



AGENDA

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF
MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
July 19, 2016
6:00 P.M.



1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER⁺
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS
3. ROLL CALL
4. PRESENTATION
 - A. Recognition of Larry Parsons-Meridian Mall Manager
 - B. Recognition of Malinda Barr- International Certified Tourism Ambassador Star Award
 - C. July 8, 2016 Storm Response
5. PUBLIC REMARKS^{*}
6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT
7. BOARD COMMENTS & REPORTS
8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
9. CONSENT AGENDA (SALMON)
 - A. Communications
 - B. Minutes
 - (1) June 21, 2016 Regular Meeting
 - (2) July 5, 2016 Regular Meeting
 - C. Bills
 - D. Ratification of Part-Time Firefighter/Paramedic Appointments
 - E. Request to Purchase MERS Generic Credited Service
10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY
11. HEARINGS (CANARY)
12. ACTION ITEMS (PINK)

****Public Comment**

 - A. BRT Resolution
 - B. Rezoning #16020, 1792 Hamilton Road, RC (Multiple Family) to PO (Professional and Office)
 - C. 2016 Action Plan- Goals & Objectives-6 Month Report
 - D. Emergency Brush Pick Up Authorization
13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS (ORCHID)

****Public Comment**

 - A. Recycling Center Driveway
14. FINAL PUBLIC REMARKS^{*}
15. FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENT
16. ADJOURNMENT

***PUBLIC REMARKS (Any topic - 3 minutes per person)**

****PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda item specific - 3 minutes per person)**

*Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Meridian Township Board by writing or calling the following:
Township Manager Frank L. Walsh, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198 (517-853-4258) – Ten Day Notice is Required.*

Meridian Charter Township: 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198, (517) 853-4000 Township Hall Room; www.meridian.mi.us

⁺ Appointment of President Pro Tem and/or Temporary Clerk if necessary

Meridian Township exists to create a sustainable community through the most effective use of available resources that achieve the highest quality of life.

TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING COMMUNICATIONS, JULY 19, 2016

(1) Board Deliberation(BD)

- BD 12A-1 Bill and Chris Collette, 2373 Barnsbury Road, East Lansing; Support for the Township Board to pass a resolution to suspend its support of the current BRT plan
- BD12A-2 Patty McPhee, 5275 Thames Drive, Haslett; RE: Questions concerning the BRT
- BD12A-3 Treasurer Julie Brixie; RE: Email exchange with Kathy DeVito concerning the *City Pulse* Radio interview of Julie Brixie
- BD12A-4 James Spanos, 4648 Nakoma Drive, Okemos; RE: Need for a comprehensive traffic impact study on the BRT
- BD12A-5 Donald Isleib, 5400 Park Lake Road, East Lansing; RE: Request for the Board to take a position in opposition to the BRT
- BD12A-6 Patricia A. Holliday, President, Jon Anthony Florist, 809 E. Michigan Avenue, Lansing; RE: Copy of her letter to Lansing Councilmember Jody Washington voicing her opposition to the BRT
- BD12A-7 Susan Pigg, Executive Director, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, 3135 Pine Street Road, Suite 2C, Lansing; RE: Copy of the Summer Mid-Michigan Clean Cities Newsletter which includes a story about BRT systems.
- BD12A-8 Neil Bowlby, 6020 Beechwood Drive, Haslett; RE: Deliberations on the BRT
- BD12A-9 Erik Lindquist, 2096 Tomahawk Road, Okemos; RE: Response to Neil Bowlby's letter on BRT deliberations
- BD12A-10 Patty McPhee, 5275 Thames Drive, Haslett; RE: Follow up questions on the BRT
- BD12A-11 Anne Woiwode, 5088 Powell Road, Okemos; RE: Request for the Board not to adopt a resolution withdrawing support for the BRT

(2) Board Information (BI)

- BI-1 Lev Raphael, 4695 Chippewa Drive, Okemos; RE: Fireworks
- BI-2 Ann Alchin, 5972 Cypress, Haslett; RE: Enforcement of the Fireworks Ordinance
- BI-3 Phyllis Vaughn, 6100 Balog Court, Haslett; RE: July 5th Board Meeting
- BI-4 Catherine Witchell, 2387 Sapphire Lane, East Lansing; RE: Opposition to the Costco store location
- BI-5 Kevin Schumacher, 5868 Westminster Way, East Lansing; RE: Bike lanes on Park Lake Road and the BRT
- BI-6 Mark Cunningham, 2376 Graystone Drive, Okemos; RE: Complain about "Curbpainters 76" business solicitation
- BI-7 Sean Finn, 2158 Haslett Road, East Lansing; RE: Sewer situation at 2158 Haslett Road

9A

**CLERK'S OFFICE
BOARD COMMUNICATIONS
JULY 19, 2016**

Board Information (BI)

Sandy Otto

From: Lev Raphael <raphael1836@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 03, 2016 9:23 AM
To: Board
Subject: Fireworks

To the Board:

I've lived in Indian Hills for several decades and seen and heard of the trauma inflicted on people's pets by the July 4th fireworks.

When they resume next year, why can't we follow the example of this Italian town?

Town In Italy Switches To Silent Fireworks To Reduce Anxiety In Animals
<http://disq.us/t/21w6eam>

Sincerely,
Lev Raphael

--

Lev Raphael, the author of
Assault With a Deadly Lie
"Terrifying...compelling."
(Publishers Weekly)
amazon.com/author/levraphael

JUL 19 2016

BI-1

JUL 19 2016

Sandy Otto

From: Ann <aa41@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2016 3:29 PM
To: Board
Subject: Good Job!!

Trying to recall how many discussions were held in your attempt to formulate a "Fireworks Ordinance". Seems it was several. Then of course the BAN on fireworks in place 07/04/16. What a joke. I listened to fireworks for a week before the fourth and of course lots and lots on the day. Unfortunate that so many of our residents cannot read and do not own televisions. Either develop a method of advising the populace of the ordinance or get rid of it. Extremely annoyed. Ann Alchin 5972 Cypress Haslett 347-3087 p.s. police non-emergency # was busy 04/02/16

>^..^< abwy

JUL 19 2016

BI-2

JUL 19 2016

Sandy Otto

From: phyllis vaughn <vaughnp8@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2016 9:38 PM
To: Frank Walsh; Board
Subject: July 5 th meeting

Board, I was impressed with how quickly the meeting went tonight. I was hoping my concerns would be addressed. I have heard other correspondence from community by email discussed in previous board meetings so I assumed if it was of importance it would be discussed.

I am still upset the the clerk used township phone and time to discuss his campaign with me. Also the remark he made about Mr. Mankowski just being someone that sells pickles at city market. It is sad no one had enough respect for Mr. Mankowski and how he has served this community to mention it. I would like to know if as a resident if I come to a public meeting could I address my concerns in public comment even though it is directed at one board member.

I would also like to report I have been getting other residents of Grange acres involved in using redi ride and registering to vote.

Thank you
Phyllis Vaughn

JUL 19 2016

BI-3

JUL 19 2016

Sandy Otto

From: Marjorie Wittchell <witche13@msu.edu> on behalf of cwittchell@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2016 12:26 PM
To: Board
Subject: Costco store location opposition

To the Meridian Township Board:

I am not opposed to a Costco store being built in Meridian Township, but I am strongly opposed to it being built at its proposed location at Park Lake Rd and Saginaw. How is it "smart" development to continually leave abandoned storefronts and developed property, and build on undeveloped land, increasing flooding and drainage issues that homeowners end up paying for through increased drain assessments? When do the corporations and developers profiting from building on these previously undeveloped pieces of land (and often getting many tax breaks and credits to do so) start bearing some of this cost? Why is this store being planned for this property, when 8/10 of a mile up the road is a suitable, already developed, vacant property at the former Super Cinemas site?

My main concern is the increased traffic on Park Lake Rd. The prospect of widening Park Lake all the way from Grand River Ave to Saginaw has been reported. Coupling The Square project with Costco will create a traffic nightmare in this residential neighborhood. It also would seem to be diametrically at odds with the Pathway Project. The labor, time and money spent making improvements to Park Lake by the work done to the traffic circle at Burcham, and the requested remarking of the lanes on Park Lake for bicycle use after its resurfacing will all have been a waste. Why is the main entrance for the store planned for Park Lake Rd, when Saginaw is a street built for a higher traffic volume that only realizes that volume during morning and evening commuting times Monday through Friday? There is ample information available on the traffic congestion caused by the placement of Costco stores across the country from California to Vermont.

Current members of this board have been very quick to use these phrases in current and past election campaigns:

"Maintain Meridian as a family-friendly environment with parks, sidewalks, and natural areas", "Slow Growth and Fight Sprawl...Cut Traffic and Extend Pathways....Make Meridian Bicycle Friendly", "Expanded pathways and improved pathway connections.... Supports Local Business....Supports pathways and traffic calming measures", "fighting to protect neighborhoods and subdivisions from excessive traffic, noise, flooding, loss of greenspace & natural areas, and other quality-of-life issues".

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BI -d

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I would like to see you put your vote where your campaign slogans and promises are on this issue. I remember what you pledged when you ran for election, and I'll take that knowledge with me to the polls in August and November.

Catherine Witchell
2387 Sapphire Lane

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Sandy Otto

From: Kevin Schumacher <schumacher@glassenrhead.com>
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2016 3:24 PM
To: Board
Subject: Bike Lanes on Park Lake Road and the BRT

Two things:

1. Thank you for the time you allowed me to speak on the issue of the bike safety on Park Lake Road and for advancing the issue with the road commission. The township already has a complete streets component to its ordinance and adding complete streets should not be the end of the matter. Every decision the township makes, every improvement, should take that philosophy into account. Transportation within and through the township seems to be a running theme and I appreciate your forward thinking on this.

Which brings me to point #2:

2. Bus Rapid Transit. My daughter worked on the Grand Rapids Bus Rapid Transit initiative a few years ago. Here's a link to an article on Mlive about it one year after implementation. http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/08/1_year_later_silver_lines_futu.html

The doom and gloom predictions do not appear to have materialized. There are many in our township who would use mass transit if it were more readily and conveniently available. From a policy standpoint, I think that living forward is better than saying stay the course. The next generation is not going to be able to afford private cars. The roads are already clogged with traffic and if we can reduce the number on the main routes by efficient public transportation, I'm all for it. As I mentioned when speaking about bike commuting. I've been commuting 2x a week to downtown Lansing and it has genuinely improved my quality of life. My office is one block from CATA's downtown station and I would be very interested combining my bike commute with rapid public transit.

Bus rapid transit is also consistent with the complete streets part of the township ordinance (section 58-38). Opposing the BRT runs contrary to the complete streets component of the existing ordinance.

Not everyone is able to afford private automobiles. Michigan lags behind the rest of the nation and the world in public transportation and we should be changing with the times, looking forward at the needs of the future and changing lifestyles instead of clinging to the past. I understand that a motion may be forthcoming on this issue and I would hope that the full board of trustees would have the opportunity to attend that vote and defend their respective positions.

As always, thank you for your public service.

Kevin V.B. Schumacher (Meridian Tp resident, 5868 Westminster Way)
Glassen Rhead McLean Campbell & Schumacher
533 South Grand Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 482-3800
(fax) 482-8253

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BI-5

JUL 19 2016

Sandy Otto

From: Mark Cunningham <cunghm@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 7:40 PM
To: Board; David Hall
Subject: Complaint About "Curbpainters76" Business Solicitation
Attachments: Curbpainters Complaint M. Cunningham; neighborproject.jpg

July 6, 2016

Dear Board Members:

Please see the attached flyer advertising a service that claims to paint house address numbers on the curb. Please note that there is no business address or name for the business, only a curbpainters76@gmail.com address. An attempt to reach this address brought a warning from my search engine that the address "does not require authentication. This may be an attempt to trick you." An internet search turned up no such business but did yield accounts of scams and police warnings from various communities.

The wording of this flyer smacks of questionable business practices. This is the first I've heard in my neighborhood of this "neighborhood project". Note also the official-sounding language and the implied link to public and private services, the urgent need to take care of this "TOMORROW", and the implied connection to the logos at the bottom.

I have a few questions:

In Meridian Township, is the curb in fact an easement I am responsible for like the sidewalk – and can I paint and modify it as I wish?

Whether the curb is private or public property, does local code require that these people have a permit to do this kind of work? Do they have one?

This flyer demonstrates business practices that should not be welcome in our community. Please let me know if there is any action the Township can take or if you can suggest any further avenues of complaint.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter,

Sincerely,

Mark Cunningham
2376 Graystone Drive
Okemos 48864

cunghm@hotmail.com
517-381-5088

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BI-6

JUL 19 2016

Brett Dreyfus

From: Sean31384@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 2:30 PM
To: Board; Denise Green; Frank Walsh
Subject: Sewer situation at 2158 Haslett Road
Attachments: CAM00115.jpg

My name is Sean Finn, and I am writing this email on behalf of Megan Buonodono of 2158 Haslett Road. Since late last week, Megan's house has been a literal disaster as the direct result of whatever a third party company has been doing to sewers in the area, and this township has not given one damn about it, which is an absolute joke. As I understood it, the township was given a grant to film video of sewers in the area, which, coincidentally, also happened last year when I was visiting from out of town. Absolutely no notice was given directly to homeowners of this project, which, even when it is not flooding people's basements, causes quite a stir with water bubbling out of toilets and drains out of nowhere. The lack of notice is not my issue, but just another example of how poorly this situation has been handled. On Friday, I went to the basement to do some laundry and walked into a flooded basement, destroyed belongings, and cloudy and filthy water in the washing machine filled to the brim. This had never happened before and I knew that because of the timing, that this was the direct result of the company doing work in the sewers, who are beyond ignorant and rude when approached by homeowners with questions, but that is another story for another day. I emailed the department that handles sewer concerns and received a prompt response from Denise who said she would send someone out to look at the sewer, which she did. I was told that "sometimes stuff gets sent back up and clogs the pipes" when this procedure is done or that it could be tree roots. After hoping it would go away, and even increasing the usual bi-monthly root treating of the pipes, the problem has only gotten worse and increased. Our weekend included dumping over 50 gallons of water from Megan's washing machine, and trying to deal with that during a power outage from a legitimate event, was not too fun to say the least.

To get to the point, on July 11, Megan contacted Denise, the Assistant Town Manager, and the Town Manager, and absolutely nothing was done, except to basically say "call a plumber, it's not our fault, you deal with it". While not in those exact words that is what was basically communicated as the township's solution. While I was at home, a township public works employee came out, checked the sewers and said "everything is OK, you'll need to call a plumber" The problem is, is that it is the township's responsibility. The township chose to have a third-party company come out and due an unnecessary project, and the end result is a flooded basement, a washing machine we cannot use, and stress to the highest extreme on our part, as our basement is a disaster. I assume everyone here did fairly well in basic science class to be in the positions you currently hold, but we have never had this problem, EVER, and all of a sudden a variable is introduced (the work in the sewers), and her house is a disaster, meaning the variable is what determined the end result. She did not call people out to play around and clog her pipes, the township did, that makes it the township's problem, not hers, although the township prefers to turn the other way and have her deal with it on her own and spend in excess of \$700 to call a plumber. How is that serving your people? It seems pretty awful to me. She talked to three people yesterday, none of whom actually followed up with her after they said they would, and the town manager almost laughed at the idea that the township would take care of the problem, when Denise said that if it were something that the township caused, they would handle it, and, more importantly, the following is on the township's website:

Please call the Township before you call a plumber. If the problem is the Township's responsibility, we will correct it, and you will save the cost of a plumber. The Township does not reimburse plumber expenses unless we authorize the expense in advance.

I guess reading the above statement and believing it to be true is also our fault, right? I hope the information you received from this process was worth it, because our results are in on the township serving its people- and they suck, and the township does not care about residents who have property ruined as the result of their actions. This is very disappointing and very pathetic, and I will be sharing my story with many township residents. Attached is a photo of her washing machine, filled for the third time today.

Sean Finn

JUL 19 2016

BI-7

JUL 19 2016

Sandy Otto

From: Msu962@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 7:28 AM
To: Frank Walsh
Cc: Board
Subject: Re: MCDONALD'S BUS STOP

Thank you for your response. To the best of my knowledge, the Township never gave formal approval; notification to property owner and Board approval for them to use our property. I want to make it very clear that the Township would be at their Attorney's office if I tried to do something similar. I do not know why this is an issue when Meijers has their own bus stop.

I appreciate your efforts to stop this unauthorized use of our property.

In a message dated 6/20/2016 12:41:40 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, walsh@meridian.mi.us writes:

Jim, our team (Peter Menser) was able to contact Meijer's and the company has agreed to pick up the carts twice a week. The corporation is not happy about the situation and is aiming to rectify the issue.

Frank

Frank L. Walsh

Township Manager

Charter Township of Meridian

P: (517) 853-4254

F: (517) 853-4251

www.meridian.mi.us

www.facebook.com/MeridianTownship

www.twitter.com/Meridiantwp

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/frankwalsh3>

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<https://managersperspective.wordpress.com/>

From: Msu962@aol.com [mailto:Msu962@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2016 9:29 AM
To: Frank Walsh
Subject: Re: MCDONALD'S BUS STOP

Thank you for your prompt response.

In a message dated 6/6/2016 9:24:39 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time,
walsh@meridian.mi.us writes:

Jim, we will take a look at the issue today. Thanks for letting us know.

Frank

Frank L. Walsh

Township Manager

Charter Township of Meridian

P: (517) 853-4254

F: (517) 853-4251

www.meridian.mi.us

www.facebook.com/MeridianTownship

www.twitter.com/Meridiantwp

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/frankwalsh3>

<https://managersperspective.wordpress.com/>

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From: Msu962@aol.com [mailto:Msu962@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, June 06, 2016 5:54 AM

To: Board

Subject: MCDONALD'S BUS STOP

Meijers Thrifty has been using the bus stop as a storage area for their customer's carts. As previously stated, this is private property and the township did not obtain permission from us to use the property nor did they seek an easement.

It would be appreciated if you could provide me with the name of the person at the township who authorized Meijers to use our property. I would like to discuss this matter.

Thank you for your assistance.

James Spanos

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9B(1)

PROPOSED BOARD MINUTES

PROPOSED MOTION:

Move to approve and ratify the minutes of the June 21, 2016 Regular Meeting as submitted.

ALTERNATE MOTION:

Move to approve and ratify the minutes of the June 21, 2016 Regular with the following amendment(s): [insert amendments].

**JULY 19, 2016
REGULAR MEETING**

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING - **DRAFT** -
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Town Hall Room
TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2016 **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor LeGoff, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Brixie, Trustees Scales, Styka, Veenstra
ABSENT: Trustee Wilson
STAFF: Township Manager Frank Walsh, Assistant Township Manager/Director of Public Works and Engineering Derek Perry, Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Police Chief David Hall, Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Human Resources Director Joyce Marx

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor LeGoff called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor LeGoff led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

The secretary called the roll of the Board.

4. PRESENTATION

A. Granger Annual Recycling Update-Tonia Olson

Tonia Olson, Granger, 16890 Wood Road, Lansing, offered Granger's Annual Recycling Update, noting Granger has recently introduced a new look on Granger's website with extensive information regarding recycling at www.grangernet.com.

Board and Granger representative discussion:

- In 2010, Granger converted to single stream recycling
- In 2011, Granger introduced the option of cart recycling in addition to the carts
- Residents who use the bag tag program are "grandfathered in" under the proposed agreement and can continue to use their recycling tub
- Granger does not have a good way to measure bag tag customers
- If an agreement is reached, Granger currently plans for new tag bag customers to pay for recycling services
- Cost of tub or cart is currently \$1.50
- Normal recycling rate is \$7.75 per month
- Free recycling would eliminate the cost barrier for cart use
- Increased recycling comes from getting bigger carts into residents hands
- Granger market areas which have transitioned to carts experienced a recycling increase
- Carts are more obvious on the street
- Suggestion for the Township to increase its promotion of recycling

[Handout in Official Minute Book]

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor LeGoff opened Public Remarks.

Brian McNitt, 5380 Park Lake Road, East Lansing, spoke in opposition to the proposed Costco store at the end of Park Lake Road as it will increase both the speed and amount of traffic on that road. He indicated it is time the Township paid attention to its residents, not the bottom line.

Lise Schools, 2300 Kewanee Way, Okemos, spoke in support of bus rapid transit (BRT) as it has the potential to double ridership which will aid the environment by improved air quality, reduced emissions, increased pedestrian and cyclist safety with more crosswalks and signaled intersections. She addressed civic responsibility by noting many riders choose to use CATA for environmental and cost reasons. She urged residents to visit www.cata-brt.org website for up-to-date information.

Elizabeth Clifford, 2105 S. Pennsylvania, Lansing, stated that although she does not live in Meridian Township any more, her children attend/attended Okemos Schools and she is involved in school activities. She reported she coordinated the Summer Playground Program and partnered with various organizations to provide nutritional support and education enrichment to the most at-risk students. Ms. Clifford indicated one in five (5) families in Meridian Township struggle with low income and the need for free or reduced lunches, highlighting the income disparity within the Township. She noted for those residents who cannot afford vehicles, the BRT would make a big difference to a lot of people, expressing her support for the project.

[Prepared statement in Official Minute Book]

Neil Bowlby, 6020 Beechwood Drive, Haslett, congratulated Township Attorney Stephen Schultz on being named Lawyer of the Year. In response to attacks among Board members at the last Board meeting, he addressed the energy efficiency and total environmental impact of fluorescent lights relative to the number of on/off cycles. Mr. Bowlby stated it is shown, dependent upon how long someone is gone from the room, it is more cost effective to leave the lights on. He noted the Meridian Citizens for a Sustainable Community sent out a candidate questionnaire to all to candidates in contested primary elections and six (6) of the ten (10) candidates responded. Upon candidate assent, Mr. Bowlby announced their intent to post the summaries on the Meridian link website for citizens to be informed of the position of the candidates.

Bill Collette, 2373 Barnsbury Road, East Lansing, voiced appreciation that CATA employees have attended tonight's meeting. He stated his opposition to the BRT as he noted the plan continually "morphs and shape-shifts." Mr. Collette believed none of the business owners along Grand River Avenue have been contacted or notified by CATA. He requested to see the traffic study on the effect of the BRT if one was contracted. Mr. Collette stated the busiest intersection in Ingham County is Hagadorn and Grand River Avenue, and questioned BRT's proposal to place a special light at that intersection.

Susan Pigg, Executive Director of Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, 3135 Pine Tree Road, Suite 2C, Lansing, urged the Board to support the BRT project. She noted Tri-County is the designated metropolitan planning organization for the region and the federally recognized agency to plan all federally funded transportation projects. Ms. Pigg stated a BRT service along the Michigan/Grand River Avenue corridor is an improvement in transportation services which has received "wide-spread" support, including adoption in federal plans by all federal transportation agencies. She asserted it is not a "transportation engineer's dream." Ms. Pigg encouraged the Board to recognize and rely on the technically accurate data and analysis which has gone into the decision making about this regional project, adding the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) has vetted and reviewed the concept of a BRT system, approving and adopting it many times over the years. She stated the Board should "not respond to ill-informed, fear mongering commentary" and they are "unbased" on any technical information.

[Prepared statement in Official Minute Book]

Kathy DeVito, 470 Chimney Oaks, Okemos, stated the majority of residents who came to the "STOP the CATA-BRT" booth at the Celebrate Meridian event on June 11th were not aware of the proposed BRT. She submitted a petition with 68 signatures from residents in different areas who support the effort to stop the BRT.

[Petition in Official Minute Book]

Chris Collette, 2373 Barnsbury Road, East Lansing, spoke in opposition to the CATA BRT. She voiced concern the BRT will force traffic off Grand River Avenue onto Saginaw, Haslett, Park Lake and Mt. Hope Roads. She alleged the ability of CATA bus drivers to control traffic lights and narrower lane width will negatively impact the non-CATA lanes by slowing vehicular traffic resulting in drivers finding alternate routes. Ms. Collette noted Park Lake road cannot absorb more traffic with the proposed Costco development. She encouraged the Board to pass a resolution in opposition to the BRT for Meridian Township.

Jeff Neilson, 2727 East Grand River Avenue, East Lansing, owner of the Tuffy Auto Service Center, offered information from a website titled "The Big Green" which shows buses are full from Abbot Road to Chandler Crossing, not in Meridian Township's corridor. He believed the BRT will "compromise" the handicapped, visually impaired and senior citizens. Mr. Neilson urged the Board not to support the BRT for Meridian Township.

[Website post in Official Minute Book]

Bob Swanson, 1744 Chester Road, Lansing and Vice-Chair of the CATA Board, offered the composition of the CATA Board who represent the interests of ten communities within the region. He stated the BRT will address the current and future needs of CATA riders, improve traffic flow, decrease congestion, enhance safety and increase economic activity throughout the Grand River/Michigan Avenue corridor. Mr. Swanson stated BRT projects have proven to be effective economic drivers in every community where a BRT has been implemented and will bring substantial amounts of state and federal funding.

Sandra Draggoo, CEO of CATA, 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, noted CATA has provided quality public transportation services in Meridian Township for 44 years. She stated CATA's role is to work with other transportation entities to effectively move people in and out of the region. Ms. Draggoo maintained CATA's customers live, work and consume products and services in the Township. She indicated the BRT is an example of CATA working to improve the overall transportation network, adding Route 1 carries 1.7 million trips annually, with .25 million of those trips carrying people to and from the Meijer and Meridian Mall area. Ms. Draggoo stated Meridian Meijer is pleased to participate in this transportation initiative and sees the value of CATA, pointing to a letter of support from Meijer for the BRT project. She noted adding buses will further delay and make traffic flow problems while removing buses from mixed traffic will help with traffic flow. Ms. Draggoo requested the Township continue to work with CATA to determine how Meridian Township may continue to be a partner in the BRT project.

Randy Schaetzel, 2294 Hamilton Road, Okemos, stated no one had asked him to speak here and that he came on his own volition. He added he has lived in Meridian Township for 26 years and has never spoken at a Board meeting until tonight. Mr. Schaetzel said he has ridden the bus to work at Michigan State University (MSU) for the last 26 years. He asserted that, contrary to a previous speaker, there are a whole lot of riders from Meridian Township who use the bus. He noted he was originally against the BRT due to the high cost of the project, but changed his mind because he felt that "if we don't take that money, someone else will get the money."

Mr. Schaetzel stated he visited the anti-BRT booth at Celebrate Meridian and asked them why they were against it, and he indicated their answer was that it cost too much. He shared his response was that it's not our money and the individual agreed with that statement. Mr. Schaetzel inquired if it was wrong to not want federal and state investment in our community, and he received no answer. He noted the second concern from the anti-BRT group related to the proposed median in the road with drivers unable to turn left to directly access business along Grand River Avenue. Mr. Schaetzel agreed that it would be a "bit of an impediment", but he believed a median in the road and no left turn has worked for East Lansing as businesses are thriving there. He suggested giving bus riders a break by not planning the community around automobiles.

Tim Potter, 4632 Van Atta Road, Okemos, addressed the proposed repaving of Park Lake Road, urging narrower traffic lanes which will aid in traffic calming. He believed the upcoming MSU-Lake Lansing Pathway will bring many people to and from the Park Lake/Grand River intersection and Park Lake Road being a bike friendly north/south connector will aid in pedestrian/bicyclist movement. Mr. Potter noted the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) is supportive of narrower traffic lanes and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) does provide an exception to reduce lane width to ten (10) feet which will allow for wider lanes to be striped and marked as bicycle lanes. He urged the Board to support the first north/south bicycle corridor in Meridian Township.

George Tesseris, 2840 East Grand River, East Lansing, spoke to the negative impact and local business disruption implementation of the BRT would bring. He characterized the current proposal as a "boondoggle" and opposed the BRT in its current form, addressing his calculations for the cost per ride. Mr. Tesseris alleged eliminating left turns off Grand River Avenue will close many small businesses. He spoke to the disruption to small businesses during construction of the BRT, citing the construction on Saginaw resulting in the close of at least three (3) businesses. Mr. Tesseris urged the Board to oppose the BRT plan as proposed.

Anne Woiwode, 5088 Powell Road, Okemos, identified herself as a 30 year CATA bus user and spoke to the value of the BRT project to our community. She maintained the BRT sends a signal that Meridian Township is a place which attracts residents. Ms. Woiwode indicated the millennial generation, represented by the 50,000 people who attend MSU, are increasingly disinclined to purchase automobiles. She stated that in order to make this community attractive to future homeowners, we need to "meet them where they are" in order to provide the opportunity for millennials to live, work and shop in Meridian Township.

Julie Powers, Executive Director of the Greater Lansing Housing Coalition, 600 W. Maple Street, Lansing, addressed the need for wise, thoughtful, careful and unbiased planning. She indicated back in the 1950s, '60s and 70s malls were the "modern hotness", was what everybody wanted, and Meridian Township was on the cutting edge by constructing a mall on what was then undeveloped land. Ms. Powers discussed the "eight (8) mule team" rule which refers to road planning requirements that a downtown road had to be wide enough to turn around a team of eight (8) mules, a rule which is still on the books of many municipalities. She stated our planning decisions (and around the country) are based on a car culture. Ms. Powers believed we have to plan for what the millennials want since they are as large a population as the baby boomers, put off home ownership due to large student debt and want public transit. She stated the BRT issue should be "pushed" to the Planning Commission for thoughtful review and planning.

Kevin Schumacher, 5868 Westminster, East Lansing, pointed to his commute from Meridian Township to downtown Lansing noting the most dangerous part is within the Township. He spoke in support of resurfacing Park Lake Road, including traffic calming measures and designated bicycle lanes. Mr. Schumacher believed many of Meridian Township's roadways need to accommodate bicyclists by reducing the road lane to ten (10) feet and allow for bicycle lanes which are less than five (5) feet in width.

Kathie Kuhn, 5473 Okemos Road, East Lansing, and representative for Meridian Citizens for a Sustainable Community, identified herself as a bus rider. She noted CATA Routes #22 and #23 do not run as frequently as other routes, have shorter days of availability and do not run on Sunday, adding her desire for an augmented schedule to increase ridership and decrease auto usage. Ms. Kuhn spoke in support of bicycle lanes being added for Park Lake Road during its repaving project. She spoke in opposition to the BRT as it would increase congestion, decrease landscaping, impede emergency vehicles and endanger lives as residents attempted to cross Grand River to reach the median.

Patty McPhee, 5275 Thomas Drive, Haslett, spoke in support of CATA but in opposition to the BRT. She addressed the reduction of bus stops by 17, stating it would greatly impede accessibility to CATA buses, specifically for the handicapped. Mr. McPhee believed the BRT will hurt small businesses.

Ody Norkin, 3803 Sandlewood, Okemos, spoke to his mission in life which is to get people out of their automobiles. He addressed the needs of Meridian residents who are not able to access Redi-Ride. Mr. Norkin suggested the Redi-Ride Review Committee be transformed into an ongoing forum to allow business owners and residents to work towards providing people with disabilities access to transportation services beyond the current 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM schedule.

Brenda Henige, 6247 Endenhall Way, Apt. 11, East Lansing, identified herself as a blind person who uses the fixed route to be as independent as possible. She spoke in opposition to the BRT as it is center running and would create a safety issue for her. Ms. Henige stated she is no longer able to use Redi-Ride as it stops running when she gets home from work. She requested consideration be given to Redi-Ride access on both sides of Lake Lansing at the Abbot Road intersection.

Donna Rose, 6207 Cobblers Court, East Lansing, stated that as a blind person she does not want to cross the street to access the bus. She voiced apprehension she would lose the ability to use the bus she has used for the last 12 years. Ms. Rose spoke in support of the Redi-Ride reauthorization and increase being placed on the November ballot, but it should not designate CATA as the sole provider in order to allow for extension of services. She voiced concern there was not more interaction with the public before the Board passed a resolution in support of the BRT many months ago.

Bob Caven, co-owner of Battery Giant of East Lansing, 1306 Michigan Avenue, Suite A, East Lansing, voiced opposition to the BRT. He stated he is a Michigan based franchise who opened a store in the Lansing area as he believed it to be a good location. Mr. Caven indicated he learned of the BRT two (2) months ago at a Lansing Chamber meeting and would not have chosen to come to the Lansing area if he had been aware of the proposed BRT project. He stated no left turns will severely impact businesses along the Grand River/Michigan Avenue Corridor.

Jared Wilson, 5443 Amber Drive, East Lansing, expressed support for CATA, but in opposition to the BRT in Meridian Township.

Bobbie Margolis, 36 Monarch Lane, Okemos, spoke in support of CATA, and suggested open dialogue on the BRT issue to reach a consensus between the factions.

Carolyn Malmstrom, 5436 Jo Pass, East Lansing, requested the Board mitigate the traffic impact in the best way possible if the Costco development is approved. She spoke to the speed with which automobiles travel on Park Lake Road, specifically through the roundabout.

Brent Forsberg, 4725 Mohican Lane, Okemos, reinforced earlier public comment relative to all working together for the good of Meridian Township over the next 50 years. He proposed forming an ad hoc committee on the BRT with members from all factions in order to vet the issues over the next two (2) or three (3) months.

Shirley Decker, Mert's Specialty Meats, 1860 W. Grand River, Okemos, stated the Okemos Road Bridge was out for three (3) months and her business was reduced by 20%. She voiced concern with the negative impact the BRT will have on small businesses in Meridian Township. Ms. Decker voiced appreciation to the Township Manager for passing along information updates regarding the Okemos Bridge repair.

Leonard Provencher, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, voiced his continued opposition to the BRT. He stated the Township Treasurer has transferred \$4.7 million to CATA. Mr. Provencher noted information from MDOT's website shows CATA has the highest millage of all public transportation systems in the State of Michigan. He spoke in opposition to urbanizing Meridian Township.

Supervisor LeGoff closed Public Remarks.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Walsh deferred his report to the end of the meeting.

7. BOARD COMMENTS & REPORTS

Trustee Veenstra requested the Ingham County Road Department (ICRD) Managing Director give an explanation to the public regarding bicycle lanes on Park Lake Road, scheduled to be resurfaced this summer.

Trustee Scales stated he believed not all Board members received the survey from the Meridian Residents for a Sustainable Community, himself included.

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Treasurer Brixie moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Styka.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

9. CONSENT AGENDA (SALMON)

Supervisor LeGoff reviewed the consent agenda.

Treasurer Brixie moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Supervisor LeGoff, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

Board discussion:

- Concern the polling location change is too far away from the present location
- State regulations narrow the options for relocation of a polling location

A. Communications

(1) Board Deliberations (BD)

BD13A-1 Shirley Decker, Mert's Specialty Meats, 1870 W. Grand River Avenue, Okemos; RE: Costco Wages

BD13B-1 Debra Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA), 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing; RE: Transmittal email of a letter from Meijer in support of the Michigan Avenue/Grand River Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project

BD13B-2 Renee Korrey, 4633 Okemos Road, Okemos; RE: Opposition to the BRT Project

BD13B-3 David S. Ledebuhr, 4767 Cornell Road, Okemos; RE: Support for the BRT

(2) Board Information (BI)

BI-1 James Spanos, 4648 Nakoma Drive, Okemos; RE: McDonald's Bus Stop

BI-2 Phyllis Vaughn, 6100 Balog Court, Haslett; RE: Tree retention at Grange Acres

BI-3 Deborah Keyworth, 2684 Mansfield Drive, East Lansing; RE: Opposition to The Square on Grand River

BI-4 William Fossum, 4996 Hillcrest Avenue, Okemos; RE: Speed Bump Request for Hillcrest Avenue

BI-5 John P. Gardner, Director, External Affairs, Comcast, Heartland Region, 1401 E. Miller Road, Lansing; RE: Changes to the channel lineup effective June 21, 2016

- BI-6 Phyllis Vaughn, 6100 Balog Court, Haslett; RE: Concern with Personal Attacks in Local Politics
- BI-7 Kevin Schumacher, 5868 Westminster Way, East Lansing; RE: Safety of cyclists on Park Lake Road
- BI-8 Phyllis Vaughn, 6100 Balog Court, Haslett; RE: CATA
- BI-9 Ahsan Sumbal, 900 Gulick Road, Haslett; Request for the Township to rezone his property located at 2267-N-78 and 6217 Newton, East Lansing from PO, RD and RA to C-2

(3) On File in the Clerk’s Office (OF)

Material handed out at the June 7, 2016 Meeting

Christine Goodrick Beavers, 5125 E. Brookfield, East Lansing; RE: Opposition to The Square on Grand River

Sara Campbell, Store Director, Foods for Living, 2655 East Grand River, East Lansing; RE: Support for The Square on Grand River

Steve Vagnozzi, Executive Committee Vice-Chair, Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers, 2144 Woodfield Road, Okemos; RE: Coast-to-Coast Passenger Rail Ridership & Cost Estimate Study Executive Summary

Treasurer Brixie 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. Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Supervisor LeGoff, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

C. Bills

Treasurer Brixie moved that the Township Board approve the Manager’s Bills as follows:

Common Cash	\$ 352,365.76
Public Works	\$ 11,101.81
Trust & Agency	1,900.98
 Total Checks	 \$ 365,368.55
 Credit Card Transactions	 \$ 12,172.26
 Total Purchases	 <u>\$ 377,540.81</u>
 ACH Payments	 <u>\$ 567,642.44</u>

Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Supervisor LeGoff, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

[Bill list in Official Minute Book]

D. Ratification of Part-Time Paramedic/Firefighter Appointment

Treasurer Brixie moved to ratify the appointment of Benjamin Mihora to the position of part-time paramedic/firefighter. Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Supervisor LeGoff, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried 6-0.

- E. Approval to Change Polling Location
Treasurer Brixie moved to adopt the resolution “Change Location of Precinct #20 Polling Place in Meridian Township.” Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Supervisor LeGoff, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried 6-0.

10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY (See Agenda Item #13A)

11. HEARINGS (None)

12. ACTION ITEMS

Supervisor LeGoff opened Public Remarks.

Leonard Provencher, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, stated the Hillbrook Park Tennis Courts have been in disrepair for many years. He spoke in support of resurfacing the courts.

Supervisor LeGoff closed Public Remarks.

- A. Economic Development Corporation Appointment
Treasurer Brixie moved to appoint Joshua Hundt to serve as a member of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) to fill the vacant term ending on December 31, 2017. Seconded by Trustee Veenstra.

Board discussion:

- Appreciation to Marsha Madle for her many years of service
- Clerk Dreyfus presented Marsha with a resolution of appreciation at her last EDC meeting
- Desire to continue working with Ms. Madle in her new position with Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP)

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Supervisor LeGoff, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried 6-0.

- B. Environmental Commission Appointment
Trustee Veenstra moved to appoint Ben Holland to serve as a student member of the Environmental Commission to fill the vacant term ending June 30, 2017. Seconded by Treasurer Brixie.

Board discussion:

- Applicant is an Eagle Scout and interested in the environment
- Environmental Commission recommended the applicant

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

- C. Travel and Expense Policy

Trustee Veenstra moved to approve the Travel and Expense Policy dated May, 2016. Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

Board and staff discussion:

- Board member preference for two separate policies, one for elected officials and one for employees
- Appreciation to Human Resources Director Joyce Marx for her extensive work on this document

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Supervisor LeGoff, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

D. Tax Foreclosed Properties

Treasurer Brixie moved to authorize the Township Manager to work collectively with Haslett Public Schools and Ingham County Treasurer Eric Schertzing to obtain parcel number 33-02-02-10-432-007 for future public purpose. If any costs are incurred in the process, Meridian Township shall be reimbursed in full by Haslett Public Schools. Seconded by Trustee Veenstra.

Board discussion:

- Meridian Township has the first right of refusal on tax foreclosed properties in Meridian Township from the Ingham County Treasurer
- Haslett Public Schools is interested in the property on School Street for future public use
- Property is just north of Ralya Elementary School
- Township is working collectively with Haslett Schools and the Ingham County Treasurer for proper conveyance
- Township is working towards the best opportunity which can be reached for all parties involved

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Supervisor LeGoff, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

E. Resurfacing Hillbrook Park Tennis Courts

Trustee Styka moved to amend the budget of the Park Millage Fund in the amount of \$100,000 for the purpose of renovating tennis courts in Hillbrook Park and providing accessible pathways to the courts and playground area. Seconded by Trustee Scales.

Board discussion:

- Necessity of timely upkeep for tennis courts

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Supervisor LeGoff, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus

NAYS: None

Motion carried 6-0.

[Supervisor LeGoff recessed the meeting at 8:00 P.M.]

[Supervisor LeGoff reconvened the meeting at 8:10 P.M.]

13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

Supervisor LeGoff opened Public Remarks.

Erik Lindquist, 2096 Tomahawk Road, Okemos, former CATA Finance Director, stated there is a credibility gap between Meridian Township business owners and CATA regarding the BRT. He believed the operational costs for the BRT need to be vetted for the benefit of the community. Mr. Lindquist noted the Federal Transportation Authority's Triennial Review resulted in zero findings for CATA, a rarity. He believed CATA should be respected as a jewel in the community. Mr. Lindquist voiced concern over losing bus stops which will create issues for persons with disabilities. Regarding the BRT, he noted skepticism over business growth opportunities for the section of Grand River from Hagadorn Road to Meridian Mall. He believed business owners and CATA need to meet as suggested during Brent Forsberg's comment time.

Brent Forsberg, 4725 Mohican Lane, Okemos, stated we are a community and need find a way to keep positive dialogue going regarding the BRT.

Richard Hicks, 5958 Westminster Way, East Lansing, voiced his appreciation for the public meeting with Costco. He noted his opposition at this time due to the traffic patterns proposed on Saginaw Street and Park Lake Road, adding MDOT left turn arounds are intended to keep traffic moving, not impede traffic with a signal. Mr. Hicks asked who will maintain the natural area buffer zone and believed the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's (ICDC) input is critical. He urged the board to review the traffic study yet to be completed by MDOT and the ICRD prior to consideration of the rezoning request.

Brenda Henige, 6247 Endenhall Way, East Lansing, voiced support for dialogue between the different interests groups involved in the BRT process. She noted concern over the safety of 20% of the population who have disabilities with the proposed center running lane. Ms. Henige did not believe the Okemos area is ready for the change the BRT will bring to the Township.

Donna Rose, 6207 Cobblers Court, East Lansing, stated that just because you can get tax dollars for a project, isn't necessarily a good reason for choosing a project, as it must be appropriate for the area in which it is to be placed. She voiced concern with potential fatalities with center running lanes. As a bus rider, Ms. Rose does not believe the current system is broken and in need of a fix.

Ody Norkin, 3803 Sandlewood, Okemos, offered his comments regarding the friction between Meridian residents and CATA and the friction between business owners and CATA. He stated there is not a single member on the ten seat CATA Board who is a credentialed transportation planner or an engineer with experience in transportation planning. Mr. Norkin reminded Board members Meridian Township had appointed one of the most recognized and respected transportation planners in the United States to the CATA Board who was not seated due to a "bogus" conflict of interest. He noted the argument was that MSU Professor Malik reported to the Provost and MSU's Vice President signed an agreement between MSU and CATA, and Professor Malik had the potential to influence the agreement between MSU and CATA. Mr. Norkin believed if Professor Malik had been allowed to be Meridian Township's representative on the CATA Board, he would have admirably served as a conduit between the Township's residents and businesses and CATA regarding the BRT.

John Wolenberg, 2459 Barnsbury Road, East Lansing, stated the proposed contract regarding the PA 108 Agreement provides a "trust but verify" factor. He urged Costco to mirror the screening of the Green Oak store and requested to be included in the discussions on the berm and landscape design. Mr. Wolenberg expressed concern with the City of East Lansing receiving any of the conservation easement as there is distrust with management of that portion of the property.

Leonard Provencher, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, stated if it is beneficial for the Township to enter into the Granger Recycling Agreement, he was supportive of the agreement. He expressed his desire for the Board to support the Jolly Road Transportation Alternative Program Resolution.

Neil Bowlby, 6020 Beechwood Drive, Haslett, expressed concerned with the brownfield language contained in the amendment to the PA 108 Agreement. He agreed with Mr. Forsberg's comment that something must be done to bring the community together to address what it is CATA is trying to do. Mr. Bowlby voiced opposition to center running lanes in Meridian Township. He noted concern future bag tag customers would have to pay for curbside recycling services as currently proposed in the Granger Recycling Agreement.

Supervisor LeGoff closed Public Remarks.

A. PA 108 Agreement (COSTCO)

Trustee Styka offered a brief history on the PA 108 Agreement with East Lansing and the proposed amendment to the 2001 agreement as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 15, 2016.

Board discussion:

- Appreciation for efforts by Township officials and the Everett Farms, Everett Woods and Wood Creek residents for their efforts on the proposed amendment
- Proposed amendment is the first step in a long process
- Several concerns voiced by residents will need to be addressed through the rezoning, site plan review and permitting processes as it moves through the City of East Lansing
- Landscaping, noise and traffic are the three (3) largest concerns raised by neighbors
- Interest was expressed by one neighbor regarding the possibility of Costco deeding some of the land over to them and address deed restrictions currently in place which will be vetted during East Lansing's part of the process

Jurisdiction by the ICDC regarding the drain: (Questions for the Attorney (See Agenda Item #10))

- Q. Does the ICDC have jurisdiction even though this is in East Lansing? Can you explain that a little bit more for me?
- A. There is a drain, the Raby Drain, that will be impacted by this and so I would expect that the City of East Lansing will be consulting with the Drain Commissioner on how that is going to be managed. Your question is a good one because there are a number of things that are yet to be resolved as to drains, wetlands, landscape protection, open space and the like. One of things when you have only conceptual plans that makes an agreement like this difficult is how you are going to deal with those contingencies. We don't know what the Drain Commissioner's reaction will be; we don't even have a final site plan. What we do have is conceptual agreements. I think as the committee was working together the thought was to delegate the ultimate responsibility to the experts (the Director of Planning in the City of East Lansing and the Director of Planning here in the Township) and let the professionals sort through how these all interplay with each other. Drains are one issue, wetland protection, landscaping buffers, all go into a process in this Township and in the city and then the fail safe for us is the stricter standard will apply between the two (2) communities. So, you get the best of both worlds, not the worst of both worlds.
- Q. Will the Drain Commissioner actually have authority over the whole project or is it just over the small portion where the drain is? In the Township, he would have jurisdiction over all of the water retention.
- A. Just the drain. The city retains jurisdiction over drains.

Continued Board and staff discussion:

- Not every issue raised can be incorporated in this proposed amendment
- Concern the dark stores and tax appeals is not contained in the agreement
- Continued conversations with East Lansing local officials to encourage accommodations are made through their process for the view sheds, noise and traffic
- Some issues raised by residents (e.g., delivery times) will be limited in the eventual approval
- Meridian Township representatives are working through the specific items as they are brought to them

- Board member preference for residents to continue to bring their issues to the Board's attention so they can be addressed as the Costco project moves through the project
- Process for the proposed Costco development is unusual as the rezoning request is under a PA 108 Agreement
- Meridian Township must "get everything it wants" in the agreement prior to Costco's rezoning request
- Board member suggestion for the 33 acre conservation easement to be placed in the Township's Land Preservation Program
- Land Preservation Advisory Board had no interest in acquiring the conservation easement
- 33 acre conservation easement will be left to East Lansing to facilitate
- Board member concern with allowing Costco a \$1 million brownfield tax credit
- Board member belief there is no connection between the cost of contamination clean up and the amount of brownfield tax credit
- Appreciation to the Township Manager for soliciting individual input of Board members to negotiate items which will benefit Meridian Township's citizens
- Appreciation for the meeting between citizens and Costco representatives
- Development philosophy for this project includes ample greenspace protection
- Agreement includes protection for future development of the out lots as the Township will have influence over the site plans
- Costco is a good corporate citizen
- Comparison with how Meridian Township handled the new central fire station project relative to cooperation with neighbors
- Township Attorney proposed the methodology of the Township having final approval of the project
- Staff belief Meridian Township residents are protected in this agreement
- Park Lake Road will not be widened except between Haslett Road and Saginaw Highway
- Potential berm will be considered by Director Kieselbach during site plan review
- Clarification that the ICRD made a decision to cease its repaving of Park Lake Road at the proposed property line for the Costco land and will only be paved from Grand River Avenue to just north of Haslett Road

It was the consensus of the Board to place this item on for action at its July 5, 2016 meeting.

B. Bus Rapid Transit

Board discussion:

- Preference to establish a committee of all interested parties to examine the BRT proposal
- Need for civility throughout the entire process
- Board member belief it is poor government to go after money just because it is available
- If available money can be used to forward the vision of the community, then the vision should be articulated and efforts made toward that vision
- Board member preference for the BRT to be side running lanes
- Center running lanes will require every rider to cross Grand River Avenue to board the BRT
- Need for politics to be removed from the process in order to take a common sense approach
- Stigma and hardship faced by the working poor who live in Meridian Township and totally rely on CATA for their transportation needs
- Board member belief the BRT is a proposal to improve mass transit for our region, which will bring improvements to the local community and region
- Board member belief the BRT will bring improvements to safety for pedestrians
- Board member belief our corridor is currently not made for pedestrians and bicyclists
- Concern with the fact there are no lights in Meridian Township's section of the Grand River Corridor and pedestrians/bicyclists must cross the entire street to return home
- BRT project is only 30% engineered at the current time
- Board member suggestion to establish a new public body in Meridian Township called the Transportation Commission which will encompass discussion regarding Redi-Ride and the BRT

- Need for intensive dialogue to work together creatively to obtain better transportation for Meridian Township residents
- Questions surrounding the BRT include:
 - Will it increase ridership
 - Will it decrease traffic congestion along the Grand River Corridor
 - Will the current BRT plan improve the average driver's experience along Grand River Avenue
 - Will the BRT decrease driver stress currently experienced by citizens using the corridor
 - Will there be a change in the ease of people who currently use CATA in the Township in their effort to travel to the bus station
 - Will there be a change in personal driving routes by residents seeking to avoid potential congestion along Grand River Avenue by traversing through neighborhoods if congestion becomes an issue
 - What effect will the current BRT plan have on long term operating costs
 - What effect will the current BRT plan have on businesses due to no left turns
 - Is the estimated time savings due to a reduction from 45 stations to 28 stations
- If the BRT is a plan, vision and work in progress, it can be shaped by discussions with all parties involved
- Board is here to only express an opinion on the BRT
- Board member preference to allow CATA to address the concerns which have been expressed before forming an opinion on the BRT
- One agenda item for the Redi-Ride Committee is the creation of a Transportation Commission
- Concern the BRT continually changed over the last two (2) years
- Board member belief there is not sufficient time for a newly established Transportation Commission to review the BRT
- Board member preference for the Board to rescind its previous approval of the BRT
- Board member preference for the Board to consider forthcoming additional information prior to making a decision whether to rescind its previous approval
- Board member recollection the letter to the Federal Transit Authority supported additional money for a study on whether to have a BRT, not wholesale support of a BRT

It was the consensus of the Board to continue forward movement on the issue of the BRT.

C. Granger Recycling Agreement

Tonia Olson, Granger, 16890 Wood Road, Lansing offered a synopsis of the proposed agreement which would allow the free market system to remain in place in Meridian Township. She noted for that benefit Granger would offer no additional cost recycling to its customers which currently subscribe to its trash service with the exception of condo associations, etc. currently under contract with Granger and new bag tag customers.

Board discussion:

- Charging a recycling fee to new bag tag customers is problematic as it says that a customer must pay more for the recycling to be environmentally conscious
- The snow bird portion of the senior population would be affected by the decision to charge bag tag customers a recycling fee
- Concern that bag tag customers could potentially be a one-time customer who would receive the recycling benefit at no additional cost
- Granger will look for a way to monitor that, possibly through an audit to review annual purchases
- Preference to offer free recycling to new bag tag customers

It was the consensus of the Board to continue forward movement on the proposed Granger Recycling Agreement.

D. Jolly Rd-Transportation Alternative Program Resolution

William Conklin, Managing Director of the ICRD, offered information on the Jolly Road project, resurfacing from Dobie Road to Meridian Road using Federal Aid Surface Transportation Program Funding. He noted federal and state requirements for a road of this type and volume requires six (6) foot wide shoulders, preferably three of which are paved. He indicated substantial tree clearing will be needed to widen the grade in order to install the paved shoulders and the road right of way would need to be cleared to effect the widening. Mr. Conklin stated that in addition to the federal funding for the resurfacing of the Road, the ICRD is applying for a federal Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant to offset some of the cost of the work, including paving of the shoulders to support non-motorized use.

Board and ICRD discussion:

- Majority of the trees are on the south side of Jolly Road
- Major power line is just west of Van Atta Road
- Paved shoulders on both sides of Jolly Road are needed for safety purposes
- Request for review of the trees to ascertain if any of them are valuable
- Inquiry if the slopes can be made steeper where valuable trees are located
- ICRD Managing Director's recollection there are no large desirable specimens
- Steepening the slopes greater than the one-on-three will necessitate guard rails along the entire length of the road to address a safety concern
- Changes to the standard practice regarding steepening the slope would have to be approved by MDOT and the federal government
- Guardrails would be a safety concern for bicyclists
- Speed on the segment of Jolly Road from Dobie to Meridian Roads is 55 miles per hour
- Need for complete streets to make our roadways safer for pedestrians and bicyclists
- Inquiry if the Township can incorporate condemnation to complete the pathway in this area along Jolly Road in conjunction with the work to be done by the ICRD
- Curb and gutter at the intersections within residential areas would be moved back to facilitate the paved shoulder
- Shoulders typically become part of the taper where there is an approach to a residential street
- Board member concern if the paved shoulders would not be along this entire area
- Challenge with snow removal on the north side of Jolly Road near Hiawatha School where there is a slope and an emergency pathway on the curb line
- Board member request for a picture of a shoulder becoming part of the taper where there is a residential approach off Jolly Road
- Board member preference for a tree inventory to be submitted to the Environmental Commission for review
- Clarification that the section of pathway referred to earlier is farther east between Dobie and Okemos Roads

Treasurer Brixie highlighted last night's meeting with Friends of Meridian Township Pathways. She discussed the committee's desire to restripe Park Lake Road in a manner which would provide a bicycle lane, preferably 3-½" feet.

Board and ICRD Managing Director's discussion:

- Another discussion at the meeting centered around the possibility of restriping a section near the "old" Wardcliff School with ten (10) foot wide lanes instead of eleven (11) feet as there has been a significant decrease in the building's use
- Most of Park Lake Road from Grand River to Merrit Street (just south of Saginaw Highway) will be resurfaced beginning next month
- Park Lake Road is currently 27 feet wide between the gutter and curb
- According to state and federal standards, gutter cannot be counted as part of any bicycling facility as it has too steep of a cross slope and is occasionally interrupted by drainage grates
- State and federal requirements for Park Lake Road (considering volume and speed) mandate eleven (11) foot lanes, which would leave 2-½ feet on each side to be striped as a bicycle facility

- State and federal requirements do not allow signage, markings or other designations as a bicycle facility unless it is four (4) feet in width
- If there was an attempt to reduce the lane width to ten (10) feet and provide markings for a 3-½ foot bicycle lane, federal funding would be lost
- Several locations do not have any excess on the roadway (i.e., Greencliff, Roseland, Grand River, Burcham, Haslett)
- Wherever there are auxiliary turn lanes, there is insufficient width to place either a 2-½ or 3-½ foot paved shoulder for non-motorized use
- ICRD recommendation not to put down a white line, but place shared lane signs
- Board member belief that when there is no lane marking, the cars take the space
- Board member belief that when there is a lane marking, cars will follow it

Treasurer Brixie moved to suspend the rules. Seconded by Trustee Styka.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 4-1. (Clerk Dreyfus)

Board and ICRD Managing Director’s discussion:

- Grant funding for the Park Lake Road project has already been obligated and is in place for work to commence next month
- Request for a design exception is typically done during the design stage, but can be applied for at any point prior to the striping
- With the strong possibility of Costco coming to the area, it is essential to allow equal access for all types of road users
- Ten (10) foot wide lanes with bicycle lanes will aid in slowing traffic on Park Lake Road
- Inquiry if the members of the Friends of Meridian Township Pathways were aware it is not legally possible to have a four (4) foot bike lane and did they prefer a 3-½ foot shoulder
- Group was aware of the shortcomings (e.g., shoulder will disappear in some areas) and the consensus was it will be an improvement over current conditions and the traffic calming improvements are free
- Inquiry as to whether the Township still wants and eleven (11) foot lane with a white stripe or no stripe if the state and federal government does not approve the design exception for ten (10) foot lanes
- Inquiry if the ICRD would allow the sharrow symbol to be printed so frequently that it would resemble the whiteness on the right side of the lane which would be three (3) feet wide
- ICRD must follow Michigan law regarding frequency and size of markings
- Concern with the possibility of Costco on this road and lines which start and stop along with the narrow entrance into Costco

Treasurer Brixie moved to request the ICRD apply to the Michigan Department of Transportation for a design exception for the placement of ten (10) foot wide lanes instead of eleven (11) foot lanes on Park Lake Road from Grand River Avenue to Merrit Road as part of its 2016 scheduled paving project in Meridian Charter Township.

Seconded by Trustee Styka.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
 NAYS: Supervisor LeGoff
 Motion carried 5-1.

Trustee Scales moved to complete the agenda after 10:00 P.M. Seconded by Trustee Styka.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 6-0.

E. Marsh Rd/Haslett HS Traffic Study

Assistant Township Manager/Director of Public Works & Engineering Perry summarized potential Township funding of a traffic study in the area of Haslett High School to ascertain the safest traffic flow and future growth as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 17, 2016.

Without objection, the Board directed staff to move forward with the Haslett High School traffic study.

14. FINAL PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor LeGoff opened Public Remarks.

Ahsan Sumbal, 900 Gulick Road, Haslett, requested the Township initiate a rezoning request for seven (7) acres of property he owns addressed as 2267 M-78 and 6217 Newton Road from PO, RD and RA to C-2. He stated for Board consideration of this request, he would be willing to sign off on the paving of Newton Road and his parents would sign off on an agreement to put in a sidewalk in front of Hiawatha Elementary.

Board discussion:

- Applicant has the option to go through the Township’s established rezoning application process
- Manager already had this issue under consideration and if he brings it to the Board, a decision will be made

Brian Seipel, 4114 Spinnaker Lane, Okemos, suggested HOMTV run public programs on driver awareness regarding cycling safety. He noted the State of Michigan has created publications entitled “What Every Bicyclist Must Know” and “What Every Michigan Driver Should Know about Bicycle Lanes.”

Ody Norkin, 3803 Sandlewood, Okemos, explained some disabled bus patrons ride the bus through to the end of the route and let the bus make the turn in order not to cross Grand River. He spoke in support of the creation of a Transportation Commission so that those who consistently use the service can express their views and voice their experiences.

Supervisor LeGoff closed Public Remarks.

15. FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Trustee Styka reminded residents of the Township’s fireworks ordinance as the Fourth of July approaches. He announced a blood drive will be held in the Township Hall on June 30th. Trustee Styka expressed appreciation to John Duly for his efforts in the return of the Towar Garden Summer Playground Program.

Trustee Veenstra voiced his outrage that Redi-Ride would not stop on the side of the street which would allow a disabled individual not to cross the road just because that side was allegedly not in Meridian Township.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor LeGoff adjourned the meeting at 10:30 P.M.

ELIZABETH LEGOFF
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

BRETT DREYFUS
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Sandra K. Otto, Secretary

9B(2)

PROPOSED BOARD MINUTES

PROPOSED MOTION:

Move to approve and ratify the minutes of the July 5, 2016 Regular Meeting as submitted.

ALTERNATE MOTION:

Move to approve and ratify the minutes of the July 5, 2016 Regular Meeting with the following amendment(s): [insert amendments].

**JULY 19, 2016
REGULAR MEETING**

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING - **DRAFT** -
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Town Hall Room
TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2016 **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Brixie, Trustees Scales, Styka, Veenstra
ABSENT: Supervisor LeGoff, Trustee Wilson
STAFF: Township Manager Frank Walsh, Assistant Township Manager/Director of Public Works and Engineering Derek Perry, Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Police Chief David Hall, EMS Chief Bill Priese, Finance Director Miriam Mattison, Administration Intern Griffin Graham

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Clerk Dreyfus called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Treasurer Brixie moved to appoint Milton Scales as Supervisor Pro Tem. Seconded by Trustee Veenstra.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried 5-0.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Pro Tem Scales led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

The secretary called the roll of the Board.

4. PRESENTATION

A. Okemos High School Michigan Tennis State Champions

Trustee Ron Styka introduced and recognized Okemos High School girls state tennis champions: Alisa Sabotic in one singles and Monika Francsics in two singles. He presented a certificate to each of the students.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor Pro Tem Scales opened Public Remarks.

Leonard Provencher, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, offered that hard copies of the ballot can be found at the Clerk's office and online and a list of (HOM-TV) debates can be found in the Municipal building lobby. He reviewed the ballot. Mr. Provencher noted the Republican ballot was "light" and most uncontested, so all candidates will move on to the November General Election. He stated the Township Supervisor race has two (2) candidates currently on the Board, Trustee Scales and Trustee Styka. Mr. Provencher then mentioned there are two (2) candidates for the Township Clerk race, one candidate he "doesn't know anything about" and one who is the current sitting Clerk who he "highly supports because he's done an excellent job."

Mr. Provencher commented no one is running against the Treasurer, and "everyone has been happy with what she has done, so it is hard to draw somebody out". He noted there are six (6) candidates for Trustee, only one of which is a current Board member, adding there are five (5) candidates for the Park Commission, a race in which no Republicans put up anyone to run. Mr. Provencher announced he is supporting Milton Scales for Supervisor because, as of the 2010 census, 86% of Meridian's population is white while 14% is non-white. He clarified that of the non-white population, 4% is African-American, 6.5% Asian, .3% Native American, .05% Pacific Islander, 2% Hispanic and 2.5% which he could not identify. Mr. Provencher believed that with a seven

member Board, it works out appropriately that “one candidate of diversity representing diversity in our community would be good to have on our Board.” He indicated “Trustee Scales had demonstrated that over the last four (4) years and for that reason I am supporting him”. Mr. Provencher spoke to the Township renewal millage for the Pedestrian Bicycle Pathway, pointing out the cost comes to “less than \$13 per person.” He believed pathways are useful, whether used by all residents or not and encouraged support for renewal of the millage.

Brian McNitt, 5380 Park Lake Road, East Lansing, requested all entrances to Costco, including the one to the proposed gas station, be placed on Saginaw Highway. He requested delivery trucks not be allowed use of Park Lake Road.

Bill Collette, 2373 Barnsbury Road, East Lansing, voiced concern with the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) BRT buses running down the center of Grand River Avenue, believing it a safety issue for disabled persons. He stated none of the business owners who participated in a business survey conducted by CATA employee Lane Masoud and a member of Township staff were in support of the BRT plan. Mr. Collette requested the results of that survey be made available to the public and presented to the Board. He requested a traffic impact study on Grand River Avenue for the BRT be conducted.

Renee Korrey, 4633 Okemos Road, Okemos, voiced opposition to the BRT. She asserted information regarding the BRT has been withheld. She believed the article in the *City Pulse* was not reflective of the June 21st Board meeting. Ms. Korrey expressed concern with the alleged vilification of residents by pro BRT advocates. She requested the Board suspend its support of the BRT as information has been withheld and alleged lies have been circulated by pro BRT advocates. Ms. Korrey stated she has not seen any impact statements on the BRT.

Patty McPhee, 5275 Thames Drive, Haslett, stated most people do not know about the BRT. She indicated The Big Green article does not support a BRT route in Meridian Township. Based on personal experience, she disputed a previous comment that millennials do not own automobiles. She voiced concern it will be too late if the Township waits to create an ad hoc committee in the fall.

Jeff Neilson, 2450 Barnsbury Road, East Lansing, showed the *City Pulse* article on the overhead, objecting to its characterization of the June 21st meeting. He spoke in opposition to comments made by an individual who spoke at that meeting, stating they were disrespectful to the blind, senior and handicapped citizens in Meridian Township, and that those comments were “appalling and wrong.” Mr. Neilson stated two (2) Board members told that individual “no name calling.” He indicated he met with Lane Masoud from CATA and Peter Menser from the Township Planning staff and Mr. Menser had informed him he would be unable to report the information he had gathered from meeting with the business community along Grand River Avenue because he had not kept any notes. Mr. Neilson asserted he asked Mr. Menser if anything he (Jeff) had shared with him was different from what he had heard from the business community and Mr. Menser responded it was not. Mr. Neilson relayed he then told Mr. Menser it was his responsibility to share that information with the Board and was upset this information was not being presented in this venue. He also believed it disrespectful to have presenters speak to the Board with their backs to Police and Fire personnel who are seated behind the presenters.

Kathy DeVito, 470 Chimney Oaks, Okemos, indicated the recent article in the *City Pulse* mischaracterized the events which took place during the June 21, 2016 Board meeting. She believed CATA has not done its job in notifying business owners along the Grand River Corridor concerning the BRT.

Ody Norkin, 3803 Sandlewood, Okemos, expressed concern Thomas Deits’ reputation was “trashed” during the December 8, 2015 Board meeting in an effort to not have him reappointed to the Planning Commission after 12 years of service.

Supervisor Pro Tem Scales closed Public Remarks.

6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Manager Walsh reported on the following:

- 2017 draft budget will be sent to the Board approximately the third week of August
- Recent management team meeting with MERS
- MERS meeting with union leaders on August 4th
- All parties need to work together to create a pathway out of the pension legacy debt
- Continued work with Ingham County to have the School Street property in the hands of Haslett Public Schools at no cost
- Park and Shaw Street project near the lake will now be designated as project #1 in 2017 due to a major drain project undertaken by Ingham County
- Staff to meet with Ingham County next week to designate what street(2) will be added to the list for 2016
- Appreciation to fire, police and Communications staff for its teamwork regarding postponing the July 4th Fireworks
- 2016 budget amendments will be before the Board some time in the future

7. BOARD COMMENTS & REPORTS

Treasurer Brixie clarified for the public that she was not interviewed for the aforementioned *City Pulse* article, but her comments were garnered from a previous *City Pulse* radio show where she was interviewed.

Clerk Dreyfus reminded citizens of the upcoming primary election on August 2nd. He explained the process for citizens to submit an application for an absentee ballot, which must be submitted by Saturday, July 30th. Clerk Dreyfus explained that after July 30th, any resident wishing to receive an absentee ballot must submit their application to the Clerk's Office, have it processed to receive a ballot, and vote their ballot in the Meridian Municipal Building. He cautioned citizens regarding the timeliness of the US mail if they wait until the last week of July to request an absentee ballot be mailed to them. Clerk Dreyfus reminded residents that with a primary election, they should only vote in one political party in the partisan section of the ballot in order for their ballot to be valid.

Clerk Dreyfus noted his attendance at the annual Michigan Association of Municipal Clerk's Meeting. He reported his participation in the Imagine Mid-Michigan Economic Sustainability Bus Tour which was held Monday, June 20th, with a trip to Battle Creek and Marshall to look at their revitalized downtown areas. Clerk Dreyfus also noted his attendance at the Harris Nature Center Volunteer Celebration as well as volunteering for the Celebrate Meridian Event. He pointed to an article in the *City Pulse* regarding Haslett's Orlando Park Story Walk as well as an editorial in the *Lansing State Journal* where Meridian Township and East Lansing were praised for their collaborate work regarding the proposed Costco project. He thanked Trustee Styka and Township Manager Walsh for their hard work towards that effort.

Treasurer Brixie reported tax bills were mailed on July 1st which have a due date of September 14th. She announced payment options include pay in person with cash or check, by mail, drop box located outside of the Municipal Building and enrollment in automatic deduction. Treasurer Brixie stated more information regarding payment options are available on the Township's website, www.meridian.mi.us.

Trustee Styka reported his attendance at the Haslett Community Meeting as well as the Planning Commission's master plan work session on June 27th. He stated the Communications Commission listened to a presentation from ACD.net on June 29th regarding monopole antennas. Trustee Styka announced he attended the Redi-Ride Review Committee, along with Trustee Scales and Trustee Veenstra, on June 30th and the committee is making headway.

Trustee Veenstra noted the next Redi-Ride Review Committee will be held on July 21st at 3:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Room. He expressed surprise concerning the *City Pulse's* summary of the June 21st Board meeting. Trustee Veenstra indicated CATA's 2016 Report contained a diagram of the BRT, which consisted of seven (7) traffic lanes and a bus station in the center of Grand River Avenue. He voiced concern with the number of people the consultant to the master plan is designing the Township to hold.

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Styka moved to approve the agenda with the addition of Agenda Item #13C, the Bus Rapid Transit. Seconded by Trustee Veenstra.

Board discussion:

- Board member concern with adding the BRT as a discussion item without it being advertised to the Township's residents
- Board member recollection that the Treasurer brought forth a motion of support for the BRT that was added at the meeting and was placed as an action item on the agenda

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Clerk Dreyfus
 NAYS: Treasurer Brixie
 Motion carried 4-1.

9. CONSENT AGENDA (SALMON)

Supervisor Pro Tem Scales reviewed the consent agenda.

Treasurer Brixie moved to adopt the Consent Agenda amended as follows:

- **Move Agenda Item #9E: Enactment Day Resolution of Support to Agenda Item #12C.**
- Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.**

Board discussion:

- Request for explanation as to why the most recent minutes were not included in both the June 21st and July 5th packet

A. Communications

(1) Board Information (BI)

- BI-1 Tim Potter, 4632 Van Atta Road, Okemos; RE: Narrower lane width are safer for our Township road users
- BI-2 Nancy Krupiarz, 880 Moss Glen Circle, Haslett; RE: Restriping Park Lake Road to include bike lanes
- BI-3 James E. Jackson, 6232 West Reynolds Road, Haslett; RE: Park Lake road striping
- BI-4 Phyllis Vaughn, 6100 Balog Court, Haslett; RE: Campaigning
- BI-5 Bobbie Margolis, 36 Monarch Lane, Okemos; RE: BRT
- BI-6 Renee Korrey, 4633 Okemos Road, Okemos; RE: Opposition to the BRT
- BI-7 Brian Baer, 225 N. Hayford, Lansing; RE: Support for the BRT
- BI-8 Renee Korrey, 4633 Okemos Road, Okemos; RE: Request for the Board to pass a resolution rescinding its support of the BRT
- BI-9 Karla Hudson, 6009 Skyline Drive, East Lansing; RE: Community conversations about CATA's transportation issues
- BI-10 Neil Bowlby, 6020 Beechwood Drive, Haslett; RE: Request to be appointed to the BRT "Study Group"
- BI-11 Mary Hoenshell, 2341 Barnsbury Road, East Lansing; RE: Copy of her letter to Sandy Draggoo, CEO/Executive Director of CATA expressing her opposition to the CATA-BRT

- BI-12 Sandra Draggoo, CEO/Executive Director, Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA), 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing; RE: Copy of her response letter to Mary Hoenshell regarding the BRT project
- BI-13 Debbie Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, CATA, 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing; RE: Response to Donna Rose regarding a millage increase for the Redi-Ride program

(2) Regional Linkage (RL)

- RL-1 Patrick Lindemann, Ingham County Drain Commissioner, Notice of Public Hearing of Apportionment for drains within Meridian Township

(3) On File in the Clerk’s Office (OF)

Material handed out at the June 21, 2016 Meeting

- John Wolenberg, 2459 Barnsbury Road, East Lansing; RE: Revised Urban Cooperation Agreement with East Lansing (PA 108 Agreement, Costco)
- Sue Pigg, 3572 W. Hiawatha Drive, Okemos; RE: Support for the BRT
- Ann Zimmerman, 2344 Coyote Creek, Okemos; RE: CATA BRT Project
- Christopher G. Nugent, President, Horizon Bank Lansing Market, 1600 Abbot Road, East Lansing; RE: Support for the proposed BRT Project
- Brent Forsberg, 4725 Mohican Drive, Okemos; RE: Suggestion for the Township to set up an ad hoc committee on the issue of the BRT

Material submitted at the June 21, 2016 Meeting

- Tonia Olson, Granger, 16980 Wood Drive, Lansing; RE: Meridian Township, “Collecting Tomorrow’s Energy Report”
- Brian and Mary-Jean McNitt, 5380 Park Lake Road, East Lansing; RE: Opposition to the proposed Costco Store
- Kathy DeVito, 470 Chimney Oaks Drive, Okemos; RE: Signed petitions submitted by “STOP the CATA-BRT”
- Neil Bowlby, 6020 Beechwood Drive, Haslett; RE: Article featured from *The Big Green* website titled “CATA bus overcrowding is a seasonal, economic issue”

Treasurer Brixie 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. Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
NAYS: None
Motion carried 5-0.

B. Minutes

Treasurer Brixie moved to approve and ratify the minutes of the June 7, 2016 Regular Meeting as submitted. Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
NAYS: None
Motion carried 5-0.

C. Bills

Treasurer Brixie moved that the Township Board approve the Manager’s Bills as follows:

Common Cash	\$	398,221.57
Public Works	\$	153,544.32
Trust & Agency	\$	60.00

Total Checks	\$ 551,825.89
Credit Card Transactions	\$ 8,771.40
Total Purchases	<u>\$ 560,597.29</u>
ACH Payments	<u>\$ 601,538.28</u>

Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried 5-0.

[Bill list in Official Minute Book]

D. Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program - Electronic Citation System
Treasurer Brixie moved to authorize the Police Department to apply for grant funding for an electronic citation system through the U.S. Department of Justice Byrne Memorial Justice Assistant Grant for Technology enhancement Projects, with no matching funds required. Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried 5-0.

10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY (See Agenda Item #12A)

Q. I wondered if you already prepared or how soon you will prepare the answer to the question put by the Redi-Ride Committee, "Is it legal for the Township Board to put a question on the November ballot that will reauthorize the millage for Redi-Ride given the fact that the current Redi-Ride authorization goes through 2018."

A. We have been working on that, we should have an answer for you in terms of a formal opinion very shortly. We were waiting on some information that Administration was pulling together from CATA, including some documents out of the archives from when the millage was originally passed. I will tell you that there is not a lot of history out there as to how that language came to be that was on the ballot, but we will have our best shot at an answer for you within a week or two.

Q. I don't know how much history you need; it's a legal question. Is it legal to put a reauthorization of a millage on the ballot before the millage has expired?

SUPERVISOR PRO TEM COMMENT: I'm going to step in here. He has answered the question; we're moving on.

11. HEARINGS (None)

12. ACTION ITEMS

Supervisor Pro Tem Scales opened Public Remarks.

Ody Norkin, 3803 Sandlewood, Okemos, urged the Board to select Neil Bowlby to be a member of the Transportation Commission subcommittee as requested in the letter Mr. Bowlby sent to the Board. He discussed what he characterized as "shameful treatment" towards previous appointees Thomas Malik and Thomas Deits, despite their credentials and being faculty members at Michigan State University. Mr. Norkin urged those wrongs be rectified.

Leonard Provencher, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, stated the roadway of Park Lake Road between Haslett and Saginaw Highway is under the jurisdiction of the Ingham County Road Department (ICRD). He suggested truck access to Costco sites should only be off of interstates or state trunkline roads such as BL-69. He spoke in support of the Jolly Road Transportation Alternative Program as it will provide broaden shoulders on both sides of Jolly Road which does not currently have a pathway system.

Supervisor Pro Tem Scales closed Public Remarks.

A. PA 108 Agreement (COSTCO)

Trustee Styka summarized the one change made to the agreement from the draft before the Board on June 21, 2016. He also highlighted the proposed agreement as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 30, 2016.

Trustee Styka moved [and read into the record] **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, approves the future rezoning and issuance of all necessary land use permits with respect to a portion of the annexed area, subject to the conditions set forth below:

1. **Zoning and Land Use Approvals.** During the term of the November 1, 2001 Urban Cooperation Agreement, as amended, the Township consents to and grants written land use approvals only for any uses permitted by right or by special use permit in East Lansing's RA, R-1, R-2, R-3, or RM-8 residential districts, or in the B-2 retail sales business district, or in the B-4 restricted office business district of the East Lansing zoning ordinance, being Chapter 55 of the East Lansing City Code, except that as a condition of approval of a B-2 use for a Costco retail store, including all appurtenant uses, all property that is not utilized for the Costco retail store, its appurtenant uses and in certain described outlots shall be placed into a conservation easement as approximately depicted on the attached Exhibit B and as defined in Section 2140 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (MCL 324.2140). Further, such B-2 zoning classification shall only be available to a Costco retailer. Any uses permitted under the B-4 zoning classification shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the uses permitted in the annexed area.

Any rezoning of the annexed area for a Costco retail store shall also be subject to and conditioned upon the terms of this agreement and no site plan shall be approved and no development shall be allowed in the annexed area that would be required to be located in a B-2 district in the City of East Lansing, as such B-2 district requirements exist on the date of adoption of this resolution, unless the site plan meets or exceeds the most restrictive standards of both the City of East Lansing site plan standards applicable to B-2 retail sales districts and the Charter Township of Meridian site plan and development standards applicable to its C-2 commercial district including, but not limited to, the following Charter Township of Meridian Ordinances as they exist on the date of adoption of this ordinance:

- A. Chapter 22, Article IV Wetland Protection
- B. Chapter 38, Article VII, Outdoor Lighting
- C. Chapter 86, Article IV, Division 3, Section 86-402 Commercial
- D. Chapter 86, Article VIII, Off-Street parking
- E. Section 86-758, Landscaping

Zoning land use approvals and the determination of the most restrictive standards shall be considered and made through the following process:

- a. Applications for rezoning and site plan approval related to a Costco retail store to be located in the annexed area, together with supporting documentation, shall be forwarded by the City to the Charter Township of Meridian within three (3) business days of receipt.
 - b. Within fourteen (14) calendar days of the receipt of the site plan and supporting documents, the Township shall transmit to the City the specific provisions of its ordinances that exceed the requirements of the comparable East Lansing ordinances for site plan review for the submitted application and the City shall require the applicant to comply with those provisions. The City Council of the City of East Lansing shall not approve a site plan until it has been certified to meet the above required standards by the Director of Community Planning and Development of the Charter Township of Meridian and the Director of Planning, Building & Development of the City of East Lansing. Any changes made by the City Council of the City of East Lansing shall not lessen any of the terms or conditions of the site plan approved and certified by the Director of Community Planning and Development of the Charter Township of Meridian and the Director of Planning, Building & Development of the City of East Lansing.
 - c. In reviewing the site plan, each jurisdiction shall act expeditiously and shall not unreasonably withhold certification. To the extent that documents are exchanged in order to achieve mutual certification, each jurisdiction shall endeavor to respond to the other within seven (7) calendar days. Either party may waive, in writing, further review of the site plan at any time and such waiver shall constitute certification.
2. **Park Lake Road.** Should improvements be required to Park Lake Road between the intersections of Park Lake Road with Haslett Road and with M-78 (Saginaw Hwy.), the cost of such improvements as are required shall not be borne by the Charter Township of Meridian without its expressed, written approval.
 3. **Brownfield Redevelopment.** Should a request for funding under the provisions of a Brownfield redevelopment authority or a Brownfield redevelopment plan be made by the developer in connection with the construction of a Costco retail store or any appurtenant use located in the annexed area, if approved by the City of East Lansing, such funding provided pursuant to a Brownfield redevelopment authority or a Brownfield redevelopment plan shall not exceed the total sum of \$1,000,000.
 4. **Building Permit Fees.** Should the annexed area be rezoned for the construction of a Costco retail store and should a Costco retail store be constructed on the annexed area, fifty percent (50%) of all building permit fees, shall be paid to the Charter Township of Meridian to defray its administrative costs associated with the reviews set forth above.

- 5. Remedy for Breach.** In the event either party believes the other party has breached this agreement, they shall provide the other written notice of the specific nature of the breach. The parties shall meet within 14 calendar days to resolve any issues. If the issue cannot be resolved, the party may seek judicial relief in a court of competent jurisdiction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other terms and conditions of the original resolution and the November 1, 2001 Urban Cooperation Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this alteration to the conditions of annexation so made by this resolution and the vote of a majority of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan will not be effective until:

1. a corresponding resolution containing the same amendments is approved and consented to by the City Council of the City of East Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan; and
2. The amendment to the November 1, 2001 Urban Cooperation Agreement providing for the extension of its term to December 31, 2039 with respect to the tax sharing provisions of paragraph 8 is approved by all parties and is in effect.

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED that the changes made to the annexation resolution are contingent upon the filing of an application for rezoning and for site plan review and approval by Costco and subsequent approval of the same. Should Costco fail to file a rezoning application and site plan for review and approval within 180 days of adoption of this resolution, or should the site plan fail to be approved, this resolution shall be void and the original provisions of the November 1, 2001 Urban Cooperation Agreement and the annexing resolutions shall control.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk is hereby instructed to notify the City Council of the City of East Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, of the adoption of this resolution and to provide the City Clerk of said City with a certified copy of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of this resolution, this resolution constitutes the written approval of the Charter Township of Meridian necessary for a land use rezoning to B-2 pursuant to the November 1, 2001 Urban Cooperation Agreement between the City of East Lansing and Charter Township of Meridian concerning this property.

Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

Board discussion:

- Suggestion for neighbors of Costco to stay involved in the project's process by attending East Lansing Planning Commission meetings and East Lansing City Council meetings
- Board member preference to not allow Costco to place deed restrictions on the site which would affect our community if it became a dark store
- Board member belief Costco should not be given a "gift" of a \$1 million brownfield tax credit
- Board member statement previous brownfields show there is no relation between the cost of contamination cleanup and the amount of the brownfield credit granted by a local unit of government

- East Lansing City Council will decide whether or not to give Costco a brownfield tax credit
- Board member preference for the East Lansing City Council limited any brownfield tax credit to the actual cost of contamination cleanup, if any
- A majority of neighbors who spoke were supportive of the agreement because a conservation easement was put in place to protect nearby neighborhoods
- \$1 million brownfield tax credit limit was a compromise within the negotiated agreement
- Board member agreement with citizen comment regarding no cut through from the Costco gas station to Park Lake Road
- Board member preference for the gas station to be a stand-alone building
- Clarification that a brownfield is a reimbursement for work performed

Trustee Veenstra moved to amend condition #3 by adding “or the actual cost of cleaning up contamination on the site, whichever is less” after “\$1,000,000”.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Trustee Veenstra moved to amend condition #2 by deleting the language “without its expressed, written approval”.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Board discussion:

- Board member preference to have the provision included in the agreement for Costco to pay its employees at least 150% of the minimum wage
- Board member agreement with comments contained in a citizen’s letter calling for all entrances to be placed off Saginaw Highway
- Board member preference to have all truck travel prohibited on Park Lake Road
- Board member preference not to have truck deliveries prior to 7:00 A.M.
- Board member preference for the delivery time to be addressed by the Township’s Director of Community Planning and Development during site plan review
- Township does not currently have an ordinance governing delivery times so the Township’s Director of Community Planning and Development could not apply a standard higher than what East Lansing puts in place
- Agreement between East Lansing and Costco is not within Meridian Township’s purview
- Agreement by Costco to turn off its parking lot lights one hour after closing

ATTORNEY COMMENT: One thing I want to make clear, and hopefully the maker of the motion and the seconder will agree, that in your packet was the final draft and we didn’t read the whole draft. We didn’t read the whereas clauses and, to the extent that maybe a word was missed here or there in the reading, it should be clear that what you are voting on is the actual document in the packet, not the motion as it was read which only contained part of the total resolution. Both East Lansing and the Township need to be working from the final document.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer Brixie moved [and read into the record] WHEREAS, the parties hereto entered into a November 1, 2001 Urban Cooperation Agreement to share, manage, and control 66.48 acres of property, the map and legal description of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the parties wish to extend the term of that agreement to December 30, 2039.

Terms and Conditions

NOW THEREFORE, the City and the Township agree as follows:

1. Authority. This Addendum to the original agreement is made and entered into pursuant to the provisions of the Urban Cooperation Act of 1967, as amended, and after compliance with the terms thereof, as well as the general authority of each of the parties.

2. Paragraph 11 of the Urban Cooperation Agreement is amended to read as follows:

11. Term of Agreement. This Agreement shall continue in effect for a term of 34 years commencing January 1, 2002, and terminating on December 30, 2035. With respect to Paragraph 8 of the Urban Cooperation Agreement, this Agreement shall continue in effect for a term of 38 years commencing January 1, 2002, and terminating on December 30, 2039.

3. No other terms of the original Urban Cooperation Agreement are changed.

4. The change to this term of this Urban Cooperation Agreement is contingent upon the initiation of a site plan approval by Costco and subsequent approval of the same. Should Costco fail to initiate a site plan approval process within 180 days of the entry of this agreement by the parties or should the site plan fail to be approved, the above referenced revisions of the Urban Cooperation Agreement shall be void and the original versions shall continue in force as if unamended.

In Witness Whereof, the parties hereto have executed this Addendum to the Agreement as of the date and year first above written by authority of the respective City Council and Township Board.

Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

Correlation between the two resolutions: (Questions for the Attorney (See Agenda Item #10)

Q. I would ask our attorney to explain what this agreement does, and how it relates to the resolution we just adopted.

A. Back in 2002, there were actually two agreements that were passed by the communities in connection with this annexation. One dealt with the zoning issues which you have previously acted on; this one dealt with the term of the agreement in the revenue sharing piece. You really have to have two (2) documents in front of you. This resolution just deals with the revenue sharing, extending it by four (4) years.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried 5-0.

- B. Jolly Rd-Transportation Alternative Program Resolution
Trustee Veenstra moved [and read into the record] NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, that the Township Board hereby supports the Ingham County Road Department TAP application for the addition of paved shoulders along Jolly Road from Dobie Road to Meridian Road as identified in the Meridian Township Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Master Plan.

Seconded by Trustee Styka.

Board and staff discussion:

- Paved shoulders are a safety improvement and will be used by pedestrians and bicyclist
- Board member belief most of the tree line will be cut down for shoulder placement
- Board member preference for new trees to be planted further from the road to replace the removed trees
- Feasibility of tree replacement as there is limited right of way and the Township must obtain approval of the adjacent property owners
- Meridian Township will need to bear the cost of tree replacement
- Assistant Township Manager/Director Perry walked the entire length of the subject area with ICRD Managing Director Conklin to look at every tree to make a determination what trees would be jeopardized by the project
- Existing guardrail will aid in preserving trees
- Some trees located on an up slope near homes have the potential to be preserved
- Walk along Jolly Road heightened the awareness of the ICRD regarding tree preservation
- Resolution is only to support the TAP application
- If the TAP funding is secured, the Township will work closely with the ICRD to mitigate as many tree removals as feasible
- Change to the tree ordinance to look at each tree on a site-by-site basis is working as the Board intended as the normal rules under which the ICRD operates dictate a large clear zone near the road
- Trees are a natural asset which contribute to our community
- Board member advocate of saving the oak tree near Meridian Road

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried 5-0.

- C. Enactment Day Resolution of Support
Clerk Dreyfus moved [and read into the record] NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Township Board proclaims the year of 2017 as the 175th anniversary year of the establishment of Meridian Township by the Legislature of the State of Michigan;

AND FURTHER, THAT the Township Board in the Quartoseptcentennial year, hereby encourages all residents, clubs, organizations, institutions and businesses in Meridian Township either to join and to participate in the appreciation of the past; to celebrate and appreciate the present; and/or to plan, study and visualize magnificent opportunities to build for the future;

AND, FURTHER THAT encourages 175 Ways to Celebrate a Quartoseptcentennial.

AND FURTHER, THAT the Township Board encourage all residents, clubs, organizations, institutions and businesses to share their story, if they so desire, and share their specific educational, athletic, cultural, or entertainment project on the Quartoseptcentennial website, <http://www.meridiancelebrates175.com/>, for purposes of historic record, of Meridian Township, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864.

AND FURTHER, THAT the Township Board encourage all residents and organizations to put the following dates on their respective calendars:

- **Saturday, December 31, 2016 6:00pm, 175th New Years' Eve Meridian Township-wide Fireworks at Central Park South, Central Park Road**
- **Saturday, December 31, 2016 4:00pm and 7:00pm, Kick off Celebration and History of Meridian Documentary and Pictorial Viewing at Studio C, 1999 Central Park Drive**
- **Thursday, February 16, 2017, Celebrate Enactment Day at the Capitol Building in Lansing, MI, mid-day/noon time at the Legislature to celebrate Enactment Day**
- **Saturday, February 18, 2017, Winter Festival Quartoseptcentennial 1842 Birthday Bash at Central Park and the Historical Village**
- **Saturday, July 1, 2017 – Quartoseptcentennial Parade, Festivities, and Fireworks at Central Park**

Seconded by Trustee Styka.

Board and staff discussion:

- Staff is working with business and non-profit organizations across the Township to be as inclusive as possible
- Additional dates are in the making and will be added to the Meridian Celebrates 175 website
- Staff is in the process of forming committees for this event and after the general election, staff will be including Board members
- 175th anniversary is an ideal opportunity to bring all Meridian residents together to create a unified community

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Trustee Scales, Styka, Veenstra, Treasurer Brixie, Clerk Dreyfus
 NAYS: None
 Motion carried 5-0.

Without objection, the BRT issue will be moved to Agenda Item #13A.

13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

Supervisor Pro Tem Scales opened Public Remarks.

Ody Norkin, 3803 Sandlewood, Okemos, voiced appreciation for bringing the BRT discussion forward during tonight's meeting. He spoke to the "mixing of apples and oranges" on this issue. Mr. Norkin addressed earlier Board member comment about the danger to pedestrians on Grand River Avenue, stating it is imperative to mitigate those risks, independent of the BRT. He did not believe the BRT is the only way to address those risks. Mr. Norkin noted the Grand Rapids model runs along the sidewalks on both sides of the street and was one-fifth of the cost projected for the Lansing region's BRT. He believed the Grand Rapids model is the one this regional should follow.

Bill Collette, 2373 Barnsbury Road, East Lansing, voiced appreciation that the Board takes its citizens opinions to heart relative to the BRT.

Leonard Provencher, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, expressed his appreciation for adding the BRT resolution to tonight's agenda. He believed there are several transportation issues within the community and felt the Township has many qualified citizens who would be good members of a Transportation Commission if formed.

Supervisor Pro Tem Scales closed Public Remarks.

A. BRT Resolution

Trustee Styka summarized the concerns expressed in the draft resolution handed out to Board members as a result of citizen input on the BRT.

Board discussion:

- Board member clarification the total cost of the BRT project is \$143 million
- No guarantee at this point in time the BRT will go to the Meridian Mall
- Meijer has offered to provide a BRT terminal in its parking lot behind Belle Tire
- Board member statement the number of bus stops will be reduced from 45 to 28
- Board member preference for the Board to oppose the BRT until CATA offers details on the BRT funding and how it will be spent
- Board member suggestion to send a copy of the resolution to the Federal Transit Authority
- Board member belief the BRT is a solution in search of a problem
- Board member belief the original concern was the need to reduce congestion along the Grand River Corridor from the Capitol to Webberville
- Reducing a lane of traffic and installing a dedicated bus lane forces the high volume of traffic on Grand River forces the three (3) lanes into two (2) lanes
- Benefits of reducing congestion include less automobile emissions being released into the atmosphere, reduction in driver stress (which increases safety) and reduction in travel time
- Driver stress correlates directly with road safety
- Board member belief timed traffic signals are the most direct means of reducing traffic congestion, can be accomplished with a small commitment of public funds, can be quickly implemented and improves the driver experience
- Worst area of traffic signaling is the stretch on Grand River between Hagadorn and Harrison Roads
- Times savings can be achieved through simple elimination of the bus stops shown in the BRT plan without the cost
- Board member preference to rely on CATA's current placement of bus stops
- Transportation Commission mandate should be to find creative solutions to maximize ridership and review the current bus routes
- Based on statements made by individuals on both sides of the issue, more information needs to be put forth on the key issues regarding the BRT in Meridian Township
- Meijer, the business located at the end of the line, is in support of the BRT project
- During the charrette process, statements were made the BRT would possibly increase Meijer's business
- Board member request for the Township's CATA representative to convey the views of the Board as a collective body relative to the proposed resolution on the BRT
- Reminder there was initial consideration by previous Board members who desired to see light rail come to the region to address auto congestion on Grand River and overcrowding on buses
- When a BRT was first considered, it was to redesign, rethink and redevelop the region, which included recruitment of better jobs and more businesses
- Board statements that it wants to reduce reliance on the automobile, reduce our carbon footprint, create a more walkable community and reclaim our streets for all users
- CATA is a transit agency and its focus is on transit
- BRT is a complicated mass transit project and CATA needs to do a better job of educating the public as to the ramifications and the design elements of the project
- Comparison between Grand Rapids and Meridian Township
- Grand Rapids is comprised of city blocks with city streets whereas Meridian Township has large open areas where there are no intersections but many driveways

- A side running BRT would impact right turn movements
- Inclusion of many types of residents on the committee, including those who use the bus
- Suggestion for CATA representatives to explain to the committee each intersection in detail and what different options are available
- Preference to move forward with a group of interested residents to view a Meridian Township model
- Board member preference not to have a reduction of lanes, as it will drive traffic onto secondary roads
- Board member preference not to have a center running BRT
- Board member preference to retain the same number of bus stops in Meridian Township
- Concern with current bus riders having to walk further in inclement weather to catch the bus
- Board member preference for the strongest anti-BRT and pro-BRT residents to serve on the committee
- Board member belief the committee will only be effective if the BRT funding process is slowed down
- BRT does not just impact left hand turns, it prohibits left turns
- Need for separation between improving transit and improving traffic conditions
- Possibility of the Board writing a letter to the Michigan Department of Transportation encouraging the timing of traffic signals along Grand River Avenue
- If adding traffic lights and prohibiting left turns into businesses along Grand River improves safety as advocated by CATA, these items can be accomplished without the BRT expense
- CATA's theory that a reduction in bus stops will increase ridership can be put in place now
- Author of the resolution included consensus issues as WHEREAS clauses
- Necessity of sending a timely message to the Federal Transit Authority
- Sending something to committee takes a lot of time
- Clarification that a reduction of bus stops is due to substituting a stop in the east and west bound traffic lanes with one stop in the center

It was the consensus of the Board to place this item on for action at the July 19, 2016 Board meeting.

- B. Rezoning #16020, 1792 Hamilton Road, RC (Multiple Family) to PO (Professional and Office) Director Kieselbach summarized the proposed rezoning as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 28, 2016.

Board discussion:

- Rezoning makes sense
- Applicant has been a good neighbor
- Unanimous Planning Commission recommendation for approval

It was the consensus of the Board to place this item on for action at the July 19, 2016 Board meeting.

- C. 6 Month Goal Review-Process
 Manager Walsh summarized the process for the six (6) month goal review as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 30, 2016.

Board and staff discussion:

- Board member preference for a complete list of goals to be made available to Board members and the public
- Each member of the Management Team will provide an update for their department at the July 19th Board meeting
- Report from the management team will be compiled into one document and included in the packet so it can be reviewed prior to the Board meeting
- Top ten (10) goals will be a focus of discussion

- Suggestion for Board members to provide the Manager with any questions regarding the objectives so that staff can be prepared to cover those topics

It was the consensus of the Board to place this item on for action at the July 19, 2016 Board meeting.

14. FINAL PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor Pro Tem Scales opened Public Remarks.

Leonard Provencher, 5824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, expressed appreciation for the draft resolution on the BRT. He spoke in support of a balanced view being presented to the affected agencies.

Renee Korrey, 4633 Okemos Road, Okemos, spoke in support of the BRT resolution. She noted there is a segment of the population which would use public transportation if it provided longer weekday hours and weekend hours for its ridership.

Jared Wilson, 5443 Amber, East Lansing, expressed appreciation to both the Fire Department and Parks and Recreation Department for their aid during a fire in the building where his church was holding services.

Supervisor Pro Tem Scales closed Public Remarks.

15. FINAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Clerk Dreyfus announced his office is looking for election inspectors for both the August 2nd primary and November 8th general election. He announced 10:00 AM and 5:15 PM training sessions for election workers will be held on July 21st, and hands on training with the electronic poll book will be available a week prior to August 2nd. In response to Trustee Veenstra's inquiry, he indicated the wage for an election inspector is \$10 per hour and a \$10 stipend for attending the training session.

Trustee Veenstra acknowledged an email at Board member's seats from Manager Walsh relaying Supervisor LeGoff's opposition to the BRT in its current form which took place in a phone conversation between the two.

Trustee Styka moved to adjourn. Seconded by Clerk Dreyfus.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Pro Tem Scales adjourned the meeting at 9:05 P.M.

MILTON L. SCALES
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR PRO TEM

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Sandra K. Otto, Secretary

**Charter Township of Meridian
Board Meeting
7/19/2016**

MOVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD APPROVE THE MANAGER'S
BILLS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMON CASH	\$ 293,422.43
PUBLIC WORKS	267,049.06
TRUST & AGENCY	673,858.86
TOTAL CHECKS:	\$ 1,234,330.35
CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS	6,410.98
TOTAL PURCHASES:	<u>\$ 1,240,741.33</u>
ACH PAYMENTS	<u>\$ 403,394.47</u>

Attachment:

Copy of Petty Cash Transactions

Parks Office:	\$ 248.62
Treasurer Office	\$ 279.35
	<hr/>
	\$ 527.97

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7-14-16

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INVOICE APPROVAL BY INVOICE REPORT FOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
 EXP CHECK RUN DATES 07/19/2016 - 07/19/2016
 BOTH JOURNALIZED AND UNJOURNALIZED OPEN AND PAID
 BANK CODE: GF

Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
1. 54-A DISTRICT COURT	CASH BOND-MICHELE ALAINE PISCHEA	140.00	92740
2. AFFORDABLE TIRE	TIRES 2016 (STATE CONTRACT PRICING)	493.72	
3. ALLGRAPHICS CORP	PLAYGROUND SHIRTS	180.00	
4. ANDREA SMILEY	PURCHASE FOLDER FOR SPONSORSHIP 175TH ANNIV	51.96	
5. ANDREWS HOOPER PAVLIK PLC	PREP OF GASB STMT #68/AUDIT	2,500.00	
6. AT &T	SERVICE	32.06	
7. AT&T	SERVICE JUN 25 TO JUL 24	887.28	92738
	SERVICE FOR JULY	82.73	
	SERVICE FOR JULY	98.02	
	SERVICE FOR JULY	137.31	
	SERVICE FOR JULY	95.13	
	SERVICE FOR JULY	374.64	
	SERVICE FOR JULY	2,255.11	
	SERVICE FOR JULY	2,411.11	
	TOTAL	6,341.33	
8. AUTO VALUE OF EAST LANSING	2016 REPAIR PARTS	103.49	
	2016 REPAIR PARTS	17.06	
	TOTAL	120.55	
9. BARYAMES CLEANERS	STANDARD POLICE UNIFORM CLEANING	1,152.95	
	STANDARD POLICE UNIFORM CLEANING	3.85	
	TOTAL	1,156.80	
10. BECKS PROPANE	PROPANE FOR HNC	180.80	92741
11. BOARD OF WATER & LIGHT	STREET LIGHT FOR JUNE	501.97	92742
12. BRYAN LEROY	REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAVEL EXP	194.00	
13. CDW	LAPTOP DOCKING STATION	131.64	
14. CINTAS CORPORATION #725	WORK UNIFORMS FRANK/PUNG	26.91	
	WORK UNIFORMS FRANK/PUNG	26.91	
	TOTAL	53.82	
15. CITY OF EAST LANSING	2ND QTR MEP FEES - 2016	30,214.31	
	SHARED ASSESSOR 6/3 TO 6/30	5,052.84	
	TOTAL	35,267.15	
16. COMCAST CABLE	TOWN HALL	178.20	
	SERVICE	149.85	
	SERVICE	4.28	
	TOTAL	332.33	
17. COMPLETE BATTERY SOURCE	STOCK BATTERIES - SIZE D	12.49	
	96 AA PROCELL ALKALINE 1.5V BATTERIES	48.14	
	TOTAL	60.63	

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BANK CODE: GF

Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
18. COTTAGE GARDENS			
	HYDRO SEEDER RENTAL AND SUPPLIES	765.81	
19. COURTESY FORD			
	FORD REPAIR PARTS 2016	358.16	
	FORD REPAIR PARTS 2016	184.74	
	FORD REPAIR PARTS 2016	17.39	
	TOTAL	560.29	
20. DAVID HALL			
	REIMBURSEMENT FOR DINNER CONFERENCE	21.85	
21. DBI			
	OFFICE SUPPLIES	22.95	
	DOCUMENT COVER	8.99	
	LASER PAPER	20.90	
	MISC SUPPLIES	7.03	
	CASH DRAWER WITH LOCK	194.24	
	REPLACEMENT CASTER FOR CHAIRS	56.40	
	STACKING CHAIRS	(1,250.00)	
	CHAIRS	601.98	
	TOTAL	(337.51)	
22. DIETZ JANITORIAL SERVICE INC			
	JANITORIAL SERVICE PSB,SC, HARRIS NATURE, TOWER	2,001.90	
	JANITORIAL SERVICE PSB,SC, HARRIS NATURE, TOWER	731.00	
	TOTAL	2,732.90	
23. DOUGLASS SAFETY SYSTEMS LLC			
	STANDING PO - FIRE EQUIPMENT/GEAR	60.00	
24. ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE INC			
	AUTOMARK BATTERY	123.61	
25. ERIN LINN			
	REIMBURSEMENT FOR MILEAGE 2/25 TO 6/9	103.14	
26. EYDE COMPANY LLC			
	REFUND PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE GEORGETOWN	1,500.00	
27. FD HAYES ELECTRIC			
	INSTALL ELECTRIC TO WONCH PARK PAVILION PER QUOTE	1,800.00	
28. FIRST COMMUNICATIONS			
	ANALOG TELEPHONE FOR ALARM	872.76	
29. FISHBECK, THOMPSON, CARR & HUBER			
	WETLAND DELINEATION @TOWNER RD PARK	1,189.50	
30. GARLIC & GARLIC, A JOHNSON FARM			
	FARM MARKET VENDOR	2.00	
31. GREATER LANSING CONVENTION &			
	ANNUAL FULL PG AD IN VISTOR'S GUIDE/2017	3,550.00	
32. HALT FIRE INC			
	EMERGENCY TRUCK #501 E#92 REPAIR	2,921.29	
	PUMP TEST AND SERVICE ENGINE 501	2,541.67	
	TOTAL	5,462.96	
33. HASLETT ANIMAL HOSPITAL			
	UBY FRONTLINE PLUS	138.18	
34. HCC PUBLIC RISK CLAIM SERVICE, INC			
	DEDUCTIBLE RECOVERY	10,000.00	
35. IRON MOUNTAIN			
	RECORD SHREDDING SERVICE	49.35	
36. JEFFORY BROUGHTON			
	PARTS & LABOR	265.00	
37. JOAN HORVATH			
	REIMBURSEMENT FOR JUNE MILEAGE	60.48	

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 DB: Meridian

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 BANK CODE: GF

Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
38. JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	FUEL JAN.2016 - JUN 2016	2,641.02	
	FUEL JAN.2016 - JUN 2016	8,320.00	
	FUEL JAN.2016 - JUN 2016	402.42	
	FUEL JAN.2016 - JUN 2016	10,416.00	
	FUEL JAN.2016 - JUN 2016	4,317.38	
	TOTAL	26,096.82	
39. JOHNSON,ROBERTS & ASSOCIATES	CPI REPORT, INTERNET	13.50	
40. KAMMINGA & ROODVOETS	CONCRETE REPAIR CONTRACT 2016	64,558.58	
41. KIT RICH	REIMBURSEMENT FOR JUNE MILEAGE	105.30	
42. LANSING LUGNUTS	85 EMPLOYEES TO ATTEND LUGNUTS GAME 8/9/16	1,788.00	92745
43. LANSING UNIFORM COMPANY	STANDING PO - UNIFORMS	245.70	
	STANDING PO - UNIFORMS	75.00	
	FALL INSPECTION - POLICE SHOES AND BOOTS	149.95	
	STANDING PO - UNIFORMS	35.00	
	TOTAL	505.65	
44. LEAK PETROLEUM EQUIPMENT INC	PROGRAMMING OF PETROKARD	211.16	
45. LEIGHTRONIX INC	CAMTV SYSTEM PARTS & LABOR	368.10	
46. LINDA JONES	REFUND OF CANCELED BOOTH @ ARTS & CRAFTS MKT PLACE	50.00	
47. LONIER FAMILY DENTISTRY DDS	REFUND OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE 2016-013	520.00	
48. MACALLISTER RENTAL	CAT 308 MONTHLY RENTAL/DEMO	2,836.00	
49. MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	TRANS FOR FLEX CKING 7/8/16 PAYROLL	1,234.66	
50. MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP PETTY CASH	REIMBURSE PARKS MAY-JUNE 2016	248.62	
	MILEAGE - ELECTION TRAINING	4.75	
	PARKING - ELECTIONS	7.00	
	MILEAGE CLERK POST OFFICE	6.48	
	MILEAGE CLERK POST OFFICE	3.25	
	MILEAGE CLERK POST OFFICE	11.88	
	MILEAGE UTILITY POST OFFICE	11.88	
	MILEAGE BANKING	7.56	
	MILEAGE HOME TV CONVENTION	8.40	
	PIZZA TV CREW FOR TWP BOARD MEETING	30.00	
	PARKING HOME TV NEWS STORY	2.00	
	MILEAGE CLERK MISC TRAVEL	18.63	
	MILEAGE CLERK POST OFFICE	15.66	
	MILEAGE UTILITY POST OFFICE	9.72	
	APPLES WALKING CLUB	3.99	
	MILEAGE ADMIN MISC TRAVEL	23.40	
	PARKING CLERK CONFERENCE	16.00	
	PARKING TREASURER JEOPARDY TAX ASSESSMENT	10.00	
	IHOP CAMCA BOARD MEETING	8.43	
	PARKING HOME TV MTG MML	1.25	
	MILEAGE ADMIN MISC TRAVEL	15.08	
	MILEAGE CLERK TRAINING	25.38	
	PARKING CLERK EPB TRAINING	6.00	
	MILEAGE UTILITY POST OFFICE	11.88	
	PARKING HOME TV STATE OF MI BLDG MTG	0.75	
	MILEAGE ADMIN MISC TRAVEL	19.98	
	TOTAL	527.97	

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Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
51. MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP RETAINAGE			
	CONCRETE REPAIR CONTRACT 2016	4,345.02	
52. MERIT NETWORK			
	VMWARE VSPHERE AND VCENTER SUPPORT	2,922.20	
53. MICHAEL ELLIS			
	COMPUTER LOAN 52 PAYS	1,216.34	92746
54. MICHIGAN AMATEUR SOFTBALL			
	ADULT SOFTBALL TEAM REGISTRATINS	1,040.00	
55. MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE			
	MEMBERSHIP 9/1/16 TO 8/31/17	8,059.00	
56. MICHIGAN.COM			
	FARM MKT, CELEBRATE MERIDIAN, MERIDIAN FIREWORKS	1,226.84	
	MERIDIAN TC 1309495 & RESOLUTION TC 1309639	645.60	
	TOTAL	1,872.44	
57. MIDWEST POWER EQUIPMENT			
	NEW CHAIN & LABOR ON CHAINSAW	31.20	
58. MIRACLE RECREATION EQUIPMENT CO			
	PAVILION FOR WONCH PARK	42,790.00	
59. MOORE MEDICAL LLC			
	PURCHASE OF BATTERIES	86.25	
	STANDING PO - EMS AMBULANCE SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	814.48	
	STANDING PO - EMS AMBULANCE SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	604.86	
	TOTAL	1,505.59	
60. MOSQUITO SQUAD OF GREATER LANSING			
	MOSQUITO CONTROL FARMS MARKET/ADMINBLDG 2016	175.00	
	MOSQUITO CONTROL FARMS MARKET/ADMINBLDG 2016	175.00	
	MOSQUITO CONTROL NMP	375.00	
	MOSQUITO CONTROL NMP	375.00	
	MOSQUITO CONTROL FARMS MARKET/ADMINBLDG 2016	175.00	
	TOTAL	1,275.00	
61. MOURER FOSTER			
	NOTARY BOND-ADDITIONAL (PRICE INCREASE)	2.70	
62. MUZZALL GRAPHICS			
	BUSINESS CARDS	89.00	
63. NAPA			
	FLEET REPAIR PARTS 2016	59.94	
64. NASH NURSERIES			
	3 TREES PLANTED AT GEORGETOWN	879.87	
65. OFFICEMAX			
	BOOK MEMO WRBND - ACCT#449879	97.80	
66. OKEMOS MARATHON			
	VEHICLE TOWED BUT OWNER PAID	(150.00)	
	01 MERCURY MARINER - TOWING	150.00	
	08 BUICK LACROSSE - TOWING	125.00	
	14 BMW 425I - TOWING	125.00	
	14 BMW 425I - TOWING	155.00	
	07 FORD 500 - TOWING	100.00	
	GAS POLICE DEPT	11.47	
	GAS POLICE DEPT	11.01	
	GAS POLICE DEPT	13.70	
	GAS POLICE DEPT	12.26	
	GAS POLICE DEPT	8.91	
	GAS POLICE DEPT	6.03	
	GAS POLICE DEPT	4.53	
	GAS POLICE DEPT	9.28	
	GAS POLICE DEPT	4.52	
	GAS POLICE DEPT	11.71	
	TOTAL	598.42	
67. OKEMOS PUBLIC SCHOOLS			
	REIMB SALARY FOR SENIOR CENTER STAFF	35,552.21	

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Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
68. OVERHEAD DOOR OF LANSING			
	ADJUST LIMITS ON DOOR #2	170.00	
69. PEOPLEFACTS LLC			
	CREDIT REPORT/SECURITY MONITORING	67.43	
70. POSTMASTER			
	POSTAGE FOR SCOOP MAILING	99.36	92743
71. PRINT MAKERS SERVICE INC			
	KIP CAD COLOR FOR DRAWING MAPS	28.80	
72. PRINTING SYSTEMS INC			
	ABSENTEE BALLOT ENVELOPES FOR AUG/NOV 2016 ELECTIO	1,226.50	
	ABSENTEE BALLOT ENVELOPES FOR AUG/NOV 2016 ELECTIO	1,126.90	
	TOTAL	2,353.40	
73. PROFESSIONAL BENEFITS SERVICES INC			
	FLEX ADMIN - JULY 2016	205.00	
74. RECLAIMED BY DESIGN			
	JULY RECYCLING CENTER SERVICE	2,000.00	
75. SAMIA'S MEDITERRANEAN GOURMET LLC			
	FARM MARKET VENDOR	75.00	
76. SCHROEDER BUILDERS			
	REIMB PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE 5203 TWINGING SIDEWALK	1,735.75	
	REIMB PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE 1578 MAIDEN SIDEWALK	1,250.00	
	TOTAL	2,985.75	
77. SIRCHIE FINGERPRINT LABORATORIES			
	CSI SCHOOL ITEMS HAGBOM/STEBBINS	84.80	
78. SL BECKER			
	REFUND 1/2 PE15-0529 DIFFERENT CONTRACTOR	72.50	
79. SPRINT			
	CELLULAR PHONE SERVICE FOR SGT'S VEHICLES	97.11	
80. STATE OF MICHIGAN			
	SALES TAX FOR CELEBRATE MERIDIAN EVENT	197.35	
	JOINT PERMIT APPL DEQ & US ARMY CORP-TOWNER RD PAR	500.00	92739
	TOTAL	697.35	
81. SUPREME SANITATION			
	PORTABLE TOILET RENTAL	42.40	
	PORTABLE TOILET RENTAL	400.00	
	PORTABLE TOILET RENTAL	160.00	
	PORTABLE TOILET RENTAL	80.00	
	PORTABLE TOILET RENTAL	80.00	
	PORTABLE TOILET RENTAL	80.00	
	PORTABLE TOILET RENTAL	80.00	
	PORTABLE TOILET RENTAL	160.00	
	PORTABLE TOILET RENTAL	80.00	
	PORTABLE TOILET RENTAL	80.00	
	TOTAL	1,242.40	
82. TDS			
	MAIN SYSTEM	1,492.17	
83. THE NEW CITIZENS PRESS			
	ELECTION COVERAGE & BALLOT MERIDIAN 2016	200.00	
84. TVU NETWORKS			
	MONTHLY SERVICE	500.00	
85. US BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE			
	COPIER SERVICE	954.00	
86. VICTORY HEATING & COOLING			
	OVERPM'T PERMIT #PM16-0474	125.00	
87. WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION			
	2 REFRIGERATORS & 2 MICROWAVES	943.76	92747
88. WILBUR HOCHSTETLER			
	FARM MARKET VENDOR	244.00	

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Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
89. ZOLL MEDICAL CORP	STANDING PO - HEART MONITOR SUPPLIES/RESQPOD	270.00	
	REPAIR E-SERIES HEART MONITOR 12-LEAD	703.05	
	TOTAL	973.05	
TOTAL - ALL VENDORS		293,422.43	

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Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
1. AUSTIN GREGORY	REFUND OVERPM'T FINAL #RUHA-001180-0000-02	76.45	
2. AUTO ZONE DEVELOPMENT LLC	REFUND OVERPM'T FINAL #GDRV-002649-0000-01	22.45	
3. BELL TITLE CO	REFUND OVERPM'T #CHEB-001437-0000-01	31.64	
4. CARL SCHLEGEL INC	SAND/GRAVEL/STONE/TOP SOIL	617.09	
5. CATHEY INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES, CO	SEWER CLEANING HOSE WITH SHIPPING	1,973.00	
	BRASS FITINGS FOR HOSE	43.95	
	TOTAL	2,016.95	
6. CITY OF EAST LANSING	JULY - OPERATING & INTERCONNECT COST	217,597.50	
7. COTTAGE GARDENS	HYDRO SEEDER RENTAL AND SUPPLIES	253.19	
8. CRYSTAL TYLER	REFUND OVERPM'T FINAL #TWIN-005195-0000-02	60.85	
9. CUMMINS BRIDGEWAY LLC	MAIN LIFT STATION EMERGENCY	1,994.39	
	ANNUAL GENERATOR MAINTENACE 2016	679.01	
	ANNUAL GENERATOR MAINTENACE 2016	571.97	
	ANNUAL GENERATOR MAINTENACE 2016	571.97	
	ANNUAL GENERATOR MAINTENACE 2016	578.96	
	TOTAL	4,396.30	
10. ERIC BERGAN	REFUND OVERPM'T FINAL #BIRO-003078-0000-03	13.00	
11. GRANGER	STORM SEWER CLEANING	122.50	
12. IDC CORPORATION	WOODHILL LS PANEL REPLACEMENT	17,500.00	
13. JACK DOHENY COMPANIES INC	VACTOR EQUIPMENT	550.00	
14. KAMMINGA & ROODVOETS	CONCRETE REPAIR CONTRACT 2016	16,791.13	
15. ONE WAY ASPHALT PAVING	BITUMINOUS REPAIR CONTRACT 2014-2016	5,821.26	
16. PHILIP & STEFFANI DAHLHOFER	REFUND OVERPM'T FINAL #BASS-001593-0000-02	12.05	
17. RENAISSANCE PROPERTY MGMT	REFUND OVERPM'T #POLL-006231-0000-04	108.65	
	REFUND OVERPM'T FINAL #POLL-006231-0000-04	108.65	
	TOTAL	217.30	
18. SME	SOIL AND MATERIAL TESTING SERVICES	550.00	
19. TRI TITLE AGENCY LLC	REFUND OVERPM'T FINAL #ARBO-004386-000-02	250.00	
	REFUND OVERPM'T FINAL #TIMV-002018-0000-01	149.40	
	TOTAL	399.40	
TOTAL - ALL VENDORS		267,049.06	

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Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
1. EAST LANSING PUBLIC SCHOOLS	SUMMER TAX COLLECTION	44,135.09	11802
2. HASLETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS	2015 PILOT-MARSH POINTE APTS	4,599.64	11790
	SUMMER TAX COLLECTION	74,815.42	11803
	TOTAL	79,415.06	
3. INGHAM COUNTY TREASURER	2015 PILOT-MARSH POINTE APTS	6,702.40	11800
	2015 PILOT-MERIDIAN STRATFORD PLACE	2,917.63	11801
	TOTAL	9,620.03	
4. INGHAM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL	2015 PILOT-MARSH POINTE APTS	2,658.95	11794
	2015 PILOT-MERIDIAN STRATFORD PLACE	1,157.66	11793
	SUMMER TAX & DELINQ PP TAX	328,202.06	11804
	TOTAL	332,018.67	
5. LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE	2015 PILOT-MERIDIAN STRATFORD PLACE	735.98	11795
	2015 PILOT-MARSH POINTE APTS	1,690.66	11796
	DELINQUENT PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX	1,522.51	11805
	TOTAL	3,949.15	
6. MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP DDA	2015 SUMMER/WINTER TAX	266.51	11806
7. NATIONAL LINK	REFUND OVERPMT S-TAX @ 2613 ELDERBERRY	308.09	11807
8. OKEMOS PUBLIC SCHOOLS	2015 PILOT-MERIDIAN STRATFORD PLACE	1,545.03	11797
	SUMMER TAX & DELINQ PP TAX	170,917.58	11808
	TOTAL	172,462.61	
9. STATE OF MICHIGAN	2015 PILOT - MERIDIAN STRATFORD PLACE	7,945.31	11798
	2015 PILOT-MARSH PONITE	18,295.64	11799
	TOTAL	26,240.95	
10. WILLIAMSTON SCHOOLS	SUMMER TAX COLLECTION	5,442.70	11809
TOTAL - ALL VENDORS		673,858.86	

Date	Merchant Name	Amount	Account Name
2016/06/28	ADOBE *CREATIVE CLOUD	\$31.79	DEBORAH GUTHRIE
2016/06/30	AMAZON MKTPLACE PMTS	\$34.95	ANDREA SMILEY
2016/06/30	AMAZON MKTPLACE PMTS	\$48.93	ANDREA SMILEY
2016/06/28	AMAZON MKTPLACE PMTS	\$45.43	CHRISTOPHER DOMEYER
2016/07/06	AMAZON MKTPLACE PMTS	\$33.95	CHRISTOPHER DOMEYER
2016/07/06	AMAZON.COM	\$12.99	CHRISTOPHER DOMEYER
2016/06/28	AMAZON.COM AMZN.COM/BILL	\$35.84	CHRISTOPHER DOMEYER
2016/07/02	AMAZON.COM AMZN.COM/BILL	\$8.89	CHRISTOPHER DOMEYER
2016/07/08	AMAZON.COM AMZN.COM/BILL	\$61.38	CHRISTOPHER DOMEYER
2016/07/05	AMERICAN CYCLE & FIT	\$333.92	GREGORY FRENGER
2016/06/29	BEST BUY 00004168	\$19.99	WADE PRESTONISE
2016/07/11	COMPLETE BATTERY SOURCE	\$21.21	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2016/07/12	COMPLETE BATTERY SOURCE	\$21.21	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2016/07/02	CTC*CONSTANTCONTACT.COM	\$115.00	ANDREA SMILEY
2016/07/12	DICK'S CLOTHING&SPORTING	\$50.00	MICHELLE PRINZ
2016/07/08	DOMINO'S 1206	\$26.99	DEREK BURCHAM
2016/07/05	DOMINO'S 1206	\$40.87	BENJAMIN MAKULSKI
2016/07/05	DROPBOX*YVHVLZBKLLKKT	\$99.00	BENJAMIN MAKULSKI
2016/07/08	DUSTY'S CELLAR CORP	\$60.00	MICHELLE PRINZ
2016/06/30	EATON FARM COOP MASON	\$85.00	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2016/07/01	FACEBK *2EK83AWMT2	\$1.16	DEBORAH GUTHRIE
2016/06/29	FACEBOOK CP9VS8NH22	\$50.08	ANDREA SMILEY
2016/06/30	FACEBOOK FCZ729JH22	\$3.06	ANDREA SMILEY
2016/06/30	FACEBOOK SH7H29NM92	\$77.50	LUANN MAISNER
2016/06/30	FILMFREEWAY.COM	\$75.00	BENJAMIN MAKULSKI
2016/07/07	FLICKR PRO 1 MONTH	\$5.99	ANDREA SMILEY
2016/06/28	FRIENDS GIFT SHOP	\$51.95	MICHELLE PRINZ
2016/07/01	GFS STORE #1901	\$43.14	DARCIE WEIGAND
2016/06/28	HASLETT TRUE VALUE HDW	\$18.56	KEN PUNG
2016/06/28	HASLETT TRUE VALUE HDW	\$18.32	LAWRENCE BOBB
2016/06/30	HASLETT TRUE VALUE HDW	\$1.99	CHRISTOPHER DOMEYER
2016/06/28	HASLETT TRUE VALUE HDW	\$12.71	TOM OXENDER
2016/07/08	IN *SIGN A RAMA	\$37.50	CHRISTOPHER DOMEYER
2016/06/28	JETS PIZZA OF HASLETT	\$31.74	SCOTT DAWSON
2016/06/30	JETS PIZZA OF HASLETT	\$31.74	SCOTT DAWSON
2016/07/07	JETS PIZZA OF HASLETT	\$25.00	JOYCE A MARX
2016/07/01	KIMBALL MIDWEST	\$74.09	TODD FRANK
2016/07/01	KROGER #793	\$6.29	DARCIE WEIGAND
2016/06/30	KUSTOM SIGNALS	\$70.00	GREGORY FRENGER
2016/07/11	LEXISNEXIS RISK SOL EPIC	\$63.75	GREGORY FRENGER
2016/06/28	LIN TELEVISION SALES	\$780.00	DEBORAH GUTHRIE
2016/06/29	MARKS LOCK SHOP INC	\$32.00	DENNIS ANTONE
2016/07/06	MCDONALD'S F19866	\$9.05	ANDREA SMILEY
2016/07/11	MEIJER #253	\$7.89	MICHAEL DEVLIN
2016/06/29	MEIJER INC #025 Q01	\$32.60	CATHERINE ADAMS
2016/07/08	MEIJER INC #025 Q01	\$15.98	DARCIE WEIGAND
2016/07/08	MEIJER INC #025 Q01	\$105.86	DARCIE WEIGAND
2016/07/12	MEIJER INC #025 Q01	\$34.92	MICHELLE PRINZ
2016/07/07	MEIJER INC #025 Q01	\$189.89	MICHAEL DEVLIN
2016/07/11	MEIJER INC #025 Q01	\$26.95	WILLIAM PRIESE
2016/06/30	MEIJER INC #052 Q01	(\$14.99)	PETER VASILION
2016/06/30	MI EMS LICENSE	\$25.00	WILLIAM PRIESE
2016/06/30	MI EMS LICENSE	\$25.00	WILLIAM PRIESE
2016/07/02	MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASS	\$101.00	MICHELLE PRINZ

2016/07/02	MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASS	\$101.00	MICHELLE PRINZ
2016/07/07	MID MICHIGAN EMERGENCY E	\$247.15	TODD FRANK
2016/07/11	MID MICHIGAN EMERGENCY E	\$247.15	TODD FRANK
2016/06/29	MIDWEST POWER EQUIPMEN	\$35.00	LAWRENCE BOBB
2016/07/06	MIDWEST POWER EQUIPMEN	\$163.57	ROBERT STACY
2016/06/30	MIDWEST POWER EQUIPMEN	\$258.00	TODD FRANK
2016/07/08	MONARCH WATCH	\$40.95	JANE GREENWAY
2016/06/28	OFFICEMAX/OFFICEDEPOT #61	\$55.66	CATHERINE ADAMS
2016/07/09	OFFICEMAX/OFFICEDEPOT #61	\$72.18	JOAN HORVATH
2016/06/29	OKEMOS HDWE INC	\$7.42	WILLIAM RICHARDSON
2016/06/29	OKEMOS HDWE INC	\$15.60	WILLIAM PRIESE
2016/06/29	PANCHEROS MEXICAN GRI	\$50.09	SCOTT DAWSON
2016/06/30	PANERA BREAD #715	\$14.20	WILLIAM PRIESE
2016/06/29	PARKING EP/PS	\$5.00	LUANN MAISNER
2016/07/07	POLICE K-9 MAGAZINE LLC	\$34.95	KRISTI SCHAEING
2016/07/12	SHAHEEN CHEVROLET	\$202.50	TODD FRANK
2016/07/06	SOLDAN'S FEEDS & PET S	\$5.17	CATHERINE ADAMS
2016/07/11	SOLDAN'S FEEDS & PET S	\$10.43	CATHERINE ADAMS
2016/07/05	SS STORAGE JOLLY	\$136.00	DENNIS ANTONE
2016/07/11	TARGET 00003657	\$25.00	JOYCE A MARX
2016/07/07	TEAM LANSING FNDRN	\$20.00	ANDREA SMILEY
2016/07/07	TEAM LANSING FNDRN	\$20.00	ANDREA SMILEY
2016/06/28	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$32.77	DARCIE WEIGAND
2016/06/28	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$155.28	LAWRENCE BOBB
2016/06/30	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$19.36	LAWRENCE BOBB
2016/07/05	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$50.82	LAWRENCE BOBB
2016/06/29	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$11.40	ROBERT STACY
2016/07/01	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$8.98	ROBERT STACY
2016/06/29	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$66.82	JOE VANDOMMELEN
2016/07/01	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$10.95	PETER VASILION
2016/07/05	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$14.44	PETER VASILION
2016/07/11	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$12.73	PETER VASILION
2016/07/09	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$30.89	MARK VROMAN
2016/07/05	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$39.88	KYLE WILKINS
2016/07/08	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$7.97	JANE GREENWAY
2016/06/28	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$25.69	ROBERT MACKENZIE
2016/07/11	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$15.99	WILLIAM PRIESE
2016/07/08	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$25.67	KEITH HEWITT
2016/07/11	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$109.54	KEITH HEWITT
2016/07/07	USSI	\$558.00	DEBORAH GUTHRIE
2016/07/11	WAL-MART #2866	\$58.91	LAWRENCE BOBB
2016/06/29	WAL-MART #2866	\$28.66	CHRISTOPHER DOMEYER
2016/07/03	WALGREENS #11286	\$5.98	MARK VROMAN
2016/07/07	WALGREENS #11286	\$8.97	MARK VROMAN
2016/07/08	WW GRAINGER	\$86.20	CHRISTOPHER DOMEYER

\$6,410.98

ACH Transactions

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
06/30/16	Horizon	230.00	Bank Service Charge
07/05/16	MCT- PW	266.00	Pmt of Water/Sewer Bills
07/07/16	Various Financial Institutions	244,926.10	Direct Deposit 7/8 Payroll
07/07/16	IRS	94,187.12	Payroll Taxes 7/8 Payroll
07/07/16	ICMA	31,205.47	Payroll Deductions 7/8 Payroll
07/12/16	MERS	32,579.78	Employee Retirement
	Total ACH Payments	<u><u>403,394.47</u></u>	

Petty Cash		May-June 2016		Service Center			
Number	Date	Name	reason	Account Number	Amount	Initials	
980	5/11/2016	Robin Faust	mileage	101-750-753-870-000	\$17.28	rjf	
981	5/16/2016	Kelsey Dillion	mileage	209-000-000-870-000	\$28.62	rjf	
982	5/18/2016	Jane Greenway	mileage	209-000-000-728-000	\$22.14	rjf	
983	5/20/2016	Sheldon Weiss	mileage	101-750-754-882-500	\$14.37	rjf	
984	5/20/2016	Robin Faust	mileage	208-750-753-870-000	\$22.68	rjf	
985	5/28/2016	Jane Greenway	postage	208-750-753-728-000	\$10.00	rjf	
986	6/10/2016	Sheldon Weiss	mileage	101-750-754-882-500	\$27.22	rjf	
987	6/10/2016	Jane Greenway	mileage	208-750-753-870-000	\$27.54	rjf	
988	6/13/2016	Sheldon Weiss	ice for Celebrate	211-000-000-892-500	\$7.98	rjf	
989	6/13/2016	Sheldon Weiss	pizza for playground prog	101-750-754-882-500	\$5.00	rjf	
990	6/20/2016	Kelsey Dillion	mileage	209-000-000-870-000	\$27.76	rjf	
991	6/27/2016	Sheldon Weiss	mileage	101-750-754-882-500	\$13.61	rjf	
992	6/29/2016	Sheldon Weiss	ice, milage, parking	101-750-754-882-500	\$22.42	rjf	
			playground program trip				
993	6/29/2016	Kit Rich	parking	208-750-756-870-000	\$2.00		
		Total			\$248.62		
		Petty Cash Drawer			\$1.38		
				GRAND TOTAL	\$250.00		

cash change
20.00
10.00
5.00
1.00
7.00
loose coins
0.25 1.50
0.10 0.40
0.05 0.30
0.01 0.05
Total 9.25

Cash Drawer
rolled coins

0.25 0.00
0.10 0.00
0.05 0.00
0.01 0.50
cash
20.00 0.00
10.00 110.00
5.00 100.00
1.00 37.00

loose coins

0.25 1.00
0.10 1.00
0.05 0.50
0.01 0.00

Total

250.00

OK

6/30/16

* = 82.62
** = 56.38
*** = 50.22

mmm
7-5-16

07/14/2016 09:21 AM
User: hudecek
DB: Meridian

INVOICE APPROVAL BY INVOICE REPORT FOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
EXP CHECK RUN DATES 07/19/2016 - 07/19/2016
BOTH JOURNALIZED AND UNJOURNALIZED
BOTH OPEN AND PAID

Vendor Code	Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
PETTYCASH	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP PETTY CASH			
4694		MILEAGE - ELECTION TRAINING	4.75	
4695		PARKING - ELECTIONS	7.00	
4696		MILEAGE CLERK POST OFFICE	6.48	
4697		MILEAGE CLERK POST OFFICE	3.25	
4698		MILEAGE CLERK POST OFFICE	11.88	
4699		MILEAGE UTILITY POST OFFICE	11.88	
4700		MILEAGE BANKING	7.56	
4701		MILEAGE HOME TV CONVENTION	8.40	
4702		PIZZA TV CREW FOR TWP BOARD MEETING	30.00	
4703		PARKING HOME TV NEWS STORY	2.00	
4704		MILEAGE CLERK MISC TRAVEL	18.63	
4705		MILEAGE CLERK POST OFFICE	15.66	
4706		MILEAGE UTILITY POST OFFICE	9.72	
4707		APPLES WALKING CLUB	3.99	
4708		MILEAGE ADMIN MISC TRAVEL	23.40	
4709		PARKING CLERK CONFERENCE	16.00	
4710		PARKING TREASURER JEOPARDY TAX ASSESSMENT	10.00	
4711		IHOP CAMCA BOARD MEETING	8.43	
4712		PARKING HOME TV MTG MML	1.25	
4713		MILEAGE ADMIN MISC TRAVEL	15.08	
4714		MILEAGE CLERK TRAINING	25.38	
4715		PARKING CLERK EPB TRAINING	6.00	
4716		MILEAGE UTILITY POST OFFICE	11.88	
4717		PARKING HOME TV STATE OF MI BLDG MTG	0.75	
4718		MILEAGE ADMIN MISC TRAVEL	19.98	
TOTAL FOR: MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP PETTY CASH			279.35	
TOTAL - ALL VENDORS			279.35	

mmmm
7-14-16

MEMORANDUM

9. D

TO: Township Board
FROM: Frederick B. Cowper
Frederick B. Cowper, Fire Chief
DATE: July 13, 2016
RE: **Ratification of Part-Time Paramedic/Firefighter Appointments**

The Township Board approved the use of part-time Paramedic/Firefighter personnel to supplement our full-time roster. The program is operating successfully with cooperation from full-time staff.

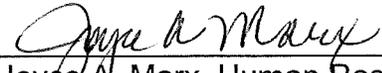
The following candidates are presented for approval:

- **Steven Davich**
 - Steven completed the paramedic and fire programs at Lansing Community College and holds a bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University.
 - Steven has one year of emergency services experience working at Clinton Area Ambulance Service Authority and LSW Emergency Services in Laingsburg. He is also a Headquarters Platoon Sergeant in the Michigan Army National Guard.
- **Brett Moore**
 - Brett completed the paramedic program at Schoolcraft College and the fire academy at Oakland Community College.
 - Brett worked four years for Community EMS in Southfield and has fire experience working for Leelanau Township Emergency Services.

MOVE TO RATIFY THE APPOINTMENTS OF STEVEN DAVICH AND BRETT MOORE TO THE POSITION OF PART-TIME PARAMEDIC/FIREFIGHTER.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Township Board

FROM: 
Joyce A. Marx, Human Resources Director

DATE: July 14, 2016

RE: **Request to Purchase MERS Generic Credited Service**

Fire Captain William Richardson is requesting to purchase MERS service time. Captain Richardson began employment with Meridian Township on January 4, 1999.

The Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS) requires the governing body to approve the application for the additional credited service. Below is a motion for Board approval:

MOVE TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM FIRE CAPTAIN WILLIAM RICHARDSON TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL CREDITED SERVICE AS PROVIDED BY THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM PLAN DOCUMENT. CAPTAIN RICHARDSON IS REQUESTING TO PURCHASE SIX MONTHS WORTH OF SERVICE.

Attachment:
Resolution Granting Additional Credited Service

**APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL CREDITED SERVICE
Member Certification and Governing Body Resolution**

GOVERNING BODY RESOLUTION

As provided by the MERS Plan Document, and in accordance with the Employer's policy there under, the additional credited service described above is hereby granted this Member by Resolution of the Governing Body of Meridian Chtr Twp, at its meeting on _____. The Employer understands this is an estimated cost, calculated using actuarial assumptions approved by the Retirement Board. Any difference between the assumptions and actual experience will affect the true cost of the additional service. For example, changes in benefit programs through adoption or transfer of the affected employee to a division with 'better' benefits; increases in wages other than 4.5% per year; and changes to the anticipated date of termination, will affect the actual cost of the additional service (increase or decrease). Thus, actual future events and experience may result in changes different than those assumed, and liability different than that estimated. The Employer understands and agrees that it is accountable for any difference between estimated and actual costs.

Signature of Authorized Official from Meridian Chtr
Twp

Date

MERS Use Only

Payment Received:	Member Payment:
Service Credited:	ER Payment:
Signed:	

PAYMENT OPTIONS

The Member's share of the cost may be any amount from zero up to the total estimated actuarial cost, and is due at the time of purchase. The Employer's share is the balance of the total estimated actuarial cost not paid by the Member, and must be paid in a lump sum at the time of purchase.

STEPS FOR PROCESSING APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL SERVICE CREDIT

1. The cost estimate (Application for Additional Service Credit) is **valid for 2 months from the calculation date.**
2. If you are paying for the additional service by a rollover distribution from another pension plan (or traditional IRA), you must follow these steps:
 - Contact the other plan administrator (or trustee) to determine their rules for a distribution of your funds.
 - Complete the form "Certification of Qualified Rollover to MERS". After plan administrator signs form, return the completed original to MERS.
 - Send signed, approved Application for Additional Service Credit to MERS prior to sending any payment.
 - MERS' Finance Department will provide wiring instructions, if needed.
3. If you have any questions, please call MERS Employee and Retiree Services at 800-767-2308, or go to www.mersofmich.com. MERS is a tax-qualified plan under section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, pursuant to IRS Letter of Favorable Determination dated June 15, 2005.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO THIS CALCULATION

If you will be rolling-over funds from a qualified plan to complete this purchase, additional forms are required. Please visit www.mersofmich.com, click on "forms" to download a copy of form #38, "Certification of Qualified Fund Rollover to MERS" (General) with Instructions.

12A

**CLERK'S OFFICE
BOARD COMMUNICATIONS
JULY 19, 2016**

Board Deliberations (BD)

July 2, 2016

Mr. Frank Walsh, Manager
Charter Township of Meridian
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864-1198

Dear Mr. Walsh:

On March 22, 2016 a meeting was held at Meridian Township where CATA made a presentation about their BRT Proposal and numerous concerned residents and businesses voiced objections to the BRT. We were told at that meeting if citizens spoke loudly the Board could reflect the voice of the public body and pass a Resolution that says we are opposed to the BRT proposal based on the respective comments.

This outcry has continued from businesses and residents in the form of letters to the Township, FTA, MDOT, CATA, State Senators, Representatives and comments at Board Meetings, etc. Based on the overwhelming serious concerns expressed by Meridian Township taxpayers for CATA's current BRT Plan we encourage the Board to pass a Resolution stating they cannot support CATA's proposal at this time.

CATA needs to make significant modifications to the BRT proposed in Meridian Township that address concerns voiced repeated, loudly and clearly by businesses, residents, (including visually impaired, handicapped and elderly), before the Township Board can go forward in good conscious supporting CATA's proposal for the Township.

Whether these changes are made through a focus group or some other forum, it's time that collaborative efforts take place between CATA and the local businesses and public who have been excluded from the planning process and have voiced on-going concerns. A trained neutral mediator should run these meetings, which would obviously exclude anyone who was in the original planning process for the existing BRT plan.

Please share this letter with the Meridian Township Board. Thank you for your time and consideration. Should you have questions, please feel free to e-mail us at collettec1@gmail.com.

Sincerely,



Bill and Chris Collette

JUL 19 2016

BD 12A-1

JUL 19 2016

Sandy Otto

From: mpatty@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 8:26 PM
To: Frank Walsh; Board
Subject: Follow Up BRT
Attachments: BRT - Frank Walsh questions.docx

Good Evening: Mr. Frank Walsh and Meridian Township Board Members -
Thank you for allowing me to share my concerns. As I mentioned, I would send a written follow up about the questions I raised during the comment portion of the meeting Tuesday, July 5th - Here you go....

Nice to see you in the neighborhood - we love it here!
Thank you for your time - Patty McPhee

JUL 19 2016

B) 12A-2

JUL 19 2016

July 6, 2016

Mr. Frank Walsh
Meridian Township Manager
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

Dear Mr. Walsh:

Thank you for allowing me to speak at the Township Board Regular Meeting last night. I have some specific points and questions that I mentioned has come up as these meetings evolve.

You mentioned at the Haslett Community Meeting, June 22nd, that most people in the community already know about the CATA BRT. I respectfully need to disagree from what I'm seeing in my community, school and church groups. I was mildly aware of some talk of a rail system but no idea this BRT design was coming to Meridian Twp. I consider myself pretty informed and had no clue. I'm fairly confident you can produce evidence of public notification – not disputing this. I follow the social media and email notifications from the township. I've only seen Redi Ride meetings over and over – nothing about the BRT. Perhaps the township can start this conversation with updated information and links to get our community informed again.

Secondly, I mentioned that I previously asked if the Planning Commission report that the township paid for had any data to support more riders on the BRT? I haven't heard anything from the township about this. I did get the Big Green data that doesn't support the need for the BRT. I also heard very clear from CATA riders about their needs: extending routes east and hours on weekends. I've heard some support the BRT and many not supporting losing 17 stops. Drago's answer to this was use Redi Ride... No financial agenda for her there. Obviously, Redi Ride is a more efficient and effective use of our money. Adding, the BRT will shutter businesses along this corridor. Businesses pay high taxes to the Twp!!

My final question that mostly concerns me. You've kicked the can down the road in hopes a committee can review this and come to a decision by the end of the year. I'm hearing that Meridian Twp support or opposition will mean nothing – it's already going to happen. Furthermore, I've heard that CATA has already spent 30% of the funding. Can you confirm that Meridian Twp board will have a vote that means it comes or not?? Five of the board members are opposed to this – why drag this out??

I worry that future millage votes are going to be affected by this if we don't make the best decision for our community. We are Michigan residents – the automobile state and we drive cars. We need to effectively care for our residents that utilize the CATA system not some political or financial driven transportation system in my opinion. Thank you for your valuable time on this matter.

Sincerely,

Patty McPhee
5275 Thames Drive
Haslett, MI 48840

JUL 19 2016

BD 12A-2
(page 2 of 2)

JUL 19 2016

Sandy Otto

From: Julie Brixie
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2016 9:28 AM
To: kjdevito@comcast.net; Board
Subject: Re: City Pulse RADIO interview of JB

Ms. Devito,

My comments in the radio interview pertained to the March meeting, not June meeting.

Julie Brixie
Meridian Township Treasurer
5151 Marsh Rd.
Okemos, MI 48864
517-853-4144

On Thu, Jul 7, 2016 at 9:15 AM -0400, "kjdevito@comcast.net" <kjdevito@comcast.net> wrote:

From: kjdevito@comcast.net
To: "K DeVito" <kjdevito@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2016 9:12:18 AM
Subject: Fwd: City Pulse RADIO interview of JB

Subject: City Pulse RADIO interview of JB

MerTwp board meeting Tuesday brought complaints about the City Pulse article re the last board mtg. Here's some info...

<http://lansingcitypulse.com/imgs/hed/13356.mp3>

JB is interviewed first - for 11 mins. by Berl Schwartz.

JUL 19 2016

BD 12A-3

JUL 19 2016

You really do need to listen to hear what she has to say about the board members in this interview along with what she claims happened at the June 21st township meeting.

Remember Julie Brixie said we all should listen to the interview to clear up what she said in the article which written. Didn't she say the article was taken basically out of context of what she said on the radio? Maybe she should of listened to it again before telling us to listen to it.

I like what Berl Schwartz said towards the end, he is just finding out about the BRT and Redi Ride.

Thank you for your time,
Kathy DeVito

the '**heckling**' issue of the paper version of the Pulse...

<http://npaper-wehaa.com/citypulse>

it may change if another issue comes out.
this was from weds, **june 29 - july 5.**

general city pulse radio page...

<http://lansingcitypulse.com/flex-84-radio-show.html>

JUL 19 2016

BD 12A-3
(page 2 of 2)

JUL 19 2016

July 10, 2016

Trustees
Meridian Charter Township

I have not commented on the draft proposal of the CATA/Bart System. The reason I have not commented is because Meridian Township has not furnished the information to the property owners and/or taxpayers which is necessary to make an informed decision.

In order for property owners or taxpayers to determine if the draft plan is acceptable, Meridian Township must commission a "traffic impact study" for those individuals.

The comprehensive "traffic impact study" must include the following information:

- Impact on the ingress and egress from the business properties including left turn access to properties.
- Any anticipated decrease in traffic volume for businesses, to include those with drive-through establishments.

JUL 19 2016

JD 12A-4

JUL 19 2016

- Study to include impact on property values and commercial leases.
- Report needs to include population projections for the next twenty five years. Would an increase in traffic volume on Grand River Avenue cause a need of additional lanes?
- What alternative routes or new roads are planned to accommodate the decrease in traffic lanes.

The Meridian Township Trustees have a fiduciary responsibility to provide a "traffic impact study" for the property owners and/or taxpayers.

It is unconscionable for anyone to support or vote on the CATA/Bart proposal prior to having the impact study.

I believe the most important responsibility of a Trustee is to represent the taxpayers before and other entity.


James Spanos

JUL 19 2016

BD 12A-4
(page 2 of 2)

JUL 19 2016

5400 Park Lake Road
Eaast Lanssing, MI 48823
5 July 2016

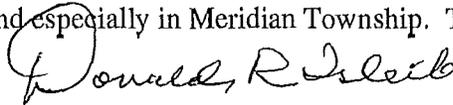
Meridian Township Board of Trustees:

I write to request you to put the Meridian Township Board of Trustees on record in opposition to the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) proposed by CATA.

Although CATA has been investing in planning BRT for many years, I am only recently informed regarding the BRT proposal and I believe it presumes a regional and Meridian Township planning role by CATA - an unelected body appointed by the mayor of Lansing. It seeks \$130 million of taxpayer (federal) money to resolve needs and problems conceived by CATA's contractor, UNC Co., and in my opinion will exacerbate both vehicular and pedestrian traffic problems on its corridor. To me - it appears to be a solution for a problem which does not exist.

While I support public transportation and have voted for CATA millages in the past, I believe BRT to be a grandiose scheme to create greater stature for CATA and not in the best interest of the public, including riders of existing CATA Rte 1.

I urge you to oppose BRT in its entirety and especially in Meridian Township. Thank you for your consideration of my request.



Donald R. Isleib
5400 Park Lake Road
Meridian Township

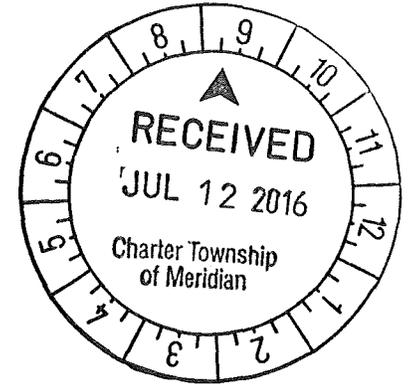
JUL 19 2016

BD 12A-5

JUL 19 2016

June 27, 2016

Jody Washington, 1st Ward Councilmember
Lansing City Council
124 W. Michigan Ave.
10th Floor City Hall
Lansing, MI 48933



Dear Councilmember Washington,

We, the ownership, management and staff of Jon Anthony Florist, would like to express our concerns about the proposed Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system for the Michigan Avenue/Grand River Avenue corridor.

We have been in business in Lansing since 1941 and at our current location of 809 E. Michigan Avenue since 1947. It is our understanding that the BRT project would include a median being installed in front of our shop. Our business is in no small part a delivery business. A median in front of our shop would mean our delivery drivers would no longer be able to make a left turn out of or into our drive. This would add mileage and man-hours to every route – yes, a small amount each time, but we make several trips a day, and those tenths of a mile and minutes will add up.

Additionally, it is our understanding that curbside parking will be eliminated. As it is, we already have a small problem of our parking lot being used by non-customers, primarily after-hours. Eliminating curbside parking would exacerbate this problem and may force us to install gates (there are three entrances to our lot, and each would need a gate) or hire a lot attendant – and we are not convinced in the least that this BRT project will increase our business at all, much less enough to offset either expense.

Furthermore, judging by CATA's own images of the proposed reconfiguration of Michigan Avenue, there will be only one lane of traffic each way, with the road only widening to two lanes approaching intersections. Though CATA may claim (in a PDF they have posted about the BRT) that "auto use along the corridor has declined", as people who travel this corridor many times a day we find this very doubtful. While we agree that conditions could be improved, we believe that reducing the number of lanes of automobile traffic down to one in each direction is the antithesis of a solution.

We feel that a BRT system is ill-suited to the region. Many of the people who work in this area are not locals but live in outlying communities. They must drive their own vehicles to get in to Lansing or East Lansing, so when they shop at the nearby businesses after work they will again use their cars, not a bus. And with the plan calling for fewer bus stops, meaning a longer walk to and from the nearest stop in many cases, it seems unlikely to encourage any more bus travel by locals either.

Perhaps some day redesigning the streets for a significant decrease in automobile traffic and a significant increase in bus travel will make sense. But for the foreseeable future, we feel this plan is Pollyannaish and not a reflection of reality.

Thank you for your consideration.

Patricia A. Holliday, President of Jon Anthony Florist

A large, cursive handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Patricia A. Holliday".

CC: CATA Board of Directors; Meridian Township Board of Trustees; Michigan Department of Transportation; Federal Transit Administration; Representative Tim Kelly, Michigan House of Representatives

JUL 19 2016

BJ 12A-6

JUL 19 2016

Brett Dreyfus

From: Sue Pigg <spigg@mitcrpc.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2016 3:57 PM
To: Board
Subject: FW: Summer Mid-Michigan Clean Cities News

Dear Meridian Township Board members:

In keeping with my promise to share, please consider the attached newsletter. The Greater Lansing Clean Cities Coalition has been an advocate for clean air and alternative fuels use in the mid-Michigan region for more than 10 years. Their recent newsletter includes a story about Bus Rapid Transit systems.

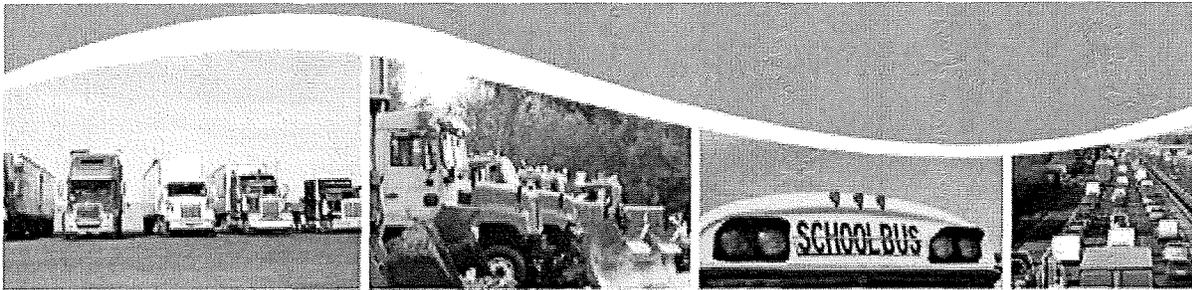


Susan M. C. Pigg, CEcD.
Executive Director
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission
3135 Pine Tree Rd, Ste. 2C, Lansing, MI 48911
spigg@mitcrpc.org P: (517) 393-0342 C:517-881-9659
www.mitcrpc.org or www.Facebook.com/TriCountyPlanning

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL
PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Mid-Michigan's Future Together Since 1956

From: Greater Lansing Area Clean Cities [mailto:Greater_Lansing_Area_Clean_Citie@mail.vresp.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2016 3:02 PM
To: Sue Pigg
Subject: Summer Mid-Michigan Clean Cities News



GLACC Newsletter: Summer 2016

Summer is here and we welcome time outdoors, breathing in an abundance of clean air! We're excited to work with you, our stakeholders, to grow the market for alternative fuels and vehicles. Together, we're creating a more energy secure future and supporting healthy air quality!

In this issue:

- Question Of The Month
- Issues

JUL 19 2016

B) 12A-7

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- Events
- Membership Benefits

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

???????

Question Of The Month

???????

Can Emergency Vehicles Use Alternative Fuels?

Yes! The Alternative Fuels Data Center (AFDC) Case Studies database offers several examples of the various ways emergency vehicles can utilize cleaner, domestic fuels. Some case studies that may be helpful are listed below:

- **MedCorp Fuels Emergency Vehicles With Propane in Ohio**
(<http://www.afdc.energy.gov/case/5>)
- **Rio Rico Fire District Turns Grease Into Biodiesel**
(<http://www.afdc.energy.gov/case/443>)
- **Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Powers Law Enforcement in Arkansas**
(<http://www.afdc.energy.gov/case/1208>)

In addition, the following articles and information may be helpful:

- **CNG:**
 - **Boisser City, IA Police:** 2016 Ford Alternative Fuel Buyers Guide () includes a case study on page 11 about the Boisser City Fire Department's use of CNG. More info: <http://www.cngnow.com/news/post.aspx?id=713>
 - **Palm Springs, CA Police:** This fleet operates one CNG police patrol car. More info: http://www.usgasvehicles.com/news_detalle.php?id=753
 - **Apopka, FL Police:** This fleet has 15 CNG vehicles, most of which are police vehicles. More info: http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/2009-11-07/news/0911060089_1_natural-gas-natural-gas-diesel-fuel
 - **Kansas City, MO Police:** This fleet has two CNG Chevrolet Impala police cars for commanders and detectives. More

info: http://www.usgasvehicles.com/news_detalle.php?id=1124

- **Biodiesel:**

- **Fayetteville, AR Fire:** The Fayetteville Fire Department is using B20 in their emergency response vehicle fleet. The fire department has several emergency response vehicles where all but two of them run on B20.
- **San Francisco, CA Fire:** The San Francisco Fire Department's Biodiesel Program has converted six fire engines, two fire trucks, and 22 emergency response ambulances to run on B20. More info: <http://www.sf-fire.org/index.aspx?page=1005> Note: Much of the San Francisco city and county fleet has or will be switching to renewable diesel. See: <http://www.biodieselmagazine.com/articles/645306/san-francisco-fleets-complete-switch-to-renewable-diesel>

Idle-reduction technologies are also a great option for emergency vehicles and petrol conservation. See Argonne National Laboratory's fact sheet on Idling Reduction for Emergency and Other Service Vehicles.

ISSUES

US Biofuels Producers Overrun by Imports

At a time when crops are cheap and domestic demand for biodiesel has never been better, the industry is shrinking. Imports from places such as Argentina, Singapore and South Korea ballooned to a record 538 million gallons last year from just 7 million in 2009, while the United States has idled half its three billion gallons of production capacity, industry data show.

U.S. producers are concerned that the government is squandering a domestic resource by growing more dependent on foreign supplies of alternative fuels, said Ben Evans, a spokesman for the National Biodiesel Board, a trade group based in Jefferson City, Mo. "It really suppresses the market when you have cheaper subsidized imports," Evans said. "We consider them predatory."

Read the full story at: [Cedar Rapids Gazette](#)

Bus Rapid Transit Fits Mid-sized Cities

A peer-reviewed study released earlier this year found that bus rapid transit projects (BRT) are particularly beneficial for mid-sized communities, like Lansing/East

Lansing.

Indianapolis' former Mayor Gregory Ballard, for example, has noted that a new bus rapid transit network is one of his city's primary economic competitiveness strategies.

"170,000 employees work within walking distance of our planned Red Line bus rapid transit service — one out of every five employees in the region," Mayor Ballard said. "Providing a way to connect more people to more jobs in the region via a lower-cost, fast, flexible transportation option like bus rapid transit is a smart economic move to ensure that our growing region prospers for years to come."

Read more about this study at: <http://tinyurl.com/z8zjk2u>

More on CATA's BRT project is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/jbz968c>

EVENTS



Renewable Diesel Webinar **July 18, 2016 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Robert McCormick from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory will lead this presentation and provide clear definitions of hydrocarbon renewable diesel, and describe the most prevalent form on the market today - including a top level overview of production processes, fuel properties, and emissions effects. Pump labeling requirements, public availability, fleet use, and imports will also be discussed.

Registration is required. To attend, [register for the webinar with GoToWebinar](#).

2016 STN EXPO & Green Bus Summit
July 23 - 27, 2016, Reno, NV

The 23rd annual North American School Bus EXPO Conference & Trade Show — known as the STN EXPO and presented by School Transportation News magazine will host more than 700 transportation professionals nationwide who want to learn the latest trends in training, products and services as well as how to produce better, more quantifiable results from their transportation team and operations.

The STN EXPO focuses on distinct areas of student transportation, covering the latest trends and issues, through more than three-dozen educational sessions. In 2015, the STN EXPO launched the Green Bus Summit, an all-day symposium aimed to educate and inform attendees on bus operator and fleet director knowledge of alternative fuels. The Green Bus Summit returns this year as its own workshop track integrated into the STN EXPO main workshop conference schedule.

For more information, visit the conference website.

Midwest Green Fleets Forum & Expo
Sept. 26, 2016 – Sept. 28, 2016, Columbus, OH

Clean Fuels Ohio is hosting the second annual Midwest Green Fleets Forum & Expo Sept. 26-28, 2016 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. This multi-day event is designed so fleets receive peer-to-peer advice on the best green fleet practices that save money and reduce emissions. The event also includes tours of nearby industry sites, an education center focused on efficiency technologies hosted by the North American Council for Freight Efficiency and the Ohio Trucking Association, an alt fuels ride-and-drive, and a vendor expo of more than 50 industry leaders. **GLACC members are eligible for a discount on registration.**

For more information, visit the [show website](#).

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS FEATURE



JUL 19 2016

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(page 5 of 6)

JUL 19 2016

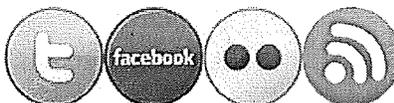
Discounts to Fleet Events

GLACC members have access to discounts on registration to key fleet events throughout the year. For example, Clean Cities members are eligible for discounted registration to the Midwest Green Fleets Forum & Expo in Columbus, OH in September. Contact maggie@michigancleancities.org to learn more. Watch these newsletters for listings of events with discounts for members. Make sure you don't lose out on this member benefit: renewing your organization or individual membership today at our website.

Marketing Opportunities

Motorweek Offers National Exposure for Clean Cities Fleets

Fleets that participate in Clean Cities coalitions may be selected to feature clean vehicle projects on Motorweek. Fair Oaks Dairy, in Indiana, is the latest fleet to receive exposure for their expansive renewable natural gas effort, which fuels their long-haul fleet. This feature will air nationally on PBS on July 9. Check local listings for airtimes. Watch more Clean Cities Motorweek features on the Clean Cities YouTube channel.



[Click to view this email in a browser](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

Greater Lansing Area Clean Cities
3135 Pine Tree Rd.
Suite 2C
Lansing, Michigan 48911
USA

vertical DELIVERED BY
response
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July 14, 2016

Dear Meridian Township Board,

Much controversy surrounds the proposed CATA BRT, especially with regard to how it might impact Meridian Township. Tempers are flaring on both sides of the issue. Accusations of “bullying” and “fear mongering” have been flung at the anti-BRT side by some on the pro-BRT side, the anti-BRT faction claims that preventing left turns along Grand River will be the death knell of businesses, and in the latest “skirmish” to erupt, I have been informed just today that several “STOP CATA’s BRT” signs placed along Grand River in the township have been knocked down or trampled. This is not how democracy is supposed to work in a civil society. I am a firm believer in the proposition that decision making, or more precisely, the formulation of opinions upon which to base decisions, should be based on facts (empirical evidence) rather than on “feelings” of what we “know” to be true. The only thing worse than basing opinions on incorrect facts is basing opinions on “facts” that just aren’t true. It is in the spirit of getting the “facts” on the table that I am writing to you, and hopefully by coincidence, the others who have formulated opinions on whether the BRT is good for Meridian Township.

When I first heard of the intent to place a median along Grand River my reaction was one that seems to have been universally shared by others. Namely that preventing left turns except at signalized intersections would be devastating to businesses and a major inconvenience for automobile-based shoppers/customers. Every bone in my body said that this had to be true; common sense leads to no other conclusion. But common sense also tells me that a Boeing-747 should never be able to get off the ground! So I went digging to uncover evidence that medians were bad for businesses. After finding more than 20 relevant resources (listed at the end of this letter) and perusing them all, the preponderance of evidence shows that, in general, the introduction of medians does not have a negative economic impact on the businesses where a median was present. One study in particular:

(<https://www.udot.utah.gov/main/uconowner.gf?n=4511209509821664>) stated the following:

“Analysis showed that in every case there was no evidence that the installation of a raised median had a negative impact on retail sales. It is important to note that this does not mean that each and every business within the corridor did better following installation of the median.”

What they did find was that business owners’ perception of negative impacts were not realized following the installation of medians:

“The comparison of sales data to business owner survey results showed that perception (of individual businesses) often did not reflect reality (of the corridor as a whole). This was particularly true in regards to sales. On study corridors, business owners reported neutral to negative perceptions of sales impacts, however, sales tax data shows an overall increase of 32 percent on the corridor.”

A review of several studies on the impact of raised medians identified the particular types of businesses that tend to be negatively impacted by the presence of medians: “Destination type businesses, such as certain restaurants and specialty stores, appear less sensitive to access changes than businesses that rely primarily on pass-by traffic, such as gas stations or convenience stores.”

(<http://transportation.ky.gov/Congestion-Toolbox/Documents/Economic%20Impacts%20Compilation%20Report.pdf>)

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BY 12A-8

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Incidentally, the above Utah DOT study is one of many listed on the CATA-BRT Public Information webpage (<http://cata-brt.org/public-information/>). I wonder how many “stakeholders” have bothered to actually look at and read the information posted there?

A second objection is that having a median and allowing left-/U-turns only at signalized intersections will result in excessive additional travel time and distance in order to access destinations on the opposite side of the road. Below is a table of the distances (as measured on Google Earth) between proposed BRT stations (with signalized intersections allowing U-turns):

Distance between U-turns	
Segment	Miles
Brookfield - Northwind	0.20
Northwind - Park Lake	0.29
Park Lake - Campus Hill	0.33
Campus Hill - Montrose	0.34
Montrose - Okemos	0.36

As seen in the table, the longest additional distance one would have to travel to access a destination on the opposite side of Grand River would be less than 0.72 miles (for instance exiting the Urgent Care facility just east of Montrose on the south side of Grand River to get to the dentist on the north side of Grand River opposite Midas Muffler would be an additional 0.38 miles). In the vast majority of cases, the additional travel time/distance would be considerably less. In fact, better access management (i.e. off-corridor connectivity between properties) along Grand River could ameliorate almost all of the “inconvenience” of no left-turns. Traffic lights, stop signs, and other traffic control measures are all an “inconvenience”, but we are willing to tolerate them in the interest of overall smoother traffic flow and safety. And as long as we’re on the topic of safety, there is no controversy among highway and traffic engineers that raised medians improve safety on heavily traveled corridors with more than 20,000 or so annual average daily vehicle trips.

A third objection is that by decreasing the number of bus stops, riders will have to travel (unreasonably) farther to reach the BRT stations than they do now to reach a current CATA stop and the corollary that the reduced number of stops is the sole reason for the transit time decreases estimated by CATA for the BRT versus the current bus system. As pointed out by Treasurer Brixie, most of the decrease in the number of stops is because: 1) the current eastbound and westbound stops on opposite sides of Grand River are being combined and counted as one stop (even though in some cases there will still be two station platforms), and 2) current stops that are in close proximity to proposed stations are being eliminated (for instance 4 stops nearby Northwind Drive and 4 stops nearby Montrose are each being consolidated into a single BRT station). So how much farther would someone have to go to get to a BRT station as compared to the current CATA stops? Below is a table showing the maximum distance between proposed stations and current stops. Distances were measured on Google Earth and include the distance to cross to the median and enter the station. The only distance that does not conform to this method is the distance from the current westbound station in front of McDonalds/Taco Bell to the Meridian Mall station, where I mapped a path that cuts across the Best Buy and Meridian Mall parking lots:

Proposed BRT station	Longest distance from current CATA stop (miles)	
	Eastbound	Westbound
Brookfield	0.11	0.07
Northwind	0.08	0.21
Campus Hill	0.03	0.07
Montrose	0.16	0.31
Meijer	0.32	-
Meridian Mall	-	0.33

While in most cases the additional travel distance is minimal, there does exist a somewhat greater distance required to reach a proposed station in the Meijer/Meridian Mall area. The main reason for this is the lack of a BRT station at the Grand River/Okemos Road intersection (a station that was in the original BRT plan but has since been removed). Another problem with

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not having a station at Okemos Road is that riders originating in downtown Okemos would have to travel a minimum of ~0.5 miles to reach the proposed Meijer as opposed to ~0.38 miles to an Okemos Road station.

So what about the evidence to support CATA’s professed need for a BRT. On their site they list several reasons that a BRT is needed. To quote from their site: “CATA needs to provide more capacity or room for more customers who travel along Michigan Avenue and Grand River Avenue, from the Capitol to Marsh Road. CATA could add capacity by adding more buses...”. In fact we’ve been told many times by CATA representatives that more and more people are using Route 1 and that this number will continue to increase. Is this true? Debbie Alexander has kindly provided me with ridership statistics for Route 1, showing boarding/de-boarding data for each stop along the eastbound and westbound routes. The first data were obtained during a summer month (July 15 – August 28, 2013; low MSU student ridership) and 2 months in the fall (August 26 – October 27, 2013; MSU in “full swing”) and the second set for similar times in 2015. The average daily ridership for weekdays (Monday – Friday) from 2013 to 2015 show an approximately 3% decrease in the summer and fall, Saturday is down anywhere from 8 – 10%, but Sunday shows a slight increase of 1 – 4%. Granted, this is a small subset of the total ridership statistics for the year, and may not be representative of the total annual ridership, which I have no doubt CATA will say has been on the rise. I have some reservations in the way CATA counts ridership, but I think it’s safe to say that ridership is not increasing dramatically, and unless Meridian Township grows significantly in population, I doubt that ridership will increase to the levels predicted by CATA in support of the need of a BRT.

CATA also claims that adding more buses “...would cause more traffic problems. For example, when passenger vehicles don’t want to travel behind buses they make erratic lane changes to get into another lane”. So how much of a problem (delay) is faced by drivers getting stuck behind a CATA bus? There has been no data made available to the public that tries to estimate the actual “problem” that CATA buses currently cause. How much total delay for traffic is caused by CATA buses compared to if CATA buses were not on the road? Who knows? I suspect that overall CATA buses contribute very little to impeded traffic flow, but without data it’s anyone’s guess. As far as danger from cars swerving to “get into another lane”, there are statistics available that can address this point. In addition, these statistics can address the relevant issues of bicyclist and pedestrian safety, crashes involving trucks/buses, and left-turn collisions. These data are available at <https://www.michigantrafficcrashfacts.org/>. Crash reports for individual incidents are easily accessed and were consulted for each of the separate “types” of crashes (except “Total”) in each of the years in order to determine the circumstances of the crash and whether the presence of the BRT would have prevented such a crash. The table below shows crash statistics for the five-year period from 2011 – 2015

Crash report Summary: M-43 in Meridian Twp.; Brookfield - Marsh

Type	Year					5-year total	Probably prevented with BRT
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015		
Total	110	102	121	108	97	538	
Bicycle	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Pedestrian	1	2+	1	1	0	5	2
Truck/Bus	2	3	0	2	2	9	3
Lane Departure	8	4+	3	12	6	29	6*
Left turn (Head-on)	8	7	8	9	11	43	5
*one incident counted in both "Types"						Total	16
*none involved swerving to miss CATA bus						Percent	18.4

(based on crash reports filed by law enforcement agencies) for the segment of Grand River between Brookfield on the west and Marsh Road on the east. The table shows the total number of crashes, the number of different types of crashes by year, and the number of crashes that probably would have been prevented by the BRT in its currently proposed configuration. To begin with, the type of crash caused by vehicles swerving to get in the other lane would be classified as “Lane Departure”

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accidents, and for the years shown, none of the crashes involved swerving to avoid a CATA bus (in fact several of them were the result of DUI drivers running the curb). Of the 9 “Truck/Bus” crashes, the three “preventable” crashes involved a vehicle rear-ending a CATA bus that was stopped at a bus stop. With regard to crashes involving pedestrians, 4 occurred as a result of pedestrians running out into Grand River into oncoming traffic and one involved a pedestrian struck by a vehicle turning right into a driveway. The two that could have been prevented occurred at intersections that would have had signalized crosswalks as part of the BRT. None of the 5 resulted in a fatality, but most resulted in serious injury to the pedestrian. Safe travel of pedestrians across Grand River is an important issue that needs to be addressed whether the BRT is built or not. Almost all of the “Left-turn head-on” crashes occurred at or near major intersections; 5 of them would very likely have been prevented if a raised median and signalized intersection, as proposed by the latest BRT plan, were in place. In summary, 16 out of a total of 538 crashes (~3%) would likely have been prevented if the BRT had been present. With regard to the type-specific crashes, approximately 18% of them could have been prevented.

CATA’s website claims that the BRT would provide “Improved travel time for both automobile drivers and BRT customers”. I have no doubt that the BRT would improve travel time for most BRT customers, although I suspect that “travel time” does not include additional time it may take some customers to reach a BRT station compared to the time taken to reach a current CATA stop. Clearly, for some customers, it will take longer to get “door-to-door” with BRT than with the current system, but again, data are lacking on the overall impacts on “travel time”. As far as improved travel time for automobile drivers, it is impossible to tell whether this statement is true, again because data have not been made publicly available to support this claim (i.e. a traffic study). And while this statement may be true for the BRT corridor as a whole, what is of most interest to Meridian Township citizens, and those traveling through the township on Grand River, is whether it is true along the stretch of road from Marsh Road to Brookfield.

It is also claimed that the BRT would lead to “Growth in population, housing and jobs.” This may be true, but do we want to see the kind of dramatic growth that had been envisioned in some of the charettes from previous years? How much growth in population do we want? Some on the board seem to favor growth to whatever level is achievable and don’t believe that there should be a “target or maximum” population level. Can this growth in population, housing, and jobs be accomplished without the BRT? After all, you recently approved a Corridor Improvement Authority that could help bring about the level and type of growth that is consistent with maintaining the quality of life for all users of the corridor in Meridian Township.

I am in support of the proposal at the last board meeting by Trustee Styka to formally assert your opposition to the BRT as currently proposed. By the same token, I would hate to throw the baby out with the bathwater. There are clearly some aspects of the BRT that would benefit Meridian Township, such as improved safety in traversing Grand River at places between Okemos and Park Lake Roads and decreased interference of buses with traffic (and vice-versa). There are, perhaps, ways that BRT and Meridian Township can co-exist for the benefit of all. We just need to work together on it and base our opinions/decision on facts and not fantasies.

Respectfully,

Neil R. Bowlby
6020 Beechwood, Haslett

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Links to resources about medians and access control:

<http://www.gtcmo.org/Resources/Topics/AccessManagement/ContinuousRaisedMedians.pdf>
http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/tools_solve/medians_brochure/
http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/amprimer/access_mgmt_primer.htm
<https://eng.auburn.edu/files/centers/hrc/FHWA-RD-93-130-1.pdf>
<http://transportation.ky.gov/Congestion-Toolbox/Documents/Economic%20Impacts%20Compilation%20Report.pdf>

<https://www.udot.utah.gov/main/uconowner.gf?n=4511209509821664>
<https://books.google.com/books?id=Ry5gexXnGXyc&pg=PA30&lpg=PA30&dq=do+roadway+medians+help+or+hinder+business+activity&source=bl&ots=g1YUbgCmL&sig=49MXNC-MPoVQP5dp2EbkpnEH2-A&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjc2fTocPNAhXI4iYKHVqLBUwQ6AEIPDAH#v=onepage&q=do%20roadway%20medians%20help%20or%20hinder%20business%20activity&f=false>

<https://www.h-gac.com/taq/access-management-studies/documents/AM%20Evaluation%20Summary%20Report.pdf>
http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/circulars/ec019/Ec019_c5.pdf
http://ntl.bts.gov/lib/26000/26500/26541/Chapter_6.pdf
<http://www.edrgroup.com/pdf/left-turns-digest.pdf>
<http://d2dtl5nnpfr0r.cloudfront.net/tti.tamu.edu/documents/3904-1.pdf>
<http://d2dtl5nnpfr0r.cloudfront.net/tti.tamu.edu/documents/3904-3.pdf>
<http://d2dtl5nnpfr0r.cloudfront.net/tti.tamu.edu/documents/3904-4.pdf>
https://books.google.com/books?id=kuw0AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA69&lpg=PA69&dq=effect+of+roadway+medians+on+business+economics&source=bl&ots=PSd6VQUAhV&sig=v1Dt804UD4W_rIwgnzFmm4LCTGo&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiNvqfa3sXNAhXJyyYKHZqeAV84ChDoAQgqMAI#v=onepage&q=effect%20of%20roadway%20medians%20on%20business%20economics&f=false

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/RNAProjDocs/2003-05FinalReport.pdf>
<https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/safety/Teppl/TEPPL%20All%20Documents%20Library/A21%20-%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>
https://books.google.com/books?id=I8Y1AQAAMAAJ&pg=SA4-PA23&lpg=SA4-PA23&dq=effect+of+roadway+medians+on+business+economics&source=bl&ots=yIx0fXft2&sig=3o47GhHay9Z2x_b5JcV4dEQBozE&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiNvqfa3sXNAhXJyyYKHZqeAV84ChDoAQg5MAU#v=onepage&q=effect%20of%20roadway%20medians%20on%20business%20economics&f=false

<https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/ACCESSMGT/docs/medians.pdf>
http://lawrenceks.org/assets/pds/planning/documents/23rd_options.pdf
<http://www.ctre.iastate.edu/research/access/toolkit/9.pdf>
http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=23&ved=0ahUKEwui36HW6MXNAhVK7SYKHWW4Dow4FBAWCCQwAg&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.eugene-or.gov%2FDocumentCenter%2FView%2F15365&usq=AFQjCNGt-9MXjZn0bly_vjml1NxoaksDTw

http://nacto.org/docs/usdg/impacttrafficpatternsoncorridorretail_leland.pdf
http://onlinemanuals.txdot.gov/txdotmanuals/acm/the_benefits_of_access_management.htm

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Sandy Otto

From: Erik Lindquist <lindquist@fraudmedic.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2016 7:44 PM
To: bowlby@msu.edu; Board
Cc: sears@msu.edu; wasser@math.msu.edu; pballbach@comcast.net; John Veenstra; lynn.hildebrandt6@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Deliberations on the BRT

Just one comment on the Utah study...the roads used in the study involved widening the existing roadways AND installing a raised median...not reducing the number of lanes as contemplated here. I don't think it makes a useful document to support CATA'S position.

Erik

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: bowlby@msu.edu
Date: 7/14/16 3:34 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: board@meridian.mi.us
Cc: sears@msu.edu, wasser@math.msu.edu, pballbach@comcast.net, jrveenstra2003@yahoo.com, lynn.hildebrandt6@gmail.com
Subject: Deliberations on the BRT

Please see attached document

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JD 12A-9

JUL 19 2016

Sandy Otto

From: mpatty@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2016 9:05 AM
To: Frank Walsh; Board
Subject: Follow up
Attachments: BRT - Frank Walsh - follow up questions.docx

Good morning All -
Thank you for responding to my previous letter - and the 2 board members as well.
I had a few more questions/clarifications - thank you for your time.

Patty McPhee
517-285-9345

JUL 19 2016

BJ 12A-10

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July 14, 2016

Mr. Frank Walsh
Meridian Township Manager
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

Dear Mr. Walsh,

As a follow up to my June 6th letter, thank you for responding. I have some clarifications and questions that I hope you can answer and help with.

You indicated that you agree – “there is a large segment of the community that is unaware of the BRT.” I asked you if we could change this using Meridian Township social media? Is this possible – I think they’ve put enough Redi Ride information up that they could be links to the CATA site to get BRT information? No opinions need to be posted – just information. Can you make this happen??

Second question I raised was about any data that supports the BRT?? Planning Commission report they just did or from CATA – I can’t navigate what they indicate is there. Can we need specific route #1 information to support the need for the BRT? I could be mistaken and I didn’t get an answer from the report that was presented at the Planning Commission meeting. Is there any links to that data? I don’t know who that firm was that did the future study of our community. This was my question at the previous meeting... I’m still in the dark on increased demand for the BRT.

My last question was our vote – I understand they will listen to our opinions but we won’t and the Township Board then does NOT have a vote??? This wasn’t clear – I did hear we don’t. By “kicking the can down the road” I think it’s very crucial to get our voice to FTA and CATA sooner than later. I understand that Meridian Twp hasn’t spent any funds but I read somewhere it’s a done deal and that CATA has spent 30% of this federal grant (all of our money) so far and it’s a done deal. BoRic’s received a letter inviting them to community discussion but indicated it won’t matter – it’s going through. The mgr there tossed the letter – that’s disturbing and I wish I could see that to verify who sent it – she didn’t remember.

I’m hoping this comes to a vote Tuesday. Trustees have spoken and the community has spoken. Everyone that had a green sheet in – spoke! I didn’t hear any names called and they backed out because of fear from those sitting in the meeting. I could’ve missed that too but as a matter of fact – I don’t think anyone in attendance DIDN’T speak unless they were with a speaker or from the press. This needs to be moved on from the township level to Federal and our legislators. One way – take a vote and pass a resolution. We can go pick on legislators! Thank you again for your time.

Sincerely,

Patty McPhee
mpattyo@aol.com

JUL 19 2016

B) 12A-10
(~page 2 of 2)

JUL 19 2016

Sandy Otto

From: Tom and Anne Woiwode <woiwode1@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2016 10:15 AM
To: Board
Subject: On BRT: Please don't adopt an resolution withdrawing support

To: Supervisor LeGoff, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Brixie, Trustees Scales, Veenstra, Stuka and Wilson
Re: Bus Rapid Transit discussion
From: Anne Woiwode

At the last meeting of the Board, although there was no mention on the agenda that the topic would be discussed, I understand that the Board decided to prepare for adoption a resolution revoking Meridian Township's long standing and well-reasoned support for the CATA Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) proposal. This follows reports in the City Pulse that the Manager would be convening a work group of proponents and opponents to investigate the issues and make recommendations to the Board on what stance to take.

I urge you NOT to adopt any change in position on the BRT prior to an objective, fact-based review of the information and positions about the project. Making decisions based on opinions and perceptions is not good for our community. Loud voices alone should not be allowed to drive the direction of our community, whether or not they hold the truth.

As you know, I have an opinion I have expressed to the Board, despite that intimidating circumstances of the meeting where the BRT was on the agenda and there was a lack of respect for speakers. As a former Board member, I can also tell you honestly that I am open to changing my opinion on issues if there is factual information presented, but I made a point of not being swayed simply by the numbers and the vociferousness of people on any side of the controversial issues that often came to the Board during my eight year tenure. I urge you to delay a vote on any position change on the BRT until and unless such time as the proposed work group has done its work and made a recommendation. Other issues, including the Redi-Ride discussion, have been treated with this kind of effort to seek complete and accurate information, and it is hard to imagine why the BRT would be treated differently.

Thank you for considering my point of view.

Anne woiwode
5088 Powell Road, Okemos, MI 4864
woiwode1@sbcglobal.net

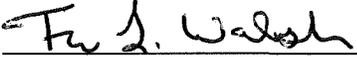
JUL 19 2016

BY 12A-11

JUL 19 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Township Board

FROM: 
Frank L. Walsh, Township Manager

DATE: July 15, 2016

RE: BRT Resolution

Over the past few months, the community has presented the Board with a plethora of feedback on the Capital Area Transportation Authority's (CATA) plans to construct a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system along the Grand River Corridor. We have attempted to respond to the litany of questions regarding center-running lanes, left hand turns, cost, need, impact on sight impaired riders and reduction of bus stops. The concerns that have been raised originate from every corner of the Township. There appears to be strong resentment of the current BRT plan from the commercial business community along Grand River Avenue. Meridian Township is not an island and it will behoove us to work together with CATA, City of Lansing, City of East Lansing and Michigan State University to return to the drawing board in hopes that can find middle ground that works for the region, not one community. We are one region and hopefully we can come together to determine the best outcome for all of us.

At the July 5 Township Board meeting, Trustee Ron Styka introduced a resolution he authored to suspend support for the current BRT plan. A strong majority of the five (5) members present appeared to support the resolution. The BRT Resolution is back before you on Tuesday evening in the event the governing body wishes to take action.

We look forward to your direction on July 19.

Attachment:

RESOLUTION TO SUSPEND MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP'S SUPPORT OF THE CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY'S (CATA) CURRENT PLAN FOR A CENTER-RUNNING BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) ALONG THE GRAND RIVER CORRIDOR

RESOLUTION TO SUSPEND MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP'S SUPPORT OF THE CAPITAL AREA
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY'S (CATA) CURRENT PLAN FOR A CENTER-RUNNING
BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) ALONG THE GRAND RIVER CORRIDOR

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County held at the Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198, (517) 853-4000, on Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

The following resolution was offered by _____
and supported by _____.

WHEREAS, since 2009 the Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) has developed a transportation model to construct a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system in the Mid-Michigan area, including Meridian Charter Township; and

WHEREAS, the plan calls for center-running lanes for buses and center lane bus stations along Grand River Avenue within a portion of Meridian Charter Township; and

WHEREAS, if approved, the BRT would eliminate and replace the current Route 1, which provides 1.7 million customer trips each year and 6,900 trips each weekday during the school year; and

WHEREAS, the BRT would change traffic movements by reducing left hand turns on Grand River Avenue within a portion of Meridian Charter Township, and by allowing U-turns at signaled intersections, and by allowing buses to extend green traffic signals as they approach; and

WHEREAS, the current BRT plan has been met with objections from hundreds of residents and from business owners or operators along the Grand River Corridor within the Township; and

WHEREAS, some sight impaired members of the Meridian community have expressed concerns about the safety of crossing to center lane stations in order to board the BRT buses; and

WHEREAS, some older members and physically challenged members of the Meridian community have expressed concerns about the reduction in frequency and number of bus stops or stations and the distance that would have to be traveled by foot or wheelchair to board a bus; and

WHEREAS, many residents of the Meridian community have raised concerns about the cost/benefit of the \$133,000,000.00 project to reduce travel time by 15 minutes or less between the Capitol and Meridian Mall, versus the negative effect on the Grand River business

community in the township, and the unknown future potential costs to Meridian Township taxpayers;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, as follows:

The Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian is committed to ensuring that its residents are provided with an effective and efficient system of public transportation; and The Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian hereby suspends its support of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system in the form as proposed by CATA as of July 19, 2016; and

The Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian hereby commits to serving as a conduit between the citizens and business owners and operators of Meridian Township to assist in resolving the issues and concerns between its citizens and business owners/operators and CATA, and to work towards a public transportation system that mirrors the needs of the residents of Meridian Charter Township.

YEAS: _____

NAYS: _____

Resolution declared adopted.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, **DO HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of proceedings taken by the Township Board at a regular meeting held on Tuesday, July 19, 2016.

Brett Dreyfus, CMMC
Township Clerk

MEMORANDUM

12 - B

TO: Township Board

FROM: 
Mark Kieselbach
Director of Community Planning and Development


Gail Oranchak, AICP
Principal Planner

DATE: July 14, 2016

RE: Rezoning #16020 (Pete Potterpin), a request to rezone 1792 Hamilton Road from RC (Multiple Family – maximum 14 units per acre) to PO (Professional and Office)

Pete Potterpin, president of PK Housing & Management has requested the rezoning of 1792 Hamilton Road from RC (Multiple Family-maximum 14 units per acre) to PO (Professional and Office). The .75 acre site is located on the north side of Hamilton Road east of Washington Heights. If rezoned, the applicant intends to use the site for business expansion. The Township Board discussed the applicant's request at its July 5, 2016 meeting.

Township Board Options

The Township Board may approve or deny the proposed rezoning from RC (Multiple Family, maximum 14 dwelling units per acre) to PO (Professional and Office). If the Board amends the proposal, the case may be referred to the Planning Commission for its recommendation. A resolution to approve consistent with the Planning Commission's recommendation is attached.

Attachments

1. Resolution to approve

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE - PO

Rezoning #16020
Pete Potterpin
1792 Hamilton Road
INTRODUCTION

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Municipal Building, in said Township on the 19th day of July, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., Local Time.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

The following resolution was offered by _____ and supported by _____

WHEREAS, Pete Potterpin, representing PK Housing and Management requested the rezoning of approximately .75 acres addressed as 1792 Hamilton Road from RC (Multiple Family, maximum 14 dwelling units per acre) to PO (Professional and Office); and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the request at its May 23, 2016 meeting, and recommended approval at its June 13, 2013 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board discussed the rezoning at its meeting on July 5, 2016 and has reviewed the staff and Planning Commission material forwarded under cover memorandum dated June 28, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the site's current RC zoning which permits up to 14 dwelling units per acre is inconsistent with the Future Land Use designation of Residential 5.0 – 8.0 units per acre; and

WHEREAS, the proposed zoning would result in a logical and orderly development pattern consistent with the Master Plan preference for providing a transition between commercial uses along Grand River Avenue to the north and single family residential uses south of Hamilton Road; and

WHEREAS, PO (Professional and Office) zoning is consistent with the zoning of parcels on the north side of Hamilton Road and east of 1792 Hamilton Road; and

WHEREAS, the functionality of Hamilton Road will not be compromised by the additional trips generated from new office development on the site; and

WHEREAS, the site is connected to the public water and sanitary sewer systems.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby **INTRODUCES FOR PUBLICATION AND SUBSEQUENT ADOPTION** Ordinance No. _____, entitled "Ordinance Amending the Zoning District Map of

**Resolution to Approve - Introduction
Rezoning #16020 (Pete Potterpin)
Page 2**

Meridian Township pursuant to Rezoning Petition #16020 (Pete Potterpin) from RC (Multiple Family, 14 units per acre) to PO (Professional and Office).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Charter Township of Meridian is directed to publish the Ordinance in the form in which it is introduced at least once prior to the next regular meeting of the Township Board.

ADOPTED: YEAS: _____

NAYS: _____

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and a complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 19th day of July, 2016.

Brett Dreyfus, CMMC
Township Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. _____
ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING DISTRICT MAP
OF MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP
PURSUANT TO REZONING #16020

The Charter Township of Meridian ordains:

Section 1. Amending the Zoning District Map.

A. The Zoning District Map of Meridian Township, as adopted in Section 86-312 of the Code of the Charter Township of Meridian, Michigan, as previously amended, is hereby amended by changing the RC (Multiple Family, 14 units per acre) District symbol and indication as shown on the Zoning District Map, for 1792 Hamilton Road, the property legally described as:

M22-8-5 COM AT INT OF M/43 C/L & NS 1/4 LN SEC 22- N 69 DEG 50'03"W ALG C/L 223.46 FT- S 0 DEG 14'26"W 399.61 FT TO PT OF BEG- N 89 DEG 59'38"W 110 FT- S 333.5 FT TO C/L OF HAMILTON RD- NE'LY ALG C/L 110 FT- N 332 FT TO BEG SEC 22 T4NR1W

to that of the PO (Professional and Office) and a corresponding use district is established for the above described property.

Section 2. Validity and Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable and the invalidity of any phrase, clause or part of this Ordinance shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remainder of the Ordinance.

Section 3. Repealer Clause. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

Section 4. Savings Clause. This Ordinance does not affect rights and duties matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were begun, before its effective date.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be effective seven (7) days after its publication or upon such later date as may be required under Section 402 of the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (MCL 125.3402) after filing of a notice of intent to file a petition for a referendum.

Elizabeth LeGoff, Township Supervisor

Brett Dreyfus, CMMC, Township Clerk

Legal description confirmed by:

Mark Kieselbach, Director
Community Planning and Development

Stephen O. Schultz, Township Attorney

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board Members

FROM: 
Frank L. Walsh, Township Manager

DATE: July 14, 2016

RE: **2016 Action Plan-Goal & Objectives-6 Month Report**

The Meridian Township Management Team is pleased to present the Township Board and our taxpayers with an update on the board approved 2016 Goals and Objectives. We sincerely recognize the vast amount of time the governing body contributed in developing the community blueprint and we have worked diligently over the past six months to foster progress. We have an ambitious plan and we look forward to the opportunity to present our success/challenges to you on Tuesday evening.

I've asked the entire TEAM to be present on July 19 to present their departmental output for the first six (6) months of 2016. We look forward to presenting to the Township Board and soliciting your feedback.

Attachment:

1. Semi-Annual 2016 Goals and Objectives Report
2. Meridian Township Pension Debt Forecast

Meridian Charter Township Semi-Annual 2016 Goals and Objectives Report

Top 10 Action Plan

1. Review, create, and implement a long-term plan to stabilize the Township's critically underfunded pension funds.

Our team has spent a considerable amount of time working with the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan (MERS) determining the depth of our legacy debt, as well as, short and long-term solutions to find the shallow end of the pool. The attachment provided to you depicts our current \$26,812,454 pension debt and a forecasted debt of up to \$33,503,430 in 2020. If the market fails to sustain an annual 7.75% rate of return through 2020, we will see our debt balloon grow to \$40,000,000-\$50,000,000. This is a daunting task in front of us.

As I mentioned to you at the July 5th board meeting, we are not going at this with iron fists. Rather, we are attempting to gather our Unions and foster teamwork that leads to a global solution given the cascading issues. None of us have a penchant for attempting to leave our mark once we solve the looming debt crisis.

At this point, we are waiting for some additional information from MERS regarding what reduction in pension multipliers is necessary coupled with additional police and fire revenue to balance out the pension fund by 2038. At the current moment we are funded at 57%. In 2015 we were at 59% funded. Our goal is to be 67% by 2020, 77% by 2025, 84% by 2030 and 92% by 2035 and 100% by 2038. It took us 20-25 years to find ourselves in this dilemma and it will take us two decades or more to dig out. The good news is we have identified the problem and we are working together to find a solution.

I want to be very clear that simply changing the benefit level for future employees does not in any way begin to reduce the accumulated debt. Two things will need to occur over time to right the ship. Our pension multipliers must be reduced and we will need to look at the current revenue structure for police/fire operations. Currently our budgeted tax revenue from 4.2 general operating mills is \$6,714,700, police millage of \$971,950, fire millage of \$1,023,940, Williamstown police contract \$220,000, ambulance fees \$1,350,000, and \$800,000 in tax administrative fees. The total tax revenue for the township including police and fire services is \$11,080,590.

Our total police budget is \$5,159,955 and fire is \$4,678,456. Hence, the 2016 budget for police and fire totals \$9,838,411. In Meridian Township, 89% of general fund taxes and assigned police and fire revenue goes to fund emergency services. A statewide benchmark for police and fire services is closer to 65%.

Our next step in the process is a joint meeting with MERS and the Township Unions on Thursday, August 4th. The pension legacy debt has our full attention.

2. Assist the Planning Commission and the Township Board with the creation and follow through on updating the 2005 Master Plan.

The Master Plan update is in full swing. Consulting firm McKenna and Associates was selected to assist the Township with updating the Master Plan. Five or six public work sessions were proposed. McKenna's staff facilitated public work session meetings in April, May, and June during which a majority of Planning Commission and Township Board members were introduced to a variety of topics. These discussions provided useful guidance to the consultant. Topics presented by the consultant were:

- Master plan elements
- Review of the goals, objectives and vision statement
- Discussion of draft demographics and projections
- Existing land uses
- Design of the updated Master Plan-table of contents, format and graphics
- New ideas-focus on metrics, introduce PICAs (Potential Intensity Change Areas)
- PICA analysis: concentrate on Carriage Hills, Haslett, and Okemos
- Target Housing Analysis-typologies in Meridian Township, missing typologies
- Urban Service Boundary
- Retail Market Analysis-changing trends, the future of shopping
- Existing Conditions Analysis-Draft Infrastructure Analysis and Draft Land Use Analysis
- Maps: National Functional Classification (roads), Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathways, Public Transit, Recreation and Open Space, Storm Sewer Systems, Sanitary System, and Water System
- Draft Future Land Use Map and Analysis
- Draft Future Transportation Map and Analysis
- Preliminary metrics

3. Develop a short-term plan to foster development in the Carriage Hills, Haslett, and Downtown Okemos business districts.

These areas are always identified as first priority when meeting with prospective new businesses and developers looking for available space.

We are continuing to build relationships with existing businesses in shopping centers, property owners, and site managers. These relationships will help to identify opportunities for expansion, redevelopment, and other uses for the sites, including events.

Carriage Hills

Staff continue to meet with property owner DTN often, to develop a relationship and support efforts to fill vacancies in the shopping center. Also, we continue to visit and develop relationships with existing tenants.

The following businesses have chosen to open at Carriage Hills:

- Y&L Beauty Salon opened in February
- Pennzoil Instant Oil opened in April
- Bon Ton Bakery opened in July
- Spartan Dance & Fit Center is opening a 12,500 square foot space in August
- Fung Massage is opening in August

Haslett

Staff met with property owner Martin Properties in May, and we continue to develop a relationship and support efforts. In addition, we continue to develop relationships with existing tenants.

We are working towards holding a public event in parking lot of Haslett Village Square as part of Meridian Township's 175th anniversary celebration.

Staff continues to have strong relationship with Haslett Kiwanis and Haslett Beautification Association and support efforts whenever possible. The Township assigned part time summer help to water flower beds maintained by Haslett Beautification Association.

The following businesses have chosen to open in Haslett:

- Direct Motorsports opened in March
- El Oasis food truck opened in March
- Haslett Hot Yoga opened in April
- Fortunate Finds opened in April
- Mahabir Wellness opened in July
- McCreary's Healthy Homes opening in August
- CareLinc is opening in August

Downtown Okemos

A draft MUPUD concept plan was presented in March for redevelopment of the former MARC building and former Central Fire Station. Comments on the plan have been forwarded to the property owner, Evergreen Companies. We are holding ongoing discussions with the property owner to encourage progress on the build out of Tavern and Tap restaurant at the former MARC building.

Staff has developed a strong relationship with Douglas J ownership and staff. Discussions are ongoing regarding redevelopment of properties at the NW corner of Okemos/Hamilton. Mixed use planned unit development (MUPUD) approval for the project submitted in 2012 expires in September 2016.

We sent outreach letter to 68 businesses in the DDA in March inviting businesses to attend DDA meetings and requesting input on project priorities.

The following improvements have been made:

- Installed 20 hanging flower baskets on light poles along Hamilton Road and Okemos Road
- Installed flowers in 8 concrete planters along Hamilton Road and Okemos Road.
- Assigned part time summer help to weed daylilies along Hamilton Road and Okemos Road.

We have a long way to go before we reach success given the current situation.

4. Through mutual respect, negotiate new employment contracts with all seven (7) bargaining groups.

A thorough review of all seven union contracts is ongoing in preparation for negotiations. The Human Resources Department is working closely with the Township Manager and Labor Attorneys to identify areas that need to be addressed. These areas include: language updates, information clarification, and increased consistency between contracts. A calendar has been established to coordinate and maintain dates for all union meetings. Negotiations have started with the Police Command Unit, with other units beginning in August. Negotiations are expected to continue through December.

5. Continue to seek opportunities to reduce overall operating costs similar to the 2015 Engineering/Public Works reorganization.

Although we have not implemented any major reorganizations in 2016, that has not prevented us from reviewing departmental functions. The last time we reorganized (2015) the annual savings topped \$100,000. We have made a subtle change in how we assign staff to take minutes at committee meetings. This change will result in minor savings, but every little efficiency helps when it comes to developing the annual budget.

We will continue to provide cost/benefit analysis for each department and search for ways to reduce the cost of local government.

6. Implement a Meridian Township Branding Campaign and a more welcoming website.

Branding Campaign

Phase one of the Meridian Township Branding Campaign is the Discovery phase. During this phase, we

- Created the Branding Development Committee
- Discussed goals, perceptions, and current status of the township
- Dissected the current brand and messaging
- Entered into the research phase of a brand assessment to discover current perceptions and understandings of our brand to aid in our growth moving forward
- Conducted six focus groups, two community forums, online surveys, man-on-the-street surveys, and opinion leader interviews

Over 300 community members participated in the process. The complete assessment of each research medium can be found in the full research report. The summary of results contains key findings that shed light on Meridian Township's brand perceptions by each target audience and provides feedback from key influencers in the market. These findings aided in the development of new messaging and brand practices for the Township.

These research results were presented to the Branding Selection Committee and to the Branding Development Committee.

The next step in the process is Phase Two: Development. This phase is almost complete. M3 Group worked with the Branding Development Committee to create appropriate brand messaging and visioning. They relied heavily on the information gathered through the research in developing a new brand to provide clear direction for developing the brand image and messaging. These will be shared with Branding Selection Committee. Development of the new brand image, vision, and message should be complete in July.

Website Project

Staff continues to work on cleaning up the current website for ease of transition to the new website when it is ready for content to be added. Vision Internet is creating the new website and has developed the wireframe for the Township website. The wireframe is the layout for the front page of the website. Research on the Township's current site indicated which areas of the site visitors are frequenting the most. The data collected provided the insight needed to create the wireframe.

7. Update the 5-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan and begin construction of Towner Road Park.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

Department staff will soon begin updating the inventory and census information in the Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. We will be seeking a consultant to assist with public input, surveying, and development of an action plan and goals and objectives. This project is expected to be completed near the end of the year.

Towner Road Park

The Towner Road Park plan has been through the Development Review Committee and Site Plan Review. Permits for work in the wetland fringe have been submitted to DEQ and Meridian Planning Department. Meetings with the ZBA and the Environmental Commission are scheduled for early July. Bidding is planned for later this year for construction to start in 2017.

8. Provide for a comprehensive review of the Township's Redi-Ride public transportation system.

The Redi-Ride Review Committee (RRRC) was created by the Township Board and consists of the following members: Trustee Ron Styka, Trustee Milton Scales, Trustee John Veenstra, Deb Alexander (CATA), Todd Sharp (Schools), Cherie Wisdom (Senior Center), Diana Paiz Engle, Karla Hudson, Ody Norkin, and Donna Rose.

The RRRC was formed and has been meeting since January of 2016. The committee has been tasked with answering the following three questions:

1. What was Redi-Ride established to do?
2. Is the goal relevant today?
3. What is needed today?

The committee presented the following recommendations to the Township Board on June 7, 2016:

1. Change the 14 day reservation period to 7 days.
2. Change the trip cancellation period from 90 minutes prior to reservation window time to the close of business (5pm) the day before the reservation.
3. Define a "no show" as a reservation scheduled and not cancelled by any form of acceptable communication to the carrier and the rider did not board the bus during or within the on-time window.

The committee will continue to meet and hope to bring a number of additional recommendations to the Township Board.

9. Create a Diversity and Inclusion Strategy supported by leadership and employee involvement to maintain a well-rounded workforce.

Along with Trustee Angie Wilson, Human Resources Director Joyce Marx participated in the "Diversity Lansing Executive Leadership Diversity Workgroup", a Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) Initiative. This workgroup looked closely at diversity throughout the region, what it means to economic development, and how area employers are doing as business leaders to attract and retain diverse candidates. The workgroup also focused on why having a well-rounded diverse workforce is so important and defined how diversity must align with organizational priorities. Sessions focused on essential elements of a diversity strategy, re-evaluating hiring and marketing strategies, identifying culture reflected in the community and implementing a vision and plan.

Joyce Marx also represented Meridian Township at three (3) job fairs; one particularly designated "Diversity Job Fair" at Michigan State University to attract diverse students and graduates to jobs at the Township.

Close relationships with MichiganWorks! and professional networks with connected diversity leaders in the public, education, and private sectors have been established for added recruitment efforts.

January through June employment statistics are indicating a trend that career opportunities are growing in mid-Michigan. Eleven (11) full time employees departed for other career opportunities and two (2) additional employees retired. HR filled 12 of the 13 open full-time positions to date. In addition to full time hires, through a combination of interns, temporary seasonal help and part-time employees, 37 employees have joined the township in the past 2 months. We have successfully brought on board 13 minorities in internship positions within Engineering, Public Works and HOMTV/Communications. We had one minority applicant that was hired for a full-time position in the Treasurer's Office. One minority candidate turned down a full-time position in Community Planning and Development. We have also contracted Township cleaning services with Peckham Industries, a non-profit organization that provides jobs for persons with significant disabilities and other barriers to employment.

10. Review the Township's Mixed Use Planned Unit Development (MUPUD) Ordinance.

The Township Board discussed the review process for the Mixed Use Planned Unit Development (MUPUD) Ordinance at its meeting on April 5, 2016. There was discussion on giving Board members time to submit comments on changes to the ordinance, having a committee of Board members and Planning Commission members review and suggest changes to the ordinance, and lastly wait until the Master Plan update was completed before proceeding with the review. The Board made no decision on how they would like to proceed. Some items in the MUPUD Ordinance that may be considered during the review are amenities, land area and existing buildings on a site, design standards and the length of time for the Board to make a decision on a MUPUD.

Semi-Annual Departmental Updates

ACCOUNTING AND BUDGETING

2017 Budget

Our budget schedule for 2017 is set. The process will allow us to stay on track to get the final budget adopted at the September 20th Board Meeting. Director Mattison is scheduled for a BS&A webinar to go over the budgeting system software so that she can use it more efficiently. She is also working on cleaning up any old purchase orders that may need to be removed from the system.

2015 Audit

The 2015 audit has been completed and filed with the State of Michigan. With the completion of the audit, the following required filings have also been completed.

- F-65 Report
- Qualifying Statement
- CAFR Application
- EMMA Continuing Disclosure

Complete Review of Credit Card Process

Director Mattison has gained administrative rights in the credit card system and is starting a review process on how we can make it more efficient. She is planning on setting up a phone conversation with ELAN to discuss how to make the system work better for us. Director Mattison plans to hold a meeting with all the credit card holders so we can review what is required when submitting receipts.

ASSESSING

Michigan Tax Tribunal (MTT) Appeals

A table showing all currently pending Entire Tribunal appeals is provided below:

MERIDIAN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
MTT Status Report - Entire Tribunal (ET) Appeals
June 24, 2016

PARCEL NUMBER	OWNERSHIP	DOCKET NUMBER	YEAR	SEV	TV	PETITIONER'S TV	TV IN CONTENTION	STATUS	DATE
33-02-02-33-452-013	CEW LAND MANAGEMENT LLC	16-002449-TT	2016	317,300	291,752	209,550	82,202	ET RESPONSE FILED	06/15/2016
33-02-02-22-126-007	CHEROKEE HOLDING LLC	15-001254-TT	2015	413,000	413,000	337,500	75,500	ET STIPULATION FILED WITH MTT	06/21/2016
33-02-02-22-126-007	CHEROKEE HOLDING LLC	15-001254-TT	2016	418,800	414,239	337,500	76,739	ET STIPULATION FILED WITH MTT	06/21/2016
33-02-02-24-377-015	LANSING MOBILE HOMES LP	16-002292-TT	2016	230,400	230,400	125,000	105,400	ET PETITION SENT TO ATTORNEY	06/21/2016
33-02-02-10-401-005	LTG HASLETT LLC	16-001860-TT	2016	648,800	624,869	400,000	224,869	ET RESPONSE FILED	06/15/2016
33-02-02-15-300-022	YOUNGERS #464-CHEMOS IN THE BOYNTON DEPARTMENT STORES INC	15-003527-TT	2015	1,761,300	1,693,672	1,307,250	386,422	ET STIPULATION FILED WITH MTT	06/16/2016
33-02-02-15-300-022	YOUNGERS #464-CHEMOS IN THE BOYNTON DEPARTMENT STORES INC	15-003527-TT	2016	1,957,800	1,698,753	1,307,250	391,503	ET STIPULATION FILED WITH MTT	06/16/2016

NOTE: Parcels highlighted in yellow, if any, are located in a capture district (e.g., DDA, etc.). Cases with red highlights, if any, have been listed in a Prehearing General Call.

MTT cases have been effectively defended. All cases involving the 2015 tax year have been resolved with minimal financial impact on the Township. To date, three new Entire Tribunal cases have been received for 2016. Notification of other new cases will occur over the next few months. Although receipt of several additional cases is anticipated, pending appeals are at an all-time low. None of the current appeals are located in the Township's Downtown Development Authority area. The amount of taxable value in contention for the recently filed appeals represents a very small portion of the Township's tax base. Defense of the appeals listed above is being coordinated with the Township's legal counsel. Work will continue to resolve appeals fairly without going to trial where possible and strongly defending appeals where necessary.

Re-Inspection Program

The Assessing Department's annual re-inspection program is in progress and on schedule. Following interviews, interns were selected and have been provided with training. Field inspections are underway. Affected property owners were notified by mail concerning the program prior to inspections. Details regarding the re-inspection program, including maps showing affected parcels, have been posted on the Township's Website. A continuing re-inspection program is an important component of a sound assessing operation.

COMMUNICATIONS/HOMTV

Provide Fair and Balanced Election Coverage

HOMTV is knee deep into producing election programs. Each candidate for contested races at the county and local level were invited to participate in HOMTV Primary Election Ballot Meridian 2016 Election Coverage. They were each given an opportunity to participate in a one on one candidate interview, provide an on camera candidate statement, and participate in a debate. Each candidate seeking office in the same race was interviewed by the same host. Director Guthrie hosted the Democratic and Republican Ingham County Prosecutor Candidate interviews. Intern Coordinator Brandie Yates hosted the Republican Township Trustee Candidate interviews. HOMTV Intern Brett Kast hosted the Democratic and Republican Township Supervisor interviews and the Democratic Township Trustee interviews. HOMTV Intern Elizabeth Crenshaw hosted the Township Treasurer interview.

Interviews are produced 'live to tape'. There is no content editing of any program. HOMTV staff does not discuss any aspect of the interviews with anyone outside HOMTV production staff. Interviews are not to be viewed by anybody other than HOMTV production staff until all interviews with candidates for a particular office have been completed and are on the air. Each candidate was given a standard list of questions 24 hours in advance of their interview. Each candidate was asked the same list of questions for the office they are seeking. Candidate interviews and candidate statements began being aired on the HOMTV program schedule June 27. Playtimes are evenly balanced among candidates seeking the same office during the day during the week, during the evening during the week, and during the weekend.

HOMTV is providing debate coverage of contested races at the local level. The debates can be seen on Comcast 21 in Haslett, Okemos, and East Lansing. The debates will be simulcast on CAMTV on AT&T Uverse in 17 communities across the region and they are available via livestream at www.homtv.net. On June 16, HOMTV staff held a mock debate and training session with the interns. Thursday, June 23 at 7pm was the first LIVE Debate featuring the Democratic Candidates for Township Trustee. Questions are not given in advance. Each question is asked in such a way that it is not directed at any one candidate. Each candidate is provided the same amount of time to respond and the one opportunity for rebuttal. Each response and rebuttal is timed.

Debate Schedule:

Contested Race	Date	LIVE Air Time
Township Trustee (D)	Thursday, June 23	7:00 – 8:00 PM
Ingham County Prosecutor (R)	Thursday, June 30	7:00 – 8:00 PM
Ingham County Prosecutor (D)	Thursday, July 7	7:00 - 8:00 PM
Township Supervisor (D)	Thursday, July 14	7:00 – 8:00 PM
Township Clerk (D)	Thursday, July 21	7:00 - 8:00 PM

Formulate a Strategy for Distributed Antennae Systems (DAS)

Staff is working with legal counsel to develop the ability to handle issues, applications, and an appropriate response to DAS applications. We have engaged the qualified telecom counsel representative Mike Watzka from Kitch law firm to work out solutions with these applications in compliance with federal law and state law.

Continue Broad Citizen Communication

The Communications Department continues broad citizen communication through weekly Township and HOMTV eNewsletters to residents, daily Township updates through social media and the Township website, weekly press releases to media including increased outreach, weekly HOMTV alumni features to the HOMTV alumni network, quarterly HOMTV "The Scoop" newsletters, monthly Township Manager blogs, Township-wide publications, flyers, posters, etc. In addition, the Communications Department began a monthly internal newsletter, additional external communications support upon request and social media campaigns for Township-wide information such as picking up pet waste, playgrounds in the parks and Celebrate Meridian.

In addition, staff improved the entryway to the Township Municipal Building to be more welcoming and increase visibility of Township events and activities for the public. The placement of information within the building expanded to the display case and bathroom stalls as well.

Through the efforts of celebrating the 175th Anniversary in 2017, staff began building a greater bond and new connections with the business community and nonprofit organizations. HOMTV began co-producing the Senior Living show with the seniors at the Meridian Senior Center.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Vacant Properties

A list of vacant dwellings/structures within the township has been compiled, and is updated regularly.

Visual inspections of properties, as well as, cross referencing code enforcement complaints and utility billing records are providing a good source for identifying vacant properties.

As of mid-May, there were 18 dwellings that had been identified as "vacant". Attempts are being made to contact owners, previous listed owners, and the responsible property maintenance persons to secure the dwellings and make sure all property maintenance standards are being maintained.

Rental Housing Ordinance and Rental Process Review

At this time, the rental ordinance and the process for rental registration remains unchanged; however, staff is reviewing the rental scheduling procedure and developing groups within the multi-family complexes to be more efficient with our inspector's time.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Develop a Plan to Reduce the Number of Worker's Compensation Claims

Safety always comes first. Below are things we are currently working on or have already accomplished relating to safety:

1. Four members of the Department have requested to be on the newly formed Township Safety Committee.
2. New fire gear has been purchased that is lighter and ergonomically designed for comfort and maneuverability.
3. Helmets have engineered eye protection and higher degree of impact resistance than previous models.
4. A training prop was constructed to allow for multiple firefighting techniques in safe, controlled environment.

5. Conducted training on lifting techniques, sharp safety, and continually search for medical devices engineered with safety enhancements.
6. The new engine, scheduled to arrive in July, will have pullout tool boards to reduce the need for staff to reach overhead for heavy equipment.

Continue Efforts to Build a Diverse and Inclusive Team

Chief Cowper is on the advisory boards for the Lansing Community College fire academy and paramedic programs. He attended both graduation ceremonies and spoke with several graduates about applying for positions with MTFD. In addition, staff attended their graduate job fair to recruit new candidates. A female firefighter was hired full-time in May.

Develop a Plan to Expand our Service to Alaiedon Township Including Medical First Response

Chief Cowper spoke with the Alaiedon Township Supervisor regarding emergency medical services (EMS) coverage. He advised they are going to continue with a private ambulance company at this time, but to re-contact him in January for further discussion on the matter. In accordance with our contract, MTFD continues to provide fire coverage for the northern portion of Alaiedon Township.

Determine Ways to Increase our Regional Approach to Fire Service

Staff continues to participate in the regional Fire Shared Services Initiative. Meetings are held each month to discuss various opportunities for collaboration, increased efficiencies, and cost savings. Metro Departments are working to complete active violence incidents (AVI) training and equipment purchases utilizing Michigan 2015 Competitive Grant Assistance Program (CGAP) funding. Metro Incident Command Officers have initiated monthly meetings to build relationships and standardize fire ground operating procedures. The Metro Fire Investigation Team ensures a fire investigator is available 24/7 in the region. Regional Blue Card Command Training and continuing education are ongoing.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Professional Training

Fourteen (14) "Unlawful Harassment Prevention and FMLA Update" sessions were conducted jointly with Labor Attorneys Schultz and Mills. These were mandatory sessions for all employees across the Township. These sessions provided a review of federal, state and local law, as well as, support for the information contained in the newly updated Personnel Policy Manual effective November, 2015. The sessions provided an opportunity for employees to hear the commitment made by the Township to provide a workplace free of unlawful harassment, and shared expectations for appropriate behavior, reporting methods and prompt investigation of claims.

Township-Wide Safety Committee

A committee of employees across the township has been formed to define safety objectives, share expectations, and communicate a "Safety First" message for our township employees. One goal of the program is to reduce the number of incidents and accidents by providing proactive training and coaching after an injury to prevent a reoccurrence. The first meeting was conducted on June 23, 2016 with regular monthly meetings to be scheduled.

Employee Team Building and Recognition

Several employee recognition and team building initiatives are under way beginning with the "Shout Out" program in April, 2016, where employees write thank you notes to co-workers to recognize outstanding efforts. Those personal notes are placed on bulletin boards, in their respective work areas, for all to see. Each month a committee selects winners and an all employee memo is sent listing not only the winners, but honorable mentions as well. Other activities are being planned for special monthly birthday celebrations, weekly walking events, and the annual employee appreciation picnic.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Township's Phone System

A complete inventory and assessment of hardware has been compiled and significant deficiencies have been identified at six (6) of the Township facilities. Documentation is being recompiled into supporting information that will result in an RFP document that will renovate the telephone system for our Municipal Building, Public Safety Building, the Service Center, Fire Station 93, Fire Station 92, and our newest facility Fire station 91. IT staff plans to release the RFP in the third quarter of 2016.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Deer Management Program

The DNR will continue with their culling program in Meridian Township in July 2016 utilizing sharp shooters. Our local deer management program will begin in October. Staff is researching additional properties to add to the program. New state regulations will aid in this process where the 450' rule has been suspended.

Manage Invasive Species

Over 600 school children from Okemos and Haslett Schools along with parents and adults have participated in stewardship activities in our parks and land preserves in the last three months including invasive plant removal, restoration projects, creating butterfly gardens and releasing salmon in the Red Cedar River.

Our garlic mustard pull occurred on June 25th at Central Park. So far, the Mid-Michigan Stewardship Cluster has pulled 13,338 lbs as part of a statewide challenge.

Very exciting news...Hartrick Park and Red Cedar Glen Land Preserve are now GARLIC MUSTARD FREE!

Smart Phone Application

Senior Park Naturalist Kati Adams has completed the GPS and GIS mapping of all park trails and amenities and is working with Township IT Department to transfer the information into a GIS format to create a smart phone application. This project should be completed by the end of the year.

Pathway Millage

Working with other staff members to furnish information to residents for the August Primary vote to renew the 2004 Pathway Millage that is set to expire in 2016.

Ingham County Trail Millage

Chief Engineer Younes Ishraidi and Project Engineer Nyal Nunn completed a grant application for \$88,000 worth of trail repairs that were identified in the Mannik and Smith report for the County. That request was approved. These trail repairs will be made in 2017.

They also prepared and submitted a grant for identified bridge repairs/replacements for an estimated cost of \$544,000 (as identified in the Mannik and Smith report). The bridge request will be voted on in July by the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

Younes and Nyal are currently working on the next application for a new trail connecting MSU to Lake Lansing for submittal October 1, 2016 to Ingham County. They are also applying for federal funds utilizing the County Millage and our local Pathway Millage as a match.

Relocating the Farmers' Market

We have continued meetings with Dave Ledebuhr and Marsha Madle from the Meridian EDC along with Larry Parsons and Farmers' Market Manager Christine Miller to discuss proposed plans and funding options in creating a public/private partnership with the Meridian Mall. Representatives from CBL are drafting plans now for consideration. This site supports keeping it adjacent to Central Park, utilizes green space for post-shopping

activities, provides a connection to Central Park as identified in the Central Park Master Plan, utilizes existing pavement to support vendors, customers, accessibility, and parking without adding impervious surface in this portion of the Township, We are in the process of obtaining a preliminary design and cost estimates.

Event Management

- Family Winter Fun Weekends in January and February; 24 events, 2,080 participants
- Polar Bear 5K – January 24 == 168 participants
- Winter Wonderland – January 30 == 420 participants
- Chinese New Year – February 7== 1,500 visitors
- Celebrate Meridian – June 11 == +3,000 visitors
- Meridian Arts and Crafts Marketplace – June 26, July 24, August 28, September 25
- Meridian Heritage Festival – September 10
- Meridian Spooktacular Adventures – October 29
- Christmas in the Village – December 11
- Lake Lansing Community Band Shell Concert series, every Friday evening, June - August

Williamston Recreation Agreement

In 2015, a two-year Recreation Services Agreement was approved to provide administration of youth baseball, softball, t-ball, cheerleading, flag football, tackle football and basketball. This contract will be up for renegotiation at the end of 2016. Discussions should begin for consideration of renewal no later than August.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Diversity and Inclusion Strategies

Chief Hall met with each command and supervisory staff separately to receive input on what steps should be taken to improve diversity. Command staff invested one on one recruitment efforts to encourage individuals to consider Meridian as a career agency. Command staff is working toward a culture where all employees are recruiters. The Police Advisory Committee (PAC) is tasked with providing input for ways to recruit a more diverse employee work force. Discussions by the PAC will begin as to how the cadet program can be further developed to improve inclusiveness and recruitment of a diverse work force and include using the cadet program as a development strategy for new hires. An officer was assigned to attend a recruiting event at Wayne State University sponsored by the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives.

Renew the Williamstown Township Police Services Contract

Chief Hall had a preliminary discussion with the Williamstown Township Supervisor. Serious discussions will begin in September.

Reduce Police Department Lawsuits and Workers Compensation Claims.

Chief Hall met with a Meadow Brook (MML) loss prevention representative and discussed ideas to help reduce workers compensation claims. A review of previous claims has begun to research common causes of workers compensation claims and with resulting strategy's to reduce work relates injuries. Software is being researched to better assist the department in tracking training and issuing general orders, special orders and training bulletins to include an automated testing process on issued directives. A training program is being developed to provide instruction to commanders, supervisors and officers on current issues surrounding law enforcement civil liability. Chief Hall met individually with command and supervisory staff to receive their input on the reduction of compensation claims and civil liability suits. The Department intends to participate in the newly developed state accreditation program for law enforcement. Nationally, accreditation has shown to reduce civil liability of departments who participate.

PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING

Increase Recycling at Large Apartment Complexes

Staff are working on an effort to increase curbside recycling with Granger by providing residential customers with curb carts. Also, staff are investigating potential improvements to the existing recycle center access road to keep it open and functional during the spring and fall.

Improvements at the East Lansing Wastewater Plant

Staff began discussions with the City of East Lansing and Michigan State University on major upgrades to the City's wastewater treatment plant. Major design items have been agreed upon by participants. Design of plan and costing of improvements is ongoing.

Local Roads

The Pavement Preservation Program on local roads is continuing. The road selection is complete and the work will commence soon. The anticipated completion is the 3rd quarter of 2016.

Building Maintenance

Staff are leading the effort to inspect Township owned buildings annually to ensure appropriate maintenance. Development of a long-term facility maintenance plan is underway. Results of the study will be used to develop long-term capital budgeting for facility improvements.

Township Recycling Center

The current access drive to the Township Recycling Center has historically been difficult to keep serviceable during the spring and fall of each year. Because of its low lying location in the wetlands, the road is prone to rutting and potholes. In an effort to investigate ways to improve the road regardless of season, staff will construct a pilot project to improve the road using geogrid technology. If the test area proves successful in the fall of 2016 and spring of 2017, a total reconstruction of the road is proposed. The new improved access road would allow the recycling center program that exists to remain at the current location.

Complete the Gap in the Mount Hope Pathway

Staff is working to construct a pathway on the south side of Mt. Hope Road (Okemos Road to Maumee). The design is underway and the remaining two required easements are being negotiated.

Work with East Lansing to Complete the Pathway Gap on Lake Lansing Road

Work is continuing with East Lansing on completing the gap in the network between both municipalities on Lake Lansing Road.

1. Attachment-Meridian Township Pension Debt Forecast

Valuation Year Ending 12/31	Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1	Actuarial Accrued Liability	Valuation Assets	Funded Percentage	Computed Annual Employer Contribution
7.75% Assumed Interest Discount Rate and Future Annual Market Rate of Return WITH 5-YEAR PHASE-IN					
2015	2017	\$ 61,743,003	\$ 34,930,549	57%	\$ 2,429,856
2016	2018	64,357,654	35,888,854	56%	2,549,676
2017	2019	67,199,351	37,259,695	55%	2,784,708
2018	2020	70,126,384	38,595,733	55%	3,036,336
2019	2021	73,141,996	40,014,808	55%	3,303,684
2020	2022	76,219,789	42,716,359	56%	3,437,844
NO 5-YEAR PHASE-IN					
2015	2017	\$ 61,743,003	\$ 34,930,549	57%	\$ 2,629,968
2016	2018	64,357,654	35,888,854	56%	2,685,336
2017	2019	67,199,351	37,483,206	56%	2,857,896
2018	2020	70,126,384	38,976,461	56%	3,050,940
2019	2021	73,141,996	40,489,021	55%	3,264,012
2020	2022	76,219,789	43,240,270	57%	3,397,020
6.75% Assumed Interest Discount Rate and Future Annual Market Rate of Return NO 5-YEAR PHASE-IN					
2015	2017	\$ 69,929,730	\$ 34,930,549	50%	\$ 3,300,000
2016	2018	72,790,890	35,552,070	49%	3,372,408
2017	2019	75,880,440	37,525,229	50%	3,559,752
2018	2020	79,056,390	39,385,425	50%	3,769,164
2019	2021	82,321,422	41,241,587	50%	4,002,708
2020	2022	85,649,098	44,404,899	52%	4,160,352
5.75% Assumed Interest Discount Rate and Future Annual Market Rate of Return NO 5-YEAR PHASE-IN					
2015	2017	\$ 79,878,849	\$ 34,930,549	44%	\$ 4,077,792
2016	2018	83,022,661	35,215,198	42%	4,173,696
2017	2019	86,397,250	37,685,339	44%	4,381,032
2018	2020	89,860,484	40,028,917	45%	4,612,008
2019	2021	93,414,673	42,339,520	45%	4,870,416
2020	2022	97,033,665	45,827,516	47%	5,073,348

MEMORANDUM

TO: Township Board

FROM: 
Derek N. Perry, Assistant Township Manager
Director of Public Works & Engineering

DATE: July 17, 2016

RE: **Emergency Brush Pick Up Authorization**

With the recent storm event that occurred on Friday, July 8th many of our residents were left with a significant amount of tree limbs and branches after their power was restored. In an effort to aid our citizens we have developed a plan to provide a brush pick up program similar to the one that was offered after the ice storm in the winter of 2013/14.

On July 12, 2016 a press release was issued that announced a curbside brush removal program that would provide the removal of brush and limbs generated by the storm. Residents that required the removal of a tree on their property would be responsible for its complete removal. In order to participate in this program all residents must have their brush at the edge of the street by Monday, July 18, 2016 at 8 a.m.

To implement this program we have retained the services of Redwood Landscaping Services and Asplundh Tree Expert Co. While we did investigate alternatives, including providing the program with in-house forces, it was ultimately determined that a contractor that had the right equipment and manpower was the best alternative to provide the program in a timely fashion.

Redwood Landscaping Services is a local company that we use each year for maintenance of our pathways. We have a good history with them and we continue to be satisfied with their work product. On Monday they will focus on the Wardcliff neighborhood, which has the largest amount of storm damage in the Township.

Asplundh Tree Expert Co, which is a national forestry operations contractor, will be tasked with starting in the Haslett community and working south into the Okemos neighborhoods. I have extensive experience with this company and am confident that they can provide the service we require for the program to be successful.

Based on the amount of material we have observed we anticipate that both contractors will be working in the community for 10-15 days. The cost of the program is estimated to be \$30,000 to \$45,000.

The following motion is recommended for Board consideration:

Move to authorize the Township Manager to implement a Storm Damage Debris Clean-up program for the residents of Meridian Township at a cost of \$30,000 to \$45,000.

Attachments:

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN

Elizabeth Ann LeGoff
Brett Dreyfus
Julie Brixie
Frank L. Walsh

Supervisor
Clerk
Treasurer
Manager



Milton L. Scales
Ronald J. Styka
John Veenstra
Angela Wilson

Trustee
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 12, 2016

Media Contact: Frank Walsh
Township Manager
walsh@meridian.mi.us
517.853.4250

Meridian Township Announces Storm Damage Debris Clean-Up Efforts *Curbside Pick-Up Program to Begin July 18th*

Meridian Township, MI — The Meridian Township Board recognizes the challenges many homeowners are facing after the storm that knocked out power to thousands and brought down hundreds of neighborhood trees on Friday, July 8th. The Board has made it clear that help is on the way.

Township officials are trying to determine the best course of action to provide the cleanup without the designated staff for such an event or the expensive equipment necessary to carry out the mission.

In April-May of 2014 Meridian Township contracted with two local companies to pick up brush from the December 21, 2013 ice storm. The cost of the cleanup exceeded \$200,000. Township staff have contacted a few local companies and have found most crews are too busy to handle the Township's brush removal at this time. In order to provide this service to the 42,000 Township residents, staff is in the process of purchasing the necessary equipment and providing brush removal in-house.

This program will only offer brush and limb removal. The Township will not remove any trees. Residents are asked to have the tree companies they contract to also take any brush from their property as part of their private cleanup. **Residents are asked to only place storm debris out at the edge of the street.** Again, tree removal service is not being offered through this program.

The Township Brush Pick-Up Program will begin on Monday, July 18th. **All brush must be at the edge of the street by July 18th at 8:00 am.** Work is anticipated to last for 4-5 weeks. Please visit the Township website for detailed information over the next 5 weeks, as the schedule is subject to change based on the amount of material being removed.

Residents are also asked not to dump their brush at any Township park, land preserve or Township property. The Meridian Township Police Department will be vigilant on holding violators responsible for their actions.

Please be patient as the Township embarks on providing an in-house service to residents. Please direct any questions to the Meridian Township Public Works & Engineering Department at 517.853.4440. The Township would also like to take the time to thank Consumers Energy and Lansing Board of Water & Light for their unparalleled response to the recent storm.

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5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS, MICHIGAN 48864 517.853.4250
www.meridian.mi.us





P.O. Box 926 Okemos MI, 48805 ☐ (517) 381-0500 ☐ redwoodlandscaping123@gmail.com

DATE: July 14, 2016

CUSTOMER: Charter Township of Meridian

PROJECT ADDRESS:

PHONE: 517-853-4624

EMAIL: antone@meridian.mi.us, perry@meridian.mi.us

1) Description of work: Contractor will furnish all materials and perform all labor in a good, workmanlike and substantial manner for the described project upon the described property:

Brush Removal:

2 men, a chipper and a dump truck for approximately 8 hours per day for approximately 5 days

2) Agreement price and payment schedule:

Customer will pay the contractor the sum of \$1,500.00/day as follows:

<u>Work/Services to be performed</u>	<u>Amount of Payment</u>
Deposit	50% of services selected
Completion of Work	Balance

3) Terms and Conditions: The terms and conditions on the reverse side of this document are expressly incorporated into this Agreement. Payments 30 days past due shall bear interest at 2.0% monthly (24% annually)

4) Special Provisions: Redwood Landscaping reserves the right to add a fuel surcharge when market price dictates. This rate will not be greater than 5% of total project cost.

5) Signature: Please sign, date and return to be put on the schedule.

Contractor Signature Date
Brian Ruh

Customer Date

ASPLUNDH TREE EXPERT CO.

Asplundh Tree Expert Co.
 2255 Northway Dr.
 Mt Pleasant, MI 48858

Elvis Peacock 989-330-5007

Date:	7/15/2016
Job #	EEEEP0009

To: Meridian Charter Township
 Public Works & Engineering
 5151 Marsh Rd. Okemos, Mi. 48864

To: Derick 269-408-6187 cell

LOCATION OF WORK

East Lansing

Scope of work- location- work to be done

Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total
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Asplundh will have a 2 man chip crew with a dump box and chipper come down and chip brush and clean up brush from the storm that is piled where Derick has them place it.

1

hour

145

We will work a 10 hour day at least, or more if requested.

All Motels and per diems are included in this hourly rate.

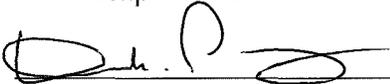
ALL WORK COMPLETED PER ESTIMATE

Subtotal:	\$0.00
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Total:	\$0.00
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Township Board

FROM: 
Derek N. Perry, Assistant Township Manager
Director of Public Works & Engineering

DATE: July 17, 2016

RE: **Recycling Center Driveway**

As the Township Board is aware, during the spring and fall each year the entrance drive to the Recycling Center is often in such disrepair that access is limited or restricted.

We often struggle to keep the road maintained as it is located in an extremely wet environment, the road base is poor and we do not have road maintenance equipment to keep it properly graded. The end result is a significant number of large potholes and ruts in the gravel road and frustration for us and the users of the facility.

Because we recognize the importance of the center to our residents, users outside our community and the desire to keep it at this location, we have spent some time over the past year exploring ways to keep the access drive serviceable for a greater period of time.

We are currently working with representatives of a company that makes a geogrid product that provides stability in multi-directions resulting in better stress transfer throughout the road bed. In essence, the product is designed to keep the road together longer and better.

As part of our investigation into the use of the product, the manufacturer, Tensar Corporation, has agreed to provide us with enough material for a demonstration project. We are currently working with them on locating a local contractor that has experience installing the product so we get the best demonstration project possible for our community. Our goal is to have the demo in place this summer and ready for the fall rains and the winter freezing and thawing events.

If the product proves successful after the spring of 2017 we would potentially prepare a recommendation to the Township Board to rebuild the access road utilizing this product. We are optimistic that this solution will help us enhance the user experience at the Meridian Township Recycling Center going forward.