

APPROVED MINUTES
GROSSE ILE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
February 13, 2006
Grosse Ile Township Hall – Merle Solomon Board Room
9601 Groh Road

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Township Supervisor Kobiljak.

Present: Supervisor Kobiljak, Clerk O'Connor, Treasurer Raithel, Trustees Wojewodzic, Will, Forrester, Pociask.

Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

1. Motion O'Connor, second Pociask, to Add as Clerk's Report #2, Approval to Pay Bills. All aye.
2. Motion O'Connor, second Pociask, to Add as Clerk's Report #3, Authorization to enter into a Grant Agreement to receive a new Qualified Voter File Computer System. All aye.
3. Motion Will, second Wojewodzic, to Delete Action Item #5, Wow Cable Transfer. All aye.
4. Motion O'Connor, second Will, to Delete the Executive Session from the agenda. All aye.

Motion O'Connor, second Will, to accept the agenda as presented/ amended. All aye. Motion carried.

Final Agenda

Public Comment:

1. Woody Clarke asked why the county bridge is not being re-stripped. *Kobiljak responded that the County is not very interested in that right now.* Mr. Clarke then asked about the water service on the southwest corner of Parkway and Meridian. *Barry Sedlock indicated that the service would be installed by summer*

Presentations:

1. The police and fire presentation was delayed until a later date, due to the fact that there was a "Fire Call". The police and fire work very hard.
2. George Mans, a member of the Board of Directors, and Mr. John Hartig, the Director of the Wildlife Refuge, discussed the Wildlife Refuge. The Wildlife Refuge was begun by John Dingell and has expanded to 2,100 acres. There are 300 species of birds and 65 species of fish. The Refuge attracts people and businesses to the area from all over. The 30 years of clean-up that was put into the Refuge has resulted in species returning to this area. The International Refuge Alliance is a non-profit organization chaired by Mr. Mans. There will be a fundraiser on April 29th, at the Flat Rock Community Center. The fundraiser is to raise money to hire and fund the Refuge. The e-mail address is iwr_alliance@yahoo.com for more information.

CONSENT AGENDA 05- 143:

1. Minutes of January 23, 2006 Board Meeting
2. Cash Requirements List dated February 13, 2006
3. Purchase Order Summary dated February 13, 2006

Motion Wojewodzik, second Pociask, to Approve consent agenda #05-143. All aye.

Clerk's Report

1a. **05-144** Motion O'Connor, second Wojewodzik, To adopt a Resolution of Support for the following Absentee Voter Application Resolution adopted by the Association of Wayne County Clerks, and further; to support the Grosse Ile Township Clerk's policy of issuing Applications for Absentee Ballots according to State of Michigan Election Law and through the process of maintaining a permanent list of Absentee Voters used for and adhered to for all elections held in this jurisdiction.

Whereas: Many Wayne County communities have authorized the distribution of applications, for absentee ballots, to voters requesting to be placed on a permanent absentee list and in some communities to all voters over the age of sixty years, as a courtesy; and,

Whereas: The practice of mailing unsolicited applications for absentee ballots may help communities in informing voters of upcoming elections and increase voter awareness and turnout; and,

Whereas: Recent litigation and injunctions prohibiting the Wayne County communities from extending this courtesy to its voters is discriminatory to the voters of Wayne County and any injunction or prohibition of this practice separates and disenfranchises the voters of Wayne County from all voters in the State of Michigan; and,

Whereas: Local Wayne County communities should not be singled out and restricted from the practice to inform and educate voters, via the AV application process, if a procedure has been consistently utilized for each election; and,

Now, therefore be it resolved: That the Association of Wayne County Clerks encourages legislation or administrative rules that provide local communities the option of offering voters the convenience of automatically receiving an application for a ballot, if provided in a fair, consistent and equitable manner, following set policies and procedures at the discretion and approval of each local governing body and adhering to administrative rules approved or offered by the State of Michigan, Bureau of Elections.

Further, be it resolved: The Association of Wayne County Clerks strongly object to any prohibition or injunction applied only to the voters of Wayne County, Michigan.

1b. **05-145** Motion O'Connor, second Raithel, By The Board of Trustees of the Township of Grosse Ile, Michigan;

Whereas, the preamble of the U.S. Constitution states "We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

Whereas, March 4, 2006, marks the 217th anniversary of the day our first United States Congress convened under a constitutionally limited republic; and,

Whereas, the Constitution is described as "The Supreme Law of the Land"; the fulfillment of the promise made in the Declaration of Independence; and,

Whereas, the recognition of Constitution Day has given us the opportunity to recall the high ideals and devotion to liberty of the individuals who framed our Constitution; and,

Whereas, all of us need to be inspired to rededicate ourselves to our country and to the support and defense of our Constitution, and to a greater involvement in responsible citizenship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Grosse Ile, County of Wayne, State of Michigan does herein proclaim as a township in these United States of America, the day of March 4, 2006 as

"CONSTITUTION DAY"

and encourages the citizens to renew their dedication to the preservation of the ideals upon which this great nation was founded.

2. **05-146** Motion O'Connor, second Raithel, To authorize the Township Clerk and Treasurer to process payments through March 13, 2006, due to the lack of a scheduled Board of Trustees business meeting on February 27, 2006, and to direct the Finance Director and Finance Department personnel to prepare and disperse the authorized payments.
3. **05-147** Motion O'Connor, second Raithel, For authorization for the Township Clerk to enter into, sign and submit prior to February 22, 2006; a State of Michigan Grant Agreement sponsored under the Help America Vote Act in order to receive a new Qualified Voter File Computer System at no cost to Grosse Ile Township.

Treasurer's Report

1. Mr. Raithel reminded the public that the last day to pay taxes without a penalty is February 14, 2006. He also informed that the last day to pay taxes at the Township with a penalty is February 28, 2006. After the 28th, taxpayers would have to pay at Wayne County.
2. Mr. Raithel announced that the Wayne County Treasurer will give a presentation in March about how taxes are used.

Supervisor's Report

1. Mr. Kobiljak reported on the Wayne County Bridge. Mr. Kobiljak informed that the bridge would be the same structure with different platforms and rails. He also said that the design features are being reviewed by County Engineers. The hope is that Wayne County will start in December and finish in the spring to prevent interfering with summer boating season. Mr. Kobiljak also addressed the toll issue and informed that the public will be responsible for their own tolls.

Public Comment:

1. Gary Jones, stated that he is in favor of the design changes and also wanted to know if some research could be done to find out how many accidents have been on the bridge.
2. Ron Janowski, Groh Rd., wanted to know if the township had thought about subsidizing the tolls during bridge closures. Mr. Kobiljak responded that during one week of closure the toll bridge wanted \$21,000 approximately. He stated that Wayne County would not be able to fund the tolls for several months.

Township Manager's Report

1. Mr. Reaume reminded everyone that Islandfest would be June 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.
2. Mr. Reaume reported that there are 386 members at Water's Edge to date. He reminded the public to get their memberships now.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **05-148** Motion Will, second Pociask, to authorize the purchase of one maintenance truck (Ford F150) for the DPS through the state government bid program in the amount of \$17,014.00 based on the recommendation of the DPS Commission. All aye. Motion carried.
2. **05-149** Motion Will, second O'Connor, to deny the lot split application per the recommendation of the Township Planning Commission based upon the following findings:
 - 1) The existing access easement is nonconforming under the Township Roads and Driveway Ordinance;
 - 2) The request would result in stacked residential lots;
 - 3) The location of the nonconforming access easement divides the front portion of proposed Parcel B, which limits the potential building envelope; and
 - 4) Proposed Parcel B would be irregular in shape.

All aye. Motion carried.

3. **05-150** Motion Raithel, second O'Connor, to appoint as the Ron Moran Chairperson for Airport Commerce Park Commission effective February 13, 2006 to February 16, 2007. All aye. Motion carried.
4. **05-151** Motion Raithel, second Wojewodzic, to perform emergency repair on the northeast section of the roof on the Grosse Ile Tennis Center in accordance with the January 12, 2006 quote from Molnar Roofing Inc. All aye. Motion carried.
5. *Deleted*
6. **05-152** Motion Will, second Pociask, to authorize the attached communication site lease agreement between MetroPCS and the Township of Grosse Ile subject to Township Attorney and Township Insurance Company review approval and, to authorize the Township clerk and Supervisor to sign the document. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion Items: none

Extended Public Comment:

1. Gary Jones – Macomb Street, asked if there was anything on the consent agenda regarding the purchase or sale of open space.

The Finance Director responded that there was nothing.

Mr. Jones then asked if there was anything on the consent agenda regarding legal fees. *The Finance Director indicated there was the monthly billing from the Township Attorney William Look.*

2. Ron Janowski – Groh Road, asked how much has been spent on toll bridge litigation? *Supervisor Kurt Kobiljak estimated costs of \$320,000 to date.*

Mr. Janowski asked if this was approved by residents of Grosse Ile. *Supervisor Kobiljak responded that although some issues go on a referendum to the people, however most items are decided by the board within budget confines.*

Mr. Janowski then asked, when did the township begin incurring costs on the bridge? *The township has been incurring costs since 2004.*

Motion Rathiel, second Pociask to adjourn at 8:43 p.m. All aye. Meeting adjourned.

Ute O'Connor. Township Clerk