

**GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 2, 2008**

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 K. Hulbert, Treasurer Chris Afendoulis, Trustees Rusty Merchant, Edward J. Robinette and Lee VanPopering. Trustee James Saalfeld was absent. There were 2 people in the audience.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

2. BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT.

Ted Siereveld, 2714 McIntosh NE, asked for clarification about Agenda Item 8.

Eric Trierweiler, Prime Development Company, asked the Board to remember his company as an interested party for development of the Knapp Street property.

Michael DeVries requested permission to add an agenda item, Knapp Street Property Committee. Chris Afendoulis, seconded by Lee VanPopering moved to add Item 10 to the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING, DECEMBER 18, 2007.

Rusty Merchant, seconded by Lee VanPopering, moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

4. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DECEMBER BILLS.

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

5. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF JANUARY BILLS.

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

6. PUBLIC HEARING RE: 2008 KENT COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT IDEAS.

Rusty Merchant, seconded by Lee VanPopering, moved to open the Public Hearing at 7:07 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Michael DeVries presented the attached report listing the Grand Rapids Township allocations and expenditures for July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2009.

Ted Siereveld, 2714 McIntosh NE, asked about the added expenses on the report.

Michael DeVries explained that the \$16,300 added expenses were expenses for the farm property that have been approved but not paid.

The Board discussed possible uses for the remaining allocated funds.

Rusty Merchant, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to close the Public Hearing at 7:14 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

7. CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THE COURTHOUSE AT KNAPP'S CORNER PUD.

Proposed Ordinance 459, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND RAPIDS (The Courthouse at Knapp's Corner Planned Unit Development) was presented.

Proposed Ordinance 459 was presented for First Reading at the Township Board meeting on December 18, 2007.

Edward Robinette, seconded by Lee VanPopering, moved to approve adoption of Ordinance 459. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous.

8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF LAND PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH KENT COUNTY.

Michael DeVries presented documents regarding the sale and conveyance of Township land to the County of Kent for the proposed 63rd District Court building and the establishing of a Declaration of Covenants regulating the use, development and maintenance of the site and surrounding land.

Michael DeVries explained that the County has agreed to purchase 5.3 acres of the 14.5 acres of Township land for \$895,000. A Land Owners Association will be established with contributions for maintenance of the land and amenities in the TC-PUD district.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the attached resolution, RESOLUTION TO (1) APPROVE SALE AND CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO COUNTY OF KENT FOR 63RD DISTRICT COURT BUILDING AND SITE; (2) APPROVE DECLARATION OF COVENANTS REGULATING THE USE OF SUCH LANDS; AND (3) DIRECTING THE EXECUTION OF APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS FOR SUCH PURPOSES. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous

9. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PLAINFIELD AVENUE CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY TAX SHARING AGREEMENT WITH GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

Michael DeVries presented the TAX SHARING AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND RAPIDS, AND THE PLAINFIELD AVENUE CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND RAPIDS.

A letter was received from Robert Partridge, Executive Vice President for Business and Financial Services, Grand Rapids Community College. Mr. Partridge stated that the Board of Trustees had approved the agreement at their Board meeting of December 17, 2007.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the agreement as presented. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous.

10. KNAPP STREET PROPERTY COMMITTEE.

Michael DeVries requested the Board to consider a name change for the Knapp Street Property Committee. Since he hears of possible opportunities for purchase or sale of land, he would like to confer with a committee regarding that information.

The Board discussed the request. The proposal for the name change will be considered as a yearly Board approved committee. Guidelines for the new committee will be presented to the Board.

11. BOARD COMMENTS.

Board comments were received.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

There were no public comments.

13. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Janice K. Hulbert, Clerk
GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP