

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FLUSHING

6524 N. SEYMOUR ROAD

FLUSHING, MICHIGAN 48433

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

DATE: JULY 8, 2010

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

PHONE: 810-659-0800

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WEB PAGE: <http://www.flushingtowship.com>

ADMINISTRATION MEMBERS

SUPERVISOR: Terry A. Peck

CLERK: Julia A. Morford

TREASURER: William J. Noecker

TRUSTEES

Michael S. Gardner

Scott R. Matzke

Scott P. Minaudo

Mark H. Purkey

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY:

STEVEN MOULTON

Cooley Moulton & Smith LLP

727 S. Grand Traverse Street

Flint, Michigan 48502

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 7:00 p.m. by **SUPERVISOR TERRY A. PECK** with Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

ROLL CALL: Terry A. Peck, Julia A. Morford, William J. Noecker, Michael S. Gardner, Scott R. Matzke, Mark H. Purkey, and Attorney Steve Moulton

MEMBERS ABSENT: Scott P. Minaudo

OTHER INDIVIDUALS PRESENT: Fifty (50) other individuals

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

PURKEY MOVED, seconded by Matzke to amend the Agenda with the following changes:

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Genesee County Drain Commissioner Jeff Wright
- b. Police Budget
- c. Michigan Townships Association Training Class – Planning Commission
- d. Quote for the Assessor's Computer
- e. Discussion on Roads
- f. Title Insurance – Frances Road House
- g. Tree/Stump Removal
- h. Ads Plus Statement
- i. and remove from Committee Reports and make as letter "i" Canoe Committee

ACTION OF THE MOTION:

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Matzke, Gardner, Purkey, Peck, Noecker, and Morford

NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

ABSENT: Minaudo

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES OF JUNE 10, 2010: PURKEY MOVED, seconded by Matzke to approve the Minutes of June 10, 2010 as presented.

ACTION OF THE MOTION:

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Purkey, Gardner, Matzke, Peck, Morford, and Noecker

NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

ABSENT: Minaudo

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS:

PURKEY MOVED, seconded by Matzke to pay the bills as presented.

DISCUSSION:

The remodeling of the Flushing Township Police Chief's office was a little more than predicted: the original bid was \$2,652.00 but the actual cost was \$2,929.35 due to an extra electrical cost and for materials when the Chief, Mrs. Stevenson, and the Chief's daughter painted the Chief's office.

ACTION OF THE MOTION:

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Purkey, Morford, Noecker, Peck, Gardner, and Matzke

NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED

ABSENT: Minaudo

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1-a Genesee County Drain Commissioner Jeff Wright

Genesee County Drain Commissioner JEFF WRIGHT and Assistant Director of the Water and Waste Services DAVE JENSEN was in attendance to give a presentation on the proposed Port Huron Waterline also known as "Karegnondi Water Authority."

Genesee County has two (2) options: 1) build our own water system that would include Sanilac County, Lapeer County, City of Flint, and City of Lapeer which all have passed resolutions to create what would be known as the "Karegnondi Water Authority." "Karegnondi" is the Peton Indian name for Lake Huron meaning Big Water. 2) The other option, to building our own water line, would be to have a thirty (30) year water contract with Detroit. A second option was necessary in order to find a way to save money for the residents. After much research and investigation, it was determined it would be much cheaper to build our own ("Karegnondi Water Authority") system than to have another thirty (30) year contract with Detroit; almost \$400,000,000 over the same amount of time.

Other interesting facts:

- Genesee County owns two hundred thirty (230) acres on Lake Huron
- There would be access to lake water
- Sanilac County as well as Genesee County has a high arsenic level
- Lapeer and Sanilac Counties are particular interested because the water line would bring untreated water across the State that could be used for agriculture purposes
- Genesee County would have it's own water treatment facility
- In either case, a second pipeline will be built whether it is Detroit or Genesee County
- Cost for the Genesee County Pipeline would be \$605,000,000; Detroit Pipeline would be \$720,000,000
- Independent studies/work has been done by Rowe Inc, Wade Trim Engineering, Miller Canfield, Jones and Henry, Stodder and Barge.
- A permit has been applied for and received from the State of Michigan to withdraw water and to do the soil borings out of Lake Huron.
- By-laws have been completed by the five (5) communities and have been published in the newspaper, which is a requirement of Public Act 233.
- The formula for the Detroit waterline is based on distance and elevation and since Genesee County is the furthest distance away from the center of Detroit, Genesee County will pay the most for one hundred (100) cubic feet of water.
- Under the "Karegnondi" system, the middleman (City of Flint) would be eliminated; Genesee County water is cheaper than the City of Flint even though Genesee County purchases its water from the City of Flint.

- The bond ratings and figures were based on six (6%) percent interest rate based on some factors. (The interest rate would be locked in when money is borrowed for the first time.)
- Improvements have been made at the Dort Highway/Stewart Street Water Treatment plant in order to use the infrastructure to take care of the raw water from the proposed water pipeline.
- The water authority would have its own bond rating and would become its own entity with the ratings based on the data accumulated from the five (5) communities.
- Out of 750,000 thousand people that live in the water service area, two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) are already serviced by the water line; no one on a well system would pay for the water line; there would not be any new taxes or millages involved but would be paid for by water customers only. (Public Act 233)
- The money received from the proposed water line could only be used to operate and maintain the proposed water system.
- Detroit has the ability to raise the out-county area water rates and not adjust the internal Detroit City rates; or Detroit could slightly adjust the City rates very slightly.
- The bond (for the proposed water line) would be for twenty-five (25) years; the life expectancy of the pipeline would be for one hundred (100) years. Federal and State laws require the Genesee County Drain Commissioner to set aside money now to rebuild the water line in one hundred (100) years. The Detroit waterline currently servicing Genesee County, has already met its life expectancy and was the determining factor in Detroit wanting to construct their own pipeline.
- More important water facts can be viewed in the *National Geographic, Sids Report* and *Blue Water Economy*.
- For more details, residents can view on line the proposed water authority at karegnondi.com (See Exhibit A)

1-b. Police Budget

Flushing Township Police Chief Dale Stevenson gave a detailed power-point presentation regarding the lay-off of two (2) patrol officers, and the retirement of the Detective Sergeant with the Sergeant staying as a Sergeant. The Chief has met with the Police Department and reviewed the options. (See Exhibit B).

A Special Meeting will be held on Thursday, July 29, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Flushing Township Hall to make a determination. A hard copy of the presentation will be available to the public on Monday, July 12, 2010 after 12:00 Noon.

1-c. Michigan Townships Association Training Class – Planning Commission

PURKEY MOVED, seconded by Matzke to allow any Planning Commission Member that would like to attend the Michigan Townships Association (MTA) Training Class on Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at a cost of \$85 per person at Frankenmuth, Michigan.

ACTION OF THE MOTION:

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Purkey, Morford, Noecker, Peck, Gardner, and Matzke

NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED

ABSENT: Minaudo

1-d. Quote for the Assessor’s Computer

MORFORD MOVED, seconded by Purkey to accept the price of \$890.00 from J.B. Enterprise LLC for a new computer for the Assessor.

ACTION OF THE MOTION:

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Morford, Noecker, Peck, Gardner, Matzke, and Purkey

NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED

ABSENT: Minaudo

1-e. Discussion on Roads

The Supervisor gave an update on the roads/ditching status in Flushing Township:

- 1) ditches: have been completed on Deland Road
- 2) paving:
 - a. Johnson Road between Stanley Road and Mt. Morris Road which is the first of a two-mile paving job, and
 - b. Deland Road between Coldwater Road and Stanley Road.
- 3) Carpenter Road – Promises have been made to pave Carpenter Road, but there isn't money to pave the road.
- 4) Two (2) Flushing Township Road Committee Members have resigned; if anyone is interested, please contact the Township Supervisor.
- 5) Genesee County Road Commissioner John Daly and 7th District Genesee County Commissioner Archie Bailey met with some Ponderosa Subdivision residents on Carpenter Road; last year's rough prediction to repair one (1) mile of Carpenter Road had been approximately \$1,000,000; John Daly currently is working on two (2) proposals.
- 6) Currently a chip and seal road project is underway on Seymour Road

1-f. Title Insurance – Frances Road House

PURKEY MOVED, seconded by Matzke to spend the additional money of (\$750) to do the necessary work to provide clear title to the house at 8315 Frances Road, Flushing, Michigan.

DISCUSSION:

State laws were revised several years ago to eliminate going through extra steps when involved in tax sales. Title insurance premiums are based on the amount being paid for the property. For title insurance policies being issued on properties that have gone through a tax sale, the title insurance companies will not issue a policy unless the independent company, *Tax Title Services*, provided them a certificate assuring the company that all the requirements to a properly foreclose on a tax sale had been complied with. Other alternatives for a title insurance policy had been recommended but was refused. The up-front amount of \$750 has to be paid to *Tax Title Services* of California in order to get the certificate of title insurance.

Other alternatives could be completed by the Township Attorney but would cost a lot more. Title companies are now requiring the certificate. The Lucy Ham Company has mentioned to the Flushing Township Treasurer there could be a few other small tax amounts involved in the foreclosure process.

It was recommended by the Township Attorney to proceed with sending the money as soon as possible to get the issue resolved.

ACTION OF THE MOTION:

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Noecker, Peck, Gardner, Matzke, Purkey, and Morford

NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED

ABSENT: Minaudo

1-g. Tree/Stump Removal

The Supervisor and Treasurer, with the help of a several other individuals, have cut down thirty-five (35) trees on the Flushing Township premise. Please bring your truck and saw and receive free wood.

Estimates are being taken to cut a few more trees and to grind the stumps. The tree/stump removal issue will be placed on the July 29, 2010 Special Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda in order to get more estimates.

1-h. **Ads Plus Statement**

An invoice has been received from Ads Plus for an order placed by the former Supervisor; Ads Plus will contact the former supervisor. The order consisted of information for the Senior Center.

1-i. **Canoe Committee**

PURKEY MOVED, seconded by Matzke to allow access to the canoe landing area by motor vehicles for the express purpose of launching and retrieving canoes, kayaks, and small boats and also to allow for the development of rules and regulations to govern such use after rules have been established.

DISCUSSION:

Before any decision can be made, the Canoe Committee felt first there needed to be approval from the Flushing Township Board for access to the Flint River from the Flushing Township Nature Park (Nature Park).

There has been a tremendous amount of interest in the community for a canoe landing in the Nature Park. Currently, there is a canoe landing area in place; driveways and trails are already in place to get to the landing area. Rules and regulations would have to be discussed and reviewed for such issues as motorized vehicles, who would have the right-of-way on the trails, signs, time frame for the landing to be open, etc. Liability insurance is currently in place. The area would only be a landing, not a launch or livery, to take canoes, kayaks, and small boats in and out of the Flint River.

Different groups in the community have mentioned having fundraisers to support the project so that money would not have to come out of the Township Park Fund. Future details will have to be discussed, but the first step would be to obtain approval from the Township Board to have access to the Flint River.

ACTION OF THE MOTION:

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Peck, Gardner, Matzke, Purkey, Morford, and Noecker

NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED

ABSENT: Minaudo

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None

REPORTS:

1. Treasurer's Report:

- a. State Revenue Sharing was up for the period.
- b. Bids Committee – there has been discussion with Waste Management, Republic Waste, and Richfield Waste regarding the waste pick-up for a two (2) year period with an option of three (3) years. Attorney Moulton is currently reviewing the contracts.
- c. Bill Schneider of WILDTYPE Design, Native Plants & Seed LTD, Mason, Michigan – a letter had been received from Mr. Schneider with reviews and comments concerning the Flushing Township Nature Park.

8:50 P.M. – OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

Five (5) people gave their comments.

9:00 P.M. – CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

BOARD COMMENTS:

- 1. **MATZKE** was seriously bothered by the idea of residents of the township having to wait six (6) hours when there were robberies; everything should be done to keep the 24/7 police protection; the township should provide the best possible for the township residents.
- 2. **PURKEY** felt the police officers were doing everything they could to get through the lay-off process; **PURKEY** really appreciated the police department

3. **NOECKER** stated the overtime was \$31,000 before the Chief was selected; he thanked the patrolmen for working with the Chief in dealing with the twelve (12) hour shift schedule with flat pay; the overtime pay was reduced; if further lay-offs are made, including the current officer, he hated to see anyone lose their certification and would bend over backwards so the officers wouldn't lose their certification; no one should work for \$12 per hour; if the 24/7 schedule was reduced, it would be at the lowest traffic time of the day; hopefully 24/7 could be retained; the 24/7 coverage was never guaranteed to the public; lay-offs are a very emotional issue; values of homes have gone down.
4. **MORFORD** expressed her opinion about a blog that was on the computer regarding the Supervisor, Clerk, and Treasurer.
5. **GARDNER** gave the audience his phone number, 810- 577-2483, if anyone would like to contact him.
6. **PECK** mentioned upcoming dates and issues:
 - a. **Monday, July 19, 2010** - Special Joint Meeting between Flushing Township and the City of Flushing at 7:00 p.m. at the V.F.W. Hall on McKinley Road. Joint issues will be discussed.
 - b. **Thursday, July 29, 2010** - Special Flushing Township Board of Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at Flushing Township.
 - c. **Police Chief Report** – the \$74,000 mentioned in the Police Chief's report was for total compensation for the Police Secretary.
 - d. **Friends of Public Transportation** – a transportation issue is on the August 3, 2010 ballot requesting support for Mass Transit (MTA). **PECK** stated he would not endorse the issue and that everyone should make up their own mind.

THE NEXT REGULAR SCHEDULED BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING IS THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE FLUSHING TOWNSHIP HALL.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Supervisor Peck adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

JULIA A. MORFORD, Clerk

TERRY A. PECK , Supervisor

APPROVED DATE: _____