

**GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
September 6, 2011**

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 Rusty Merchant, Edward Robinette, Robert Roth and Lee VanPopering. There were two people in the audience.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

2. BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT.

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING, AUGUST 16, 2011.

Chris Afendoulis, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the minutes of the regular Township Board meeting on August 16, 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

4. CONSIDER CASH DISBURSEMENTS.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the cash disbursements for the month of August 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

5. CONSIDER BILLS TO BE PAID.

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

6. KENT COUNTY TOWNSHIPS TAX ABATEMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURES.

Supervisor DeVries presented a proposed Kent County Townships Tax Abatement Policy. The policy was prepared by the Kent County Supervisors Association to create a single policy to simplify the process of requests for PA 198 and PA 328 property tax abatements. Edward Robinette, seconded by Rusty Merchant, moved to approve the Kent County Township Guide for Economic Development, Policy and Procedures for PA 198 and PA 328 Tax Abatement Requests. Motion passed unanimously.

7. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING AQUINAS COLLEGE WEIR.

The Aquinas College Weir has controlled the flow of the Reeds Lake watershed through the Coldwater Drain to its Grand River outlet at Leonard Street. Historically the Weir has been maintained at one level, however, more recently it has been allowed to flow more freely which has resulted in increased down stream flows.

A memorandum of understanding will allow for changes in the Weir level only when sound science is used to determine the need for a change and must be performed by an authorized person.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING THE AQUINAS COLLEGE WEIR AND LAKE LEVELS and permit the Supervisor and Clerk to sign that Memorandum. Motion passed unanimously.

8. 2012 BUDGET – DISCRETIONARY SPENDING DISCUSSION.

There was Board discussion regarding projects for 2012.

Michael DeVries suggested three projects: Knapp Court property, building maintenance and road projects.

BOARD COMMENTS. There were no Board comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS. There were no Public comments.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Janice K. Hulbert, Clerk
GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP