

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2007**

**PRESENT:** Anthony G. Forlini, Supervisor  
Jan P. Jorgensen, CMC, Clerk  
Darrin S. York, Treasurer  
Sharon Eineman, Trustee  
Robert I. Garvin, Trustee  
James A. Ulinski, Trustee  
Michael H. Rice, Trustee

**ALSO PRESENT:** Robert Huth, Township Attorney  
Bill Kinney, Water & Sewer Superintendent  
Vijay Parakh, Building Official  
Jared Maynard, Deputy Treasurer

**BOARD FORUM**

Board Members addressed individual resident concerns.

The meeting opened at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion by Mrs. Jorgensen, and seconded by Mr. Garvin to approve the consent agenda amending item IV. to read “clean out up to 300 cubic yards”. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF 8/27/07**

Motion by Mrs. Jorgensen, and seconded by Mr. Garvin to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of 08/27/07 as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,225,501.37**

Motion by Mrs. Jorgensen, and seconded by Mr. Garvin to approve the Bills in the amount of \$1,225,501.37 as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**APPROVAL OF NEW WINDOWS FOR THE WATER & SEWER STORAGE BUILDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,752.00**

Motion by Mrs. Jorgensen, and seconded by Mr. Garvin to authorize Metro Glass Block Inc., to replace eight windows at the South River Road storage building in the amount of \$2,752.00 paid from Water & Sewer Funds line item #592-000.000-976 (Building Additions/Improvements) as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**APPROVAL FOR MICHIGAN MARINE SALVAGE TO CONDUCT CLEANOUT UP TO 300 CUBIC YARDS OF MURDOCK BALLARD DRAIN BETWEEN MORAN/RIVIERA STREETS UNDER THE LAKES AND RIVERS GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,661.27**

Motion by Mrs. Jorgensen, seconded by Mr. Garvin to authorize Michigan Marine Salvage to conduct the cleanout up to 300 cubic yards of the Murdock Ballard Drain between Moran/Riviera Streets under the Lakes and Rivers Grant Fund in the amount of \$12,661.27 as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

**RATIFY EMERGENCY REPAIR FOR THE SEWER VACTOR IN THE OF \$7,851.16**

Motion by Mrs. Jorgensen, seconded by Mr. Garvin to ratify the actions taken by the Supervisor in authorizing the expenditure of \$7,851.16 to Jack Doheny Supplies, Inc., for the emergency repair of the sewer vactor, paid from the Water & Sewer Funds, line item #592-000.000-956 (Contingency) as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

**RATIFY SUBMITTAL OF GRANT APPLICANT TO PARTNER IN A LOCAL WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT WITH FEDERAL STATE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

Motion by Mrs. Jorgensen, seconded by Mr. Garvin to ratify the actions taken by the Supervisor in submitting a letter of support in filing the grant application to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in partnership with federal, state, and local authorities to implement wetland restoration in Harrison Township as discussed and motioned at the Budget Workshop of August 31, 2007. MOTION CARRIED.

**APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. York, and seconded by Mr. Garvin to approve the Regular Agenda with the following changes: to include the following emergency addenda: Request to Hire Clerical Help in Building Department as C.2, and to hold Closed Session Discussions regarding Cierra Building Co., and the Firefighters Wage re-opener request. MOTION CARRIED.

**SUPERVISOR/BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS**

It was announced that the Firefighters are hosting their annual pancake breakfast on Sunday, September 23, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Station #2, on Jefferson Ave. Everyone is welcome. Friday, September 14, 2007 is the last day taxes are due without late fees. Those tax payments dropped in the drop box over the weekend will be marked received as 9/14/07. Seniors 65 and older with an annual income of under \$40,000.00 may be eligible for a tax deferment. Information regarding same is available in the Treasurer's Office. Saturday, October 6, 2007 is the Run Like a Mother event. Everyone is invited to join in. Runs and walks are scheduled for different age groups. For additional information, please contact Mrs. Eineman at 463-2647. Mr. Garvin and Mrs. Eineman responded to a letter they and other board members received from an anonymous resident.

Residents shared their comments.

**Motion by Mr. Garvin, and seconded by Mr. Ulinski to receive and file the Supervisor and Board Announcements as presented. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

#### **HISTORICAL COMMITTEES' REQUEST TO APPROVE PROPOSAL FROM CIERRA BUILDING COMPANY FOR RESTORATION OF OLD TOWN HALL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,400.00**

The Historical Committee Chairperson, Mrs. Karczewski presented the low quotes from proposals received for the restoration of the Old Town Hall totaling \$7,400.00. The work includes restoring existing wood floor sand and stain and repair damaged area in front entrance. Restore existing interior and exterior walls and ceiling, hand scraping all walls, prime and paint with two tone color, per customer selection, caulk exterior and interior walls, and restore existing ceiling with a stained clear coat. To insulate walls and install ceiling baffles as needed. Mr. Mauk from Cierra Building has volunteered to oversee the restoration project at no cost to the Township for the Historical Committee. Mr. Mauk stated that he will donate his time and stand behind the work that is done to the building. The Board discussed at great length the proposed work. Some board members felt that the policy was not followed regarding obtaining quotes/bids, that the Supervisor and the Building Official should be involved in overseeing the restoration work, and that a site plan should be presented to the board presenting the complete plan for the project and if needed, that the restoration work could be done in steps. A Board member spoke to the building's foundation and questioned the soundness of the building's structure for the proposed future addition and whether a basement should be built.

**Motion by Mr. Ulinski, and seconded by Mr. Rice to direct the Supervisor to work with the Building Department to prepare quotes specification for the work to be done in restoring the old Town Hall, for the Supervisor's Office to seek quotes and have them returned to the Clerk's Office in two weeks.**

Mr. Mauk stated that he would also donate a \$1,000.00 to help pay for the project and invited others if interested to contact the Supervisor's office to donate as well.

Residents offered their comments.

**Motion by Mr. Garvin, and seconded by Mr. Rice to Call for the Question.**

**Roll Call:     Ayes:             Garvin, Rice, York, Forlini  
                  Nays:             Eineman, Ulinski, Jorgensen  
                  Excused:       None  
                  **MOTION CARRIED.****

**Motion by Mr. Ulinski, and seconded by Mr. Rice to direct the Supervisor to work with the Building Department to prepare quotes specification for the work to be done in restoring the**

old Town Hall, for the Supervisor's Office to seek quotes and have them returned to the Clerk's Office in two weeks.

**Roll Call: Ayes: Ulinski, Rice, Eineman, York, Forlini**  
**Nays: Garvin, Jorgensen**  
**Excused: None**  
**MOTION CARRIED.**

### **SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE**

#### **APPROVAL TO CONTINUE THE SERVICE OF PART TIME MAINTENANCE WORKER BOB YEAGLEY UNTIL OCTOBER 31, 2007**

It is requested that Mr. Yeagley be kept on staff for closing the parks and emptying trash at the Senior Center and along the bike path, indefinitely. Mr. Yeagley works no more than 20 hours per week as a part time maintenance worker. It is also requested that the Board consider having Mr. Yeagley work during the absence of the regular maintenance worker. There are sufficient funds in 101.265.000.707.000 Part Time Salaries to cover the wages for this extended period. The Board discussed the length of time that the Supervisor was requesting for the continued service and it was suggested that the Board discuss and review for the continuation of this position at budget time.

**Motion by Mr. York, seconded by Mrs. Eineman to extend the employment period for Part Time Maintenance Worker Bob Yeagley through December 31, 2007. MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **REQUEST TO HIRE CLERICAL HELP IN BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

The Building Official requested that the Township hire Rhonda Bobcean at \$15.00 per hour for full-time clerical help in the building department. The Building Official stated that six candidates were interviewed and that, based on the applicants' knowledge and qualifications, Ms. Bobcean was the most qualified candidate for the position. The request was based on the need for temporary clerical assistance of less than 1200 hours. The hire would not be for the purpose of temporarily or permanently filling any vacancy, or vacant position, in the building department.

Residents shared their comments.

**Motion by Mrs. Eineman, and seconded by Mr. Rice to concur with the Building Official's recommendation to hire Rhona Bobcean at the hourly rate of \$15.00 for clerical support in the Building Department up to 1200 hours, to start immediately. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **TRUSTEE'S REQUEST**

#### **APPROVAL OF 41-B DISTRICT COURT APPOINTMENT TO REPLACE LARRY MISLINSKI AS A MEMBER REPRESENTING HARRISON TOWNSHIP ON THE COURTS' BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Eineman stated that she requested this agenda item because Mr. Mislinski has resigned and

would like to recommend Mr. Rice as the member representing Harrison Township on the 41-B District Court Building Committee along with Mr. Forlini. It was stated that Mr. Ken Verkest has been serving in Mr. Mislinski's absence **WITHOUT BOARD APPROVAL**, and that the Committee meets every other Wednesday at noon.

Residents offered their comments.

**Motion by Mrs. Eineman, seconded by Mr. Ulinski to appoint Mr. Rice as a Harrison Township Member Representative on the 41-B District Court's Building Committee. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. Resident, Linda Karczewski, stated that the Historical Committee is able to meet on Thursday at 4:00 p.m. at the Old Town Hall to discuss what is needed to begin the quote process as required by the Board of Trustees. She welcomed any and all board members to attend that meeting that were available to attend.
2. Resident, Sam Buschell, spoke to actions taken by the Board of Trustees regarding the letter sent to business owners in the Industrial Corridor in July, as well as addressed the Board regarding the \$95.00 fee charged to him for a fence permit.
3. Resident, Jim Senstock, asked that the Board bring back at a future board meeting a plan for fire and ambulance protection north of the river when the Bridgeview Bridge is under construction. He also commented to the Closed Session discussion regarding the Cierra Building Co. litigation and requested that the Board appeal the Judge's decision.
4. Resident, Rich Rapp, also commented to the Cierra Building Co. Litigation and was opposed to the Township appealing the decision and for the Township residents having to pay out of pocket for the appeal process. He also spoke to other issues, the law suit filed by a Township Employee against three board members and to the tree cutting investigation.
5. The Township Attorney stated that he spoke with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office and they are requesting a new file because they cannot find the original file, and will ask the Clerk's Office to make another copy of that file for re-submittal.
6. Resident, Randy Laforest stated that she was disappointed in the way the board handled the Historical Committee request for approval and funding in restoring the Old Town Hall. She also expressed concern that the Board of Trustee meetings are not being taped/aired gavel to gavel.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

1. Mr. Ulinski responded to a letter he received, spoke about the competitive bidding and quote process, and responded to a comment made defending that qualified people get appointed to the Township's Committees and Commissions.
2. Mrs. Eineman, requested that the quote specs relative to the Old Town Hall project be placed on the webpage, stated that she will continue to hold parties accountable and in accordance to our ordinance regarding tree preservation, spoke to ~~the~~ **HER OPPOSITION**

**TO THE** proposed state tax hike, and requested that everyone be mindful of the 9/11 anniversary.

3. Mr. York apologized and offered to look into the cable concerns, and announced to the AT&T subscribers that the Township is working in making that cable service work **IN RELATIONSHIP TO PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNELS** in Harrison Township, and he offered his help to the Historical Commission.
4. Mrs. Jorgensen had no comment to share.
5. Mr. Garvin had no comment to share.
6. Mr. Rice requested a progress report on the N. River Road Fishing Hole, and spoke to the inconvenience that the residents experienced when N. River was closed for 4 hours because of a down telephone pole. He spoke to the Board's accomplishments in the three years of service, to foreclosures in Harrison Township, and that the trees are being removed from N. Pointe and Coleridge based on a Judge's decision to allow for a development to be built on a once designated wetlands.
7. Mr. Forlini, reminded resident about the Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, September 23, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. at Station 2, Jefferson Ave.. He also responded to a resident's comment regarding fire or ambulance protection north of the River. The Supervisor stated that the fire trucks are able to cross the bridge since the traffic lights were installed and now meet the weight limitation. Once the bridge is under construction Selfridge will respond 1<sup>st</sup> and the Township will respond by using the I94 route. He also thanked Ken Verkest for serving as the Member Representative for Harrison Township on the 41B District Court Building Committee from May to now. Mr. Ulinski suggested that a resolution be drafted thanking Mr. Verkest for his service.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

#### **CLOSED SESSION AFSCME 1103 NEGOTIATIONS AND TO CONSULT WITH TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY REGARDING BRITTANY PARK APARTMENTS LITIGATION**

**Motion by Mr. Ulinski, and seconded by Mr. Garvin to enter into Closed Session regarding AFSCME 1103 Negotiations, the Firefighter's request for a wage re-opener, and to consult with Township Attorney Regarding Brittany Park Apartments and Cierra Litigations at 10:45 p.m.**

**Roll Call:   Ayes:           Ulinski, Garvin, Eineman, Rice, York, Jorgensen, Forlini  
              Nays:           None  
              Excused:       None  
              **MOTION CARRIED.****

### **OPEN SESSION**

**Motion by Mr. Garvin, and seconded by Mr. Ulinski to enter into Open Session at 12:16 a.m.**

**Roll Call:   Ayes:           Garvin, Ulinski, Eineman, Rice, York, Jorgensen, Forlini  
              Nays:           None**

**Excused: None  
MOTION CARRIED.**

**Motion by Mr. Ulinski, and seconded by Mr. York to deny the proposed settlement offer for the Brittany Park Apartments litigation. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Motion by Mr. Garvin, and seconded by Mr. York to direct the three full time Officials to meet with the Firefighter’s Union Representation regarding their request for a wage re-opener and bring back to the Board at a future meeting. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Motion by Mrs. Eineman, and seconded by Mr. Ulinski to affirm the motion made last week to file the claim of appeal regarding the Cierra Building Co. litigation.**

**Roll Call: Ayes: Eineman, Ulinski, Rice, York  
Nays: Garvin, Jorgensen, Forlini  
Excused: None  
MOTION CARRIED.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Mr. Garvin, and seconded by Mr. Ulinski to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at ~~12:25~~ 12:26 12:20 a.m. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Prepared & Submitted by,**

**Approved by,**

**Jan P. Jorgensen, CMC, Clerk  
Charter Township of Harrison**

**Anthony G. Forlini, Supervisor  
Charter Township of Harrison**