

**WATERVLIET CHARTER TOWNSHIP**  
**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**  
**Watervliet Charter Township Hall**  
**September 7, 2011**

**Meeting called to order** at 9:00 a.m. by D Hutchins, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustees in attendance: P Bambrick, D Hutchins, J Matthews, J Stepich, V Kinzler, T Scheid and B Wallace.

Special Assessment District

- **Moved** by J Stepich, supported by B Wallace to adopt Lake Improvement Special Assessment District No. 1 Resolution No. 4 as submitted. AYE: V Kinzler, J Matthews, B Wallace, J Stepich, T Scheid, P Bambrick, D Hutchins.
- The resolution includes the assessment roll, total assessment amount, and the annual and five-year assessment amount for those in the district.
- J Stepich presented an estimated cost timeline which has been sent to Spicer for review. Current estimates are that if the townships defer until year three to be repaid there will be no need to finance any portion of the project costs. A resolution will be presented at a regular meeting to approved deferring payment.
- D Hutchins recommended that the committee stay in tact throughout the term of the assessment district to review project progress and expenses.

Four Winds Casino

- **Moved** by B Wallace, supported by J Matthews to adopt the resolution of Intent to Participate in Four Winds Local Revenue Sharing Board as submitted. AYE: B Wallace, J Matthews, V Kinzler, J Stepich, T Scheid, P Bambrick, D Hutchins.

Fairview Cemetery

- The need for creating access to the cemetery from County Line Road was discussed. Anticipated increased traffic on Red Arrow Highway may necessitate an alternative entry into the cemetery.

Water Mains

- The prospective new owner of Pleasant View Estates is interested in having the water mains extended out to them. Wightman's is doing preliminary work on it.
- If water mains are extended the Township would want an agreement with the city to provide all future maintenance of those lines and all existing water main lines in the township, citing the City gets all income from water service while the Township has no income generated from the water mains.
- Would like to consider extending, at Township cost, the water main that MDOT is putting in along M-140 the additional footage necessary to reach Forest Beach with the City possibly sharing the cost.
- A reduced rate for Pokagon Heights, to continue during a special assessment district for new water mains, is being discussed with the City.

South Watervliet Drain

- Drain Commissioner would open cut the drain and would like the Township and City to consider sharing the cost. If the Township and City do it themselves it is projected that the cost could be cut in half.

- Dan will talk with the Drain Commissioner to get a better idea of cost.

#### Shared Services

- The Township has started doing building inspection and zoning administration services for City
- An agreement between the City and Township should be available for Monday's meeting
- Building inspector will get 75% and the inspectors will get 80% of the fees (same as for Township inspectors). The remainder of the inspections fees for the City will go to the City.
- Administrative cost to the City will be \$14,000 annually

#### Township Properties

- A property owner with contiguous property to Terrace Grove Park has expressed an interest in the property.
- The Township will do a title search to see if there are any restrictions on the deed.
- A policy will need to be put in place to assure consistency when the sale of Township properties are made available.

#### Other Business

- **Road Commission:** Izzy Di Maggio will be retiring. Would like a strong representative in his place. Commission meets twice a month.
- **Commemoration Plaque:** Discussion was held to honor township leaders and their contribution to the community.
- **Health Insurance:** Alternatives need to be investigated to the new legislation which places a cap of \$5,500 on the amount a municipality can pay for health benefits. We can opt out by January 1, 2012 or must have a plan in place by then that meets that cap. If we opt out must vote every year to do so. J Stepich suggested we look at other ways to reduce our health insurance costs. The Township can opt out for one year to give us time to look at our plan and then opt in the following year if desired.
- **Riverwalk Project grant:** B Wallace questioned the payment of the full grant writing contract if the project does not go forward to completion. Dan will check with Cindy on the status of the project.
- **Rest Area:** There is no new news on a rest area to replace the Coloma rest area.

#### Adjournment

- **Moved** by V Kinzler, supported by J Stepich to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Patricia Bambrick, Clerk

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Dan Hutchins, Supervisor