

APPROVED MINUTES
GROSSE ILE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 27, 2009
Grosse Ile Township Hall ó Merle Solomon Boardroom 2nd floor
9601 Groh Road

6:15 p.m. Call to Order

Present: Supervisor Loftus, Clerk O'Connor, Treasurer Van Os, Trustees Frucci, Johnson,
Kantz and Ranka

Absent: None

Motion Van Os, second Ranka to Adjourn to Executive Session for: 1) Toll Bridge Litigation, 2) Open Space Property Acquisition, 3) Performance Evaluation ó Township Manager.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion O'Connor, second Van Os, to adjourn Executive Session at 7:35 p.m.

Motion carried 7-0.

7:37 p.m. Regular Meeting Reconvened

Present: Supervisor Loftus, Clerk O'Connor, Treasurer Van Os, Trustees Frucci, Johnson,
Kantz and Ranka

Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations:

1. Municipal Clerks Week Proclamation

Clerk O'Connor introduced the proclamation recognizing May 3-9 as Municipal Clerks Week and Supervisor Loftus praised the Clerk's office as the office to go to for information and assistance. Clerk O'Connor provided a brief history of the Town Clerk and Supervisor Loftus read the following Proclamation and thanked Clerk O'Connor for her service to the township.

Municipal Clerks Week May 3 - 9, 2009

Whereas, the Office of the Municipal Clerk, a time honored and vital part of local government exists throughout the world, and *Whereas*, The Office of the Municipal Clerk is the oldest among public servants, and *Whereas*, The Office of the Municipal Clerk provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels, and *Whereas*, Municipal Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all. *Whereas*, The Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community. *Whereas*, Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Municipal Clerk through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, province, county and international professional organizations. *Whereas*, It is most appropriate that we recognize the accomplishments of the Office of the Municipal Clerk. **Now, Therefore, I, Brian Loftus, Supervisor of Grosse Ile Township, on behalf of the Grosse Ile Township Board and residents, do recognize the week of May 3 through May 9, 2009, as Municipal Clerks Week, and further extend appreciation to our Municipal Clerk, Ute O'Connor, and to all Municipal Clerks for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.**

2. Harold Jones, 7922 Siding Ct., gave a brief background of the American Made Products & Services Resolution being presented to the Board for adoption tonight. Mr. Jones pointed out that the resolution is being sponsored by the United Steel Workers to call attention to the need to stimulate the American economy by buying American made goods and services whenever possible and it is especially important when spending Federal Economic Renewal Grant funds. Supervisor Loftus urged the Board to adopt the resolution when it is presented during the Action Item portion of the agenda.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

1. Motion Johnson, second Ranka to change Action Item 10 to Action Item 1 and to Delete Action Item 7, Open Space Purchase and Action Item 9, Township Manager Salary Adjustment from the Agenda. Approved 7-0
2. Motion O' Connor, second Ranka, to Add Action Item 9, Letter of Support for Rehabilitation of Grosse Ile Parkway & W. Jefferson intersection to the Agenda. Approved 7-0

Motion Van Os, second O' Connor, to approve the agenda as amended. Approved 7-0

CONSENT AGENDA 09-051:

Motion Kantz, Second O' Connor, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

1. Minutes of March 24, 2009 Special Meeting
 2. Minutes of March 28, 2009 Regular Meeting
 3. Cash Requirements List dated April 10, 2009
 4. Check Register dated April 1, 2009
 5. Check Register dated April 16, 2009
 6. Check Register dated April 27, 2009
- Approved 7-0.

REVISED AGENDA

RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations:

1. Municipal Clerks Week Proclamation
2. Economic Recovery Plan Spending ó American Made Products & Services

Additions/Deletions to Agenda

1. Delete Action Item 7- Open Space Purchase
2. Delete Action Item 9- Township Manager Salary Adjustment
3. Move Action Item 10- Safe Routes to School Grant to Action Item 1 and adjust numbering of Action Items accordingly.
4. Add Letter of Support for Rehabilitation of Grosse Ile Parkway & W. Jefferson Intersection as Action Item # 9.

Motion Van Os, second O' Connor, to approve the Agenda as amended. Approved 7-0

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of March 24, 2009 Special Meeting
2. Minutes of March 28, 2009 Regular Meeting
3. Cash Requirements List dated April 10, 2009
4. Check Register dated April 1, 2009
5. Check Register dated April 16, 2009
6. Check Register dated April 27, 2009

ACTION ITEMS

1. Safe Routes to School Grant
2. Cable Commission Chairperson Appointment
3. Public Service Commission Appointment
4. American Made Products & Services Resolution
5. 2009 Dust Control Bid Award
6. 2009 Lawn Maintenance Bid Award
7. Grosse Ile Lighthouse Rehabilitation Bid Award
8. Waterø Edge Waterfront Design Grant Application
9. Support for Rehabilitation of Grosse Ile Parkway & W. Jefferson

Clerk's Report

1. United States Census Announcement
2. Passport reminder

Treasurer's Report

1. Investment Report through February, 2009

Trustee/Liaison Reports

Supervisor's Report

1. Township Updates

Township Manager's Report

Discussion Items: None scheduled

Extended Public Comment:

Motion Van Os, second O'Connor, to approve the Agenda as amended. Approved 7-0

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **09- 052** Motion O'Connor, Second Kantz, To implement the Safe Routes to School Grant, Project Numbers SRTS 2008-0021; SRTS 2008-0022; and SRTS-0023 in the amount of \$496,328 subject to the matching funds for the soft costs not to exceed \$100,000 to be taken from multiple accounts. The funding for work applicable to drainage shall be taken from drainage funds, the funding for work applicable to bike paths shall be taken from bike path funds, and the remaining funding shall be taken from the Right-of-Way/Metro Act funds, and the General Fund (not to exceed 5% of the soft costs or \$5,000, whichever is less) undesignated fund balance. And;

The implementation of Project Number SRTS 2008-0021 (Meridian Elementary) shall include;

- Installation of 5øconcrete sidewalk along school driveway.
- Installation of 5øconcrete sidewalks on Meridian Road between Meridian Elementary School and Hawthorn Glen Drive.
- Installation of a 5øsidewalk along the South side of Manchester from Meridian to the intersection of East River.
- Add the construction of a bike path from Meridian School to the Commerce Park Recreation Area.

The implementation of Project Number SRTS 2008-0022 (Parke Lane) shall include;

- Installation of 5øconcrete sidewalks on: Parke Lane from Parke Lane Elementary School to Burning Bush Road; Berkshire Drive from Parke Lane to Canterbury Avenue; Burning Bush Road from Parke Lane to Canterbury.
- Installation of 5øconcrete sidewalks on Parke Lane between Church Road and O'Donnell Avenue.

The implementation of Project Number SRTS 2008-0023 (Grosse Ile Middle School) shall include;

- Installation of a concrete sidewalk in front of building that will connect to the existing sidewalk along East River Road; Installation of a raised concrete walk in the rear of the building that will connect to the existing bike path; installation of a bike path around the perimeter of the high school parking lot that will connect to the proposed sidewalk along Grays Drive with the bike path.
- Installation of a 5øsidewalk on Grays Drive from the High School to Parke Lane

Supervisor Loftus provided the historical time line of the entire process and listed all public meetings held on the Safe Routes Grant and noted that Congressman John Conyers sent a statement of support which stated: "The implementation of these new paths will allow children to walk to and from school safely." "As a lifetime advocate for children and community health, I stand with the parents and families in the community who seek this new "green" means of transportation to and from school. I firmly believe that the community as a whole will benefit from this project as both the quality of life and community health of Grosse Ile Township will be influenced positively for years to come."

It is my sincere hope that all residents and elected leaders involved can work together on this issue so that its benefits can start to be seen.

Supervisor Loftus stated that in 2008 Former State House Representative Kathleen Law and State of Michigan Speaker of the House Andy Dillon also sent letters of support to the township for their participation in the Safe Routes to School program.

Board Comments:

1. The Board discussed the funding sources for the project as outlined in the motion; Mr. Kantz stated that bike path funds would be used where appropriate.
2. Clerk O'Connor commented that the initial board resolution was approved in December, 2007 and included maps and an outline of the project which has been available on the township website since September, 2008.
3. Trustee Johnson clarified that the cost of the project has been in the works since 2007 and asked if the proposed locations for the sidewalks and bike paths that cross Open Space are in the right-of-way the same as those impacting residential properties and whether wetland permits will be obtained where necessary.
4. Clerk O'Connor assured everyone that the board has done their homework and have given ample opportunity for public input. Mrs. O'Connor clarified that the Safe Routes volunteer group identified the routes; however, it was the State that determined which streets would be included in the program. The routes connect people to hubs in a community and this project makes people accessible to one another. Clerk O'Connor answered a resident's complaint about the absence of school board members from this meeting by clarifying that the school board is not in attendance because this is a township meeting and not there venue.
5. Trustee Frucci commented that sidewalks don't take away from the rural aspect of the community and that she feels safer that children will have a sidewalk to use. Mrs. Frucci shared a non-scientific Pro vs. Con chart she made with her granddaughter on the subject, which was based on communications received from residents. It showed that after putting a graduated numerical value on the comments received, 65% of the total count; were in favor of the project.
6. Trustee Ranka commented that the community participation on the subject highlights Grosse Ile in a good light, not a negative one. He stated he's thankful to have residents who stand up for what they believe in. He told the residents that his personal motto is to make decisions based on fact and to consider the long term benefits of the decision and believes the residents being impacted do deserve some consideration. Mr. Ranka suggested that future grant projects need to be led by the appropriate Commission and follow local needs as well as state and county guidelines.

Public Comment:

The following residents voiced opposition to the Safe Routes to School project for various reasons including the encroachment on property, the winter maintenance and upkeep of the sidewalks, the cost of the project, loss of rural atmosphere, the proposed route/streets chosen, lack of street lights, and safety and liability concerns:

Frank Marchio, Manchester	P. Lapointe, Thorpe Ct.
Alan Jackson, Bournemouth	Rochelle O'Brien, Cheshire Court
Angela Kosztowny, Elba Mar	Patricia Wallace, Manchester
Gyulla Dancs, Manchester	Maria Jeffrey, Parke Lane
Arestea Kakaris, Heather	Anthony Bongiorno, Manchester
Patrick Coakley, Highland	Sarah Bochenek, Burning Bush
Tim Walker, Thorpe Ct.	Donald Wojak, Berkshire
Ken Steel, Burning Bush	Christine McKenzie, Burning Bush
Sheila Anderson, Burning Bush	Jim Budny, Burning Bush
Dave Drook, Bellevue	Michael Sullivan, Church Road
Charlie Butler, Burning Bush	Maureen Budny, Burning Bush
James Rice, Thorntree Ct.	Debra Drook, Bellevue
Tom Malvesto, Berkshire	John Benjamin, Manchester

Ron Janowski, Groh Rd. (suggested using project money for Physical Educ. Classes instead)	
Diana Jackson, Bournemouth	Petition signed by 42 Residents on Manchester
The following people spoke in favor of the Safe Routes to School Grant Program citing safety issues for pedestrians and motorists, connecting neighborhoods together, health& community benefits, and potential improved property values:	
Otis Conway, Colony	Rubina Mustafa, Parke Lane
Michelle Lepidi, Parke Lane	Sarah Gilroy, Middleton Court
Natasha Thompson, Concord	Dawn Barnsdale, Fifth St.
Stephanie Lemoine, Hampton	Ken Lepidi, Parke Lane
Nick Stroia, Masi Court	Victor Stroia, Island Estate Dr.
Lori White, Hampton Court	Heneline Moses, Berkshire (wants different route)
Jackie DeSana, Masi Court	Jackie Lepidi
Gary Iverson, Rivard Court	Mark Gilroy, Middleton Court

After approximately 2.5 hours of public comment on the issue, Supervisor Loftus thanked everyone for their input and brought the issue back to the Board for a vote citing that the motion had been made by Clerk O'Connor, second by Trustee Kantz.
Motion approved 7-0.

The Supervisor called for a short recess at 10:33 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:48 p.m.

2. **09- 053** Motion Frucci, Second O'Connor, to approve the appointment of Darryl Froehlich as Chairman of the Cable Commission for the term length March 31, 2009 to March 31, 2010. Vote: 7-0
3. **09- 054** Motion Van Os, Second Frucci, to appoint Walter Pociask to the vacant position on the Public Services (DPS) Commission; term ending April 3, 2011. Vote 7-0 *Treasurer Van Os thanked Mr. Pociask for volunteering and commented that he will be an asset to the Commission.*
4. **09-055** Motion O'Connor, Second Ranka, to adopt the 2009 Resolution on Spending of Federal Economic Renewal Grants to Grosse Ile Township, Michigan as follows:
WHEREAS, the economic downturn is having a critical impact on everyday Americans who are struggling to maintain or find jobs in an increasingly difficult environment, and
WHEREAS, those same Americans are the taxpayers that provide the revenue needed to operate essential government services, and
WHEREAS, Congress and President Obama are planning a taxpayer-sponsored economic recovery package that will provide billions of dollars to help economically devastated cities and states immediately provide jobs to millions of out-of work Americans through considerable infrastructure rebuilding, green energy projects and other projects that will require manufactured components, and
WHEREAS, our taxpayer dollars should be spent to maximize the creation of American jobs and restoring the economic vitality of our communities, and
WHEREAS, any domestically produced products that are purchased with economic recovery plan monies will immediately help struggling American families and will help stabilize our greater economy, and
WHEREAS, any economic recovery plan spending should to every extent possible to include a commitment from Grosse Ile Township to buy materials, goods and services for projects from companies that are produced within the United States, thus employing the very workers that pay the taxes for the economic recovery plan spending in the first place.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, we the undersigned will work to maximize the creation of American jobs and restoring economic growth and opportunity by spending economic recovery plan funds on products and services that both create jobs and help keep Americans employed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, we commit to purchasing only products and services that are made or performed in the United States of America whenever and wherever possible with any economic recovery monies provided to Grosse Ile Township, Michigan by the American taxpayers.

Action Item 4-ROLL CALL VOTE: 7-0

YES: Loftus, O'Connor, Van Os, Frucci, Johnson, Kantz, Ranka

5. **09-056** Motion Van Os, Second O'Connor, to award the Bid to South Huron Industrial, for Dust Control Service for the 2009 season based upon the recommendation of the Public Services Commission. Vote: 7-0

Public Comment: 1) Bob Zelasko thanked the Board for taking over this process and providing first class care of the residents. 2) Gary Jones, asked if the County could apply the dust control with their trucks if the township provided the Pentaseal. Treasurer Van Os responded that is unlikely, but certainly worth asking the County.

6. **09-057** Motion O'Connor, Second Johnson, based on recommendation of Township Manager Dale Reaume and Recreation Maintenance Supervisor Dan Spangler, to award the 2009 lawn maintenance contract to Moehr Landscaping, subject to the Moehr Landscaping proposal dated April 21, 2009. Vote: 7-0

Public Comment: Gary Jones, Macomb Street, acknowledged that Moehr Landscaping does quality work, but questioned why the township doesn't use five staff members who are licensed to fertilize or court workers to help save money. Township Manager Reaume stated that due to the area at the county bridge entry being new, a professional landscaper is being used while it's still getting rooted and until the area is well established at which point the job may be transferred to township staff. Treasurer Van Os suggested a cost analysis be done to see if money is saved by using an outside firm.

7. **09-058** Motion Johnson, Second Van Os, Based on the recommendation of Ms. Michelle Smay of Smay Trombley Architecture and approval from the State Historic Preservation Office, to award the construction contract for the rehabilitation of the Grosse Ile North Channel Front Range Light to Baird and Lowler Building Co. as the lowest bidder in the amount of \$36,117.00 and to approve the construction contract as prepared and submitted by Ms. Michelle Smay of Smay Trombley Architecture and reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office and Grosse Ile Township. Ayes: 7 Nays: None Motion carried.

8. **09-059** Motion O'Connor, Second Van Os, to authorize the Grosse Ile Community Recreation Commission to submit a grant application through the Coastal Zone Management Program of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for site design, planning and engineering for the Water's Edge Waterfront Redevelopment with \$40,000 coming from the Centennial Farm Reserve for Capital Improvements Fund (2100-110-976000) in 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 for a total of \$80,000. The Community Recreation Commission will pursue additional grants with the goal of lowering the match amount.

Presentations were provided by Anita Twardesky, Co-Chair of the Downriver Linked Greenways and Mark Russell of Russell Design, showing the scope of the proposed project which could become part of the Detroit Heritage River Trail Initiative. Recreation Director Rooney provided background on the Community Recreation Master Plan proposals for improvements to the waterfront area and how this grant would help to accomplish a 300 foot portion of those plans.

Board Comments:

- 1) Trustee Johnson raised issues of spending \$80,000 on either the airport/recreation area or golf course equipment in order to attract more use of the golf course.
- 2) Trustee Kantz stated he has issues with putting money into a facility overlooking the DTE coal pile when other uses could be addressed. Mr. Kantz wants to see a prioritization plan.

09-060 Clerk O'Connor, as Liaison to Community Recreation motioned to table the motion pending further research and discussion. Second by Trustee Ranka. Question was called by Supervisor Loftus. VOTE: 6-1 Johnson opposes

Motion Tabled.

9. **09-061** Motion Kantz, second Frucci, the Grosse Ile Township Board of Trustees supports the rehabilitation of the Wayne County roadway intersection at W. Jefferson Avenue and Grosse Ile

Parkway as proposed by U.S. House Representative John Conyers, in the amount of \$600,000.00 with \$480,000.00 earmarked under the Highway Re-authorization Bill requested by Wayne County.

VOTE: 7-0 Motion carried

Clerk's Report

1. Clerk O'Connor reported the U.S. Census Bureau is beginning the preliminary canvassing of addresses for the 2010 Census. Residents may notice Census Takers in their neighborhoods and should expect to receive the constitutionally required census survey form in the mail in early February-March, 2010.
2. A reminder that Passports will be required to re-enter the United States beginning June 1st. The Clerk's Office has daily appointments available to process passport applications M-F 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by appointment. Evening and Saturday appointments are available with advance notice. Passport photos are available for \$8.00 at the Recreation Office at Water's Edge.
3. Secretary of State offices are offering new enhanced driver's licenses with passport like functions for border crossings in North America. The cost for the new four year licenses are \$45.00 (\$30 for state identification cards) Call or visit a nearby Secretary of State office for more information

Treasurer's Report

1. Investment Report:
Treasurer Van Os reported the township has \$7,814,548.00 invested in CDs with terms ranging from 30 to 90 days with rates ranging from .15% to 1.40% or an average of .57% interest.
2. The balance for the month of March of the MBIA CLASS investment pool is \$7,301,214.00 earning \$3,235.00 interest at a rate of .49%.
3. The sweep/investment accounts total \$2,080,590.00 as of March 30, 2009 earning interest of \$946.00 at an average of .23%.
4. The 2008 property tax rolls have been balanced and delivered to Wayne County. Delinquent Personal Property taxes may still be paid at the Treasurer's Office; however, delinquent Real Property taxes must be paid to Wayne County.
5. Preparations are underway for fiscal year end reports and the upcoming annual audit.

Trustees Reports

1. Trustee Frucci reported that the Cable Commission is overseeing work by the Cable Administrator on a new jazzy township website to be available soon.
2. Mrs. Frucci gave each board member a White Pine seedling from State Representative Deb Kennedy in honor of Arbor Day.

Supervisor's Report

1. Announcement that the 1st Island Open House on Sunday, April 26, 2009 had a good turnout of about 20-25 visitors to local realtor open houses.

Township Manager's Report

1. Announcement that there will be a Water's Edge Open House on May 9th which will include a Goodfellows canned food drive.

Public Comment: Three minute time limit per person

1. Frank Marchio, Manchester Road, saddened by the board's vote on the Safe Routes to School Grant.
2. Mrs. Dancs, asked the board how many visitors to the Open House asked for houses without sidewalks.
3. James Budny, Burning Bush, disappointed by the board's vote on the sidewalks, feels it changed the lifestyle of many residents.
4. Victor Lenhart, Southpointe, asked the board why the Gloccamorra road end was vacated which cut off a public access point to the water.

5. Scott Aston, Columbine Court, urged the board to provide water access to the public on Wilbur and Gloccamorra in order to attract new residents and visitors to the township and urged the board to seek a Mandamus action against the county.

Township Manager Reaume reported to the board that the county has informed the township that the board missed the deadline for appeal and the issue is considered closed.

Supervisor Loftus stated that the township doesn't have interest or money to maintain the road ends vacated over the years.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Ranka, second Van Os. Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 12:44 a.m.

Ute O'Connor, Township Clerk