

**GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 5, 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 4 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, OCTOBER 21, 2008.**

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the minutes of the Township Board meeting on October 21, 2008. Motion passed unanimously.

**4. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 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 APPROVAL OF CASH DISBURSEMENTS.**

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

**6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF GROUP PENSION RESOLUTION.**

Michael DeVries explained to the Board that there are some inconsistencies in language between the pension contract and the employment policy.

James Saalfeld, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the organization adopt an amendment effective January 1, 2009 to change the Normal Retirement Age for the Group Pension Plan from age 65 to age 59 ½ and to change Eligibility Class I from “All salaried employees and full-time employees working 40 hours or more per week” to “Full-time employees who are regularly scheduled to work at least 40 hours per week 52 weeks a year and any elected officials with administrative duties.”

AYES: Afendoulis, DeVries, Hulbert, Robinette, Saalfeld, VanPopering

NAYS: None

Motion passed unanimously.

**7. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS.**

Michael DeVries presented the following appointments for the consideration of the Board:

- a. Assessing Board of Review**  
Appointment for a two-year term for John Cook, Dan Bell and Bob King.
- b. Zoning Board of Appeals**  
Appointment for a three-year term for Ron Hall and appointment for Lee VanPopering as the Township representative member to coincide with his elected term as trustee.
- c. Property Committee**  
Appointment of Lee VanPopering, Edward Robinette and Michael DeVries to a one-year term.
- d. Plainfield Avenue Corridor Improvement Board**  
Appointment of Erick Kind and Ron Abbott to a four-year term expiring December 31, 2012 and Michael DeVries by virtue of office to November 20, 2012.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the appointments presented by Michael DeVries. Motion passed unanimously.

**8. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION FOR 2009 PARK MAINTENANCE EXPENSE.**

Michael DeVries presented a proposal for 2009 lawn maintenance from Luscious Landscapes for the mowing and care of the Township offices, parks, fire stations and cemeteries. The proposed total cost for the 2009 season is \$19,540, the same as the 2008 season.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Chris Afendoulis, moved to approve the 2009 lawn maintenance proposal from Luscious Landscapes. Motion passed unanimously.

**9. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION FOR 2009 EAST BELTLINE AVENUE LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE EXPENSE.**

Michael DeVries presented a proposal for 2009 East Beltline Avenue landscape maintenance from Katerberg Verhage. Lee VanPopering, seconded by James Saalfeld, moved to approve the proposal as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**10. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION FOR 2008-2009 SNOW REMOVAL.**

A proposal for 2008-2009 snow removal was received from Tender Lawn Care.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the 2008-2009 snow removal proposal as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments.

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm.