

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES - **APPROVED** -
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
349-1200, Town Hall Room
TUESDAY, February 15, 2000, **6:00 P.M. — 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,
Trustees McGillicuddy, Squiers, Such

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning & Development
Mark Kieselbach, Director of Engineering & Public Works Roger Buell, Police Chief
Gary Gibbons, EMS/Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Personnel Director/Assistant Manager
Paul Brake, Recreation Director LuAnn Maisner, Attorney Brian Goodenough

1. CALL WORK SESSION TO ORDER

Supervisor McCullough called the Work Session to order at 6:00p.m.

2. QUESTIONS FOR ATTORNEY (None)

3. DISCUSSION ON 7:00 AGENDA ITEM TOPICS

The following 7:00 p.m. agenda items were discussed:

- Consent Agenda
- Updating of Comprehensive Development Plan by Planning Commission
- Ingham County Road Commission's rejection of Ember Oaks preliminary plat
- Michigan Townships Association legislative update
- Licensed/non-licensed vendors in area
- Freedom of Information request re: ARC Icesports Arena
- Requirement to fill Board position within 45 days

4. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Volunteer Firefighters

Fire Chief Cowper presented a report on the status of the Volunteer Firefighter Program, noting:

- Number of full-time firefighters reduces need for volunteers
- Department's Paramedic license requires full-time staff; 80% of emergency responses are EMS calls
- MIOSHA requires all firefighters at a fire to have comparable training; volunteers unable to benefit from the same training as full-time firefighters; volunteers unable to commit to required time necessary to maintain comparable training
- Contractual restrictions on the amount/type of jobs volunteers are permitted to perform

It was the consensus of the Board to refer the issue back to the Public Safety Committee for review and consideration of an alternative program.

B. Total Pipe Line Construction Project

Director of Public Works and Engineering Buell reported that Wolverine Pipe Line, recent purchaser of the Total Pipe Line System, notified the Township of its intentions to install a new parallel pipeline through their existing easements. Currently, only 30 feet of the 66 foot easement has been trimmed; the project will require additional trimming of the easement. Clerk Helmbrecht requested Director Buell to work with Wolverine to ensure the minimum number of trees are removed as they progress with the work.

C. Manager Richards noted the Township is receiving inquiries from firms looking for cellular tower sites. If towers are installed on Township property, Township would have more control, as well as generate revenue for leasing the sites. The need for a policy on the issue was discussed. It was the consensus of the Board to refer the issue to the Infrastructure Committee for review.

D. A joint meeting of the East Lansing City Council and the Meridian Township Board of Trustees was announced for Monday, March 20; Meridian Township is hosting the meeting in the Town Hall Room.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING – **APPROVED** -
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
349-1200, Town Hall Room
TUESDAY, February 15, 2000, **7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,
Trustees McGillicuddy, Squiers, Such
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Township Manager Gerald Richards, Director of Community Planning & Development
Mark Kieselbach, Director of Engineering & Public Works Roger Buell, Police Chief
Gary Gibbons, EMS/Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Personnel Director/Assistant Manager
Paul Brake

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor McCullough called the meeting to order at 7:20p.m.

2. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Introduction of New Firefighter – Jeffrey Rommeck
Fire Chief Cowper introduced Jeffrey Rommeck, new Township firefighter.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA — OR CHANGES

Trustee Such MOVED to approve the Agenda as submitted and the Consent Agenda to include items: #4 (Correction, Approval & Ratification of Minutes: February 1, 2000 Work Session and Regular Meeting); #5 (Communications); #17.A. (Bills); #17.D. (Recommendation for Award for Sanitary Sewer Lining Contract); #18.A.(1).a. (Liquor License Transfer- Nine Iron, Inc.); #18.A.(6).a. (Approval of PBT Grant for Police); #18.A.(6).b. (Approval of COPS More Grant Extension Application); #18.A.(6)c. (Approval of Ingham County Investigative Task Force Agreement).

Motion SECONDED by Trustee Squiers.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

4. CORRECTION, APPROVAL & RATIFICATION OF MINUTES (See Consent Agenda)

A. February 1, 2000, Work Session
B. February 1, 2000 Regular Meeting

5. COMMUNICATIONS (See Consent Agenda)

A. Application for Public Service (APP)

APP-1 Andrew P. Abood, 4771 Nakoma, Okemos; RE: Cable Communications
Commission

APP-2 Donald O. Straney, 2460 Burcham, East Lansing; RE: Cable Communications' Commission

APP-3 Frank Webster, 3845 Roxbury Avenue, Okemos; RE: Township Board

APP-4 Charles C. Hagen, 4195 VanAtta Road, Okemos; RE: Township Board

B. Board Deliberation (BD)

BD-1 David E. Pierson, McClelland & Anderson, L.L.P., Attorneys at Law, 1305 South
Washington Avenue, Suite 102, Lansing; RE: Postponement of February 15, 2000 hearing
for the appeal of the Planning Commission decision approving Special Use Permit #99181
(Alpine Holdings)

C. Board Information (BI)

BI-1 Richard & Susan Williams, 3578 Stagecoach, Okemos; RE: To County Road
Commission regarding Ember Oaks Development

BI-1a Richard & Susan Williams, 3578 Stagecoach, Okemos; RE: To County Road Commission
regarding Ember Oaks Development

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, REGULAR MEETING, February 15, 2000 * APPROVED

- BI-2 Charles & Mary Warzecha, 3665 Ponderosa, Okemos; RE: To County Road Commission regarding Ember Oaks Development
- BI-3 John & Florence Polack, 3560 Ponderosa, Okemos; RE: To County Road Commission regarding Ember Oaks Development
- BI-4 Barbara Roberts, 3537 Ponderosa, Okemos; RE: To County Road Commission regarding Ember Oaks Development
- BI-5 Dr. Daniel B. & Mrs. Teresa Hayes, 5036 Park Lake, East Lansing; RE: Mosquito control
- BI-6 William & Irene Pamerleau, 3598 Stagecoach, Okemos; RE: To County Road Commission regarding Ember Oaks Development
- BI-7 William & Jacqueline Abbett, 1097 Bonanza Drive, Okemos; RE: To County Road Commission regarding Ember Oaks Development
- BI-8 Michigan Townships Association January 31, 2000 letter RE: Michigan Municipal League petition drive to amend the Michigan Constitution
- BI-9 Michigan Townships Association "Legislative Fax", week ending January 28, 2000
- BI-10 Michigan Townships Association "Legislative Fax", week ending February 4, 2000
- BI-11 Kathleen Seaton, 3666 Stagecoach, Okemos; RE: To County Road Commission regarding Ember Oaks Development
- BI-12 Sjoberg, 1082 Trails End, Okemos; RE: To County Road Commission regarding Ember Oaks Development
- BI-13 Michigan Townships Association Resolutions for Consideration at 2000 Annual Meeting
- BI-14 Irvin E. Vance, 1109 Bonanza, Okemos; RE: To County Road Commission regarding Ember Oaks Development
- BI-15 News release: Towar Community Concerns Committee (TC3) Receives MRPA Community Service Award, February 8, 2000
- BI-16 News release: Meridian Township Hosts "Family Winter Sports Day #2," February 8, 2000
- BI-17 Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce 2000 Lunchbox Series
- BI-18 Conrad L. Donakowski, 4573 Keweenaw, Okemos; RE: Opposition to Special Use Permits for work within floodplains and for the Wal-Mart store
- BI-19 Derek Melot, Lansing State Journal, 120 East Lenawee, Lansing; RE: Error in Point of View column written by Stephen Stier
- BI-20 Kathy Swearingen, 1415 Haslett, Haslett; RE: opposed to moving Haslett Library
- BI-21 2000 Township Board "Post Script" Interview Schedule
- BI-22 Robert D'Alcorn, Managing Director, Ingham County Road Commission, 301 Bush Street, Mason; RE: letter to Keith Schroeder, Preliminary Plat of Ember Oaks Subdivision, Section 35, Meridian Charter Township
- BI-23 Michigan Townships Association "Legislative Fax", week ending February 11, 2000
- BI-24 J. Fried, 3561 Ponderosa, Okemos; RE: To County Road Commission regarding Ember Oaks Development
- BI-25 Kay Dunn, Meridian Township Police Records Supervisor; RE: Current list of licensed vendors and non-licensed persons or non-profit organizations engaged in soliciting or canvassing

On File in Clerk's Office (OF)

- OF-1 Meri-Okes Newsletter, February, 2000
- OF-2 Ingham County Road Commissioners Agenda for February 8, 2000 meeting
- OF-3 Okemos Public Schools, Meeting Agenda, February 7, 2000
- OF-4 Okemos Public Schools Minutes of January 10, 2000 meeting
- OF-5 Okemos Public Schools Minutes of January 24, 2000 meeting
- OF-6 Okemos Public Schools Minutes of Special Meeting January 31, 2000

D. Staff Responses (SR)

- SR-1 Mark Kieselbach, Director of Community Planning and Development; RE: Planning Commission Representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals
- SR-2 Mark Kieselbach, Director of Community Planning and Development; RE: Planning Commission "Request for Proposal" to outside consultants for the revision of two Comprehensive Development Plan chapters

E. Freedom of Information Act Requests (FOI)

- FOI-00-01 Margaret Seres-Burkart, 6160 Innkeepers Court #63, East Lansing; RE: Letter to residents about rezoning Sections 29 & 32; letters from Okemos Public Schools to Planning Commission referenced at January 31, 2000 meeting.
- FOI 00-02 Shawn W. Nicholson, MSU, 100 Library, East Lansing; RE: Township Board Meeting minutes and attachments for November 3, 1999.
- FOI-00-03 Dennis Forsberg, Box 349, Okemos; RE: Coyote Creek Drive 33' Rezoning from Okemos Road west to Sonoma Vista Drive; TMN's Rezoning of their property between Fire Station and Coyote Creek Drive, 1999; 50' Restriction placed; Planning Commission and Township Board Minutes for above cases; 4.24 acres rezoning south of Pond on Smith Drain and all Planning Commission and Township Board Minutes related to this rezoning
- FOI-00-04 Dirk H. Beckwith, Cross Wrock, Counselors at Law, 400 Renaissance Center, Suite 1900, Detroit; RE: all documents on file since January 1, 1997 related to 2810 Hannah Boulevard, ARC Icesports, East Lansing's acquisition of the property or the development of the ice arena located at the property

6. QUESTIONS OF ATTORNEY (None)

7. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McCullough opened Public Remarks.

Judith Alban, 3624 West Arbutus, Okemos; RE: Support Pat Hagen for Trustee

Paul Zang, 4920 Chipping Camden Lane, Okemos; RE: Support Pat Hagen for Trustee

Donald Twohy, 2202 Haslett Road, East Lansing; RE: Support Pat Hagen for Trustee

Supervisor McCullough closed Public Remarks.

INTRODUCTION OF CANDIDATES

The following residents introduced themselves, explained why they are running for the open seat on the Board and answered questions of the Board:

- Pat Hagen, 4135 Wabaningo, Okemos
- Charles Hagen, 4195 VanAtta Road, Okemos
- Dirk Milliman, 6231 East Lake Drive, Haslett
- Julie Brixie, 2294 Hamilton Road, Okemos
- Steve Stier, 5317 Okemos Road, Okemos
- Frank Webster, 3845 Roxbury Avenue, Okemos

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Trustee Squiers MOVED to adopt the Consent Agenda to include items #4 (Correction, Approval & Ratification of Minutes: February 1, 2000 Work Session and Regular Meeting); #5. (Communications); #17.A. (Bills); #17.D. (Recommendation for Award for Sanitary Sewer Lining Contract); #18.A.(1).a. (Liquor License Transfer- Nine Iron, Inc.); #18.A.(6).a. (Approval of PBT Grant for Police); #18.A.(6).b. (Approval of COPS More Grant Extension Application); #18.A.(6)c. (Approval of Ingham County Investigative Task Force Agreement).

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger,

Trustees McGillicuddy, Such, Squiers.
Nays: None
Motion carried 6-0.

Therefore, the above actions were taken with the votes as follow:

- A. CORRECTION, APPROVAL & RATIFICATION OF MINUTES (Item #4. on the Agenda)
Trustee Squiers MOVED to approve and ratify the minutes of the February 1, 2000 Work Session and Regular Meeting.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer
Klunzinger, Trustees McGillicuddy, Such, Squiers.
Nays: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- B. COMMUNICATIONS (Item #5. on the Agenda)
Trustee Squiers MOVED that the Communications be received and placed on file, and any communications not already assigned for disposition be referred to the Township Manager or Supervisor for follow-up or further disposition.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer
Klunzinger, Trustees McGillicuddy, Such, Squiers.
Nays: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- C. MANAGER'S BILLS: (Item #17.A. on the Agenda)
Trustee Squiers MOVED that the Township Board approve the Manager's Bills as follows:

General Fund/Special Revenue	\$169,410.32
Public Works	\$464,135.80
PS Bldg. Debt – Ingham County	
Tax Sale Cancellations	\$ 19,341.28
Central Park Drive – Bank One	
Interest Payment	<u>\$ 20,571.25</u>
Total	<u>\$673,458.65</u>

[Bill list for 2/15/00 in Official Minute Book]

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer
Klunzinger, Trustees McGillicuddy, Such, Squiers.
Nays: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- D. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARD FOR SANITARY SEWER LINING CONTRACT (Item #17.D. on the Agenda)
Trustee Squiers MOVED to authorize the Township Supervisor and Clerk to sign a contract, in a form approved by the Township Attorney, with Insituform Technologies USA, Inc. of Chesterfield, Missouri for the award of the Indian Hills Area Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation, in the amount of \$404,234.50; and to authorize a \$20,000 transfer from Tacoma Hills Rehabilitation account #592-900.901-973.002 to Indian Hills Area Rehabilitation account #592-900.901-973-001.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Trustees McGillicuddy, Such, Squiers.
Nays: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- E. LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER (Item #18.A.(1).a. on the Agenda)
Trustee Squiers MOVED approval of the transfer request from Nine Iron, Inc. to transfer ownership, pending final inspection, of 1999 Class C Licensed Business with Dance Permit, located at 1018 Haslett, Haslett, MI 48840, Meridian Township, Ingham County, from the Green, Inc., and the Township Clerk be authorized to execute the authorizing resolution.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Trustees McGillicuddy, Such, Squiers.
Nays: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- F. APPROVAL OF PBT GRANT FOR POLICE (Item #18.A.(6).a. on the Agenda)
Trustee Squiers MOVED to approve the Police Department to request one (1) Preliminary Breath Testing (PBT) Instrument through the Drunk Driving Prevention Equipment and Training Fund.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Trustees McGillicuddy, Such, Squiers.
Nays: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- G. APPROVAL OF COPS MORE GRANT EXTENSION APPLICATION (Item #18.A.(6).b. on the Agenda)
Trustee Squiers MOVED to authorize the Police Department to apply for and accept renewal funding for the civilian property technician position as provided by the COPS MORE 98 Program.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Trustees McGillicuddy, Such, Squiers.
Nays: None
Motion carried 6-0.

- H. APPROVAL OF INGHAM COUNTY INVESTIGATIVE TASK FORCE AGREEMENT (Item #18.A.(6).c. on the Agenda)
Trustee Squiers MOVED to recommend approval for the Police Department's participation in the Ingham County Major Crime Task Force and to authorize the Chief of Police to sign the agreement.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Supervisor McCullough, Clerk Helmbrecht, Treasurer Klunzinger, Trustees McGillicuddy, Such, Squiers.
Nays: None
Motion carried 6-0.

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Such referred to the bench just outside the north entrance to the Administration Building, noting the bench is a sample of the type being considered for the Pathways System.

Treasurer Klunzinger offered an apology to Steve Stier; a mistake attributed to Stier at the last meeting was actually made by the Lansing State Journal who sent a letter to the Board acknowledging having substantially changed the letter sent to their paper by Stier.

10. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor McCullough noted a new seating arrangement for the Board. He also noted his appreciation for the many positive comments he received upon his appointment as new Township Supervisor.

11. CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Helmbrecht highlighted the joint meeting on March 20 with the East Lansing City Council.

Helmbrecht also noted the Clerk's Office will be open Saturday, February 19 from 8:00a.m. to 2:00p.m. to take care of absentee ballot requests.

12. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Klunzinger reported the Winter 2000 Tax period ended on February 24th; over \$6 million was collected; taxes not paid by February 29 will be turned over to the county for processing.

13. TOWNSHIP BOARD

A. Appointments

Trustee Such MOVED to appoint Bob Fish to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion **SECONDED** by Clerk **Helmbrecht**.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Trustee Such, Clerk Helmbrecht, Supervisor McCullough
Nays: Trustee McGillicuddy, Squiers, Treasurer Klunzinger
Motion failed 3-3.

Treasurer Klunzinger MOVED to re-appoint Jim Hershiser to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending 12/31/2002.

Motion **SECONDED** by Clerk **Helmbrecht**.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Trustee McGillicuddy, Squiers, Treasurer Klunzinger,
Clerk Helmbrecht
Nays: Trustee Such, Supervisor McCullough
Motion carried 4-2.

Treasurer Klunzinger MOVED to accept the appointment of Larry Sawdy as the Planning Commission Representative on the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending 12/31/2002.

Motion **SECONDED** by Clerk **Helmbrecht**.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Klunzinger MOVED to appoint Eldon Clark as the First Alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending 12/31/2002.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Squiers**.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Such MOVED to appoint Kirk Squiers as the Board Representative on the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending 12/31/2000.

Motion **SECONDED** by Treasurer **Klunzinger**.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Such MOVED to appoint Andrew P. Abood to the Cable Communications Commission for a term ending 12/31/2002.

Motion **SECONDED** by Clerk **Helmbrecht**.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Clerk Helmbrecht MOVED to appoint Sabrina Millikin and Brenden Gunnell as Youth Commissioners on the Environmental Commission for terms ending 12/31/2000.

Motion **SECONDED** by Treasurer **Klunzinger**.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Klunzinger MOVED to confirm the Supervisors appointment of Robert Smith to the Planning Commission for a term ending 12/31/2002.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Voice vote: Motion passed 5-1 (McGillicuddy).

Treasurer Klunzinger MOVED to confirm the Supervisor's appointment of Irvin Kebler to the Planning Commission for a term ending 12/31/2002.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Voice vote: Motion passed 5-1 (McGillicuddy).

Treasurer Klunzinger MOVED to confirm the Supervisor's appointment of Alan Wolfe to the Planning Commission for a term ending 12/31/2002.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Voice vote: Motion passed 5-1 (McGillicuddy).

Treasurer Klunzinger MOVED to accept the Supervisor's appointment of the following to the Economic Development Corporation:

Andrew Such (term ending 12/31/2000)

Keith Terry (term ending 12/31/2002)

Don Lansdale (term ending 12/31/2005)

Art Vine (term ending 12/31/2005)

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Klunzinger MOVED to appoint of Roger Buell to the East Lansing-Meridian Water & Sewer Authority and the Ground Water Management Board for terms ending 12/31/2002.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Klunzinger MOVED to re-appoint of Stephen O. Schultz to the Capital Area Transportation Authority & Rail Council for a term ending 12/31/2002.

Motion **SECONDED** by Trustee **Such**.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

14. SPECIAL HEARINGS/APPEALS

A. Local Law Enforcement Block Grant

Police Chief Gibbons provided background on the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) monies. The grant amount is for \$18,344 Federal monies with a \$2,038 Township match. The intended purpose is for technology (800 MHZ radio equipment to supplement Ingham County 911 funds) to enhance dispatch and cruiser communication capabilities.

According to the grant guidelines, the Township must “hold at least one public hearing regarding the proposed use of the LLEBG funds” and allow “persons an opportunity to provide written and oral views” regarding the intended use of the funds. As required, the hearing was publicized in the printed agenda for the Board meeting.

Supervisor McCullough opened the Special Hearing to Public Remarks.

There were no Public Remarks.

Supervisor McCullough closed the Special Hearing, noting written comments will be accepted through the end of the week, Friday, February 18, 2000.

15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (None)

16. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

A. Unfinished Business (None)

B. New Business

- (1) Rezoning #99150 (Diversified Financial), request to rezone approximately five acres north of Grand River Avenue, east of Jo Don Drive, East Lansing, from RX (Duplex) to RC (Multiple Family-Medium Density)

Director of Community Planning and Development Kieselbach provided background on the request, noting the Planning Commission and Planning and Development Committee both recommended approval of the rezoning with the following conditions:

- The applicant shall agree in writing to develop senior citizen housing on the subject site;
- The Special Use Permit and site plan shall indicate the facility will be designated as and designed only for senior citizen housing; and
- The applicant shall prepare deed restrictions for the property, designating the Township as a third party beneficiary, subject to review and approval by the Township Attorney.

Kieselbach noted the applicant did express a willingness to accept restrictions on the use of the property.

Treasurer Klunzinger MOVED the Resolution to Approve Rezoning #99150 (Diversified Financial) be adopted.

Motion **SECONDED** by Clerk **Helmbrecht**.

Discussion on the motion included:

- Concern about guarantees that the property will be used as rezoned if not developed by proposed developer.
- What steps will applicant take to protect the many trees on the property
- The three conditions would go with the property, no matter who develops it.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

17. MANAGER'S REPORT, INVOICES & BILLS

A. Bills (See Consent Agenda)

B. Professional Services Agreement

Manager Richards provided background on retaining professional assistance with the publication of the Meridian Monitor, employee newsletters, monthly news releases, media training for the staff and other related projects. He reviewed a 12-month retainer agreement for services from Lezotte Miller Public Relations. The proposed retainer is \$1,500 per month.

Trustee Such MOVED that the Township enter into a retainer agreement for communication services with the firm of Lezotte-Miller in a form approved by the Township Attorney and that Township officials be authorized to sign the agreement.

Motion **SECONDED** by Clerk **Helmbrecht**.

Discussion included:

- Lezotte Miller will provide important services the Township needs to better communicate to residents
- Agreement needs more clarity/specifics regarding the publication of the Monitor
- Need to talk with other firms, solicit other bids
- Concern the recent Monitor sounds like an editorial
- Other qualified firms already work with other municipalities
- Letter of agreement already lays out responsibilities, timelines (re: monthly meeting with Manager)

Roll call vote: Yeas: Trustees Such, Squiers, Clerk Helmbrecht, Supervisor McCullough

Nays: Trustee McGillicuddy, Treasurer Klunzinger

Motion passed 4-2.

[Resolution on file in the Official Minute Book in the Clerk's Office.]

C. Van Dyck Drive Vacation

Director of Engineering and Public Works Buell outlined a request from the Ingham County Road Commission asking for the Township's position regarding a request to abandon a portion of Van Dyck Drive running east west from Park Lake Drive. Buell noted that the Engineering and Public Works Department has no objections to the abandonment request.

Trustee Squiers MOVED that the Township Manager be directed to send a written communication to the Ingham County Road Commission indicating that the Township has no objection to the abandonment of the south 30 feet of Van Dyck Drive.

Motion **SECONDED** by Treasurer **Klunzinger**.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

D. Recommendation for Award for Sanitary Sewer Lining Contract (See Consent Agenda)

18. BOARD MEMBER, BOARD COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Standing Committee Reports

(1) Physical Operations & Activities

a. Liquor License Transfer – Nine Iron, Inc. (See Consent Agenda)

(2) Financial Planning and Budgeting

(3) Personnel

Trustee Squiers MOVED that the Township Manager’ employment agreement be amended to terminate on March 8, 2000 (one additional day) for the purpose of allowing sufficient time to conduct the Manager’s evaluation at the March 7 Board meeting.

Motion **SECONDED** by Treasurer **Klunzinger**.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

(4) Planning and Development (None)

(5) Infrastructure

Next meeting Thursday, March 16 at 5:15p.m.

(6) Public Safety

a. Approval of PBT Grant for Police (See Consent Agenda)

b. Approval of COPS More Grant Extension Application (See Consent Agenda)

c. Approval of Ingham County Investigative Task Force Agreement (See Consent Agenda)

Next meeting Monday, March 20 at 5:15p.m.

(7) Recreation

Saturday, February 26 is the second Family Free Fun Day with events at the Harris Nature Center and the ARC Ice Arena. First Family Free Fun Day had close to 100 people at the Harris Nature Center and nearly 450 people at the ARC Ice Arena.

B. Special Committees (None)

C. Liaison Representative Reports

The next fundraising event for the Community Resources Commission, the Meridian Golf Fest, is scheduled for Saturday, July 22 and Sunday, July 23 at the Indian Hills Golf Course in Okemos.

19. OTHER REPORTS (None)

20. NEW BUSINESS (None)

21. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor McCullough opened Public Remarks.

James Gill, Candidate for Ingham County Sheriff; RE: announced his candidacy.

Vance Kincaid, 4530 Nakoma Drive, Okemos; RE: Board needs public-friendly image; consideration of a roundabout for the Dobie/Kinawa intersection.

Wayne McClellan, 4159 Cheboygan Road, Okemos; RE: complimented candidate Pat Hagen on her response to Board questions; concerned about use of Lezotte Miller public relations firm, Township’s denial of use of Town Hall Room by State Legislator, Township employees serving on Boards/Commission as Trustees and dual appointments on Boards/Commissions; questioned statements that Board has been responsible for decline in development in the Township.

Supervisor McCullough closed Public Remarks.

22. FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Treasurer Klunzinger asked when the 300 foot rule on appeals was adopted. Director Kieselbach noted Boards in the past have chosen different means of determining an “aggrieved” person as referred to in the ordinance; it’s not a rule that has been adopted **by this Board, but was the standard used by the previous Board.**

Klunzinger also responded to the concern expressed in Public Remarks about a person serving on more than one Board/Commission. He noted that in the most recent case, the **apparent** dual appointment was specifically made due to the desire to have a stronger relationship between the Economic Development Corporation and the Planning Commission.

In regards to not allowing a State Representative to use the Town Hall Room for press conferences, Klunzinger noted the State Representative in question is not from Meridian Township.

In response to the issue about a roundabout at the corner of Dobie and Kinawa, Trustee McGillicuddy noted that two years ago she had requested the use of a roundabout be explored for that corner. Due to the concept's newness, however, she was told by the Ingham County Road Commission that it would be easier to do one roundabout at a time, and that at this point it would be easier to do a widening of the road at Dobie and Kinawa. Treasurer Klunzinger asked if this is an issue that could be referred to the Infrastructure Committee; Trustee Such noted that discussions with the Ingham County Road Commission have already taken place and he will share the submitted drawing with the ICRC.

Trustee Squiers responded to the comment about the decline of development in the Township and showed a graph highlighting the decline in development since the Board has been in office.

23. CLOSED SESSION – MANAGER’S EVALUATION (Postponed; see #18.A.3.)

24. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor McCullough adjourned the meeting at 9:35p.m.

BILL Mc CULLOUGH
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

MARY M. G. HELMBRECHT
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Janis L. Haskell, Acting Secretary