

**SUPERIOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 3, 2008
ADOPTED MINUTES
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1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Superior Charter Township Board was called to order by the Supervisor at 7:30 p.m. on March 3, 2008, at the Superior Township Hall, 3040 North Prospect, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Supervisor led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

3. ROLL CALL

The members present were William McFarlane, Kay Williams, Nancy Caviston, Rodrick Green, Lisa Lewis, and David Phillips. Brenda McKinney was absent.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved by Green, supported by Lewis, to adopt the agenda as presented.

The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 19, 2008

It was moved by Caviston, supported by Green, to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting of February 19, 2008, as presented.

The motion carried.

6. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Ron Allen, President of Local 190 of the Plumbers & Steamfitters Union, was present to urge residents not to sign the "Right to Work" petitions and to vote against it if it got on the ballot. He said "right to work" means the right to earn less and get less benefits.

7. REPORTS

A. SUPERVISOR

The Supervisor reported on three items:

1. The Regional Police Study Committee met to review the final report. None of the municipalities wanted to set up a Regional

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Police Department. The City of Ypsilanti is looking into the possibility of offering to contract with Superior Township and Ann Arbor Township for police services. They would charge \$130,000 per deputy as opposed to the Sheriff Department cost of at least \$150,000 per deputy.

2. The invoices for the Sheriff Department for police services for January and February have arrived. The Township was billed for recruits who were billed as full-time officers. McFarlane will meet with the Sheriff Department to resolve the issue. The invoices will not be paid until then.
3. So far appointments for the Board of Review are less than last year this time. The taxable value of homes that were purchased when values were rising have been lowered to reflect the current market. The Township taxable value was lowered by \$20,000,000. The work the Township is doing to try to help residents by not requesting a renewal of the Legal Defense Millage, and lowering the Fire Millage is probably another factor in the decrease in the number of appointments.

B. DEPARTMENT REPORTS: UTILITY DEPARTMENT, PLANNING MONTHLY, ZONING MONTHLY,

It was moved by Caviston, supported by Green, that the Utility Department Report for January, the Planning Report for February, and the Zoning Report for February, be received.

The motion carried.

C. ACCOUNTANT YEAR-END REPORTS – ALL FUNDS EXCEPT UTILITY FUND

Susan Mumm, Accountant, was present to explain the reports and answer questions.

General Fund – Beginning 2007 Fund Balance - \$1,008,231.92.
Ending Fund Balance and Reserves - \$1,061,256.60. This was accomplished even while purchasing the Brother's property for \$135,000.

Fire Fund – Beginning 2007 Fund Balance - \$427,587.87. Ending Fund Balance - \$492,982.18. This includes the purchase of the \$415,174 for the new tanker truck. The Fire Fund has \$1,118,999 in various reserve accounts.

Legal Defense Fund – After one year of collecting the tax – Ending Fund Balance - \$91,823.56

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Sidestreet Maintenance Fund – Beginning 2007 Fund Balance - \$7,333.77. Ending Fund Balance - \$11,434.10

Building Fund – Beginning 2007 Fund Balance - \$381,308.06. Ending Fund Balance - \$252,208.46. Building permits are down because of the general economy. The Fund has \$351,033 in Reserves to support the Department in these bad economic times.

Law Fund – Beginning 2007 Fund Balance - \$147,459.78. Ending Fund Balance - \$351,755.33. 2008 and 2009 will be more costly than 2007 and the Township saved for these anticipated increases.

Park Fund – Beginning 2007 Fund Balance - \$108,198.05. Ending Fund Balance - \$86,986.98. The Park Fund has \$460,982 in Restricted Reserves, \$444,747 in the Land/Building Reserve from the sale of the current Utilities Building for the construction of a Park Building.

It was moved by Williams, supported by Caviston, that the Superior Charter Township Board receive the Year-End Reports for 2007 from the Accountant for all funds except the Utility Fund which was received on February 19, 2008.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

A. TERRENCE G. QUINN RESIGNATION FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION

It was moved by Williams, supported by Lewis, that the Superior Charter Township Board accept the resignation of Terrence G. Quinn from the Planning Commission with regret.

The motion carried.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

At the February 19 Board meeting the Board interviewed the following residents for the two vacant positions on the Planning Commission: Michelle Barth – 5091 Plymouth Road, Dorothy Blackmon – 1934 Savannah Lane, Valerie Constance – 7225 Warren Road, David G. Guenther – 2365 Leforge, Michael Ingles – 7105 Warren, Sandi Lopez – 6735 Vreeland, and John G. MacNicol – 8704 Barrington. Both Jay Gardner – 999 Towsley Lane and Earl Roberson – 1768 Hamlet sent letters of interest, but did not attend the meeting.

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McFarlane asked for recommendations from the Board members prior to making his formal recommendation. Since Terrence Quinn has resigned, that vacancy must be filled as well. McFarlane recommended that Gardner and Guenther be reappointed for the three-year terms, and that Michelle Barth be appointed for the vacancy left by Quinn's resignation.

It was moved by Williams, supported by Caviston, that the Superior Charter Township Board concur with the recommendation of the Supervisor and reappoint Jay Gardner, 999 Towsley Lane, and David G. Guenther, 2365 Leforge to three-year terms ending on February 28, 2011, and appoint Michelle Barth, 5091 Plymouth Road, to fill the vacancy on the term ending on February 28, 2009, to the Superior Charter Township Planning Commission.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: McFarlane, Williams, Caviston, Green, Lewis, Phillips

Nays: None

Absent: McKinney

The motion carried.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. APPOINTMENT TO BOARD OF REVIEW

Stanley Stewart, Board of Review member, is currently working full-time in Lansing and is unable to attend the Board of Review meetings. Ralph Berres, who was appointed as an alternate, has fallen and broken his leg in several places. As Board of Review meets this month, it was necessary to appoint another alternate. John MacNicol, who applied for a position on the Planning Commission, is interested in serving his new Township in other positions and is willing to serve on the Board of Review.

It was moved by Lewis, supported by Caviston, that the Superior Charter Township Board appoint John G. MacNicol, 8704 Barrington, to the Superior Charter Township Board of Review as an alternate for a term ending December 31, 2008.

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Roll call vote:

Ayes: McFarlane, Williams, Caviston, Green, Lewis, Phillips

Nays: None

Absent: McKinney

The motion carried.

B. APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER'S ASSISTANT

Patricia Willis, Treasurer's Assistant, resigned as of February 29, 2008, to be employed in a full-time position. Treasurer McKinney has interviewed several applicants to replace Ms. Willis as Administrative Assistant for the Treasurer's Office and recommends that Lisa Whitling be hired to fill the part-time position. The benefits for this position are pro-rated sick, vacation, and personal time and voluntary participation in the John Hancock Defined Contribution Pension Plan. It does not include health insurance or retirement health benefits.

It was moved by Caviston, supported by Green, that the Superior Charter Township Board concur with the recommendation of Treasurer McKinney and hire Lisa Whitling as Administrative Assistant for the Treasurer's Office, a part-time, 30 hour-per-week position at \$15.00 per hour starting March 3, 2008.

The motion carried.

C. CHERRY HILL NATURE PRESERVE GRANT FOR ADA TRAIL & VIEWING PLATFORM

The Park Commission is applying for a grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for a Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant to construct an ADA compliant trail and overlook at Cherry Hill Nature Preserve. The cost of the project is approximately \$95,000.00 and is one of the stated goals of the Park Commission 5-Year Plan. The minimum match is 25% of the total grant expenditures. The Grant is due on April 1, 2008, and a Public Hearing must be held prior to submittal. The funds, if granted, would not be available until 2009.

The Park Commission has letters of intent for labor and materials from the Student Environmental Club of Henry Ford Community College and the

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Superior Land Conservancy that amounts to an estimated \$5,000.00 toward the match. The Park Fund has \$87,115.52 in unencumbered reserves. Peter Pollack & Associates are donating a significant amount in creating the grant application, drawings, and narrative. John Copley, Park Steward, will be donating time in creating the necessary renderings. The Park Commission is not asking for any funds from the Township General Fund.

John Copley presented the drawings and ideas behind the request. He has been designing and building paths, the gate and signs for the Preserve for many years.

The Board complimented John on the fine work he has contributed to the Preserve and felt that the ADA trail and overlook would be a wonderful addition to the Park.

It was moved by Williams, supported by Lewis, that the Superior Charter Township Board receive the information from the Park Commission concerning application for a grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the proposed ADA trail and overlook in Cherry Hill Nature Preserve and set a Public Hearing for the project on March 17, 2008.

The motion carried.

**C. RESOLUTION HONORING NATHANIAL LEWIS
GLEETON FOR ACHIEVING EAGLE SCOUT**

It was moved by Caviston, supported by Green, that the Superior Charter Township Board adopt the following Resolution:

**SUPERIOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN
MARCH 3, 2008**

**A RESOLUTION HONORING NATHANIAL LEWIS GLEETON
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT**

WHEREAS Nathaniel Lewis Gleeton, who lives at 1953 Andover Drive in Superior Charter Township, has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS he will be honored at an Eagle Court of Honor on Saturday, April 19, 2008; and

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WHEREAS achieving the rank of Eagle Scout involves diligence, conscientiousness, and a dedication to serving his community in the best possible manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Superior Charter Township congratulates Nathaniel Lewis Gleeton, on his attaining the rank of Eagle Scout and wishes him the best in his future endeavors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that April 19, 2008, shall be Nathaniel Lewis Gleeton Day in Superior Charter Township.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: McFarlane, Williams, Caviston, Green, Lewis, Phillips

Nays: None

Absent: McKinney

The motion carried.

11. PAYMENT OF BILLS

It was moved by Caviston, supported by Green, that the bills be paid as submitted in the following amounts: General Fund - \$1,050.00 and Utility Fund - \$1,261.45 for a total of \$2,311.45.

The motion carried.

12. PLEAS AND PETITIONS

There were none.

13. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Williams, supported by Caviston, that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Williams, Clerk