassan M. Saab on behalf of SGT, Ltd. 1, to receive one of the Township's Quota, Class C Liquor Licenses to be used in conjunction with **Ichiban Grill**, a full-service Japanese restaurant to be located in "The Silverton Collection" on Hill Road. Voice vote. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Mr. Saab introduced Jim Angle, the realtor who handled this project, and Kim Lin, owner of **Ichiban Grill**. The Board wished them success in their endeavors and hoped they would open the restaurant in the near future.

#### **124-2010 – Acknowledgement The Grand Blanc Community Schools Soccer Parents, Inc., is Non-Profit**

Clerk Lane explained the Board was informed earlier today that Mr. Trudeau was working at the Girls' Soccer Team games this evening had been excused from attending this meeting. The Board understood adopting the Resolution allows them to apply to the State for Charitable Gaming Licenses, which allows the Booster Club to provide fund raising events that will support the needs of the teams.

Motion by Trustee Anderson, supported by Trustee Bush, to adopt the State of Michigan's "Local Governing Body Resolution for Charitable Gaming Licenses," acknowledging *The Grand Blanc Community Schools Soccer Parents, Inc.*, is a non-profit organization operating in our community. Voice vote. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

#### **125-2010 – Township Staff's Participation in GAIN**

Township Manager Dunnill reported Chief Stamm was unable to attend this meeting; however he is requesting authorization to provide one officer to work in the GAIN Taskforce for three years. The Township has been a dues paying member of GAIN. A vacancy recently occurred because another community could not fund the position. Chief Stamm has narrowed the list of applicants to two or three officers. GAIN handles recovery of stolen vehicles and has a grant, which pays one-half of an officer's wages and benefits with the Township responsible for half of the cost. Mr. Dunnill stated this would avoid a possible layoff in the department and, when the officer returns to the Township, he would be able to train other officers.

The Board asked if there was a deadline for this vacancy – the Chief was to respond earlier this week; but, the GAIN Board was willing to extend the time for this Board to make a decision. The Board considered this would save one-half of an officer's wages and benefits; however, they preferred an officer be working in the Township. If the Township failed to fill this spot, we would move to the bottom of the list and it would be years before we would be able to have an officer receive this specialized training.

Motion by Trustee Rodgers, supported by Trustee Anderson, to capture the savings of wages/benefits and authorize Chief Stamm to designate one patrol officer to a three-year assignment to the Genesee Auto Theft Investigate Network [GAIN]. Voice vote. Ayes: Anderson, Lane, Rodgers. Nays: Thompson, Guzak, Bush, Hoffman. **Motion failed.**

### **126-2010 – Dort Highway Sidewalk Project**

DPW Director Richardson explained the Genesee County Road Commission has agreed to act on our behalf to get the five-foot wide sidewalks installed along the west side of Dort Highway from Gibson to Edward Street. The project cost will be funded with \$106,174.00 from the Federal CMAQ [SAFETEA-LU Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funds] and the Township paying \$84,939.99 from Capital Improvement Funds for sidewalks along the west side of Dort Highway from Gibson Street to Edwards Street. The purpose of pursuing grants is to encourage residents to walk in the community. The previous Board approved a ten-foot wide sidewalk for this project.

Motion by Trustee Anderson, supported by Clerk Lane, to adopt the Multi-use Path Agreement with the Genesee County Road Commission to act as lead agency with MDOT for securing funds for the construction of a sidewalk in the road right-of-way on the west side of Dort Highway from Edward Street to Gibson Street, as submitted. Voice vote. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

### **127-2010 – Replace Nine Hydrants along Hill Road**

DPW Director Richardson stated several fire hydrants in the Township need to be replaced. The DPW crew will be replacing most of the hydrants. At the April 16, 2010, bid opening, three (3) Requests for Proposals were received. Mr. Richardson was recommending an outside contractor be utilized in this instance because: the location of the nine hydrants are difficult to reach and replace; construction along Hill Road makes this the appropriate time to perform the work; Zito has the equipment, experienced crews, and the cost is significantly lower than the other bids and within the estimated cost of our DPW; and they have liability insurance to cover any damage that may occur.

Motion by Trustee Bush, supported by Trustee Anderson, to award the bid for the replacement of nine (9) fire hydrants along Hill Road to the low bidder Zito Construction at a cost of \$1,616.00 each, with the cost to be paid from the Water Fund. Voice vote. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

### **128-2010 – Maintenance Agreements for BS&A Modules**

Finance Director Barriger reported the Township went to BS&A software about four (4) years ago at a substantial reduction in cost and excellent service. Mrs. Barriger provided a list of all the BS&A Maintenance Agreements that would expire in 2010. The Board had the option to renew the current contracts or all of the contracts until December 31, 2010. Last month GIS Coordinator Robbie Beller compiled a list of his department's software needs for 2010; the Board approved the current contracts. Clerk Lane recommended, as each department compiles their list of contracts needing renewal, they could be reviewed during the budget and approved at one time. Because this is the first time the contracts are being compiled, the Board preferred to review the contracts on a monthly basis to determine if there is any duplication or if some contracts could be eliminated.

Motion by Trustee Bush, supported by Trustee Anderson, to approve renewing Annual Maintenance Agreements for the BS&A Modules expiring in May in the amount of \$13,090.00 – \$5,771.00 from the General Fund and \$7,319.00 from the DPW Fund. Voice vote. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

### **129-2010 – Appointment of Election Commission**

Following a State Training Session held at our Township Hall, Clerk Lane was recommending in accordance with State law for Charter Townships, the Board appoint an Election Commission to oversee pre-election preparations and testing. A Charter Township Election Commission is comprised of the Clerk and two Trustees.

Motion by Clerk Lane, supported by Trustee Rodgers, to appoint Trustees Thompson and Bush to the Election Commission. Voice Vote. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

### **130-2010 – Appointment of Receiving Board**

In accordance with MCL 168.679a, Clerk Lane recommended the establishment of a Receiving Board for Elections, who verify, i.e., containers are properly sealed and Poll Book/ Votes are properly recorded prior to delivering records to the Genesee County Clerk. Because current law does not allow the Township Clerk to be a member of the Receiving Board and it should be individuals with experience, Clerk Lane recommended the Board appoint the Deputy Clerk and the Election Specialist.

Motion by Trustee Bush, supported by Trustee Thompson, to appoint the Deputy Clerk [Alicia Echols] and the Election Specialist [Darene Woodbury] as the Receiving Board in accordance with State law. Voice vote. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

### **131-2010 – Crack Sealing for 2010**

DPW Director Kirk Richardson reported last year the DPW worked with the Genesee County Road Commission workers and cracked sealed in Braemoor and Grand Wailea. The purpose of crack sealing is to extend the life of the roadway by limiting water getting into the base of the road.. Davison Township has gone through the bid process; therefore, it would be practical to purchase the crack seal from them. Trustee Anderson believes crack seal is a waste of money. Mr. Richardson will recommend which roads would benefit from crack seal and provide the list to the Board which roads would be done this year. Because of last year's experience, the DPW will perform more of the work this year in conjunction with the GCRC. In 2009, we spent three (3) days crack sealing roads; this year we will spend six (6) days on the road.

Motion by Trustee Rodgers, supported by Trustee Anderson, to authorize the purchase six (6) 2,500 lb. pallets of Crack Sealing for a total cost of \$13,200 from Davison Township, as requested by DPW Director Richardson. Voice vote. Ayes: 6. Nays: 1 [Anderson]. Motion approved.

### **132-2010 – Proposal from Plante & Moran, Auditors, to Prepare a Long Range Financial Analysis**

Following previous discussion, Clerk Lane obtained a proposal from our auditors, Plante Moran to do a Five-Year Financial Model for 2010 through 2015 to provide a financial road map for the Township and to develop a software module program that would allow the Board to determine what affect changes would have on our long-term finances. The Board thought it might be helpful; but, finances are too tight to spend money.

Motion by Trustee Bush, supported by Trustee Thompson, to reject the proposal from Plante Moran for developing a five-year financial plan. Ayes: 6. Nays: 1 [Lane]. Motion approved.

### **133-2010 – Analysis of Mechanic Bay**

DPW Director Richardson reported previous Board's had started reviewing but eventually ceased a review of the health and safety needs of the Mechanic Bay Analysis developed by Architect Ted Hu and the problem with exhaust systems and limited ceiling height. Three options were provided. The Board agreed to study it in depth.

### **134-2010 – Township Hall Roof Repair**

DPW Director Richard requested this item be tabled until May and a packet would be provided.

Motion by Trustee Bush, supported by Clerk Lane, to table discussion of the Township Hall roof until the May meeting, when DPW Richardson will provide a packet of information. Voice vote. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

### **135-2010 – Fire Department Funding**

Fire Chief Harmes was present to discuss the One-mill Ballot Language to be on the August 3, 2010, Election and the DRAFT Incorporation papers for Act 57. Grand Blanc City Mayor Michael Matheny stated the City has not discussed the millage or Act 57.

Consensus was: the Fire Department was looking for a stable funding source for the future, since the City and Township have reduced their contributions to the Fire Department; need to have meeting with the City Council to work together; improve response times; Equipment Fund needs to be brought up-to-date in order for us to purchase equipment; we are falling behind in funding mandated services; some full-time staffing to insure drivers can get the trucks to the fires; providing gear for the firefighters; millage needs to be decided by the people; discussion of the millage at our May meeting; and schedule a Joint Meeting. If we do nothing, we are cutting the Fire Department. Deadline for submitting language to the Genesee County Clerk for the August Primary is May 25, 2010. Group felt there was a need to create a Subcommittee to get specific numbers.

Motion by Trustee Rodgers, supported by Trustee Anderson, to establish a Subcommittee to investigate a millage for the Fire Department consisting of: Fire Commission Member Paul Bush, Fire Chief Harmes, Township Manager Dunnill, Trustees Thompson and Rodgers, and Mayor Matheny and some representatives from the City. Voice vote. Ayes: 6. Nays: 1 [Bush]. Motion approved.

### **136-2010 – Cost Savings Measures**

Some suggestions for reducing the Budget were: cleaning service and asking Department Heads for suggestions, including improving the Purchasing Policy and establishing a moratorium on spending. Trustee Bush reminded the Board that Clerk Lane suggested a Board Retreat to work on these matters and we should do it sooner rather than later.

### **137-2010 – Management Reports**

- **Township Manager Richard Dunnill**

Mr. Dunnill reported there was a meeting on the Intermodal Study discussing the various ways of transporting freight and what it could mean for this County. Two (2) additional meeting are scheduled in Davison and Swartz Creek.

There are several alternatives for pathways and Rowe consultant, Jack Wheatley, can provide numerous ways of getting input.

- **Township Attorney David Lattie – Not in attendance at this meeting**

Motion by Trustee Anderson, supported by Treasurer Guzak, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Voice vote. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Clerk Cathy Lane

**Board Approved:**