

REGULAR MEETING

August 9, 2011

PERE MARQUETTE CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD

held at 1699 S. Pere Marquette Highway, Ludington MI 49431

Board members present: Supervisor Jim McInnis; Clerk Rachelle Enbody; Treasurer Sara McCallum
Trustees, Al DeMeester, Paul Piper, Joanne Kelley, and Andy Kmetz
Also present: Andy Larr, Michelle Heffner, Ross Kissel, and Roger Martin (WKLA)
Present for a portion of the meeting: Terry Wahr

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the Supervisor. Invocation was given by McInnis; Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. The minutes of the July 26, 2011 meeting and the current agenda were approved by consent

COMMUNICATIONS: A copy of the Mason County Sheriff's report for July 2011 was received and placed on file.

NEW BUSINESS: A. **Complete Streets Resolution** – Board members discussed the intent of the resolution and agreed that the purpose is as a guideline for future planning and zoning. Grant funding is also applicable for municipalities that have incorporated a Complete Streets system within their Master Plan.

The following **resolution** was presented by DeMeester and seconded by Kmetz:

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A "COMPLETE STREETS" POLICY
FOR PERE MARQUETTE CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" are defined as a system of streets planned, designed, and constructed to provide appropriate access to all legal users in a manner that promotes safe and efficient movement of people, and goods whether by car, truck, transit, assistive device, foot or bicycle; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets are achieved when transportation agencies routinely plan, design, construct, reconstruct, operate and maintain the transportation network to improve travel conditions for bicyclists, pedestrians, transit and freight in a manner consistent with, and supportive of, the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, streets that support and invite multiple uses, including safe, active and ample space for pedestrians, bicycles and transit are more conducive to the public life and efficient movement of people than streets designed primarily to move automobiles; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets enhance safe walking and bicycling options for school-age children in recognition of the national Safe Routes to School program; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets support economic growth and community stability by providing accessible and efficient connections between home, school, work, recreation and retail destinations by improving pedestrian and vehicular environments throughout communities; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Legislature has passed Complete Streets legislation that requires the Michigan Department of Transportation and local governments to consider all users in transportation related projects; and

WHEREAS, Pere Marquette Charter Township recognizes the importance of street infrastructure and modifications, such as sidewalks, crosswalks, shared use paths, bicycle lanes, signage, and accessible curb ramps that enable safe, convenient, and comfortable travel for all users;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pere Marquette Charter Township Board hereby declares its support of Complete Streets policies and will incorporate Complete Streets design considerations and practices in its transportation projects to the extent feasible based on any planning, engineering and/or financial considerations, as determined by the Township Board.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Kmetz, Kelley, McCallum, McInnis, Enbody, Piper, DeMeester
Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Planning Commission (Kmetz) – A public hearing has been scheduled for August 16th to hear comments on changes to the Zoning Ordinance that include permitting the services of a registered medical marijuana primary caregiver to be conducted as a home occupation along with amending and adding certain definitions; elected Randy Williams as vice-chairman and reviewed goals from the Comprehensive Plan.

Zoning Board of Appeals (Piper) – Reported that the 2012 ZBA budget was reviewed and prepared; stated there could be a resignation from the ZBA and that the Township Board will need to appoint another member to the ZBA.

EMPLOYEE REPORTS: Assessor (Heffner) – Reported she is working on database clean up, settling tax tribunal appeals, and is working on examining properties that have been issued building permits.

DPW/Water/Sewer Superintendent (Larr) – Reported that the airport water main is 90% complete and that they will be switching customers from City of Ludington water to the township's municipal water system within the next couple of weeks; still working with Epworth on pre-treatment issues to eliminate odor in the Linlook Park area and are awaiting results from samplings; a new customer has been connected to the water system; the employees have begun mowing the vacant lots in the industrial parks.

Fire Department (Kissel) – Provided a written report detailing response activity of fifty calls for the month of July; reported that over 110 man hours have been donated by department members in the search for baby Kate; minor maintenance was needed for roof leak; stated there have been 214 runs to date, out of 220 days and are 48 runs ahead of the same time last year.

OFFICERS REPORTS: Clerk (Enbody) – Enbody provided a list of current invoices for approval.

Moved by Piper, seconded by Kelley to approve payment of invoices totaling \$92,517.96. Motion carried.

Treasurer (McCallum) – Provided written report detailing bank and investment balances by fund; attended a user group meeting for utility billing program; remarked on how beneficial it has been to have the GIS maps that Mason County imported into the utility billing and tax software; working on budgets; distributed revenue projections for 2012. Discussion took place on the capital improvement plan, the capital improvement fund, and how improvements can be made when planning projects and purchases.

Building/Zoning Administrator (Wahr) – Provided a written report detailing permit activity through July; updated board members on a non-conforming use by Starport Marina on S. Lakeshore Drive and has recommended that the issue go before the Zoning Board of Appeals for approval or denial; is continuing to deal with an issue regarding a short term rental property; reported finishing the plan review for Northwestern Bank and stated the project should begin soon.

Supervisor (McInnis) – Reported the roof project is just about complete, with the fencing around the new AC units scheduled to be finished this week; Buttersville Park is at capacity for occupancy and is obtaining bids for roof repairs; the road repairs have been completed on S. Lakeshore Drive and turned out well; is working with Wahr on a problematic driveway issue and will be meeting with the Road Commission in order to solve the problem of water running into the resident's home during periods of heavy rain.

Meeting adjourned by Supervisor at 8:26 p.m.

Rachelle D. Enbody, Township Clerk

Jim McInnis, Township Supervisor