

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
MINUTES OF THE MARCH 16, 2010 REGULAR MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Brenda L. Stumbo at approximately 7:00 p.m. in the Ypsilanti Township Civic Center Board Room, 7200 S. Huron River Drive, Ypsilanti Township. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silent prayer was observed.

Members Present: Supervisor Brenda L. Stumbo, Clerk Karen Lovejoy Roe, Treasurer Larry Doe, Trustees Jean Hall Currie and Mike Martin

Members Absent: Trustees Stan Eldridge and Dee Sizemore

Legal Counsel: Wm. Douglas Winters

PUBLIC HEARING

A. LAKESIDE PARK IMPROVEMENTS GRANT APPLICATION

The public hearing was opened at approximately 7:01 p.m.

Art Serafinski, Director of Parks and Recreation for Ypsilanti Township provided a brief overview of the grant application for improvements to Lakeside Park located on Ford Lake. He explained the grant application was in collaboration with Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation, Saline Rowing Club and Ypsilanti Township. Mr. Serafinski introduced Brian Barrick, planner with Beckett and Raeder, hired by Eastern Michigan University to prepare the grant application and conceptual design for the park and the boathouse.

Brian Barrick provided a presentation of the proposed improvements to Lakeside Park. He explained the improvements were an adaptation of the original Lakeside Park plan included in the five-year Master Plan for Ypsilanti Township Parks and Recreation with the added amenities of the boathouse, rowing facilities. The revised Phase I plan included a boathouse with parking, outdoor classroom, picnic shelter, pathways, docks, new park entrance, playground, playfields and a stormwater management system. The dock facilities currently owned by Eastern Michigan would be utilized as a part of the park development along with some small additions. Mr. Barrick indicated that Phase I of the Lakeside Park Improvements contained a variety of recreational opportunities that included walking trails that connected to the Washtenaw County Border-to-Border trail system, scenic overlooks and interpretative educational opportunities. He explained the grant application contained both active and passive recreation amenities and would be funded through the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Mr. Serafinski said the first step was the grant application and the design would be completed at a later date. He explained grant criteria that would rate high, included universal accessibility which far surpassed ADA minimum requirements and the proposed park improvements would achieve universal accessibility. He said the plan envisioned programming for all abilities. Mr. Serafinski indicated the grant proposal would open new and great recreational opportunities for the entire community to achieve an active lifestyle. He also indicated the Township would be able to offer rowing opportunities to the community and potentially to the public schools for participation in rowing activities not currently available.

Lyle Tindall, Ypsilanti Township resident asked about the time frame for project completion.

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Mr. Serafinski explained the grant application would be reviewed and rated after the April 1, 2010 deadline. Once rated, the grant would be returned to the Township with the opportunity to make adjustments to attain a higher rating before returning the application to the DNR. Mr. Serafinski said notification would be between November and January and if awarded the grant, the Township would have three years to complete the project.

Ken Goetz, Ypsilanti Township resident asked if the park would be used to host crew races.

Mr. Serafinski responded that the Township had hosted races for the past 6-8 years. He said in those instances, the floatable docks would be moved to Ford Lake Park. He said Ford Lake Park has worked great for Regattas. He said the Township had hosted a race with four major colleges, including the University of Michigan and the Ford Lake Park facilities handled it very nicely.

Trustee Martin expressed support for the concept and the collaborative efforts but was concerned about estimates in the grant presentation.

Mr. Serafinski explained the grant process was to submit a conceptual design. If awarded the grant, detailed design would be done and the project would be sent out for bids. He stated the bids would contain exact numbers regarding cost. He also indicated it would be necessary to work out legal agreements to protect the Township's interest and to establish the financial arrangements between the parties.

Mr. Barrick stated the numbers in the presentation were based on real construction projections.

Supervisor Stumbo stated the Township has previously done a joint grant application with Eastern Michigan University (EMU) for Eagle Crest Golf Course and clubhouse. She said these facilities were built on Township land and the Township had granted a 99-year lease to EMU. She stressed there were no additional Township expenses on the golf course project and same would hold true with Lakeside Park.

Supervisor Stumbo said all necessary legal documents would be in place to protect the Township.

Mr. Serafinski stated the public hearing was based on the conceptual presentation and detailed drawings and construction were at least a year out.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated it was a great effort and thanked Mr. Serafinski and others who worked on the project. She said it was a great collaboration and working together was the only way to complete projects of this type. Clerk Lovejoy Roe stressed this was a conceptual plan and the Township would not spend money on detailed design until a grant was awarded. She indicated Supervisor Stumbo had made it clear that all the legal agreements would be worked out before accepting the grant. The Township's significant contribution was the land and the commitment of the collaborators would be worked out before bidding the project and accepting the grant. Clerk Lovejoy Roe was confident all legal needs of the Township would be met and Township Attorney would insure the Township's interest would be protected.

Mr. Serafinski stated the grant required a minimum 25% match. He explained that with the commitments from all involved parties, the match was approximately 70-75% which would give the Township additional points.

Ms. Kaiser, Ypsilanti Township resident questioned if finances would cover the costs of construction two years from now.

Mr. Barrick stated the project would be bid in 2011 and once the bids were received, the cost would be locked in.

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Attorney Winters stated any agreement the Township entered into would cover cost overruns. He said Beckett and Raeder had done a comprehensive list of cost estimates and had done their due diligence to provide a good estimate of actual costs. He said the legal agreements would need to be strict and specific in regards to the responsibilities of all parties for both the grant application and maintenance.

Supervisor Stumbo asked the audience to indicate if they were present on behalf of the Saline Rowing Club.

The public hearing was closed at approximately 7:22 p.m.

Mr. Serafinski further explained the grant still needed to be prepared. He said part of grant requirement was to hold the public hearing and to include resolutions passed by the Ypsilanti Township Park Commission and the Township Board.

Supervisor Stumbo stated she was definitely in favor of the grant project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sabrina Gross, Pittsfield Township resident thanked the Township Board for their consideration of the project on Ford Lake. As the parent of two daughters who had rowed on Ford Lake, she said this was an amazing opportunity. Ms. Gross stated she attended a Regatta at Ford Lake Park with a lot Ann Arbor parents and rowers, many of whom had never been to Ypsilanti Township or on Ford Lake. They could not believe what a jewel the lake was. She said by opening up this park for more usage, the Township would provided additional recreational opportunities for more people and more people would become aware of Ford Lake and the great resource it was to the entire area.

Chris Cook, Saline resident said he was also a parent of two daughters who rowed on Ford Lake. He said rowing was a great sport and he had one daughter at Philadelphia University on a rowing scholarship. Mr. Cook hoped the grant would move forward because it would give the schools in Ypsilanti Township the opportunity to begin rowing teams. He said there were significant scholarship opportunities for rowers, particularly for girls.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 16, 2010 WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING AND FEBRUARY 22, 2010 SPECIAL MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Trustee Currie and supported by Treasurer Doe to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2010 Work Session and Regular Meeting. and February 22, 2010 Special Meeting and Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

Supervisor Stumbo provided an overview of meetings attended by full-time officials and staff. She said Standard and Poors raised the Township's bond rating to AA which was directly reflective of the fiscal management of Ypsilanti Township. She announced the Community Wide Neighborhood Watch Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, April 1, 2010 at the Civic Center. She also announced the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Community Forums were scheduled for April 13, 2010 from 7- 9 p.m. at the Whittaker Rd. Library and April 27, 2010 from 7 – 9 p.m. at the Community Center on Clark Rd. She said a special meeting to discuss the Police Services lawsuit would be scheduled when all Board Members could attend.

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CLERK REPORT

Clerk Lovejoy Roe announced the last day to register to vote in the Lincoln School District bond proposal election was Monday, April 5, 2010. She said an absentee ballot application could be obtained by contacting the Clerk's office by phone or email.

TREASURER REPORT

A. FEBRUARY 2010

Treasurer Doe gave the report for February, 2010. The beginning balance was \$32,050,402.78 and the ending balance was \$36,918,736.18.

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Martin to receive and file the February, 2010 Treasurer's report (see attached). The motion carried unanimously.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Trustee Currie said she attended the Appleridge Neighborhood Watch meeting and crime was down in the area.

Trustee Martin provided a brief overview of the Water Conservation Advisory Commission meeting where they discussed the Ford Lake aeration project. He reported the study indicated aeration would improve the algae issue but it would not completely eradicate the algae blooms. The WCAC was seeking grants to help cover the \$700,000 projected cost. He also said operating costs for the project would be approximately \$12,000 per year for ten (10) years or a lump sum of \$120,000. Trustee Martin reported Paint Creek cleanup was scheduled for Ypsilanti Pride Day.

ATTORNEY REPORT

A. General Legal Update

Attorney Winters thanked the Community Standards Department staff for their assistance with nuisance abatement Circuit Court cases that had been filed at the request of the board to protect the public and maintain Township neighborhoods.

He reported that Velvet Touch, located on Michigan Ave. would be permanently closing. Attorney Winters stated he attended the first Aerotropolis Development Corporation meeting on March 1, 2010 and Supervisor Stumbo was appointed to the Executive Committee. He suggested the Board appoint an alternate to serve in case of her absence.

OLD BUSINESS

1. 2nd READING RESOLUTION NO. 2010-02, PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2010- 402 – WIND GENERATORS

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Martin to approve the 2nd reading of Resolution No. 2010-02, Proposed Ordinance No. 2010-402 – Wind Generators (see attached). The motion carried as follows:

Martin:	Yes	Eldridge:	Absent	Currie:	Yes	Sizemore:	Absent
Stumbo:	Yes	Roe:	Yes	Doe:	Yes		

2. 2nd READING RESOLUTION NO. 2010-03, PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2010-403 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2009-391 – WAIVING, FOR A LIMITED TIME, THE CHARGES REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ARTICLES II AND III OF CHAPTER 62 “UTILITIES” OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC STIMULUS, ENCOURAGE DEVELOPMENT AND CREATE JOB OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Currie to approve the 2nd reading of Resolution No. 2010-03, Proposed Ordinance No. 2010-403 Amending Ordinance No. 2009-391 – Waiving, for a limited time, the charges required pursuant to Articles II and III of Chapter 62 “Utilities” of the Charter Township of Ypsilanti Code of Ordinances, as amended, in order to provide economic stimulus, encourage development and create job opportunities within the Charter Township of Ypsilanti (see attached). The motion carried as follows:

Martin:	Yes	Eldridge:	Absent	Currie:	Yes	Sizemore:	Absent
Stumbo:	Yes	Roe:	Yes	Doe:	Yes		

NEW BUSINESS

1. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH DTE TO TRACK AND MONITOR YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP’S REMAINING 2009 RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS FOR UP TO FIVE YEARS AND AUTHORIZE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Treasurer Doe to approve the agreement with DTE to track and monitor Ypsilanti Township’s remaining 2009 renewable energy credits for up to five years, contingent upon attorney review and to authorize the signing of the agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

2. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO QUALIFIED VOTER FILE’S ELECTRONIC POLL BOOK PROJECT GRANT AGREEMENT WITH MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Currie to authorize entering into Qualified Voter File’s Electronic Poll Book Project Grant agreement with Michigan Department of State. Motion carried unanimously.

3. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO INITIATE LEGAL ACTION IF NECESSARY, IN WASHTENAW COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT TO ABATE PUBLIC NUISANCE FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 7281 TEXTILE ROAD

A motion was made by Treasurer Doe, supported by Clerk Lovejoy Roe to authorize legal action if necessary, in Washtenaw County Circuit Court to abate public nuisance for property located at 7281 Textile Road. Motion carried unanimously.

4. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO INITIATE LEGAL ACTION IF NECESSARY, IN WASHTENAW COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT TO ABATE PUBLIC NUISANCE FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 771 CLUBHOUSE DRIVE

A motion was made by Trustee Currie, supported by Treasurer Doe to authorize legal action if necessary, in Washtenaw County Circuit Court to abate public nuisance for property located at 771 Clubhouse Drive. Motion carried unanimously.

5. BUDGET AMENDMENT #3

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Treasurer Doe to approve Budget Amendment #3 (see attached). Motion carried unanimously.

6. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT FOR COMPUTER PROGRAMMER

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Treasurer Doe to approve the Professional Services Contract for Computer Programmer, not to exceed \$17,075. Motion carried unanimously.

7. REQUEST OF JOE CHECK FOR A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION FOR PAINT CREEK CROSSING, PD STAGE I REVISED CONCEPT PLAN AND PD STAGE II SITE PLAN REVIEW OF CONDOMINIUMS KNOWN AS HUNTER'S RIDGE DUE TO EXPIRE APRIL 3, 2010

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Currie to approve the request of Joe Check for a one-year extension for Paint Creek Crossing, PD Stage I revised concept plan and PD Stage II Site Plan Review of Condominiums known as Hunter's Ridge, contingent upon receipt of payment of taxes, within 90 days of the extension. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO INITIATE LEGAL ACTION IF NECESSARY, IN WASHTENAW COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT TO ABATE PUBLIC NUISANCE FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 724 N. FORD BLVD.

The board agreed to add this item to other business due to the seriousness of the situation. Ron Fulton, Building Director stated the township was called by Washtenaw County Mental Health Department to assist in securing this property and abating the public nuisance.

A motion was made by Treasurer Doe, supported by Clerk Lovejoy Roe to authorize legal action if necessary, in Washtenaw County Circuit Court to abate public nuisance for property located at 724 N. Ford Blvd. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Fulton reported the home was not salvageable and the family was thankful for the opportunity to find alternative housing. He said demolition would be covered by NSP funds.

AUTHORIZATIONS AND BIDS

1. RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD BID FOR VEGETATION & CLEAN-UP ABATEMENT

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Treasurer Doe to award the bid to Heppner Landscape Services, Inc. and in the event the contract could not be executed with Heppner, award the bid to Arrwood. Motion carried unanimously.

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STATEMENTS AND CHECKS

A motion was made by Treasurer Doe, supported by Trustee Currie to approve Statements and Checks for March 2, 2010 in the amount of \$2,772,035.73 and March 16, 2010 in the amount of \$9,034,831.27. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Treasurer Doe to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Stumbo, Supervisor
Charter Township of Ypsilanti

Karen Lovejoy Roe, Clerk
Charter Township of Ypsilanti