

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WILLIAMS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING – August 14, 2007**

The Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Williams held a regular meeting on Tuesday August 14, 2007 at the Township Hall. The agenda is attached Exhibit A.

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Tom Paige, Supervisor at 7:00 p.m. Present: Paige (Supervisor), Hoverman (Treasurer), Charney (Clerk), Plant (Trustee), Schrott (Trustee) and Wasek (Trustee).

Excused: Putt (Trustee).

Vaughn Begick, 3rd District Bay County Commissioner. Others present are indicated on the sign in sheet, attached Exhibit B.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was said in unison.

III. Open to the Public

N. Adams inquired about county wide wireless internet. Vaughn Begick indicated that Bay County is still working on the project, but the county commissioners have not received any recent updates.

IV. Changes to Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

V. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the July 10, 2007 Board of Trustee Minutes as presented.
2. Approve the payment of bills as submitted.
3. Receive the July 2007 Financial (cash) Report as presented.
4. Receive the July 2007 Revenue Report and July 2007 Expense Report as presented.
5. Receive the Supervisor's Update of Projects and Issues as presented.
6. Receive the List of Committee Reports, attached Exhibit G.
7. Approve the payment of expenses for appropriate township personnel to attend workshops within Michigan, listed in attached Exhibit H.
8. Receive the Miscellaneous Correspondence and Communication List, attached Exhibits I and J, respectively.

A motion was made by Plant and seconded by Wasek to approve all items as listed on the Consent Agenda.

6 Ayes 0 Nays Excused: Putt Motion carried.

VI. Regular Agenda

1. Dow Corning IFT

An application for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate was received from Dow Corning Corporation for their Advanced Engineering Materials site on Eleven Mile Road in Section 28 of the township. The total project cost is \$858,500.00, and a twelve-year exemption is being applied for. Included in the renovation are real property improvements of \$690,000.00 and personal property amounting to \$168,500.00.

The public hearing began at 7:05 p.m.

Kevin Willis, Barbara Herman, and Machel George were present from Dow Corning to answer questions and to explain the project.

Kevin Willis gave a brief synopsis of the project and answered questions from members of the board. Construction included a warehouse for the storage of raw and intermediate materials; most are flammable or combustible. The storage area has four hour firewalls, horizontal barriers in all racks, and a foam/water sprinkler system.

No members of the public asked questions or commented on the construction project or the requested IFT Certificate.

The public hearing concluded at 7:14 p.m.

08-07-043-D/I/P/T A motion was made by Plant and seconded by Wasek to approve
===== the application of Dow Corning Corporation for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate (IFT) for the total project cost of \$858,500.00 for 12 years, effective December 31, 2007 for the 2008 tax year on part of tax parcels 09-140-028-400-050-00 and 09-140-028-200-050-02, and to authorize the Clerk to sign the resolution, attached Exhibit C. The parties are in agreement that all costs incurred by the township to process the Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate shall be reimbursed by Dow Corning.

Ayes: Paige, Plant, Hoverman, Charney, Wasek, and Schrott.

Nays: None.

Excused: Putt. Motion carried.

2. Intergovernmental Cooperation Resolution

The Auburn City Commission adopted a resolution at their July 2, 2007 city commission meeting to consolidate services with Williams Township.

City Commissioner Bill Reder and Mayor John McNally were present to discuss the resolution and possible next steps. Commissioner Reder would like to see a committee of township board members, city commissioners, and residents of both municipalities appointed to explore the possibility of joint cooperation.

Those present agreed that it is prudent for Auburn and Williams Township to continue to explore ways to deliver services to residents, businesses, and property owners in an efficient and cost effective manner. Identifying possible areas of intergovernmental cooperation or consolidation is the right thing to do since governmental units are facing tighter budget constraints. The first step may be to schedule a meeting between the city commission, township board, a representative of the Michigan Municipal League, and a representative from the Michigan Township Association.

08-07-044-A/I/W A motion was made by Wasek and seconded by Hoverman to
===== adopt the resolution supporting intergovernmental cooperation with
the city of Auburn, attached Exhibit C.
6 Ayes 0 Nays Excused: Putt Motion carried.

3. Tool & Die Recovery Zone

State legislation created the Tool and Die Renaissance Recovery Zone Act with the intent of encouraging collaboration among tool and die companies to strengthen them and help them retain existing jobs. The Recovery Zone allows tax relief to eligible tool and die businesses for up to 15 years on those taxes that the business would normally pay on an annual basis, such as the Michigan Business Tax, the 6-mill state education tax, and personal and real property taxes. Local school and ISD taxes, library and community college taxes will be paid by the State. The township and county will not be reimbursed for their lost property taxes. However, taxes still due are those mandated by the federal government; local bond obligations, school sinking fund, or special assessments. Companies are not exempt from paying Michigan sales and use tax, and eligible companies must be current with all state and local taxes.

As of December 2006, there are a total of 23 Recovery Zones consisting of 193 companies in 29 counties. There are two remaining Recovery Zones available.

J & R Tool, 4527 Garfield Road, has expressed their desire to either pursue one of the remaining Recovery Zones in collaboration with a group of Bay City tool and die companies, or join an existing zone in the State. They currently employ 5-1/2 people.

The first step in the process is for the local municipality to designate the business a Renaissance Recovery Zone. The business will then be required to enter into a collaborative agreement with a minimum of four other participating tool and die businesses. The collaborative will then apply for the Renaissance Recovery Zone designation from the Michigan Strategic Fund or the tool and die company could join an existing coalition and Recovery Zone elsewhere in the state if the coalition unanimously agrees and if approval is obtained by the municipality.

A company must take the following steps to qualify for the Tool and Die Recovery Zone Program:

- Obtain an authorizing resolution of support from the local governmental unit that consents to the creation of a Recovery Zone within their boundaries. The resolution must include the number of years, up to 15, that the city, township, or village is willing to forego taxes;
- Lease or own the parcel of property that is to be included in the proposed Recovery Zone;
- Use the property primarily for tool and die business operations;
- Have under 75 full-time employees;
- Be classified by the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) as a tool and die company;
- Enter into a collaborative agreement with other tool and die businesses that demonstrate synergistic opportunities which include: sales and marketing efforts, development of standardized processes, development of tooling standards, standardized project management methods, improved ability for specialized or small niche shops to develop expertise and compete successfully on larger programs.

The approval of a Recovery Zone abatement and the length of that abatement are at the discretion of the authorizing municipality. If the municipality approves the abatement for less than the maximum of 15 years, the company may come back prior to the expiration of that abatement and request an extension. The city of Bay City approved a seven year abatement for a group of tool and die companies in Bay City that J & R Tool intends to join as a collaborative.

An authorizing resolution was prepared by T. Paige for consideration by the Township Board as tool and die companies must submit a Michigan Tool and Die Renaissance Recovery Zone Program Application to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation by September 17, 2007.

Bob Gray, J & R Tool, was present and offered to answer any additional questions.

08-07-045-J/P/R/T A motion was made by Schrott and seconded by Plant to adopt the resolution requesting that the State of Michigan designate J & R Tool, 4527 S. Garfield Road, a Renaissance Recovery Zone under Public Act 376 of 1996 for a duration of up to seven years, attached Exhibit E.

Ayes: Plant, Hoverman, Charney, Wasek, Schrott, and Paige.

Nays: None.

Excused: Putt. Motion carried.

4. 2007 Township Millage Rate

A township millage rate of 4.40 mills was levied in 2006.

Discussion followed regarding a .10 or .20 increase in the millage rate for 2007. The one mill used for waterline extensions has one year remaining.

After 2008, the current one mill used for waterline extensions could perhaps be shifted for improving roads and drains. The Headlee rollback was also discussed, as was the potential need for a voter approved special road millage sometime in the future.

08-07-046-B/M/P/T A motion was made by Plant and seconded by Schrott to adopt
===== the resolution to levy a 2007 township property tax rate of 4.40 mills, attached Exhibit F.

Ayes: Charney, Schrott, Paige, and Plant.
Nays: Hoverman and Wasek.
Excused: Putt. Motion carried.

5. Zoning Violations, 1644 W. Midland Road

Ashley Automotive Restoration, Inc., 1644 W. Midland Road, is not in compliance with the October 6, 2006 Consent Judgment filed in the Bay County Circuit Court. A log from the last few months listed activities at Ashley Automotive and was provided for review by the board.

T. Paige requested that the Township Board direct the Township Attorney to seek a Contempt Citation to force compliance with the October 6, 2006 Consent Judgment. Ashley Automotive has had plenty of time and can simply avoid such actions by operating within provisions of the Consent Judgment, their approved site plan, and applicable Township Ordinances.

08-07-047-A/A A motion was made by Wasek and seconded by Plant to authorize
===== the Township Attorney to seek a Contempt Citation against Ashley Automotive Restoration, Inc. in order to force compliance with the October 6, 2006 Consent Judgment.

6 Ayes 0 Nays Excused: Putt Motion carried.

5. Township Mission Statement

The new township website can be formatted to include a township "Mission Statement." While some preliminary discussion has happened over the years regarding a township mission statement, none have been formally adopted. If the Board adopts a township mission statement, it could then be incorporated into the new website.

A short discussion took place after all members of the board had time to review the samples provided by T. Paige.

08-07-048-M/W A motion was made by Wasek and seconded by Charney to adopt
===== the following mission statement to be used on the township web site:

It is the mission of Williams Charter Township to provide for the health, safety, and well being of all the citizens of Williams Township by providing municipal leadership dedicated to democratic principles, sound fiscal management and

planning, and by preserving and enhancing the features that make Williams Township unique in order to improve the quality of life for present and future generations.

6 Ayes 0 Nays Excused: Putt Motion carried.

6. Draft Request for Proposal's

Draft Request for Proposals for re-roofing the park pavilion and restroom building, and for sealing and striping the front parking lot were provided for review.

The shingles on the park pavilion and restroom building are failing and need to be replaced. Thirty year shingles are specified in the RFP.

The front parking lot needs to have the cracks routed, cleaned, and filled, and the entire parking lot seal coated and re-striped. The parking lot would be re-striped as it is currently, except the area in front of the hall entrance doors should be blocked out and "no parking" marked in this area.

08-07-049-B A motion was made by Charney and seconded by Plant to approve the
===== Request for Proposals for the township park pavilion and restroom building roofing, and for sealing and striping the front parking area of the township hall.

6 Ayes 0 Nays Excused: Putt Motion carried.

VII. Unfinished Business

The Noxious Weed Ordinance will be discussed again at the next Planning Commission meeting as all members were not present in August.

VIII. New Business

An Election Commission meeting needs to be scheduled for October 9, 2007 at 6:30 pm for the purpose of appointing precinct inspectors to work the special library millage election on November 6, 2007. The meeting will take place prior to the Board of Trustees meeting on that date.

IX. Adjournment

A motion was made by Plant and seconded by Hoverman to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

6 Ayes 0 Nays Excused: Putt Motion carried.

Williams Charter Township

Amy Charney, Clerk

Tom Paige, Supervisor