

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 7, 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, Zimmer, Operations Manager Broecker and
Attorney Cooley

Absent: Carmody, Tucker

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Supervisor Mathis led 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:

Motion to approve the 4/7/08 Fenton Township Board Meeting agenda as presented.

Motion by: Brown

Seconded: Krug

Ayes: All Present

Nays: None

Absent: Carmody, Tucker

Motion carried. The agenda is approved.

PRESENTATION:

Ambulance Services

Supervisor Mathis introduced Harry Swartz of Swartz Ambulance Service and Jim Grady of Patriot Ambulance Service, who have asked for the opportunity to address the board regarding Genesee County's EMS ordinance. Mr. Grady and Mr. Swartz explained that the ordinance gives the County authority to establish one or two ambulance companies to cover all of Genesee County. No other companies would be permitted to provide ambulance service in the County. It was also pointed out that improvements requested by the existing ambulance companies, specifically 800mhz radios and automatic vehicle locator (AVL) devices, which would greatly improve the quality and efficiency of the service currently being provided. These requests have never been approved, however the new ordinance specifies that 800mhz radios and AVL's will be assigned to the ambulance companies selected by Genesee County. The concerns discussed regarding the Genesee County EMS ordinance included:

- There was no discussion with local governmental units regarding the proposed ordinance before it was adopted by the County Commission.
- The ordinance was enacted too quickly, as evidenced by the many problems and concerns raised by the current ambulance companies and local units of government.
- Funding for administration of the county-wide program is projected to come from fines levied against the ambulance companies for failing to meet established standards.

The board discussed several related issues, including:

- Legal issues related to the exclusive use of one or two ambulance companies for the entire county.

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- The use of “mobile” posts to circumvent the policy of dispatching the closest ambulance to an emergency.
- Concerns over poor response times due to poor communication.

Trustee Goupil noted that Mr. Swartz has been in the ambulance business for more than 30 years. His observations and recommendations should be given strong consideration.

The board thanked Mr. Grady and Mr. Swartz for their very informative presentation.

County Commissioner Pat Lockwood briefly addressed the board and also thanked Mr. Grady and Mr. Swartz for the information presented. She will take an extensive list of issues and questions back to the EMS committee for answers.

MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes of the 3/17/08 regular meeting stand approved as presented.

EXPENDITURES:

Trustee Zimmer questioned an invoice for Rowe Incorporated for Foley property investigation. Clerk Krug clarified that the Township is looking into possible grant funding to purchase property to access the property behind the City of Fenton water plant. Rowe has completed some preliminary work in that area. The issue will now go to the Parks & Recreation committee for further review. Motion to approve expenditures for payment as presented.

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

Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None

REPORTS:

Les Scott – Loose Senior Citizen Center Update

Les Scott, Fenton Township’s representative on the Loose Senior Citizen Center Board, is not in attendance. Therefore, his report will be moved to the 4/21/08 agenda.

Fire Department Report

Fire Chief John Moulton reported that the Fire Department responded to 64 alarms in March, which included 4 fires, 46 EMS calls, 10 service calls and 3 false alarms. Year-to-date statistics are 15 fires, 135 EMS calls, 6 hazardous conditions, 25 service calls, 4 good intent calls and 19 false alarms for a total of 204.

Trustee Goupil reported that the Fire Department is looking to hire up to eight additional fire fighters. Applications will be available at the Township office. Clerk Krug also suggested putting a notice on the Township’s website.

Ordinance Enforcement Quarterly Report

Supervisor Mathis reviewed the quarterly report from Ordinance Enforcement Officer Bob Atkinson, including detailed statistics.

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Building Inspection Quarterly Report

The board reviewed the quarterly report from Building Inspector Stuart Worthing.

Legal Update

Supervisor Mathis reported that the Diccion ZBA appeal case, which involves shrubs in the sight line, has been remanded back to the ZBA.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Fenton Lakes Sportsman Club Update

Supervisor Mathis reviewed a letter from attorney John Siler regarding the completion of the bullet catcher at the Fenton Lakes Sportsman Club. An engineering firm has confirmed the completion of the structure according to NRA requirements. The Township Building Inspector has confirmed that the project has been completed according to required specifications.

Removal of Geese - Silver & Marl Lakes

Supervisor Mathis reviewed a request from the Silver & Marl Lake Association regarding the removal of geese. For the past several years the association has contracted with a company to humanely remove Canadian geese from Silver and Marl Lakes to help alleviate the e-coli and pollution problems on the lakes. She would like input from the board before endorsing this year's activities. The board had no objections to the project.

Letter of Resignation – Treasurer Patrick Carmody

Supervisor Mathis read a letter from Treasurer Patrick Carmody. He is resigning as Township Treasurer, effective 5/15/08, due to health reasons. Supervisor Mathis stated that she is sad that Mr. Carmody is stepping down but understands his reasons. He will be missed.

Motion to accept, with deep regret, the resignation of Treasurer Patrick J. Carmody, effective May 15, 2008.

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

Motion carried.

Supervisor Mathis recessed the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:15 p.m.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES:

Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Wild Animals/2nd Reading

Supervisor Mathis reviewed a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance regarding the keeping of wild animals, which was introduced at the 3/17/08 meeting. When the Township adopted the *Wild, Dangerous and Vicious Animals* ordinance it created an inconsistency with the Zoning Ordinance provisions regarding wild animals. This amendatory ordinance would eliminate the inconsistency.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 697, an amendment to Zoning Ordinance No. 594 to amend provisions regarding the keeping of wild animals, as presented.

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

Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Temporary Structures/1st Reading

Supervisor Mathis noted that the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment regarding temporary structures was postponed at the last meeting. Since John Tucker, the board's representative on the Planning Commission, is absent she is recommending that the first reading of the proposed ordinance be postponed until the 4/21/08 meeting.

Motion to postpone the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment regarding temporary structures to the April 21, 2008 meeting.

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

Proposed Amplified Sound Ordinance/1st Reading

Supervisor Mathis reported that the Township Ordinance Enforcement Officer, staff and Zoning Administrator have developed a revised ordinance to regulate the use of amplified sound devices. The current ordinance was adopted in 1977 and is in need of updating. The board reviewed a memo from Zoning Administrator Doug Piggott outlining the changes in the new ordinance. There was no public comment. The second reading of the proposed ordinance will be conducted at the 4/21/08 meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Channel 19 Discussion

Supervisor Mathis noted that Trustee Zimmer brought up issues regarding Channel 19 at the 3/17/08 meeting, specifically the suggestion to televise recorded meetings of the Genesee County Commissioners. The board reviewed a letter from Attorney Cooley that suggests that televising County Commission meetings would be only marginally beneficial to Township residents. He is recommending that the Township not spend public funds to broadcast these meetings. Supervisor Mathis added that it is her understanding that U-M Flint is working on a project to begin televising County Commission meetings.

Trustee Brown stated that some meetings, particularly the recent meeting regarding the EMS ordinance would be of great benefit to our residents. Trustee Goupil asked if spending public funds was the only obstacle and, if so, could board members pay the cost personally. Attorney Cooley stated that would be fine.

The board agreed to televise the recent EMS meeting and it was also suggested that the meetings be reviewed and only those containing information of significant relevance to our Township should be televised.

Workshop Meeting

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Supervisor Mathis announced that a workshop meeting has been scheduled for Monday 4/28/08 at 7:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution No. 2008-09, Smart Commute Week

Supervisor Mathis reported that Vic Lukasavitz of Gould Engineering has asked the board to consider adopting a resolution to designate "Smart Commute Week". He has provided a packet of information for the board to review. Mr. Lukasavitz provided some additional information and thanked the board for reviewing this issue.

Clerk Krug presented the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-09

WHEREAS, in 2007, physical inactivity was projected to cost Michigan \$12.65 billion, and

WHEREAS, the Surgeon General recommends at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity 5 days per week, but only about half of the population meets this goal, and

WHEREAS, employers bear a sizeable portion of the direct and indirect health care costs for employees in poor health, but can lower health care expenditures by encouraging employees to increase their overall fitness levels by Smart Commuting, (e.g., walking and bicycling), throughout the workday, and

WHEREAS, walking, riding a bicycle, or using public transportation (i.e. smart commuting) can reduce air and water pollution to make a cleaner community, which is more livable for future generations, and

WHEREAS, communities that cultivate a walking and bicycling culture experience businesses growth, increased real estate values, and improved overall quality of life, and

WHEREAS, the League of American Bicyclists, the League of Michigan Bicyclists, the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance, the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission, and the independent cyclists throughout our state are promoting greater public awareness of bicycle operation and safety education in an effort to reduce accidents, injuries and fatalities for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fenton Township Board of Trustees hereby attests its endorsement of and proclaims May 12 through May 16, 2008 as

SMART COMMUTE WEEK

in the Charter Township of Fenton and encourages all citizens to recognize the importance of bicycle safety, physical fitness, and alternate forms of transportation and be more aware of cyclists on our streets and highways.

Motion to adopt resolution No. 2008-09 as presented:

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Motion by: Krug
Seconded: Brown
Ayes: Mathis, Krug, Brown, Goupil, Zimmer
Nays: None
Absent: Carmody, Tucker
Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

Proposed Planning Services Agreement – Birchler Arroyo Associates, Inc.

Supervisor Mathis reviewed a proposed agreement with Birchler Arroyo Associates to create a pattern book and corresponding Zoning Ordinance amendments for the Thompson Road Corridor. This is based on the results of the visual preference survey recently conducted by Birchler Arroyo. Trustee Brown stated that he preferred delaying action on the agreement until Trustee Tucker is in attendance.

Motion to postpone until 4/21/08 the proposed agreement with Birchler Arroyo Associates regarding the Thompson Road Corridor Plan.

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

FACT EG Funding Agreement – Fenton Schools

Trustee Zimmer reported that the Fenton Area Cable Television (FACT) Consortium had approved an application from Fenton Area Public Schools for the purchase of new television studio equipment. The equipment should provide more efficient methods for televising local programming, including Township meetings. Operations Manager Broecker noted that Fenton Township's share of the project amount is \$50,208.05, which is taken from the PEG fees paid to the Township by Charter Communications.

Motion to approve the cable EG funding agreement with Fenton Area Public Schools as presented.

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

Proposed Revisions to Fenton Township Schedule of Fees

Operations Manager Broecker reviewed proposed revisions to the Township's fee schedule. Among the proposed changes new fees for:

- burning permits (only if allowed under current ordinances)
- creation of electronic documents that are provided by e-mail
- public hearing postponements

Motion to adopt the revised Fenton Township Schedule of Fees as presented.

Motion by: Brown
Seconded: Zimmer
Ayes: Mathis, Krug, Brown, Goupil, Zimmer

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Nays: None
Absent: Carmody, Tucker
Motion carried.

Proposed Amendments to 2008 Fenton Township Budget

Operations Manager Broecker reviewed the proposed quarterly amendments to the Fenton Township budget. Notable proposed revisions include:

General Fund

- A revenue increase for the administration fee charged to the Sewer Fund.
- An increase to the law enforcement contracted services expense.
- A reduction to salary expense for Building Inspector.
- An increase to planning services expense.
- An increase to road improvement expense.

Fire Fund

- An increase to revenue for the squad truck recently sold.

Sewer Fund

- Reductions to connection fee and user fee revenues based on new projections.

It was also noted that the net change for the General Fund budget amendments is zero.

Motion to adopt amendments to the 2008 Fenton Township budget as presented.

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

Mosquito Control Program Discussion

Supervisor Mathis noted that Trustee Zimmer distributed materials at the last meeting regarding mosquito spraying. Greg Seago of Advanced Pest Management (APM) is also in attendance to provide information regarding the program in the Township and to answer questions.

Mr. Seago provided a brief overview of the Township's program, which has been in place for more than 20 years.

- Spring larvicide applications will begin this month.
- Light traps positioned in different areas of the Township are monitored three nights per week throughout the mosquito season. The light trap counts, along with resident input, are used as the basis for adulticide applications.
- Dry ice traps are also used to trap mosquitoes for West Nile Virus testing.
- More than 400 identified mosquito breeding sites are inspected regularly and treated as needed.
- Two methods of adulticiding are used.
 - Fogging from trucks using ultra low volume application of various insecticides, (1.5 fluid oz. per acre).
 - Barrier spraying from backpack units.

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Mr. Seago stated that APM exceeds many of the state requirements for insecticide application. Great care is taken to dispense the insecticides at or below the required rates. While some of the insecticides are potentially hazardous if misused, proper use and application minimizes any health risks.

Trustee Zimmer stated that she is concerned with those potential health risks and is concerned that residents should be informed that they should not be outside when the spraying takes place and they may want to move outside items, such as children's toys, indoors during spraying. Mr. Seago stated that residents have the option of being placed on a "call list" to be notified prior to any spraying. Residents may also be placed on the "no spray" list where the truck will shut off the foggers around those properties. Trustee Goupil stated that common sense dictates that you don't want to be outside when the trucks are spraying, but our residents are familiar with the program and it hasn't been a problem.

Trustee Zimmer stated that she would like to see more information available to our residents. Trustee Brown suggested that copies of the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) could be posted on the Township's website. Mr. Seago stated that he would provide that information ASAP. He added that he and his staff are more than willing to answer questions, provide information or speak at public meetings any time.

The board thanked Mr. Seago for the information presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

None

ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Bonnie Mathis, Supervisor

Robert Krug, Clerk

Minutes Posted 4/9/08