



Montrose Charter Township
139 S. Saginaw Street, P.O. Box 3128 Montrose, MI 48457
Phone (810) 639-2021 Fax (810) 639-3207

Montrose Township Board Meeting

PLACE:

Montrose Township Hall, 139 S Saginaw Street, Montrose, MI 48457

DATE:

September 20, 2011

The Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Mark Emmendorfer at 7:05 pm.

The meeting began with The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call: Present- Tom Tithof, Mark Emmendorfer, Gail Fikes, Dan Hill, Gary Keeler, Linda Miller. Absent- Fred Domine

Supervisor Mark Emmendorfer asked the board for permission to add two additional items to the agenda. These items include: Special Assessment/Improper Billing and Drain Litigation Appeal Status.

Agenda Approval: Dan Hill made a **Motion** to add two additional agenda items: Special assessment/Improper Billing and Drain Litigation Appeal Status. Support for the motion was given by Gail Fikes. Vote- All yes. Motion passed.

Gary Keeler made a **Motion** to approve the new agenda containing the two additional items: Special Assessment/Improper Billing and Drain Litigation Appeal Status. Support for the motion was given by Dan Hill. Vote- All yes. Motion passed.

Citizens Comments: Yvonne Beers, a Montrose City resident at 203 Perry St., addressed the board about her recent inquiry to purchase a cemetery plot. Beers owns 35 acres in Montrose Township but is a City resident. She expressed disappointment about having to pay the non-township resident cemetery plot rate. In addition, she mentioned her family roots can be traced back to more than 150 years in Montrose and it seems unfair to her to have to pay the higher rate since she owns land in the township and pays taxes on the land. She asked the board to consider looking into this matter and revising the ordinance.

Supervisor Emmendorfer thanked Beers for bringing this matter to the board's attention. He advised her and all meeting participants about the history of how the cemetery came to be maintained solely by the township. He said this was a worthy cause to take a look at in the near future.

Draft

Minutes: Gary Keeler made a **Motion** to accept the minutes of the August 16, 2011 Board meeting as presented. Support for the motion was given by Gail Fikes. Vote- All yes. Motion passed.

Treasurers Report: Gail Fikes gave the Treasurers report.

Presentation of Bills: Tom Tithof made a **Motion** to pay the bills as presented. Support for the motion was given by Dan Hill. Vote- Gail Fikes (yes), Mark Emmendorfer (yes), Linda Miller (yes), Dan Hill (yes), Tom Tithof (yes), Gary Keeler (yes). Motion passed.

Reports:

Fire Department

Police Department

Twin Township Ambulance

Building Department

Senior Center

Building & Grounds.

Reports are on file with these minutes.

Danelle Barker (filling in for Chief Ellis) stated the Fire Department raised \$1,700 for Muscular Dystrophy during the “Fill the Boot” annual drive. In addition, the fire department received a letter from the Blueberry Festival Committee thanking and praising the fire department and firefighter Becky Volz for her exceptional efforts on the recent golf scramble.

Barker said there has been a recent increase in the volume of calls received at the police department. Typically 60 calls per month are handled. However, recently 97 formal complaints were received. Barker said the department has been busy with serious matters such as felonious assaults, home invasions and the attempted child abduction.

Lastly, Barker presented information about a non-profit program called “Armor of God,” which sends expired and refurbished vests to law enforcement officers in need to other countries and within the U.S. She gave examples of how the program has proven to save lives. She asked the township board to allow the police department to participate in this program and donate their expired vests to officers who are not provided vests or cannot afford them.

Supervisor Emmendorfer added that the police department is obligated, contractually, to provide new ballistic vests every five years. Chief Ellis and Danelle Barker obtained a \$2500 grant from the 100 Club and with a \$2500 matching grant from Waste Connection the owners of the Brent Run Landfill this ensures new vests for Montrose Township officers at no cost to the township.

Gary Keeler made a **Motion** to allow the police department to participate in the Armor of God vest donation program. Support for the motion was given by Dan Hill. Vote- Gail Fikes (yes), Mark Emmendorfer (yes), Linda Miller (yes), Tom Tithof (yes) Dan Hill (yes), Gary Keeler (yes). Motion passed.

Draft

Supervisor Emmendorfer informed the board on the recent status of police officer Dean Powell's accidental gunshot injury to the leg. He said officer Powell is mending and hopes to return to his job after a proper recovery time.

Jeff Ebenhoeh of Twin Township Ambulance said their organization's income has increased since taking over the Montrose Township service area. He said they receive three times as many runs/calls in Montrose Township as compared to the remaining service area. He stated TTA's assets are increasing with the recent building purchase and renovation and the purchase of two ambulances.

Sandy Parra of the Montrose Senior Center reported that flu shots will be offered at the senior center 9 a.m.-noon on Tuesday, Oct. 11. She also stated Twin Township Ambulance offers blood pressure checks two times per month at the senior center.

Supervisor Emmendorfer reported on Bev Diffin's involvement in integrating the MY Senior Software computer program into the senior center's record keeping. This program was installed in 2009 however due to inadequate training and updates the various county senior centers were not using it to its full capacity.

Dennis Miller gave a report that Brent Run Landfill completed cell-10 several weeks ago and is waiting for certification from the state. Behind cell-10 there is a small five-acre site, this is the last cell to be constructed. In addition, improvements on the interior roads has taken place to help reduce the dust. In addition to these improvements, 32 acres of open fields have been seeded and strawed. The Landfill is proposing to install 1,000 lineal feet of litter-debris fencing at the NE corner of the landfill. The landfill continues to try to control odors and in October they will drill 10 wells to pull off and reduce gas from the recently expanded cell.

Miller reported a new project is underway which involves accepting liquid waste. Examples of liquid waste to be accepted include pickle juice from local pickle factories and recycled oil. However, the liquid waste must be mixed with solid material before it can be placed in the landfill area. Dan Gudgel is planning to attend the next township board meeting to answer questions.

Business:

Develop Montrose Township Local Road Improvement plan

Mark informed the board that eventually all 17 Genesee County townships will be required to submit a road improvement plan in order to obtain any funding from the 40/60 program for road repairs. To better understand this requirement he invited and introduced guest speaker Bob Slattery, Director of Information Systems & Planning for the Genesee County Road Commission.

Slattery presented information in PowerPoint format pertaining to PASER, a process and system of rating roads which will aid the township in extending the service life of the

Draft

roads in our area. He educated the assembled group on the surface types of roads (asphalt, soil overlay, cement, concrete, gravel, seal coat, etc.) and condition status of roads (good, fair, poor, etc.), preventative maintenance vs. mix of fixes, treatment plans to fix roads and revenue options. Slattery recommended the board form a committee to begin the process of determining goals, which roads to fix and treatment plans available within the allotted budget.

Supervisor Emmendorfer thanked Slattery for his time and for presenting the detailed information to the board.

Emmendorfer asked board members to consider volunteering to serve on the Roads Improvement Committee. It was suggested by a board member to have a five-member committee rather than the typical three-member committee. Perhaps, community members or planning commission members would serve on this team.

Supervisor Emmendorfer, Gary Keeler and Dan Hill volunteered to be on the Roads Improvement Committee.

Emmendorfer said he would like the newly formed committee to come back in Oct. to offer some possible road improvement scenario options.

Dan Hill inquired about the possibility of applying for monies leftover from townships that may not comply with the guidelines for obtaining 40/60 revenue.

Draft Application of Brent Run Landfill Public Improvement Funding Program

Discussion revolved around the draft being revised and indicating more specifically how much money will go toward each project.

Discussion on additional pavilion at Barber Park

Supervisor Emmendorfer presented pricing and construction plans for an additional pavilion at Barber Park. These prices were obtained from Spicer Engineering and are for a pavilion similar to the existing pavilion. Spicer's total price is \$39,885.00. Emmendorfer obtained a quote from Wade-Trim at an estimated cost of \$40,350.

Gary Keeler inquired whether the board is locked into this price and style of pavilion. Supervisor Emmendorfer responded that the project can be built however the board prefers. More discussion ensued about metal vs. wood poles, the size of the pavilion, the possibility of a pre-fab kit and the possible option of using local builders.

The board recommended to Supervisor Emmendorfer that he gather additional quotes, data and research about alternatives in style and pricing. Emmendorfer agreed and stated the project's breaking-ground date is not expected until spring so he will supply the board with more information.

Draft

Discussion and possible first reading of Cost Recovery Ordinance

Supervisor Emmendorfer said the document was shortened by three or four pages. It was proofread by Darrell Ellis, Danelle Barker and Emmendorfer.

Tom Tithof made a **Motion** to accept the first reading of the Cost Recovery Ordinance. Support for the motion was given by Dan Hill. Vote- Emmendorfer (yes), Miller (yes), Hill (yes), Keeler (yes), Tithof (yes), Fikes (yes). Motion passed.

Adopt Senior Center budget for 2011-2012

Supervisor Emmendorfer explained the proposed senior center budget for 2011-2012 to the board. The proposed revenues are projected at \$149,546 with the expenditures at \$141,857.

A copy of the budget is on file with the minutes.

Gary Keeler made a **Motion** to accept the 2011-2012 Montrose Senior Center budget as presented. Support for the motion was given by Linda Miller. Vote- Gail Fikes (yes), Tom Tithof (yes), Mark Emmendorfer (yes), Linda Miller (yes), Dan Hill (yes), Gary Keeler (yes). Motion passed.

Discussion of Jennings Library Roof

Supervisor Emmendorfer gave a brief update on the new roof needed for the Jennings Library. There was discussion pertaining to the roof being a metal roof as compared to a typical asphalt shingled-roof. Emmendorfer said he has been educated greatly about roofs in the past few weeks.

Dan Hill made a **Motion** to approve up to \$13,000 of township funds to use toward a new roof for the Jennings Library. Support for the motion was given by Linda Miller. Vote- Gail Fikes (yes), Tom Tithof (yes), Mark Emmendorfer (yes), Linda Miller (yes), Dan Hill (yes), Gary Keeler (yes). Motion passed

Discussion about improper billing on a special assessment related to garbage fees for a handful of residents

Supervisor Emmendorfer explained that in preparing for the new 2011 garbage special assessment roll a handful of parcels were discovered to have been assessed the waste collection annual fee in error. As a result some vacant and commercial properties were mistakenly assessed.

Attorney Austin informed the board there is no legal requirement or obligation by the board to refund the special assessment.

Gary Keeler stated “the board should table this topic on repayment to allow further research on the improperly billed special assessment”.

Draft

Dan Hill stated “the township should only repay the special assessment owed to residents if they make a request to receive reimbursement”.

After further discussion, Supervisor Emmendorfer said he will research this matter more and bring it back to the board for final consideration.

Discussion about Drain Litigation status

Supervisor Emmendorfer reported that drain litigation was something the township once was participating in as a party in the suit. The township is no longer a part of this litigation. The issue is at the court of appeals level and he said he believes the board does not need to get involved.

Extended Board Member Comments-

Supervisor Emmendorfer reported to the board the results of a recent traffic intersection study at Lake and Duffield Roads, by the Genesee County Road Commission Traffic Engineering Department. He said the report indicates there were five crashes in the past three years which labels it as “moderate” in accident ratings. Therefore, no four-way stop sign would be authorized or warranted based on the findings.

Citizens Comments: None

Adjournment:

Gary Keeler made a **Motion** to adjourn the meeting. Support for the motion was given by Gail Fikes. Vote- All yes. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Lisa Briggs
Montrose Township Deputy Clerk

Mark Emmendorfer, Supervisor

Fred Domine, Clerk

Mark Emmendorfer Supervisor **Fred Domine** Clerk **Gail Fikes** Treasurer
Dan Hill Trustee **Gary Keeler** Trustee **Linda Miller** Trustee **Tom Tithof** Trustee