

**GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 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, and Trustees Edward Robinette, Rusty Merchant, James Saalfeld and Lee VanPopering. Absent were Clerk Janice Hulbert and Treasurer Chris Afendoulis. There were 2 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,
FEBRUARY 3, 2009.**

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2009 Township Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

4. CONSIDER BILLS TO BE PAID.

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

5. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS.

Michael DeVries presented a summary of the Township Zoning Ordinance amendments provided by Township Planner Rick Sprague.

Lee VanPopering, seconded by Edward Robinette, moved to approve ORDINANCE NO. 468, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND RAPIDS (Sexually Oriented Businesses, Mineral Removal and Condominiums).

ALL IN FAVOR: Merchant, VanPopering, DeVries, Saalfeld, and Robinette.

ALL OPPOSED: None.

ABSENT: Hulbert and Afendoulis.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AUDIT PROPOSAL.

Michael DeVries explained that Siegfried Crandall has presented a proposal for a 3 year renewal for audit services. They have agreed to the current rate for two years with a 2% increase on the 3rd year.

Edward Robinette, seconded by Lee VanPopering, moved to approve the renewal of Audit Services for three years with Siegfried Crandall. Motion passed unanimously.

7. CONSIDER SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX ABATEMENT REQUEST FOR MARCH 3, 2009 AT 7:00 PM.

Michael DeVries explained that the Township has received a request from Global Futures & Fortex, Ltd. to receive a PA328 Tax Abatement on new personal property which will be located at 618 Kenmoor Ave. SE.

Rusty Merchant, seconded by James Saalfeld, moved to set a Public Hearing to consider a PA329 Tax Abatement on March 3, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the next regular scheduled Township Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

8. BUDGET REVIEW: 2008 GENDERAL FUND.

Michael DeVries presented the 2008 year end General Fund Audit Review. Revenues were a little higher and expenses were a little lower than budgeted which will most likely be needed next year with salary increases.

Rusty Merchant asked if this was an acceptable fund balance. Michael DeVries explained that the township has some long term commitments for funds in reserve which makes the balance appear high.

BOARD COMMENTS: Board comments were received.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Janice K. Hulbert, Clerk
GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP