

**GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 6, 2009**

A meeting of the Grand Rapids Charter Township Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Michael DeVries. The meeting was held in the Township Hall. The following were present: Supervisor Michael DeVries, Clerk Janice Hulbert, Treasurer Chris Afendoulis and Trustees Edward Robinette, James Saalfeld and Lee VanPopering. Trustee Rusty Merchant was absent. There were eight people in the audience.

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

**2. BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT.**

There were no comments from the audience.

**3. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING, SEPTEMBER 15, 2009.**

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the minutes of the regular Township Board meeting on September 15, 2009. Motion passed unanimously.

Michael DeVries requested a clarification on the beginning date for the changes from the Personnel Committee. Edward Robinette stated that the changes would begin January 1, 2010.

**4. CONSIDER BILLS TO BE PAID.**

Edward Robinette, seconded by Lee VanPopering, moved to approve the bills to be paid as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**5. CONSIDER CASH DISBURSEMENTS.**

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the cash disbursements for the month of September 2009 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**6. CONSIDER FIREWORKS DISPLAY APPROVAL FOR SUNSHINE CHURCH.**

A letter was received from Robert Radakovitz, Director of Public Safety, recommending approval of a fireworks display on October 28, 2009 at Sunshine Church, 3300 East Beltline. Sunshine Church has complied with all of the requirements for a fireworks display.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the request for fireworks display as requested. Motion passed unanimously.

**7. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS TO REPAIR REEDS LAKE TRAIL.**

Information was received from Township Engineers, Moore & Bruggink, and from the City of East Grand Rapids, regarding the bids for the Reeds Lake Trail, Phase I, Retrofit project. Wolverine Group was the low bidder at \$99,900. The total estimated project is \$142,606.14, to be paid equally between Grand Rapids Township and the City of East Grand Rapids.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to authorize funds to repair Reeds Lake Trail as requested. Motion passed unanimously.

**8. CONSIDER BID AWARD FOR COURTHOUSE PLAZA.**

Information was received from Township Engineers, Moore & Bruggink, regarding bids received for the 63<sup>rd</sup> District Court Pedestrian Plaza project. It is their recommendation to award the bid to John W. Potter, Inc. for \$183,170.90. Total estimated project cost is \$210,000. Grand Rapids Township Community Development Block Grant Funds of \$24,000 and a cost sharing with Kent County will fund the project.

Edward Robinette, seconded by Lee VanPopering, moved to award the bid for the 63<sup>rd</sup> District Court Pedestrian Plaza project to John W. Potter, Inc. for \$183,170.90. Motion passed unanimously.

**9. CONSIDER BID AWARD FOR PLAINFIELD SIDEWALKS.**

Information was received from Progressive AE regarding Plainfield Avenue Corridor Improvement Authority sidewalk project. It is their recommendation to award the bid to DeYoung Concrete Inc. for \$61,295.50. The estimated total project cost is \$74,500. Grand Rapids Township Community Development Block Grant Funds, Grand Rapids Township and private donors will fund the project.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to award the bid for the Plainfield Avenue Corridor Improvement Authority sidewalk project to DeYoung Concrete, Inc. Motion passed unanimously.

**10. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO UPGRADE THE GRAND RAPIDS TOWNSHIP TELEPHONE SYSTEM.**

Michael DeVries reviewed the current Grand Rapids Township phone system. He presented a proposal to upgrade the phone system from JS Phone Pros, Inc. for \$15,200.

Edward Robinette, seconded by Lee VanPopering, moved to approve the proposal from JS Phone Pros, Inc. for \$15,200 for an upgrade of the Township phone system. Motion passed unanimously.

**11. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION FOR FIRE STATION FLOORING REPLACEMENT.**

A letter was received from Robert Radakovitz, Director of Public Safety, regarding replacement of the carpet/linoleum at the Fire Station at 4433 Heather Lane SE. The estimated cost of replacement is \$2,500. Rockford Ambulance has offered to pay one-half of the total cost.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by James Saalfeld, moved to approve not to exceed \$1,250 for the replacement of carpet/linoleum at the Fire Station as requested. Motion passed unanimously.

**12. CONSIDER MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT RESOLUTIONS.**

Geenen DeKock Properties, LLC requested the Planning Commission to consider an amendment to the 2007 Comprehensive Plan. Edward Robinette, Township Board representative on the Planning Commission, reported that the Planning Commission reviewed the Comprehensive Plan. After discussion, the Planning Commission realized that Target Area 7 had been identified but only part of the area was described in the document. The Planning Commission unanimously approved a Resolution to the Township Board requesting consideration of an amendment to the Plan.

The request was to change the future land use designation of a parcel of land at the southwest corner of Cascade Road and Forest Hill Avenue from O-Office to NCPUD-Neighborhood Commercial Planned Unit Development.

Michael DeVries explained the process to amend the Comprehensive Plan.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Chris Afendoulis, moved to reject the proposed resolution and not consider an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan.

AYES: Afendoulis, DeVries, VanPopering

NAYS: Hulbert, Robinette, Saalfeld

Motion failed.

**13. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE STREET LIGHT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT.**

Michael DeVries explained that energy costs for street light usage have increased. To insure adequate funding for residential street lights, the annual fee per property owner benefiting from street lights should be increased from \$29 to \$31.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve an increase for residential street lights from \$29 to \$31. Motion passed unanimously.

**BOARD COMMENTS:** Board comments were accepted.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Public comments were accepted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Janice K. Hulbert, Clerk  
GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP