

**GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 6, 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, Treasurer Chris Afendoulis, Clerk Janice Hulbert and Trustees Edward Robinette, James Saalfeld and Lee VanPopering. Trustee Rusty Merchant was absent. There were 3 people in the audience.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

2. BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT.

There were no public comments.

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING, JULY 15, 2008.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the minutes of the Township Board meeting on July 15, 2008. Motion passed unanimously.

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.

Edward Robinette, seconded by Lee VanPopering, moved to approve the cash disbursements as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

6. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #465 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND RAPIDS (Amendment No. 1 of 1144 East Paris Avenue NC-PUD).

Proposed Ordinance #465 was presented. Naya Restaurant has requested the addition of Patio/al fresco dining at 1144 East Paris Ave S.E.

James Saalfeld requested consideration for an addition to Section 2 (f). Mr. Saalfeld noted that, as recorded on the Planning Commission meeting minutes of June 24, 2008, this request is for the summer only, May – September.

Chris Afendoulis, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve Ordinance #465, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND RAPIDS (Amendment No. 1 of 1144 East Paris Avenue NC-PUD) with the request for Township Attorney to review an addition to the Ordinance noting the effective dates of May – September only.

Roll Call: Ayes: Afendoulis, DeVries, Hulbert, Robinette, Saalfeld, VanPopering
 Nays: None
 Absent: Merchant

7. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE # 466 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND RAPIDS (Rezoning of Lands at 4081 Cascade Road to C District - James Schumar).

Edward Robinette, seconded by James Saalfeld, moved to approve Ordinance #466, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND RAPIDS (Rezoning of Lands at 4081 Cascade Road to C District – James Schumar)

Roll Call: Ayes: Afendoulis, DeVries, Hulbert, Robinette, Saalfeld, VanPopering
Nays: None
Absent: Merchant

8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SAFETY BALLOT PROPOSAL.

At a regular Township Board meeting on March 18, 2008, the Board authorized legal counsel to prepare documents for a public safety millage seven year renewal to be placed on the November 4, 2008 ballot.

Attorney James Brown prepared a resolution with the ballot wording as follows:

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND RAPIDS
COUNTY OF KENT
RENEWAL OF PREVIOUSLY-APPROVED MILLAGE
0.9628 MILL FOR PUBLIC SAFETY PURPOSES

Shall the previously-approved increase in the Charter Township of Grand Rapids tax rate limitation, currently 0.9628 mill (\$0.9628 per \$1000 of taxable value), be renewed and levied in the years 2010-2016 both inclusive, subject to reduction as provided by law, on taxable property in the Township?

The purpose of this renewed millage levy is to continue to provide funds for public safety purposes within the Township. It is estimated that a levy of 0.9628 mill would provide revenue of \$854,519.32 in the first calendar year. The revenue from this renewed millage levy will be disbursed to the Charter Township of Grand Rapids.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve RESOLUTION TO APPROVE BALLOT PROPOSAL FOR RENEWAL OF PUBLIC SAFETY MILLAGE, TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY PURPOSES WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP.

Roll Call: Ayes: Afendoulis, DeVries, Hulbert, Robinette, Saalfeld, VanPopering
Nays: None
Absent: Merchant

9. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CHANGE IN FIRE HYDRANT CHARGE ALLOCATION.

Michael DeVries informed the Board that the Township has been paying for fire hydrants from the Township General Fund. He requested the Board consider placing fire hydrant charges to the water customers who are receiving benefits of public water service instead of the Township paying for that service. The 5590 customers of the City of Grand Rapids would pay an additional \$4.55 annually and the 304 customers of Plainfield Township would pay an additional \$25.16 annually.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to request the City of Grand Rapids and Plainfield Township to place charges for fire hydrant service to those Grand Rapids Township property owners who receive public water services. Motion passed unanimously.

10. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF TRAIL SIGNAGE EXPENSE.

Michael DeVries presented a quote of \$18,000 from Design Edge Sign Company for signs and installation for Township pathways.

James Saalfeld, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the cost of \$18,000 from the Pathway Fund for signs as presented on the quote from Design Edge Sign Company. Motion passed unanimously.

11. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY PROCLAMATION.

The annual request for designation of POW/MIA recognition day was received.

Edward Robinette, seconded by Lee VanPopering, moved to approve RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2008 AS "PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING IN ACTION RECOGNITION DAY". Motion passed unanimously.

12. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ROAD RACE RESOLUTION REQUEST.

A letter was received from Forest Hills Educational Foundation requesting approval for the Run For the Hills 2008 5K Run/Walk on September 23, 2008.

Edward Robinette, seconded by Chris Afendoulis, moved to approve the request to make application to the Kent County Road Commission for the proper permits to hold a road race on September 23, 2008. The Township will require proper insurance coverage and assumes no liability. Motion passed unanimously.

13. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF OUTDOOR ASSEMBLY PERMIT.

A letter was received from John Maxwell, requesting an Outdoor Assembly Permit.

The event is a Charity Harley Ride to benefit C-SNIP and will be held on August 9, 2008 from 4 pm to 7 pm at Famous Dave's, 1501 East Beltline NE.

Edward Robinette, seconded by Lee VanPopering, moved to approve the Outdoor Assembly Permit for August 9, 2008 as requested. Motion passed unanimously.

14. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR ACTING ASSESSOR AND DEPUTY TREASURER.

Michael DeVries requested wage increases because of additional responsibilities for Deputy Treasurer and Acting Assessor. The adjusted wage would be \$17.50 per hour effective July 28, 2008.

Edward Robinette, seconded by Lee VanPopering, moved to approve the adjusted wage increase as requested for the Deputy Treasurer and Acting Assessor. Motion passed unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS: Board comments were accepted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Public comments were accepted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Janice K. Hulbert, Clerk
GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP