

Regular Meeting
Eagle Township Board
September 1, 2009

1. Call to Order - The regular meeting of the Eagle Township Board was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Supervisor Schafer at the Eagle Township Hall, 14318 Michigan Street, Eagle, MI.

Members present were: Supervisor Patti Schafer, Clerk Wendy Simmons, Treasurer Joe Smith, as well as Trustees Steve Colby and Mark Therrian. Also present were: Mr. Joe Pulver of the Clinton County Road Commission, Township Assessor Mr. Randy Jewell, Mr. Jerry McNeilly, Mr. Pat Stefanick Jr., Mr. W.T. Johnson, Mr. Jim Harsant, Mr. Scott Hazen, Mr. Carol Pingel, Mrs. Marilyn Pingel, and Mr. Dick Schiable.

2. Public Hearing – Whispering Winds Street Lights – Supervisor Schafer opened the public hearing at 6:34 p.m. The Clerk reported that notices had been mailed more than 10 days prior to the meeting, and that the notice was published twice with the first notice being more than 10 days prior to the meeting. The notarized Affidavit of Mailing and Affidavit of Publications will be included with the official record of the meeting.

Supervisor Schafer offered a summary of the history of the street light fund, reviewing historical assessments and expenditures.

The following individuals addressed the Board regarding the assessment:

W. T. Johnson of 11196 Hardenburg – Asked if the fund covered just the electric costs of the street lights or maintenance as well? He felt that more efficient bulbs, etc. should be pursued for the street lights.

Jim Harssant of 11220 Harpham – He stated that there is no Whispering Winds Association, that Mr. Morris had contacted him regarding this issue in the past. He told Mr. Morris that there were two options, either to leave the assessment as is or increase the assessment. He feels that there should be no set amount, that they should pay what is needed each year, paying as you go. He inquired about those individuals that have two lots and are being only charged for one assessment. Mr. Jewell confirmed that some lots have been consolidated into one parcel; therefore only one charge is appropriate.

Pat Stefanick of Hardenburg Trail – He stated that he owns an additional parcel that is being added and wondered about how that determination was made. Supervisor Schafer explained that since his drive is only accessible through the Whispering Winds subdivision, therefore the determination was made that it was appropriate to include his parcel in the assessment district. He stated that he had no problem paying for the lights because it is a benefit to have a lighted subdivision.

Supervisor Schafer closed the public hearing at 6:58 p.m.

3. Whispering Winds Road Information – Supervisor Schafer explained that the roads within the subdivision are in need of repair. Mr. Pulver explained that at least 50% of the cost must come from funding sources other than the County Road Commission, and that many communities do special assessments to cover those costs. He further explained that the roads are just under one mile long, asphalt sealing would cost approximately \$70,000 there are other options available that would be at less cost, but not as durable (approximately \$35,000 - \$40,000 for chip coating). He explained that through local roads typically carry people to and from things, subdivision streets are typically driven only by those residents. The County covers 100% of the cost of routine maintenance of all roads.

4. Agenda Approval – Clerk Simmons made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Trustee Colby supported the motion. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment – None.

6. Approval of Minutes – Trustee Therrian made a motion to accept the minutes of July 14, 2009 as presented. Treasurer Smith supported the motion. Motion Carried.

7. Treasurer's Report – Clerk Simmons made a motion to accept the reports for July and August and place them on file. Trustee Therrian supported the motion. Motion Carried.

8. LGRFA Report – Trustee Therrian reported on the time line for the bid process for the new truck. The electronic bid process will be held on Thursday, September 3 at 10:00 a.m. at the fire station. The bidding process is open to the public. He also reported that there are discussions currently taking place with other entities regarding shared services.

Clerk Simmons reported that the audit is complete, and that the Authority was again under budget. Watertown will be receiving back approximately \$27,000 and Eagle Township will be receiving back approximately \$14,600.

Chief Fabiano reaffirmed that there is a 60 day window to reject any and all bids on the new truck and that if he isn't satisfied with the numbers that come in during the event on Thursday he will recommend purchasing a different type of apparatus. He also reported that he feels it is prudent to look at other ideas to share responsibilities with other departments to lower costs and reduce the budget.

9. Hall Check List Report – Clerk Simmons reported that there was only one check list, which was okayed by Barb. She further reported that a form had been created for those rare times when residents are allowed to borrow tables and chairs stating that they would be returned in the original condition or that the borrower would replace them.

10. Meetings Update Report – There were no meetings attended, for which the item was not on the agenda.

11. Correspondence – Clerk Simmons and Supervisor Schafer reviewed correspondence to the Board.

12. Accounts Payable – Clerk Simmons made a motion to pay the bills as listed from in the amount of \$51,282.20 and all regular bills that occur during the month. Treasurer Smith supported the motion. Motion carried.

13. Whispering Winds Street Light Assessment – Clerk Simmons made a motion to accept the resolution Confirming Whispering Winds Street Light Special Assessment District Revised Assessment Roll. Trustee Colby supported the motion. Aye: Simmons, Smith, Therrian, Colby, Schafer. Nay: None. Resolution Carried.

14. Scott Hazen Fire Run Charge – Mr. Hazen addressed the Board regarding the charges he has been assessed for fire run charges for services on his property. Supervisor Schafer reported that she has requested additional Sherriff patrol on his property.

15. Pingel Variance Request – Supervisor Schafer reviewed the requested variance and gave Mr. and Mrs. Pingel the opportunity to address the Board.

Clerk Simmons made a motion to recommend approval of the requested variance (ZC-05-09 VR). Trustee Colby supported the motion. Motion Carried.

16. Grand Ledge Airport Authority Appointment – Trustee Colby made a motion to appoint Supervisor Schafer to the Grand Ledge Airport Authority Board. Clerk Simmons supported the motion. Motion Carried.

17. Independent Bank Business Resolution – Clerk Simmons made a motion to add Independent Bank as a bank approved by the Township Board for township business and to approve the Business Resolution. Trustee Therrian supported the motion. Aye: Colby, Therrian, Smith, Simmons, Schafer. Nay: None. Motion Carried.

18. Citizens Bank – Supervisor Schafer made a motion to add Citizens Bank to the list of approved banks. Treasurer Smith supported the motion. Motion Carried.

19. Verizon Metro Permit Renewal – Clerk Simmons made a motion to approve the METRO Act Unilateral Form renewal for Verizon. Supervisor Schafer supported the motion. Motion Carried.

20. Rural Recycling Program – Clerk Simmons made a motion to inform Waste Management that the Board is not in favor of the proposed consolidation of the site with Westphalia and increasing the per household charge. Trustee Therrian supported the motion. Motion Carried.

21. Drug & Laboratory Disposal Fire Run Charge – Supervisor Schafer made a motion to stop the collection process of the bill and to send a letter that non emergency services will not be made available to DLD in the future. Clerk Simmons supported the motion. Aye: Simmons, Colby, Smith, Therrian, Schafer. Nay: None. Motion Carried.

22. Payroll Tax Classification for Township Assessor – Clerk Simmons made a motion to refer the matter of payroll tax classification for township assessors to Bill Fahey. Trustee Colby supported the motion. Motion Carried.

23. Fall Regional Meeting – Clerk Simmons made a motion to allow any Board member wishing to attend the Fall Regional Meeting to do so at the Township's expense. Supervisor Schafer supported the motion. Motion Carried.

24. Township Audit – Supervisor Schafer offered a summary of the Township's recently completed audit for 2008/2009.

25. Other Business - Supervisor Schafer reported that she has received an email from MTA that the Federal Government is looking to restore lost revenue sharing.

Supervisor Schafer also reported that Capital Crossing is not paying the \$3.00 specific assessment tax, which is a per trailer coach tax. They have not paid since August of 2008. Clerk Simmons made a motion to authorize Ross Bauer to draft a letter to Capital Crossings to initiate the process of procuring payment from them for delinquent trailer coach specific tax payments, penalties, interest and civil fines. Trustee Therrian supported the motion. Motion Carried.

Supervisor Schafer reported that the Miller Sand and Gravel request for sand extraction was approved.

26. Adjournment – Trustee Therrian made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 p.m. Supervisor Schafer supported the motion. Motion Carried.

10/13/09
Approved

Wendy K. Simmons, Clerk