

APPROVED MINUTES  
GROSSE ILE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
July 26, 2010  
Grosse Ile Township Hall ó Merle Solomon Boardroom 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
9601 Groh Road

Supervisor Loftus called for a Motion to Convene the Regular Meeting. Motion Ranka, second Kantz to convene the meeting at 7:17 p.m. All aye.

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

Motion Kantz, second Van Os, to enter into Executive Session for POAM Contract Negotiations at 7:18 p.m. All aye

Motion Van Os, second Kantz to adjourn Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. All aye.

Regular meeting reconvened at 7:52 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

**Additions/Deletions to Agenda:**

Motion Frucci, second Johnson, to delete Action Item # 5, Communications Commission Appointment. Motion approved 6-0.

Motion Kantz, second Van Os, to add Item # 8, Resolution to amend the Board Meeting Schedule. Motion approved 6-0.

Motion Van Os, second Johnson, to approve the Agenda as amended. All aye

**CONSENT AGENDA 10-043:**

1. Minutes of June 28, 2010 Regular Meeting
2. Check Register dated July 9, 2010
3. Check Register dated July 23, 2010
4. Authorization to process payments through August 28, 2010

Motion Van Os, second Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All aye

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. **10-044** Motion Van Os, second Ranka, to authorize adjustment to the Water and Sewer Rates of 12.3%; based on the Plante Moran Capital Improvements Schedule, effective August 1, 2010. Approved 6-0.

*Finance Director and DPS Director reported that the increase imposed on the township by the City of Detroit was 12.6% over last year. The water and sewer rates are adjusted to reflect this increase. The rates also include future capital projects to improve water mains that are still in use since 1930. Water rates will increase from \$5.96 to \$6.56 per thousand gallons and sewer rates will increase from \$1.81 to \$2.17 per thousand gallons. This equates to an average household using 25,000 to 30,000 gallons per quarter seeing an increase of \$8.00 per month or \$24 per quarter.*

Public Comment regarding water and sewer rates was received from the following:

1. R. Janowski, Groh Road
2. E. Horvath, Hickory Island
3. T. Malvesto, Brookshire Dr.
4. DPS Commission Chair, Bill Costick, volunteered to do a rate study over the next two months.

- 2 a. **10-045** Motion Kantz, second Van Os, to accept with regret the resignation of Gregg Barton from the Airport Commerce Park Commission effective July 26, 2010.
- b. To approve the appointment of Ron Baker to the Airport Commerce Park Commission for the term length July 26, 2010 to April 3, 2013.

Approved 6-0

3. **10-046** Motion Loftus, second Johnson, Based on the recommendation of the Downtown Development Authority, the DDA requests the Township Board to enter into a purchase agreement for the purchase of the East 25 feet of the East 50 feet of Lot 12 East Side Horace Grays Sub (part of parcel number 028-010012-001) PC 552 L4 P39 WCR for \$17,500 and pay costs associated with the lot split to a maximum of \$5,000 and to split with the seller the 2010 property taxes (seller pay 2010 Summer Property Taxes and Township to pay 2010 Winter Property Taxes) and all applicable closing costs (i.e. recording fees, processing fees) and to further authorize the Township Supervisor and Township Clerk to represent the Township of Grosse Ile at closing. Funds are to come from DDA Fund 2480-101-824000. Approved 6-0

Public Comment: R. Janowski, Groh Road, asked about the lot size.

4. **10-047** Motion Loftus, second Johnson, to stand down (disband) the Website Advisory Committee as its mission has been incorporated into the Communications Commission. This legislation is effective with the enactment of the Communications Commission, or at a time as required by law.

Approved 6-0

Public Comment:

1. Trustee Frucci commented that she has never seen a list of Website Advisory Committee recommendations and inquired if there is one on record.
2. E. Horvath asked about a current cable broadcast calendar being on the website.
3. G. Jones asked if any members of the Website Committee were invited to become part of the Communications Commission.

5. *Deleted from the Agenda*

6. **10-048** Motion Johnson, second Van Os, Whereas, the Township of Grosse Ile and the Grosse Ile Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) in cooperation are hosting a Veterans Gala at the Grosse Ile Municipal Airport September 10, 2010; and, Whereas, funds from ticket sales will be utilized to pay event costs and be donated to Veteran Charity Organizations; and, Whereas, the Commander of the Grosse Ile VFW and the Grosse Ile Township Manager shall be jointly responsible for disbursement approval of such funds; and, Whereas, a Grosse Ile Veterans Gala Escrow Account shall be established and such funds received, raised, accepted on behalf of, authorized and expended from the Grosse Ile Veterans Gala must be received and deposited by the Township Treasurer and accounted for by the Finance Department under the statutory duties of the Township Clerk. All expenditures shall be authorized by the Township Board; and, Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that on the recommendation of the Township Finance Director and the Township Manager, the Grosse Ile Township Board has formed a Grosse Ile Veterans Gala Escrow Account # 7010-000-3890775. Approved 6-0

7. **10-049** Motion Van Os, second Frucci, to authorize the expenditure of \$74,075.00 from the bike path fund for the construction of the extension of the bike path from Meridian School to the Commerce Park Recreation Area to facilitate and implement the grant match for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Land and Water Conservation Fund Recreation Area Grant and amend the construction budget for the Meridian School Safe Routes to School Grant. Approved 6-0

Public Comment:

1. Jack Delphy, Loma Circle, inquired if the money is coming from Bike Path Construction Millage Funds and commented that DPS and Recreation worked together in the past to get grant money for a similar project.
2. Maureen Budny, Burning Bush, and T. Malvesto, Brookshire, both asked for clarification of the project.
3. Gary Jones, Macomb Street, commented on the Recreation Department's initiative to obtain grant funding and would like to see more grant applications.
4. R. Janowski, disagreed with estimated usage of the bike path.

5. Mrs. Danz, Manchester Road, commented that the bike path is unnecessary.
6. Police Chief Porcerelli stated that the bike path would provide a separation between walkers, bikers and vehicle traffic and would also provide a straight line of sight crossing.
7. C. Pilkington, suggested the township create a skill-set for staff to obtain grant writing skills.
8. Maria Jeffrey asked the Board to be fiscally prudent.
9. Trustee Johnson asked if there would be any savings if the path was reduced from 10 foot width to 8 foot width paths. *Response: Under the grant an 8 ft. wide path is \$100.00 per foot and the proposed 10 ft. wide path is \$40 per foot.*
8. **10-050** Motion Kantz, second Johnson, to adopt a Resolution to reinstate the August 9, 2010 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting. Adopted 6-0

**Clerk’s Report**

1. General Update: Deputy Clerk Gray reminded voters to vote in the Partisan Primary Election on Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> and provided information to help voters find out their voting status and polling location as well as learning how to use the voting equipment, receive answers to frequently asked questions and be able to view a sample ballot online by visiting [www.michigan.gov/sos](http://www.michigan.gov/sos) and clicking on a link to the Michigan Voter Information Center located in the bottom left side of the site. Mrs. Gray informed voters that Michigan law requires photo identification to be provided in order to obtain a regular ballot at the polls.

The Deputy Clerk notified residents that the deadline to file as a candidate for the School Board Election being held on Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> is on Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m.; call or visit the Clerk’s Office for more information.

2. Liaison Update: No Report

**Treasurer’s Report**

1. Investment Report and Tax update:  
July investment information is not yet available but will be included in the next board meeting packet.

The finance department is currently working with PNC bank to save on monthly bank fees. Early analysis numbers show potential savings of a few hundred dollars per month.

The Summer 2010 tax bills have been mailed and we have been collecting payments for almost three weeks.

To date we have collected \$949,341.00 in Summer taxes.

Total School Collections		503,739
Total County Collections		263,595
Total Township Collections		182,007
<b><i>Total Summer Collections to date</i></b>		<b>949,341</b>

The Treasurer’s office will accept tax payments:

- a) During regular office hours
- b) Through our drop box after hours
- c) By mail
- d) At the Grosse Ile branch of Metro Shores Credit Union. Account holders at Fifth Third Bank and PNC Bank can also pay their taxes at their banks.
- e) Credit card payments will also be accepted via the Internet with a processing fee of 3%.

Applications are available in the treasurer's office for summer tax deferments. Qualified taxpayers can apply for an extension of the due date of September 14, 2010 to February 14, 2011.

### **Trustees Reports**

1. Trustee Johnson: No report
2. Trustee Frucci: Reported on entryway improvements and indicated that the committee is obtaining bids for the north entryway improvements.

Mrs. Frucci reported that the Island Beautification Committee is closer to planting on the N.E. corner of Parkway and Meridian. A large monetary donation has been made to the project by Mrs. Marcia Woodley.

The Communication Committee is interested in providing streaming video of township meetings and events using funds currently budgeted in the Cable Budget. This would allow residents that do not have Comcast or Wide Open West services to view broadcasts on the internet.

Mrs. Frucci attended a legislative forum recently entitled, "The Michigan Turnaround Plan - Five Steps for Michigan Recovery". She offered to share the information with anyone that is interested.

3. Trustee Ranka: Reported that the Bike Path Subcommittee has received public input and the engineering studies are being reviewed. The Bike Path Committee Report will be presented at one of the August meetings.
4. Trustee Kantz: No report

### **Supervisor's Report**

1. Supervisor Loftus received a severe weather report from Fire Chief Murdock, who indicated that fire department personnel aided in the removal of a large number of fallen trees and wires over the weekend and implemented the First Call Alert System to notify residents of the severe weather. Mr. Loftus also thanked all the residents that helped their neighbors to move fallen storm debris.
2. The Downtown Development Authority will sponsor a Fall Market on Saturday, October 2, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; there will also be an Island-wide Garage Sale held on that date. Contact Carol Knopp at 676-4422, extension 210 at Township Hall for more information.
3. The interior renovations on the Free Range Lighthouse is underway and will be completed in time for the September lighthouse tour.

### **Township Manager's Report**

1. Manager Reaume announced that storm debris pick-up will be conducted on Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup>. Residents are asked to have their debris at the curb for pickup.

### **Public Comment:**

1. C. Pilkington, announcements about the Opportunity Grosse Ile organizations Pirates Parade and Pirates Ball being held July 31<sup>st</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact the group at the Welcome Home Center for more information and to obtain tickets.
2. R. Janowski, is unhappy with the amount of support trustees and staff provide to the non-profit group Opportunity Grosse Ile. Mr. Janowski also asked about the toll bridge litigation and the Grosse Ile Golf and Country Club Tax Tribunal Case.
3. G. Jones, suggested the Board have the Bike Path Millage Proposal removed from next Tuesday's ballot.
4. W. Clark, asked about legal fees on the current check register and reported some areas that need road repairs.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Johnson, second Kantz. Motion approved 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:44 p.m.