

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FLUSHING

**6524 N. SEYMOUR ROAD
FLUSHING, MICHIGAN 48433
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES**

DATE: JUNE 8, 2017

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

PHONE: 810-659-0800

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WEB PAGE: <http://flushingtowship.com>

ADMINISTRATION:

SUPERVISOR: Frederick R. Thorsby
CLERK: Wendy D. Meinburg
TREASURER: Terry A. Peck

TRUSTEES:

Jenifer Almassy
Daniel McGrath
Linda Minarik
William L. Westenbarger

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY:

STEVEN W. MOULTON PLLC
6258 W. Pierson Road
Flushing MI 48433
810-407-7658

- I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:00 P.M. by **SUPERVISOR FREDERICK R. THORSBY** with Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Linda Minarik, Fred Thorsby, Dan McGrath, Jenifer Almassy, Wendy Meinburg, William Westenbarger, and, Terry Peck. Attorney Steven Moulton was also present.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHER INDIVIDUALS PRESENT: Thirteen (13)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR JUNE 8, 2017:

Supervisor Thorsby informed the Board Mr. Ned DeGalan was in attendance to give a brief presentation regarding a proposed "Memorial Tree" designation in the Flushing Township Nature Park and asked for the agenda to be amended to allow the presentation.

TREASURER PECK MOVED, supported by Clerk Meinburg to add Mr. DeGalan's presentation as Item One (1) under New Business and to remove Item Three (3) Motion to approve Quarterly Budget ending March 31, 2017 as this did not require Board approval.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF MAY 11, 2017 MEETING AND DRAFT MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF MAY 24, 2017:

TREASURER PECK MOVED, supported by Trustee Westenbarger to approve the minutes of the Regular May 11, 2017 Board Meeting and the Special May 24, 2017 Board Meeting.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS:

CLERK MEINBURG MOVED, supported by Trustee McGrath to approve the payment of bills.

Trustee Westenbarger questioned the cost of the mulch purchase and Supervisor Thorsby stated it was a special Playground Mulch that had to be used around the playground area.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS: 7:15 P.M.

Mr. Marty Cousineau introduced himself to those present as the new Genesee County Commissioner for the Flushing District.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS: 7:17 P.M.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Motion to approve a contract with Rowe Professional Services Company to Provide "As Needed Planning Services" to Flushing Township – Supervisor

Supervisor Thorsby stated the idea of a contract with Rowe Professional Services Company had been initiated by the Planning Commission and the previous Board of Trustees. He pointed out Rowe's services would be used on the more complicated site plans where an expert opinion was needed.

SUPERVISOR THORSBY MOVED, supported by Trustee Westenbarger to approve a contract with Rowe Professional Services Company to provide "As Needed Planning Services" to Flushing Township.

ACTION ON THE MOTION:

ROLL CALL VOTE

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V: NEW BUSINESS

1. Nature Park Memorial Tree Presentation – Ned DeGalan

Mr. DeGalan gave a brief presentation on a proposal from the Flushing Nature Park Committee to establish a Memorial Tree Program in the Park. It would be in a designated area approximately 2.5 acres, locations would be geo-tagged for 25 trees and there would be some type of marker or tag on or near the tree. He distributed a list of trees that could be planted and a proposed location along with a proposed Donor Form that would be filed at the Township. After discussion with the Board of Trustees and Audience Members, questions and suggestions were made, i.e. wording which would state the tree becomes the property of the Township, approval from Township before any large motorized equipment is used to plant a tree, ask that a member of Nature Committee be present when a tree is planted, methods to prevent theft, the donor would be responsible for the cost of the donor plaque and a suggestion was made to have the number one tree location dedicated to John Rusty Wayne Markham, a Medal of Honor Recipient. It was stated a revised proposal would come back before the Board.

2. Motion to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 17-1 authorizing a franchise agreement with Consumers Energy – Supervisor

TRUSTEE ALMASSY MOVED, supported by Clerk Meinburg to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 17-1 authorizing a franchise agreement with Consumers Energy.

**ACTION ON THE MOTION:
ROLL CALL VOTE
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Attorney Moulton, in answer to a question by Clerk Meinburg, stated a summary of the Ordinance should be published using today's date, June 8, 2017.

3. Motion to approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 17-2 Peddler Permit – Supervisor

Supervisor Thorsby spoke briefly regarding the Peddler's Permit Ordinance stating the Township needs an Ordinance on the books in order to get some control over who is soliciting in the Township and to establish guidelines that can be enforced. Attorney Moulton stated there should be a penalty clause in the ordinance. Chief Fairchild asked if the Peddler would be carrying the permit. It was also suggested that every individual that would be working would have to have I.D. and a copy of permit. After a brief discussion, it was decided to table this item.

TREASURER PECK MOVED, supported by Trustee Westenbarger to table this item until the next Board Meeting.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Motion to approve a resolution updating the User Fees for Flushing Township – Supervisor

Supervisor Thorsby stated he had been working on this item pointing out the Township fees were low compared to other communities.

TREASURER PECK MOVED, supported by Trustee Westenbarger to approve a resolution updating the User Fees for Flushing Township.

It was pointed out that most of the fees were increased to cover the Township's costs. There were also some new fees. It was also stated it would be beneficial to have the old amounts charged for a comparison.

TRUSTEE ALMASSY MOVED, supported by Trustee McGrath to table this item.

ACTION ON THE MOTION:

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Almassy, Thorsby, Meinburg, McGrath and Minarik

NAYS: Westenbarger and Peck

THE MOTION CARRIED

5. Motion to excuse Township Attorney from Board Meetings on a trial basis of six months – Trustee McGrath

TRUSTEE MCGRATH MOVED, supported by Trustee Westenbarger to excuse Township Attorney from Board Meetings on a trial basis of six months.

Treasurer Peck pointed out the MTA lawyers are good but they don't know our ordinances.

TREASURER PECK MOVED, supported by Clerk Meinburg to amend the motion to state the Personnel Committee review the agenda before each meeting and determine if there are items that require the lawyers attendance.

The Board discussed this item at length expressing concerns as to conducting meetings without the Attorney being present. It was pointed out the Township's insurance has finally gone down and not having an Attorney present at meetings might affect that. It was pointed out that Mr. Moulton's fee for a meeting was a \$200 flat fee.

TRUSTEE MCGRATH WITHDREW HIS MOTION.

VI. REPORTS:

1. Supervisor's Report given by Supervisor Thorsby stating he has been working with Attorney Moulton on blight enforcement on a couple properties in the Township. Attorney Moulton asked if Block Grant money could be used to demolish these properties if the Township was to acquire them and Supervisor Thorsby stated we could. Supervisor Thorsby also stated the Policy Committee would be meeting and questioned Attorney Moulton regarding the Open Meetings

Act. Mr. Moulton pointed out it would be a working meeting, therefore, not a violation of the Open Meetings Act.

2. Clerk's Report given by Clerk Meinburg stating the eco counter had been placed in the Nature Park for a week and it recorded 450 people entered the park. Boy Scout Troop 302 retired the Township's used flags.
3. Treasurer Peck stated there was not a Treasurer's Report this month because of the timing of the meeting. He briefly reviewed some CD investments he had made.
4. Flushing Township Police Department Report given by Chief Fairchild with a brief discussion about a new school police officer and that decision coming back to the Board when the position was ready to be filled.
5. Fire Department Report given by Supervisor Thorsby.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS: 8:35 P.M.

An individual gave comments regarding better signage in the Township indicating the location of the Township Hall.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS: 8:37 P.M.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS:

Trustee Westenbarger asked about progress on the roof and had questions regarding water lines and who pays for new lines. He also expressed concern about speed limits in school zones and difficulty seeing the times that were posted on speed limit signs, suggesting a red flashing light be placed with the signs.

Trustee Almassy briefly reported five additional eco cameras were purchased by the GCMPC. She also expressed concern as to the short notice that is given for Special Board Meetings.

Treasurer Peck stated Elite Lawn Care has started their program on the Township lawn.

Supervisor Thorsby stated the new sign for the Township Hall will probably be installed next week.

Wendy Meinburg thanked Norm Goddard for all his help hauling mulch for the Township Hall landscaping. Chief Fairchild added that Norm would be mowing tall grass for code enforcement.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

TRUSTEE WESTENBARGER MOVED, supported by Trustee Minarik to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 P.M.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

WENDY D. MEINBURG, Clerk

FREDERICK R. THORSBY, Supervisor

APPROVED DATE _____

RECORDING SECRETARY: Joyce A. Wilson, Deputy Clerk

06/08/2017 Regular Min