

**ANN ARBOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF MEETING MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2016**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Ann Arbor Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Moran at 7:38 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Michael Moran, Clerk Rena Basch, Treasurer Della DiPietro, Trustees John Allison, Ken Kohrs, Randolph Perry, and Claudia Sedmak.

Also Present: Township Attorney Matthew Rechtien, Fire Chief Brian Thurston, and Utilities Director Rick Judkins.

II. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - No citizen signed up for participation.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Perry moved approval of the December 21, 2015 meeting minutes, and DiPietro seconded. Motion passed.

IV. ANNEXATIONS, ORDINANCES, CONDITIONAL USES, ZONING - None

V. APPOINTMENTS, RESOLUTIONS, REPORTS, DISCUSSION

A. Renewal of Assessing Contract with WCA Assessing for 2/1/16 through 1/31/2016

Doug Shaw from Wayne County Appraisal LLC spoke briefly, saying the renewal contract rates are 0.3% more than the current contract. Wayne uses the CPI as a basis for contract changes; this contract also has a maximum increase of 3% in any given year. Moran recommended approving the renewal. **DiPietro moved to approve the contract with Wayne County Appraisal as presented; Allison seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

B. Renewal of Workers' Compensation Insurance with Accident Fund

Cost increased slightly over previous year due to several claims. **Allison moved to approve the renewal of Worker's Compensation Insurance with the Accident Fund in the amount of \$35,527. Kohrs seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

C. National Cinemedia LLC contract

The contract with National Cinemedia has been reviewed by a couple of the Township attorneys, and the email correspondence referencing their reviews was included in the Board packets. DiPietro recommended following up on the possibility of having a video with an actual Township firefighter spokesperson as opposed to the proposed animation advertisement, saying that the video ad would be much more effective and worth the additional cost. Chief Thurston confirmed that there was additional grant money available, approximately \$4,400. He said they had not discussed the video content idea with National Cinemedia. **DiPietro moved to approve the advertising contract with National Cinemedia, with the provision that should they agree to a video instead of animation, we authorize Supervisor Moran to spend up to \$4400 additional on creative services. Allison seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

D. Annual Report of Ordinance Enforcement Officer 2015

Moran reported that Enforcement Officer Ed Swope had a pretty successful year getting blighted properties cleaned up. Swope's annual report is in the packet. Moran feels it's been good for the Township to have Swope on board.

E. Discussion Regarding Renewal of Public Safety Millage

The packet included a summary article "New Law Silences Local Governments During 60 Days Before Elections" on Senate Bill 571, now Public Act 269 of 2016. PA 269 prohibits local units from mass communications regarding millage proposals 60 days before elections and is effective immediately, meaning that Ann Arbor Township cannot publish a newsletter mentioning the Public Safety Millage renewal. Moran reminded everyone that we had previously discussed putting our public safety millage on the August 2016 election ballot. The packet also included a draft resolution for the millage renewal and ballot language. Basch shared that it was reported in the news that Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD) was planning to place a millage question on the May 2016 election date; if we wanted to move up our Public Safety millage proposal to May it was still possible if we approved the ballot language tonight for filing before February 9. Consensus on the Board was to stick with the August 2016 ballot. The Board discussed the ballot language; specifically that language from the previous renewal includes the word "increase" even though it's not an increase as commonly understood. Perry recalls having this same conversation 5 years ago and that we discovered law is quite strict regarding millage proposal language. Moran asked the Township Attorney to review.

Moran noted that even before PA 269, no public funds could be used to advocate for ballot proposals, so we previously had a citizen committee do some fundraising and send out a mailing in support of the millage. If we want to do a newsletter with the PDR 10-year report and the factual information on Public Safety Millage we can still do that, just has to be more than 60 days ahead of the election. DiPietro felt that such a newsletter was entirely feasible.

F. Public Safety

1. Sheriff's Office - Sheriff's Department reports emailed out.

2. Fire Department

Chief Thurston submitted a written report to the Board on the department's activity in a new format which was very well received. Thurston reported the department did a lot of training last month, which included the live fire training and the exercises, which got a lot of attention from the neighbors. Thurston reported that the maintenance on the two rescue units is getting unreasonably high, so he is working with Colleen to update the CIP. We had a very good response to assist on a structure fire in Salem; 8 or 9 POCs showed up. The new Toyota Tundra is in, but will stay parked until outfitted with County 800 MHz radios, etc.

G. Utilities Department

Judkins submitted a written report to the Board on the department's activity and gave some updates: Northbrooke's private wastewater treatment facility has been approved and is ready to go, end of year meter reads were taken on December 31, as they were last year, providing an exact year-long usage; Toyota's powertrain expansion project seems to be moving slowly. Rick gave an update on the City of Ann Arbor Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) odor problem: a very large meeting was held including representatives from WCC, St. Joe's, MDEQ, and neighborhood associations; city wants to do a study. There is a new number to call in to report odor complaints; Rick will provide the number via email.

H. Supervisor's Report

Moran reported that he, Della and Rena would be attending the Michigan Township Association (MTA) annual education conference in Detroit this week. Dixboro Trail: using topography maps to do the design revealed significant problems in meeting MDOT requirements regarding steep slopes, handicap access, and sharp curves. The adjustments will make the cost of construction \$2.3M. We don't have enough money as the budget was based on the previous construction estimates and fundraising, so the trail construction will have to be delayed, likely to spring 2017. We will try to reach out to Natural Resource Trust Fund board members and apply again for a grant.

I. Clerk's Report

Basch reported her attention must be on election matters this coming 2 months, and really the whole year. We have arranged for March election workers already. Unfortunately the W2 forms developed by Paychex are still incorrect.

J. Treasurer's Report - DiPietro reported interest rates are barely inching up, and reminded everyone winter taxes are due February 16.

K. Planning Commission

The Planning Commission meeting minutes from January were included in the packet. Allison reported that Rudolf Steiner School's CUP application will come to the Board next month, that the PC approved a woodland permit for a private residence, and that Toyota expansion proposal creates a lot of impervious surface, and they will need to look at some heroic measures to manage the stormwater. An error was noted in the minutes regarding medical marijuana – the PC asked the attorney to summarize case law around growing operations, not dispensaries. Regarding the upcoming presentation by HRWC on coal tar, Judkins found out that WCRC no longer uses coal tar, having found other products with less environmental impacts.

L. Building Department - Hamlin submitted a written report to the Board.

M. Farmland Preservation Committee - No report; did not meet last month.

N. Approval of Claims Listings

Sedmak moved approval of the claims listing dated December 23, 2015 in the amount of \$4,298.18. Kohrs seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously. Allison moved approval of the claims listing dated December 31, 2015 through January 5, 2016 in the amount of \$137,002.00. Sedmak seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously. Kohrs moved approval of the claims listing dated December 31, 2015 through January 13, 2016 in the amount of \$110,707.40. Sedmak seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

VI. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS - None

VII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

IX. ADJOURNMENT - Moran moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.