

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YORK BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (Revised)
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2008

Supervisor Zurawski called a Regular meeting of the Charter Township of York Board of Trustees to order at 7:40 p.m. on September 9, 2008 at the York Township Hall, 11560 Stony Creek Road, Milan, MI. He offered an invocation and led the American Flag Pledge.

Roll Call of Board Members Present: Sally Donahue, Joe Zurawski, Mike Kipley, Helen Neill, Wayne Meier, John Bulmer, Jane Kartje. Absent: None.

Others present: Twelve, (*list on file*), includes Larry Osterling, Saline Area Chamber of Commerce who gave a brief overview of the Chamber.

Short Public Comments: Two heard.

Presentation of written petitions: None.

Approval of August 12, 2008 Regular meeting minutes:

Moved by Neill, Seconded by Meier to approve the August 12, 2008 Regular meeting minutes of the Charter Township of York Board of Trustees as presented. Discussion: none. Voice Vote: Aye: 7; Nay: 0; Absent: 0. Motion carried 7-0-0

Approval of August 12, 2008 Special meeting minutes:

Moved by Donahue, Seconded by Bulmer to approve the August 12, 2008 Special meeting minutes of the Charter Township of York Board of Trustees as presented. Discussion: none. Voice Vote: Aye: 7; Nay: 0; Absent: 0. Motion carried 7-0-0

CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTED AS DISTRIBUTED

Moved by Meier, Seconded by Kartje to adopt the Consent Agenda as amended. Discussion: none. Voice Vote: Aye: 7; Nay: 0; Absent: 0. Motion carried 7-0-0

- C 1 Approve Disbursements from Clerk: August 13 – September 9, 2008, as presented.
- C 2 Recognize reports from Clerk: Revenue/Expenditures, March 31, 2008 after posting auditor's adjusting journal entries; April 2008 Revenue/Expenditures after closing 2007/08 FY and August 2008 Revenue/Expenditures.
- C 3 Recognize correspondence received.
- C 4 Recognize Treasurer's report, August 2008.
- C 5 Recognize written report, Building Official, August 2008.
- C 6 Recognize written report, Zoning Inspector, August 2008.
- C 7 Recognize Washtenaw County Sheriff's Dept. Activities Log, August 2008.
- C 8 Recognize written report: August Parks & Recreation Committee meeting & activities, Trustee Bulmer.
- C 9 Approval to refund \$5,000.00 Performance Bond to Mr. Dale Peatee of 13908 Dennison Rd., new house is complete, old house was demolished; as recommended by Building Official and Zoning Administrator.

REGULAR AGENDA

Moved by Meier, Seconded by Kipley to approve the Regular Agenda as amended. Discussion: Pending Business, strike 2009-2013 Parks Master Plan; New Business: reverse order of #3 & #4 items-Assessor's resignation letter/Classified ad & 2008/09 FY Assessor's Contract suggested changes, add Split-rail fence as last item, change Fire Bill to False Alarm bill. Voice Vote: Aye: 7; Nay: 0; Absent: 0. Motion carried 7-0-0

VERBAL REPORTS

Building Official, Tom Toth. Jehovah's Witnesses' building started; department's business still slow.

Zoning Inspector, Carl Girbach. Reviewed written report, gave updates.

Assessor, Elke Doom. County & Assessors are analyzing monthly sales & monitoring closely; field work to begin now with cooler weather; question asked on L-4029 form: due to Clerk before 9/30/08.

BOARD REPORTS

Trustee Bulmer. SRGA meeting canceled for this month; at the meeting today between John, Frank, 3 Parks Committee members and Ron Milan, Milan Development, regarding the tree-cutting in the Richardson Park, Mr. Milan gave a lecture about how he is justified to come onto the Park property and take down any trees he wants to and presented no proposal. The Committee then met with Supervisor Zurawski to ask for a solution to this issue.

Trustee Kartje. Planning Commission update: granted extension on final site plan approval for Providence Estates Site Condominium due to economic conditions through September 8, 2010; worked on updating by-laws for new Michigan Planning Enabling Act; proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments may be ready for a recommendation to the Board soon.

Treasurer Donahue. Tax collection has begun to pick up, she & her Deputy processed 17% of the tax roll today, so coming in much heavier now – reminder that they are due Monday, Sept. 15th.

Clerk Neill. Gearing up for the very busy General Election November 4th; Trustee Kipley will report on the Election Commission meeting just held, Member Trustee Kartje in attendance, as well; Absentee ballot applications are arriving at a fast pace.

Trustee Kipley. Election Commission meeting held today to adopt a resolution to establish an Absent Voter Count Board for the November 4, 2008 General Election in anticipation of high volume of absentee ballots, to be filed with County Elections Dept., as required.

Trustee Meier. No MAFD or SAFD meetings in past month.

Supervisor Zurawski. County Chief Elected Officials meeting main topic of discussion was Washtenaw County Road Commissioner vacancy appointment; MTA Fall District meeting tomorrow.

PENDING BUSINESS

RE-GRAVEL
RICHARDSON
PARK TRAILS

MOVED BY BULMER to approve Proposal #09012008 from Boice Gradall, LLC dated 9/1/08 to re-gravel the ADA trails in Sandra Richardson Park in the amount of \$8,766.00, the lowest bid, total cost not to exceed \$10,000.00; pay from Toyota grant monies; authorize Supervisor to sign proposal.

SECONDED BY NEILL. Discussion: needs to be done this fall; expectation is to not pay any more than the \$8,766.00 quote.

VOICE VOTE: AYE: 7; NAY: 0; ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED 7-0-0

NEW BUSINESS

FALSE ALARM
BILL, MOORE

MOVED BY NEILL to deny a request to waive the \$50.00 False Alarm charge, as submitted by resident Elizabeth Moore.

SECONDED BY MEIER. Discussion: need to uphold the Ordinance fee schedule adopted.

VOICE VOTE: AYE: 7; NAY: 0; ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED 7-0-0

REFUND BOND
REQUEST,
AARON'S
LAWNCARE
& LANDSCAPING

MOVED BY NEILL to approve refunding the remaining \$75,000.00 bond to Aaron's Lawncare & Landscaping plus the interest earned minus York's administration fee portion of the interest since the Certificate of Deposit was terminated; at the recommendation of Zoning Administrator, Carl Girbach.

SECONDED BY MEIER. Discussion: none.

VOICE VOTE: AYE: 7; NAY: 0; ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED 7-0-0

2008/2009 FY ASSESSOR'S CONTRACT, SUGGESTED CHANGES On August 13, 2008, our Township Assessor presented to the three Township elected officers, a letter of resignation effective 11/19/2008, having won the primary election for Supervisor in her Twp. and could no longer commit her time to three days in the office for York Twp. She also presented a proposal to bring in a Level II Assessor Assistant who would hold office hours at the York Twp. Hall 3 mornings per week, as a 1099 position reporting directly to the York Twp. Assessor, would be compensated by York Twp. Assessor and would not work as an employee of York Twp. That same day, she submitted a 2nd resignation letter effective 9/12/2008 citing concerns by the Clerk. Treasurer Donahue stated that her office interfaces directly with the Assessor's Office, that this is the middle of the tax cycle, there will be pending Board of Reviews and they are working through a difficult hardship case. Donahue also indicated that she would like the Assessor to work through the end of her contract.

MOVED BY DONAHUE to approve the changes to the 2008/2009 FY Assessor's contract, as presented.

SECONDED BY KIPLEY. Discussion: Supervisor asked the Assessor if she would retract her resignation if these changes in her contract are approved and agree to her proposal option and she stated she would. Board will know by the beginning of 1/2009 if this proposal is working which would, if needed, give the Twp. board three months to find a replacement before the end of March; this arrangement could go beyond 3/31/2009; this would be a temporary trial situation. If this arrangement doesn't work, a new Assessor would be brought on board 4/1/2009. It was stated that an assessor's busier time is at the first of the year with preparing the assessment roll; now is the time for preparing 2009 assessments and everything must be in place as of Assessment Day, 12/31/2008. The assessment roll is already set for this year, but there will be December Board of Review changes needed. It was also addressed that this issue should have been before the Twp. Board in July or August instead of creating a crisis situation now as the job gets busier. Under this proposal, our Township Assessor would pay the assistant from her Township paycheck. If this proposal by the Assessor is approved, she would be responsible for selecting her assistant and contracting directly with her. This means there would be an individual with access to the Township Hall who is not a Twp. employee and who has not gone through the Township's hiring process. The previous assessor assistant was an employee of York Twp.

Our Assessor addressed the Board: not unusual to have an assistant, person she has in mind is working on her level 3 certification that will take 1-1/2 to 2 years to complete, she really won't know how much time her new job will pull her away from York Twp.; she advised that the Supervisor had checked with Washtenaw County Equalization Director for assistance in finding an assessor.

Further discussion by the Board: equivalent service needed as current situation; concerned with a non-Township employee having access to the Twp. Hall; Treasurer's concerns should be considered. Question called. VOICE VOTE: AYE: 5; NAY: 2; ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED 5-2-0

ASSESSOR'S RESIGNATION LETTER/ Not needed at this time.
CLASSIFIED AD, ASSESSOR, LEVEL 3

WILLOW RD. Reviewed letter dated August 29, 2008 from Steve Puuri, Washtenaw
CULVERT-WEIGHT County Road Commission Managing Director regarding the lowering of
RESTRICTIONS posted weight limit on a box culvert along Willow Rd. in Augusta Twp. and requesting that York Township Board lift the No Through Trucks limits on Willis Rd. so there is another way to cross York Township in an east/west direction. Mr. Purri was in the audience and contributed to the discussion held: Willis Rd. not a Class A road; no point in making any changes now to the Truck Route Ordinance; would need an Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 75 temporarily and another Ordinance to change back to current status-not something the Board wishes to

do; two existing viable routes are to use Stony Creek Rd. to Willis Rd. and Milan-Oakville Rds. to Carpenter Rd. to obtain access to U.S 23. Mr. Puuri thanked the Board for their consideration.

NAMING OF AUDITOR, NEXT 3 YEARS MOVED BY DONAHUE to approve hiring Pfeffer, Hanniford & Palka, CPAs, as York Charter Township’s Auditors, as presented, for fiscal years ending March 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011; per their proposal, cost not to exceed \$11,000.00 for each year. SECONDED BY MEIER. Discussion: due to money problems municipalities are going through, there is no increase in cost from the past three years. VOICE VOTE: AYE: 7; NAY: 0; ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED 7-0-0

SPLIT-RAIL FENCE MATERIALS PURCHASE MOVED BY BULMER to approve a purchase for split-rail fencing and associated supplies for Sandra Richardson Park for a total of \$510.00; to come from the Parks Improvements line item. SECONDED BY MEIER. Discussion: thanked Fred Schettenhelm for clearing the space where the split-rail fencing will be placed along Platt Rd. inside the park near the parking lot; Fred will be donating his time to drill the post holes; this vendor has the best prices. VOICE VOTE: AYE: 7; NAY: 0; ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED 7-0-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS (five minutes or less) None.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Supervisor Zurawski adjourned the Regular meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Helen Neill, Clerk

Joseph Zurawski, Supervisor

Approved: _____

Synopsis published: _____

Next 3 regularly scheduled meetings: Oct. 14, Wed., Nov. 12 (due to Veteran’s Day holiday on Tuesday) & Dec. 9, 2008, 7:30 p.m. start time

York Charter Township’s newspapers of record: *The Milan News-Leader* and *The Saline Reporter*
Website: www.twp-york.org and Yorkline Cable channel 12