

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 3, 2008**

**FENTON TOWNSHIP CIVIC COMMUNITY CENTER  
12060 MANTAWAUKA DRIVE, FENTON, MICHIGAN**

Supervisor Mathis called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Mathis, Krug, Brown, Goupil, Tucker, Zimmer, Operations Manager  
Broecker and Attorney Cooley

Absent: Carmody

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Supervisor Mathis asked Eagle Scout Andrew Weston to lead the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Supervisor Mathis also advised the audience that this meeting was being recorded for telecast on local public access television.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Trustee Brown asked to have the resolution for Eagle Scout Andrew Weston moved to the top of the agenda. Supervisor Mathis reported that State Representative candidate James Swenor was in the audience and has requested an opportunity to introduce himself to the board. Motion to approve the 3/3/08 Fenton Township Board Meeting agenda as amended.

Motion by: Mathis  
Seconded: Brown  
Ayes: All Present  
Nays: None  
Absent: Carmody

Motion carried. The agenda is approved.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution No. 2008-08, honoring Eagle Scout Andrew Weston**

Supervisor Mathis reported that the Township has become aware that Andrew Weston, a Fenton Township resident, has recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout in Troop 219. A resolution has been prepared to honor Mr. Weston for this noteworthy achievement. Trustee Brown presented the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-08**

*WHEREAS, Andrew Weston, a resident of Fenton Township, has been an active member of the community through Scouting activities for several years, and*

*WHEREAS, Mr. Weston has recently attained the rank of Eagle in Boy Scout Troop 219, earning 29 merit badges and serving his troop in a variety of leadership roles, and*

*WHEREAS, Mr. Weston completed a major community service project including the construction of a nature trail, outdoor classroom and bridge for the Torrey Hill Intermediate School;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fenton Township Board of Trustees hereby applauds the commitment and dedication of Andrew Weston and*

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*extends its heartiest congratulations to him on the occasion of his attaining the rank of Eagle Scout, and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a copy provided to Mr. Weston.*

Motion to adopt resolution No. 2008-08 as presented:

Motion by: Brown  
Seconded: Mathis  
Ayes: Mathis, Krug, Brown, Goupil, Tucker, Zimmer  
Nays: None  
Absent: Carmody

Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

**James Swenor – Candidate for State Representative**

Supervisor Mathis introduced James Swenor, Republican candidate for State Representative. Mr. Swenor, a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and commercial airline pilot, stated that he is very concerned about the economic condition of Michigan. Declining property values, businesses moving out of state and businesses closing are the by-products of our current situation. He believes he can help turn Michigan around. He thanked the board for the opportunity to introduce himself. The board thanked Mr. Swenor for his attendance and wished him well on his campaign.

**MEETING MINUTES:**

The minutes of the 2/18/08 regular meeting and the 2/27/08 special meeting stand approved as presented.

**EXPENDITURES:**

Motion to approve expenditures for payment as presented.

Motion by: Brown  
Seconded: Tucker  
Ayes: Mathis, Krug, Brown, Goupil, Tucker, Zimmer  
Nays: None  
Absent: Carmody

Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None

**REPORTS:**

**F.A.C.T. / Channel 19 Update**

Trustee Zimmer distributed copies of limitations for Channel 19 that were discussed at a previous meeting. She also reported that the potential relocation of the Channel 19 server equipment to Fenton Township will likely be cost prohibitive. The Township has received a quote for the actual relocation of the equipment, however fiber optic lines would also have to be connected to the Township office. While we haven't yet received the cost estimate for that portion of the potential project, we were informed that the cost would be around \$12,000 per mile.

Trustee Zimmer also reported that Fenton Schools had submitted two equipment proposals to the FACT Consortium. One proposal is for the upgrade of existing server

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equipment at the City of Fenton. The second is for an upgrade to the Fenton High School studio. No action has been taken on these proposals.

Trustee Zimmer also expressed concern that PEG applications submitted by the Township and by Lake Fenton Schools, while approved by the consortium, have not been fully funded. Neither the City of Linden or City of Fenton have paid their share of the Township grant and the City of Fenton has not yet paid their portion of the school grant.

**Fenton Township Assessor Beth Redmond – 2008 Property Assessments**

Supervisor Mathis introduced Fenton Township Assessor Beth Redmond. Ms. Redmond reported that 2008 property assessments were mailed out last week and the Township is receiving a lot of phone calls and questions regarding the changes to property values. She briefly outlined Proposal A, a constitutional amendment approved by Michigan voters in 1994 that caps taxable value by an annual inflation factor. Ms. Redmond provided an explanation of different values assigned to property.

True Cash Value (TCV) = land value + depreciated value of the home (based on sales studies)

State Equalized Value (SEV) = 50% of the TCV

Under Proposal A, the Taxable Value (TV) is equal to the previous year Taxable Value + inflation or the SEV, whichever is lower.

Property owners that have owned their home for a number of years typically have a large gap between the SEV and the Taxable Value. The SEV increased every year according to market conditions, while the Taxable Value only increased the rate of inflation. Now that the real estate market is down there are many situations where a property's SEV has been reduced for 2008, while the Taxable Value still increases.

Ms. Redmond briefly reviewed a brochure explaining the SEV vs. Taxable Value issue, along with other supporting documentation. Trustee Tucker noted that Proposal A has effectively limited tax increases for property owners since 1994, however he believes that the legislature should consider freezing taxable values when the SEV is reduced.

The board thanked Ms. Redmond for a very informative presentation.

**Staffing Update – Building Inspector**

Supervisor Mathis reported that Fenton Township Building Inspector Stuart Worthing has been hired on a part-time basis by Argentine Township. He will work in Argentine for 10 hours per week, which has allowed our township to reduce his schedule to 30 hours per week. This is a “win-win” situation as we are able to help out a neighboring community while reducing our own expenses.

Trustee Brown asked if there is enough building activity to justify a 30-hour work week. Supervisor Mathis noted that, while new home construction is down, there are still a number of miscellaneous construction permits issued each month that require inspections. Mr. Worthing is also performing Business Licensing inspections and is monitoring foreclosed and vacant homes.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

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None

**ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES:**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Selection of 2008 Local Road Improvement Project(s)**

Supervisor Mathis reported that, after the public hearing conducted at our January 21st meeting, cost estimates were requested from the Genesee County Road Commission for various local road improvements. Based on the estimates received and the budget funds available, the limestone resurfacing of Ray Road from Linden Road to the west township line appears to be the best use of funds. Since Ray Road is a boundary road, the cost of this project would be split evenly with Mundy Township. Fenton Township's share is estimated at \$64,500, which would require a small budget amendment.

Motion to tentatively approve 2008 local road improvement projects, subject to approval of the Mundy Township Board, and the execution of an agreement with the Genesee County Road Commission, as presented.

Motion by: Brown

Seconded: Zimmer

Ayes: Mathis, Krug, Brown, Goupil, Tucker, Zimmer

Nays: None

Absent: Carmody

Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution No. 2008-07, Adoption of Michigan Emergency Management Assistance Compact**

Supervisor Mathis noted that the Township Board adopted the Michigan Emergency Management Assistance Compact in 2004, which designated the Township as a participating governmental unit for inter-jurisdictional assistance in times of emergency or disaster. Since the compact has been revised since the Township Board adoption, a resolution has been prepared to adopt the revised edition. Clerk Krug presented the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-07**

*WHEREAS, the State of Michigan Emergency Management Act, Act 390 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended (MCL 30.401 et seq), authorizes the State and its political subdivisions to provide emergency aid and assistance in the event of a disaster or emergency, and*

*WHEREAS, the statutes also authorize the State to coordinate the provision of any equipment, services or facilities owned by the State or its political subdivisions for use in the affected area upon request of the duly constituted authority of the area, and*

*WHEREAS, the intent of this Resolution is to authorize the request, provision and receipt of inter-jurisdictional mutual assistance in accordance with the Emergency Management Act, Act 390 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended, among political subdivisions within the State;*

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*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Board of the Charter Township, that in order to maximize the prompt, full and effective use of resources of all participating governments in the event of an emergency or disaster, we hereby adopt the Michigan Emergency Management Assistance Compact, which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.*

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2008-07 as presented.

Motion by: Krug

Seconded: Brown

Ayes: Mathis, Krug, Brown, Goupil, Tucker, Zimmer

Nays: None

Absent: Carmody

Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

Dave Franz, 3435 Breeze Pointe Court

Regarding the Building Inspector situation, Mr. Franz questioned if a 30-hour per week employee can still be considered full-time. Operations Manager Broecker stated that the current union collective bargaining agreement establishes 30 hours per week as the minimum for full-time status. Attorney Cooley and Trustee Tucker indicated that they believe there is no problem with this arrangement, however it will be verified.

**ADJOURN:** Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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Bonnie Mathis, Supervisor

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Robert Krug, Clerk

**Minutes Posted 3/4/08**