

GRAND HAVEN CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2016

(NOTE: WORK SESSION IS CANCELLED.)

REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 P.M.

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA
- V. CONSENT AGENDA
 - 1. Approve June 13, 2016 Board Minutes
 - 2. Approve Payment of Invoices in the amount of \$378,025.22 (*A/P checks of \$287,592.49 and payroll of \$90,432.73*)
 - 3. Reappointment of Joy Gaasch to NOCH Board for term ending June 30, 2019
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
 - 1. Discussion on Pathway Millage – Extra Voted or Debt
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
 - None.
- VIII. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE
 - 1. Correspondence
 - 2. Committee Reports
 - 3. Manager’s Report
 - a. May Legal Review
 - 4. Others
- IX. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY
(*LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES, PLEASE.*)
- X. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: The public will be given an opportunity to comment on any agenda item when the item is brought up for discussion. The supervisor will initiate comment time.

**GRAND HAVEN CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016**

WORKSESSION – 6:30 p.m.

1. Planner Fedewa discussed the Bignell Ridge PUD and the inclusion of sunrooms on the construction of certain units. The Board determined that this was a minor amendment and requested the item be placed on the Board agenda under “Old Business”.
2. The Board had a general discussion regarding housing and two requests for financial support that are currently pending.
3. Laird Schaefer (12543 Wilderness Trail) expressed concern with NORA proceeding with a millage request without support of a majority of the NORA Board.
4. Manager Cargo explained that the Township did not have a need for a used gazebo that an area church is replacing.

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: French, Meeusen, Behm, Larsen, Redick, and Kieft.
Board members absent: Hutchins

Also present was Manager Cargo and Planner Fedewa.

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Motion by Treasurer Kieft and seconded by Trustee Meeusen to approve the meeting, as amended with the inclusion of the Bignell Ridge PUD minor amendment under “Old Business”. **Which motion carried.**

V. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve May 23, 2016 Board Minutes
2. Approve Payment of Invoices in the amount of \$408,999.58 (*A/P checks of \$194,423.83 and payroll of \$214,575.75*)

Motion by Trustee Meeusen and seconded by Trustee Behm to approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda. **Which motion carried.**

VI. PRESENTATION

City Manager McGinnis provided a presentation regarding a request from the City of Grand Haven to support a Housing Services program by funding a \$61,056 funding deficit. The request would require a contribution from Grand Haven Charter Township of about \$7,200 for the 2017 and 2018 during a period when the program is supported by a \$30,000 contribution from the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation for each of the next two years. When this support is withdrawn in 2019, the Township's contribution will be increased to \$14,400 annually.

It was noted that the \$50,000 HEP grant is still pending.

No action was taken on the request.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Motion** by Trustee Redick, supported by Clerk Larsen to approve and adopt the Zoning Map Amendment Ordinance concerning the rezoning of Parcel No. 70-07-21-400-015, from Agriculture (AG) to Rural Preserve (RP). This is a second reading.

Which motion carried pursuant to the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Redick, Behm, French, Kieft, Meeusen, Larsen

Nays:

Absent: Hutchins

2. **Motion** by Treasurer Kieft, supported by Trustee Meeusen to find the addition of sunrooms in Bignell Ridge constitute a Minor PUD Amendment due to the unique circumstances of the Township having knowledge of the potential sunrooms during the July 2014, PUD approval process. This decision is final. **Which motion carried.**

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Motion** by Supervisor French, supported by Trustee Redick to approve Resolution 16-06-01 that adopts the first series of budget amendments for fiscal year 2016.

Which motion carried pursuant to the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Behm, French, Larsen, Meeusen, Kieft, Redick

Nays:

Absent: Hutchins

2. **Motion** by Trustee Meeusen, supported by Trustee Behm to approve Resolution 16-06-02, as amended, that provides the necessary ballot wording to place Ordinance No. 541 referendum issue on the ballot for the November 8, 2016 election. **Which motion carried** pursuant to the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Redick, Kieft, Larsen, French, Behm, Meeusen,

Nays:

Absent: Hutchins

Manager Cargo noted that the Health Pointe project will not be "killed" if the referendum is not approved. However, the lawsuit appealing the Board's decision would lose any basis for continuing if the zoning ordinance language is approved by the referendum.

3. **Motion** by Clerk Larsen, supported by Trustee Meeusen to approve Resolution 16-06-03 approving a one-year license agreement with Waste Management of Michigan for waste collection and hauling services in Grand Haven Charter Township. **Which motion carried** pursuant to the following roll call vote:
Ayes: Meeusen, Kieft, Redick, French, Behm, Larsen
Nays:
Absent: Hutchins

Clerk Larsen requested a cost comparison between the waste haulers in the Township, which Manager Cargo will provide in the upcoming weekly report.

4. **Motion** by Supervisor French, supported by Trustee Behm to approve the reassignment of Human Resource tasks and the promotion of Fedewa to a Community Development Director (*i.e., change from Paygrade 5, level 6 or \$62,769 to Paygrade 6, Level 6 or \$68,683*). **Which motion carried.**

VIII. REPORTS AND CORESPONDENCE

- a. Correspondence was reviewed
- b. Committee Reports
 - i. Clerk Larsen noted that the next Personnel Committee meeting is scheduled for July 5th at noon.
- c. Manager's Report, which included:
 - i. May Building Report
 - ii. May Ordinance Enforcement Report
 - iii. May Public Services Report
 - iv. April Legal Review
- d. Others

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Craig Jenison (*i.e., a candidate for District Judge*) addressed the Board.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Clerk Larsen and seconded by Trustee Behm to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. **Which motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Larsen
Grand Haven Charter Township Clerk

Karl French
Grand Haven Charter Township Supervisor

SUPERINTENDENT'S MEMO

DATE: June 21, 2016

TO: Township Board

FROM: Cargo

SUBJECT: Supervisor French's Appointment – North Ottawa Community Hospital (NOCH)

Supervisor French requested that I forward information to the full Board regarding his proposed re-appointment of Joy Gaasch to the NOCH Board of Directors for a three-year term ending July 1, 2019.

Gaasch is well-known in our community as the President of the Chamber of Commerce and brings the following to her Board position on NOCH:

- She has relationships throughout the community and a desire to continue to assist NOCHS in moving forward with their strategic plans.
- She has been invaluable in creating connections between NOCH and the business community.
- She has gone through education/training with NOCH and wants to continue to utilize this expertise with NOCH.
- She is exceptional with regard to her communication skills and style and is an effective advocates for both NOCH and the community at-large.

French also notes that NOCH President Shellee Yaklin sent a letter to the Township requesting that Gaasch be appointed for another three year term.

To implement the aforementioned, the following motion can be offered:

Move to appoint Joy Gaasch to the North Ottawa Community Hospital Board of Directors for a three year term ending July 1, 2019.

If you have any questions or comments prior to the meeting, please contact Supervisor French.



Manager's Memo

DATE: June 21, 2016
 TO: Township Board
 FROM: Cargo
 RE: Pathway Extension Funding Options

In January of 2015 the Township Board instructed staff to place the proposed ten mile extension of the Township's 28 mile pathway system on the ballot for the November Presidential elections – this was recommend to ensure a high voter turnout. *(Recall that a telephone survey by Epic-MRA of 300 registered Township voters indicated that 64% would support a 0.45 mills pathway millage—which equates to a tax rate of 45 cents for every \$1,000 of taxable value.)*

Prien and Newhof updated the cost projections – which increased from about an estimated \$4.2 million to \$4.4 million due to the “boom” in construction – an increase of about 4.8% over the past 18 months. *(See Engineer's Estimate below.)*

Item No.	Description	Total Amount	Length
1	Lincoln St. (Lakeshore Dr. to 168th Avenue; East of US-31 to 144th Ave. and connector to Ferris Street along East side of US-31-easement)	\$1,729,650	4.1 Miles
2	144th Ave. (Mercury Dr. to Lincoln St)	\$773,733	1.5 Miles
3	Buchanan St. (Lakeshore Dr. to 168th Ave.)	\$491,749	0.8 Miles
4	152nd Ave. (Ferris to Lincoln)	\$451,765	0.5 Miles
5	168th Ave (Buchanan to Ferris)	\$608,154	1.5 Miles
6	Groesbeck St. (152nd to west end)	\$210,131	0.8 Miles
7	Sleeper St. (168th to Hofma Park)	\$151,185	0.8 Miles
Total Project Costs:		\$4,416,366	

At this stage, the Township Board needs to approve the ballot wording prior to August 16th. Further, the Board will need to decide whether the language will be for an extra voted millage (e.g., *0.45 mills for 20 years*) that may be applied to pay principal and interest on a bond or whether the ballot should authorize a specific bond amount for the project (e.g., *\$4.5 million with a 20 year bond*). (The ballot language for both options is attached.)

In general, the positive about an extra voted millage is that the Township would have greater flexibility with regard to how the tax revenues are spent. Rather than being limited to a specific use (i.e., *construction of the 10 mile pathway extension*), the monies could also be used for a bond to pay for the construction and, if the millage monies generated were *greater* than needed for the bond debt, available millage monies could be used for pathway maintenance.

The negative about an extra voted millage is that it is subject to Headlee rollbacks and uncertainty with regard to changes that Lansing might impose on how Taxable Value is calculated and/or the impact of a major recession wherein the Taxable Value of the Township could be reduced.

The extra voted millage is a “good” choice if you expect the Township’s Taxable Value to increase over the next 20 years and you want to maximize monies available for maintenance. But, there is greater uncertainty with regard to the issue of Taxable Value.

With regard to a specified bond amount, the positive is that regardless of the economy, the Township will have the authority to levy a millage sufficient to cover bond payments. This removes any uncertainty with regard to future debt payments; but, it eliminates any excess monies that could be raised due to the future growth of the Taxable Value.

Past experience indicates that a millage necessary to cover a specified bond is reduced over time. For example, the last pathway debt millage was initially levied in 1998 at 0.7569 mills. But, because of growth in the Township, the debt millage was reduced to .37 mills in 2007 – a reduction of about 51% over the term of the bond. (Another “extreme” example would be the water millage debt, which fell from 2.9 mills in 1979 to .22 mills in 2015 – a reduction of about 92%.)

The specified bond amount is a “good” choice if you want to eliminate uncertainty with regard to future bond payments and have the potential to decrease the millage rate over time. But, it will require the Township to rely upon the General Fund for future maintenance costs of the pathway.

Both choices are viable options.

Bottom line – the Township’s financial position remains “strong” with the Township’s total general obligation debt being only \$1,060,000. This is merely **1.3%** of the \$83,235,160 in debt that the Township is authorized to issue under state law.

Even if the Township adds \$4.5 million to the existing debt for an additional 10 miles of pathway, the Township would only be at **6.7%** of the Township’s \$83 million debt limit.

If there are any questions or comments prior to the meeting, please contact me.

EXCERPTS OF MINUTES

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Grand Haven Charter Township, Ottawa County, Michigan, held at the Township Hall at 13300 - 168th Avenue, Grand Haven, Michigan, on the 11th day of July, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., local time.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

The following Resolution was offered by Board Member _____
and supported by Board Member _____:

RESOLUTION 16-07-0*

WHEREAS, the Township desires to place before its electors at the November 8, 2016 election a bicycle path millage proposition;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS.

1. The following proposition shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Grand Haven Charter Township, Ottawa County, Michigan, at an election held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016:

BICYCLE PATH MILLAGE PROPOSITION

Shall an increase in property taxes which may be levied against property in Grand Haven Charter Township, Ottawa County, Michigan, be approved for twenty (20) years, 2016 through 2035, inclusive, in the amount of 0.45 mill (\$0.45 per thousand dollars of taxable valuation), for all property in the Township, to provide funds for planning, constructing, maintaining, reconstructing, operating, and constructing bicycle paths, for acquiring rights-of-way for bicycle paths and for the principal and interest on any bonds issued for the same; and shall the Township be authorized to levy the tax? The estimate of the revenue the Township will collect if the millage is approved and levied in its entirety in the 2016 calendar year is approximately \$301,725.

YES ()
NO ()

2. The Township Clerk is authorized and directed to timely certify this Resolution, containing the Bicycle Path Millage Proposition, to the County Clerk for the County of Ottawa, Michigan prior to August 16, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

3. All resolutions in conflict in whole or in part are revoked to the extent of such conflict.

YES: _____

NO: _____

RESOLUTION DECLARED AND ADOPTED.

DATED: July 11, 2016.

Laurie Larsen, Township Clerk

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Township Clerk of Grand Haven Charter Township, Ottawa County, Michigan, certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted by the Township Board at a regular meeting of the Township Board held on the 11th day of July, 2016. I further certify that public notice of the meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Michigan Act 267 of 1976, as amended, and that the minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by the Act.

Laurie Larsen, Township Clerk

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NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS.

1. The following proposition shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Grand Haven Charter Township, Ottawa County, Michigan, at an election held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016:

BICYCLE PATH BOND AND MILLAGE PROPOSITION

Shall Grand Haven Charter Township be authorized to borrow an amount not to exceed \$4,500,000, for a maximum of 20 years, absent refunding, and issue general obligation tax bonds for the following bicycle path extension project: Phase III Ten Mile Extension; and shall the Township be authorized to levy an increase in property taxes which may be levied against all property in the Township, for 20 years, 2016 through 2035, inclusive, in the initial amount of 0.45mill (\$0.45 per thousand dollars of taxable valuation), to provide funds to repay the bonds? The estimate of the revenue the Township will collect if the millage is approved and levied in its entirety in the 2016 calendar year is approximately \$301,725.

YES ()
NO ()

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