

**GRAND HAVEN CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2009**

**WORK SESSION – 6:00 P.M.**

1. Trustee Larsen distributed the Manager’s Evaluation Form for 2009. The Board selected Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. as the date for the review.
2. The Board discussed the alternatives for funding “Other Post Employment Benefits” (OPEB). The Board instructed staff to implement Option #2, which will entail the creation of a Special Revenue Account that will receive the annual required contribution to cover the actuarial cost of the OPEB and that will fund the on-going OPEB costs. It was noted that this alternative will lead to an annual note in the Township’s audited finance statement informing readers that GHT has not fully funded this liability since the monies will not be deposited into a Trust Fund.
3. The Board discussed the payment of ½ of the cost of the Lincoln Street and M-45 intersections of 144<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The Board instructed staff to pay for this expenditure since a previous Board had authorized the expenditure of one of the intersection lights and that it would help maintain positive relations with Robinson Township.
4. The Board reviewed the memorandum regarding the past six months of deer complaints, which was a total of 86 complaints on 66 parcels of property (*i.e., about 1/10 of 1% of the total number of parcels in GHT*). Because of (1) the low number of complaints; (2) a fairly constant level of car/deer accidents; (3) no data indicating that the deer population in GHT exceeds healthy limits; (4) no recommendation from either the MDNR, who is responsible for managing the State’s deer herd, or Ottawa County to reduce the deer herd within GHT; and, (5) the cost and expense of a deer management program in a community as large in area and diverse in terms of environment and zoning classifications as GHT, the Board determined that the issue of deer damage was more of a nuisance than a public health or safety concern and, although staff will continue to track complaints and report back to the Board in September of 2010, that no additional action will occur.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Supervisor French called the regular meeting of the Grand Haven Charter Township Board to order at 7:00 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**III. ROLL CALL**

**Board members present:** Kieft, Larsen, Worthington, Veach and French.

**Board members absent:** Jenkins and Buitenhuis.

Also present was Superintendent Cargo and Community Development Director Waterman.

Without objection, Treasurer Kieft was appointed Temporary Clerk.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

**Motion** by Worthington and seconded by Larsen to approve the meeting agenda, as amended. **Which motion carried.**

**V. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approve September 14, 2009 Board Minutes
2. Approve Payment of Invoices

3. Approve Final Pay Application to Jackson-Merkey in the Amount of \$1,500 for the Hayes Street Pump Station
4. Approve Triangle Excavators is \$916,749.50 bid for Comstock Street DDA Project
5. Re-Appoint three members of the Construction Board of Appeals (*i.e.*, John Eberly, Sam Klukos and Patrick Morden) for two-year terms ending August 1, 2011.

**Motion** by French and seconded by Veach to approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda. **Which motion carried.**

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Supervisor French opened the Public Hearing of Assessment on the proposed Rich Street Improvement SAD at 7:03 p.m. Cargo provided a brief overview of the proposed assessment roll of \$17,223.76 (*or* \$2,460.54 *per lot*) with a three year payment period at 3% interest.

There were no public comments or correspondence.

Supervisor French closed the public hearing at 7:06 p.m.

2. **Motion** by Kieft and seconded by French to approve and adopt Resolution 09-09-02(a) (*i.e.*, the “*Before Resolution*”) that limits the proposed maximum millage rate that can be subject of the Truth-in-Taxation public hearing. **Which motion carried**, as indicated by the following roll call vote:  
 Ayes: Kieft, French, Larsen, Veach, and Worthington  
 Nays:  
 Absent: Buitenhuis and Jenkins

3. Supervisor French opened the Truth-in-Taxation public hearing at 7:07 p.m. Cargo provided a brief overview of the hearing noting that because of an increase in the Water debt millage rate and the renewal of the Council on Aging millage, the impact to a homeowner of a \$100,000 house in 2008 (*which has a taxable value of \$104,400 in 2009*) will be about \$7.15.

There were no public comments or correspondence.

Supervisor French closed the public hearing at 7:14 p.m.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Motion** by Larsen and seconded by French to approve and adopt Resolution 09-09-01 that affirms the assessment roll of the Rich Street Improvement Special Assessment District, providing for a three-year payback at 3% interest. **Which motion carried**, as indicated by the following roll call vote:  
 Ayes: Worthington, French, Larsen, Kieft, and Veach  
 Nays:  
 Absent: Buitenhuis and Jenkins
2. **Motion** by Kieft and seconded by Larsen to approve and adopt Resolution 09-09-02(b) that authorizes the Township to capture the full amount of millage allowable under Michigan State law pursuant to the Truth in Taxation public hearing. **Which motion carried**, as indicated by the following roll call vote:  
 Ayes: Larsen, Veach, Kieft, Worthington, and French  
 Nays:  
 Absent: Buitenhuis and Jenkins
3. **Motion** by Larsen and seconded by Veach to table Resolution 09-09-03 thereby approving the 2009 Grand Haven Charter Township Master Plan, in order to provide additional time to review the document. **Which motion carried.**

4. **Motion** by Larsen and seconded by Veach to table Resolution 09-09-04 that approve the proposed Articles of Incorporation for the Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority and authorizes the Township Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement in order to allow Trustee Jenkins to participate in the discussion regarding concerns he has on the agreement. **Which motion carried.**
5. **Motion** by Larsen and seconded by French to remove from the table the proposed “Donation of Sick Time Policy”. **Which motion carried.**

**Motion** by French and seconded by Veach to approve and adopt Resolution 09-09-05, which adds section 12.13 “Donation of Sick Time Policy” to the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. **Which motion carried,** as indicated by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Veach, Kieft, Worthington, Larsen and French  
 Nays:  
 Absent: Buitenhuis and Jenkins

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Motion** by Larsen and seconded by Worthington to approve the 2010 budget policies as outlined by the Superintendent within the September 22nd memorandum and to instruct the Superintendent to proceed with completion of a 2010 Fiscal Year budget for Board review and consideration pursuant state law and the proposed schedule. **Which motion carried.**
2. **Motion** by Larsen and seconded by Kieft to table a four-year agreement with Vredeveld Haefner LLC to provide the annual financial audit for the Township and to authorize the Superintendent to execute the initial engagement letter for the 2009 Fiscal Year in order to allow Trustee Jenkins to participate in the discussion regarding concerns he has on the agreement. **Which motion carried.**
3. **Motion** by Kieft and seconded by Larsen to authorize the Township Superintendent to execute the proposed five-year leaf processing contract with Verplank Dock Company at an annual cost of \$2,200. This is part of a regional collaborative effort to recycle both the river dredge material and yard waste collected by the local units. **Which motion carried.**
4. **Motion** by Larsen and seconded by Worthington to authorize the expenditure of \$1,500 of DDA Funds for the purpose of co-funding a Robbins Road Level of Service Study with the City of Grand Haven. **Which motion carried.**
5. **Motion** by Worthington and seconded by French to instruct staff to draft a zoning text amendment that would allow the City of Grand Rapids to erect large wind energy turbines in Grand Haven Charter Township. **Which motion carried.**
6. **Motion** by Larsen and seconded by Kieft to table the proposed filling of the DPW vacancy in order to provide staff an opportunity to determine if filling this vacant position could be postponed until next Spring, and if filling the vacancy was postponed, the cost savings. **Which motion carried.**

Cargo noted that he would email the elected officials to determine if there were any other questions or concerns that could be answered prior to the next Board meeting.

IX. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence was reviewed.
2. Committee Reports
3. Superintendent’s Report
4. Others

X. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor French adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Kieft  
Grand Haven Charter Temporary Township Clerk

Karl French  
Grand Haven Charter Township Supervisor