

APPROVED MINUTES  
GROSSE ILE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
July 26, 2004  
Grosse Ile Township Hall – Merle Solomon Board Room  
9601 Groh Road

Present: Supervisor Jones, Clerk O'Connor, Treasurer Kobiljak, Trustees Neal, Wojewodziec, Raithel and Will

Absent: None

7:09 p.m.: Regular Meeting called to order.

7:10 p.m.: Supplemental Public Hearing for Lake Road Paving Assessments

7:12 p.m.: Supplemental Public Hearing for Rucker Road Paving Assessments

7:13 p.m.: Supplemental Public Hearing for Ruthmere Road Paving Assessments

Pledge of Allegiance

Regular Meeting

*Public Comment:*

*Additions/Deletions to Agenda*

Final Agenda

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Motion Kobiljak, second Neal to amend the agenda as follows:

Add to the Consent Agenda as # 8: Cash Requirements List dated July 26, 2004

Add to the Consent Agenda as # 9: Purchase Order Summary dated July 26, 2004.

Add to the Regular Agenda as Action Item 7 b): Approval of Contract ID Number for Construction/Rehabilitation of Runway 4/22 and Runway Safety Area Improvements.

All aye.

**Consent Agenda 04-046**

*The following items will be adopted without discussion, however, at the request of any Board Member or Citizen, items may be removed for Board discussion or explanation.*

1. Minutes of June 14, 2004
2. Cash Requirements List dated June 24, 2004
3. Cash Requirements List dated July 12, 2004
4. Purchase Order Summary dated June 24, 2004
5. Purchase Order Summary dated July 12, 2004
6. Authorization to pay bills through August 23, 2004
7. Municipal Employees Retirement Systems (MERS) Annual Meeting Representative election
8. Cash Requirements List dated July 26, 2004
9. Purchase Order Summary dated July 26, 2004

Clerk's Report:

August Primary Election Information

Treasurer's Report:

Investment Report through June 30, 2004 and General updates

Supervisor's Report:

General updates

Report on Grosse Ile Youth Activities Association Event

Township Manager's Report

General updates

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Fire Chief's vehicle replacement
2. Approval of Police Department Taser Policy
3. Lease Amendment for Elba Mar Boat Club
4. Bid award: Wastewater Treatment Plant Primary Clarifier & Chlorine Contact Chamber
5. Bid award: Church Rd. concrete sidewalk project & township wide paving repair
6. Bid award: ADA Compliance/Park Improvements at Parke Lane & Meridian Schools
- 7 a) Contract to rehabilitate Municipal Airport Runway 4-22
- 7 b) Approve Contract ID # Runway 4/22 Rehabilitation and Safety Area Improvements

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Revision to Administrative Policies and Procedures governing Commission/Committee Appointments

Extended Public Comment

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Toll Bridge litigation, POAM and AFSCME Union negotiations

Adjourn

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Call to Order at 7:09 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

1. Lake Road Supplemental Hearing on road paving assessments:  
 Supervisor Jones asked Township Manager Reaume to explain the necessity of holding these hearings. Mr. Reaume explained that the supplemental hearings are necessary as part of the noticing process for bonding purposes. The project has been completed and the assessment rolls are done, holding these public hearings and providing public notice is the final step required by the bond agency.  
 Supervisor Jones asked for any input or questions from Lake Road residents. No public comments were offered.

2. Rucker Road Supplemental Hearing on road paving assessments:  
Supervisor Jones asked for any input or questions from Lake Road residents. No public comments were offered.
3. Ruthmere Road Supplemental Hearing on road paving assessments:  
Supervisor Jones asked for any input or questions from Lake Road residents. No public comments were offered.

Public Hearings adjourned at 7:13 p.m. by unanimous consent. Supervisor Jones called for a 15 minute recess before reconvening the regular meeting of the township board.

Regular meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m. All Present  
Pledge of Allegiance

*Public Comment: Brief comments limited to 3 minutes per person*

1. Woody Clark, 19620 Parke Lane, 1) How far is the township going to go with litigation on the toll bridge? Supervisor Jones: *No comment there is litigation pending.*
2. Mr. Clark inquired about the condition of the East Wing of Hangar #1. Supervisor Jones: *There is a commercial real estate broker working hard to find a tenant for the East Wing.* Trustee Neal commented that until the search for a new tenant is successful renovations and improvements will have to wait.
3. Wes Pfeiffer, 23477 W. River Road, reported to the board that there is an encroachment problem at West Shore Estates. There are three residents who have clear cut areas of the 10% open space and claimed it for their own yards. Mr. Pfeiffer wants to know what the township is going to do to remedy the situation. Supervisor Jones: *Since there is litigation pending we will limit comments. Mr. Kobiljak suggested that he and Township Manager Reaume meet with Mr. Pfeiffer to look at the situation.*
4. Edward Alice, representing Mr. Philip DeGrace, thanked the board and Mr. Kobiljak for their assistance in regaining the deed to Mr. DeGrace's property from the county and offered to reimburse the township for any cost incurred to remedy the situation.

**Consent Agenda # 04-046:**

Motion Raithel, second Kobiljak to approve Consent Agenda # 04-046 as amended. All aye.

1. Minutes of June 14, 2004
2. Cash Requirements List dated June 24, 2004
3. Cash Requirements List dated July 12, 2004
4. Purchase Order Summary dated June 24, 2004
5. Purchase Order Summary dated July 12, 2004
6. Authorization to pay bills through August 23, 2004
7. Municipal Employees Retirement Systems (MERS) Annual Meeting Representative election
8. Cash Requirements List dated July 26, 2004
9. Purchase Order Summary dated July 26, 2004

Clerk's Report:

1. Clerk O'Connor reminded residents of the upcoming Partisan Primary Election on Tuesday, August 3, 2004. Polls are open between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.. The Clerk reminds voters that they may not cross party lines when voting their ballots. Votes must be cast for either the Republican candidates or the Democratic candidates only; is also a non-partisan judicial race and two county proposals on the ballot. Clerk O'Connor reported that although we've experienced a good number of requests for absentee ballots; we hope to see a good voter turnout at the polling locations. Any voters with questions should contact the Clerk's office.

Treasurer's Report:

1. Treasurer Kobiljak presented the Investment Report through June 30, 2004 showing \$9,250,738.63 at an average investment rate of 1.0847 percent, for total investment interest of \$6,097.95.
2. Treasurer Kobiljak informed residents that a payment drop box has been installed at the end of the circular driveway at township hall for the convenience of taxpayers. He reminded people not to deposit cash or any payments for other utility companies in the drop box.

Supervisor's Report:

1. Supervisor Jones informed the community of the Lupus Family & Friends Butterfly Walk scheduled for August 15, 2004 to increase awareness and raise funds for Lupus Research at the University of Michigan. The walk is being held at the Woodhaven Community Center at West Road and Hall Road. Pledges are welcomed.
2. Supervisor Jones introduced Linda Raitchel and Debra Kacher representing Grosse Ile United for Youth to make a presentation to Water's Edge Manager Ed Heineman, Jim Budney and John and Samira Matar from the Famous American Grill at Water's Edge; for their assistance in planning and implementing the July 10<sup>th</sup> youth event held at the Water's Edge facility.

Township Manager's Report:

1. Manager Reaume announced the township's receipt of a \$5,600 grant to remove infected ash trees located on township property.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. **04- 047** Motion Wojewodzic, second Kobiljak, based on the recommendation of the Fire Commission to award the bid to Jorgenson Ford for the purchase of a 2005 Ford Expedition for use as the Fire Chief's vehicle. All aye. Motion carried.
2. **04-048** Motion Kobiljak, second Neal, to approve the Grosse Ile Police Department Policy and Procedures: Taser X26 Electro-Muscular Disruption Device. All aye. Motion carried. *Public Comment from Woody Clark of Parke Lane, informed the board of a reported death caused by the use of Taser devices.*
3. **04-049** Motion Will, second Kobiljak, to approve the Elba Mar Boat Club request to construct a dinghy ramp on the eastern edge of the southern 80 feet of Lot 440 of Supervisor's Grosse Ile Plat No. 49, subject to the conditions that Grosse Ile Public Safety and Enforcement Agencies shall have the right to use said ramp and that reasonable access shall not be denied. In addition, use of the ramp shall be limited to club operations. And,

further, to authorize the Township Supervisor and Clerk to execute a lease amendment to be drafted by the Township Attorney. All aye. Motion carried.

4. **04-050** Motion Raithel, second Neal, to approve that Earth Tech, low bidder, be awarded the contract to rebuild the Primary Clarifier & Chlorine Contract Chamber at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$113,547.00 based on the recommendation of the DPW Commission at their July 13, 2004 regular meeting. All aye. Motion carried.
5. **04-051** Motion Raithel, second Neal, based on the recommendation of the Charles Raines Co., it is recommended to award the bid for the Church Road Concrete Sidewalks Project and township wide pavement repairs to the low bidder Passalacque Construction Co., at the bid price of \$59,312.50. Payment will be dispersed based on as built quantities of each segment of the project. Sidewalks will be funded by Road funds and pavement repair by Department of Public Works. All aye. Motion carried.
6. **04-052** Motion Will, second O'Connor, based on the recommendation of the Grosse Ile Recreation Director and the Township Engineer, the Township Board grants approval to accept the bid from Best Asphalt, Inc., to install ADA Compliant pathways and remove and replace hard surface play pads to improve accessibility at Parke Lane and Meridian School playground and park areas for an amount not to exceed \$90,000.00. The bidder must maintain same bid rates throughout entire project and comply with the requirements of the H.U.D. Block Grant Program and Grosse Ile Township as listed in the bid specifications. All aye. Motion carried.
7. a) **04-053** Motion Neal, second Wojewodzic, based upon the recommendation of the Airport Commission, the Township Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Township Manager to execute Contract Number 2004-0400, "Construction of the Rehabilitation of Runway 4/22 and for Runway Safety Area Improvements" with the Michigan Department of Transportation in the amount of \$2,297,000.00; furthermore, the Board approves the expenditure of \$91,600.00 from the appropriate Airport capital improvement account to pay for the local share of the project, such expenditure to be automatically adjusted upon approval of pending State legislation as described in Paragraph 12 of the contract. All aye. Motion carried.
7. b) **04-054** Motion Neal, second Wojewodzic, authorization for the Township Supervisor to execute Contract ID Number 82542-79715, "Rehabilitate runway and runway safety area improvements at Grosse Ile Municipal Airport" with John Carlo, Inc., with the project cost of \$2,297,000.00 to be share between the township and the Michigan department of Transportation as described in MDOT contract no. 2004-0400. All aye. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Revision to Administrative Policies and Procedures governing Commission/Committee Appointments.

There has been discussion in recent months about the procedure for appointing committee and commission members. Board members held a round table discussion of possible situations that would best serve the community. Treasurer Kobiljak suggested sending the policy language to each chairperson for review and suggestions. Trustee Neal would like to see applicants submit a resume. Supervisor Jones suggested the board and chairperson

submit any thoughts or suggested revisions to Administrative Assistant Barbara Thornley and that this matter be brought before the board as an action item at the August meeting.

Public Comment: Walter J. Pociask, Knudsen Drive, addressed the board from a written text regarding the policy changes governing committee/commission appointments being considered as a discussion item. The following is taken from Mr. Pociask's prepared text:

"I have never objected to the Board's right to make formal appointments to Commissions and committees. My objection is to appointments being made unilaterally and hurriedly, without any input from the respective committee chair, let alone from the committee. Every appointment made to any committee that I have ever been privileged to serve on has been done openly and deliberately. Even if there occasionally was a person whose qualifications didn't seem to quite fit the committee, we have seen those persons nevertheless provided a very good balance to the committee, because of their willingness to contribute their time and their perspectives. Making appointments in a unilateral manner harms the credibility of the appointee, and sends the message that their Township liaison feels that input is not needed, and not wanted."

"Volunteers make our committees run. Committees make Grosse Ile run. Speaking from both my positions as a chairman, as well as a committee member, all the members of all committees that I have ever been associated with always felt that their input was valued. Denying the committee membership of what is a no more than a simple courtesy, to state their collective opinion in form of a recommendation for an appointment, is not a good thing. Consensus is a good thing."

" I have personally volunteered for, and served on, several Grosse Ile commissions and committees, over the last ten years. My application, just like everyone else's, was always submitted through the Township's offices. As standard practice, these applications were always pre-screened by Township staff to assure residency, interest, a clean record, etc. When any prospective candidate gets to the point of potentially being appointed, it is important to note that this person has *already been pre-qualified* by this initial screening process."

"After being so "pre-qualified", the prospect's application was sent to both the chair and the liaison of the appropriate committee to review. Whether one, or more than one application made it this far, the Chair and Township board liaison always *both* reviewed all pre-qualified applicants applications, and tried to see if the prospective candidate(s) abilities were a good fit for a particular committee. All prospective candidates (one or more) were invited to the next meeting, to meet the current members and to see how they "meshed" with the entire group. After this introduction, we thanked each prospect for their interest. After the prospects left, the committee made their observations about the applicants, and then they decided collectively which was the most appropriate person to fill a vacancy. (Whenever only one prequalified volunteer was available, this was obviously not necessary). We then, as a committee (including our Board liaison), voted to recommend that the Township Board appoint this individual. Our Township liaison then carried that recommendation back to the Board. Please note that this procedure is fully in congruence and unchanged from the Township's Board's standard practices and rights."

“The selection of a Chairman for a committee should be treated similarly, by allowing the committee members the opportunity to select their own chairperson. Whenever any other of the tasks of a committee need to be divided up, the committees always look inward, and ask for volunteers amongst themselves. The members of most committees have the best idea of who would best get a specific job done within their group. The committee members have always decided what position each member filled, and their decisions were never made precipitously, or without careful group effort. Because the only real function that any committee has, is its ability to *recommend*, I believe that you should continue to let it do so.”

“I have always thought of the late Trustee John Niedhart as my mentor, especially since I made my decision to run for a Township Trustee position. John served as both Chair of the Roads Committee, as well as its liaison to the Board, until his untimely death on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 1995. I recognize that some of you may not understand my desire to duplicate his role, and frankly, it is a job that will take great effort on my part. I have the energy, and I believe I have the support of the Roads committee, to do so. Please ask yourselves why you would *not* allow someone to do this, especially after this explanation. I already *am* the Chair. Will you consider simply allowing me to serve out my term as Chair, and then let the Roads Committee decide who *they* wish to have as their Chair, *next* year?”

“I appreciated everyone’s input from the discussion Monday evening, and I hope that the comments that I made helped to clarify my point of view. I expect that you will give careful consideration to all the input you receive from all interested parties prior to making your decision in August: I trust that your decision will be made in the best interests of Grosse Ile.”

Motion Kobiljak , second Neal, to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. for purposes of Toll Bridge litigation, POAM and AFSCME Union negotiations and Labor Attorney/Client Consultation.

*Roll Call Vote: Yes- O’Connor, Kobiljak, Neal, Raithel, Will, Wojewodzic, Jones  
No- None*

Executive Session called to order at 8:40 pm.

Motion Wojewodzic, second Neal, to adjourn Executive Session at 10:00 p.m.. All aye.

Reconvened Regular Meeting at 10:01 p.m.

Motion Kobiljak, second Raithel, to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 10:02 p.m.. All aye.  
Meeting adjourned.

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Ute O’Connor. Township Clerk