

*Unapproved*

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREEN CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:30 P.M. APRIL 11, 2006.**

**THE SUPERVISOR LEAD THE BOARD IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.**

**THE FOLLOWING BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT, ROLL CALL.**

JOHN WELLNITZ,	SUPERVISOR
JANET CLARK,	CLERK
CAROLYN CHIPMAN,	TREASURER
A. DONALD GRANT,	TRUSTEE
GARY TODD	TRUSTEE
JAMES PEEK,	TRUSTEE
BARBARA WALDRON	TRUSTEE

The supervisor opened the **Public Hearing for the proposed Recreation Master Plan** for Green Charter Township. The following were public members in attendance: Darwin Booher, State Representative, Nancy Stephan, Bob Baldwin, and Roger Carroll.

There was a discussion to include the following items:

1. The need for a Recreation Master Plan
2. Traffic safety issue on Northland Dr., speed limit, no passing zone
3. Action plan flexibility?
4. Grants and funding

Comments also were that it was a very good plan for the community.

The public hearings were closed at 7:50 p.m.

**MINUTES**

The clerk presented the minutes of the regular March 14, 2006 a board meeting.

**MOTION** was made by J. Peek supported by G. Todd to accept the minutes of March 11, 2006 meeting. Motion carried 7 yes.

**TREASURERS REPORT**

The treasurer presented the treasurers report:

3-31-06 General Fund, balance \$715,900.67

3-31-06 Green Charter Township Sewer Fund \$413,628.67

4-7-06 General Fund, balance \$717,459.25

3-31-06 Green Charter Township Sewer Fund \$416,170.17

**MOTION** was made by J. Peek and supported by G. Todd to accept the Treasurer's reports as presented in both funds. **MOTION CARRIED.** 7 yes.

**SEWER REPORT**

Dennis Vandawater presented the sewer report.  
The sewer report of Green Township as follows:  
3-1-06 – 3-31-006

Reading-----82032770

Total flow-----1106980

Average daily flow-----36899

The clerk had called Denny to let him know the electric was unusually higher, Denny reported the investigated the problem and the electric heater needs replacing. He will replace it before fall.

All else is working well.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The clerk reported the generator has been ordered and the following resolution for grant funding from El Paso Pipeline Group was presented and read by the supervisor.

The following resolution was offered by James Peek and seconded by Gary Todd

**WHEREAS**, El Paso Pipeline Group has many gas lines within the boundaries of the township;

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of Green Charter Township to be prepared for emergency situations of the township and community;

**WHEREAS**, the Green Charter Township board has elected to install a generator system for the township hall facility in the event of a power outage, disaster, or other emergency in the community of Green Charter Township;

**WHEREAS**, the estimated cost of the generator and installation is \$21,243.27;

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of Green Charter Township to apply to El Paso Pipeline Group for grant funding to assist in the financing of a generator for the township hall facility;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Green Charter Township, Mecosta County, Michigan, would appreciate your consideration to issuing grant funding dollars for this important project for our community.

Upon roll call vote the following voted "aye": Grant, Todd, Chipman, Wellnitz, Clark, Peek, Waldron  
"nay": none

Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet Clark, Clerk, Green Charter Township

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Darwin Booher State Representative was present to discuss issues with the township.  
Items of discussion were;

- 1. The new water bill signed and the judgeship.
- 2. Revenue sharing
- 3. Pilt bill
- 4. School aid

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GREEN  
RECREATION MASTER PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Charter Township of Green has undertaken a Five year Parks and Recreation Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2006 and 2011, and

**WHEREAS**, a public comment session was held April 11, 2006 at the Green Charter Township hall to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Recreation Plan, and

**WHEREAS**, after the public hearing, the Green Charter Township board voted to adopt said Recreation Plan, Moved by Gary Todd and supported by A. Donald Grant.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Charter Township of Green Board hereby adopts the Green Charter Township Recreation Plan as a guideline for improving recreation for the residents of the Charter Township of Green.

**Yeas: 7 Waldron, Peek, Clark, Wellnitz, Chipman, Todd, Grant**  
**Nays: 0 Absent: 0**

I Janet Clark, Green Charter Township Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Green Charter Township Board at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the **11<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2006.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet Clark  
Green Charter Township Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN      )  
  )SS.  
COUNTY OF MECOSTA

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Charter Township of Green, Mecosta County, Michigan (the "Township") do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board at a regular meeting on April 11, 2006, the original of which is on file in my office. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended,

including in the case of a special or rescheduled meeting, noticed by posting at least eighteen (18) hours prior to the time set for the meeting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed by official signature on this  
11th day of April, 2006, A.D.

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Janet Clark, Clerk  
Green Charter Township

### **SUNRISE HAVEN – STEVE FENSTERMACHER**

Steve Fenstermacher was present to discuss with the board the connection fee and usage fees for spec homes in his development.

The following points were discussed;

1. Question of paying fees at time of occupancy
2. Language of ordinance
3. If not connected could possibly avoid connection fee
4. Standard procedure
5. Township will need attorney's opinion
6. Ordinance review

### **ROADS**

The supervisor distributed cost estimates for possible road project for 2006 season from Mecosta Co. Road Commission.

200<sup>th</sup> Ave. 21 Mile, Oak - \$80,156.00

Greenhaven Subdivision - \$77,619.20

20 Mile Rd. Northland Dr. to 220<sup>th</sup> - project may range from \$150,000. to \$200,000.

There was also discussion on the 18 Mile Road intersection.

### **MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP PARTICIPATING PLAN**

Nomination for board of directors – no action taken

### **CABLE FRANCHISING**

#### **Retaining Local Control of Cable Franchising**

**WHEREAS**, it is the mission of **Green Charter Township, Mecosta County**, Michigan to preserve and protect the rights of all its citizens;

**WHEREAS, James Peek moved supported by Carolyn Chipman to approve the following resolution.**

**WHEREAS,** the existing federal and local cable franchising rules have resulted in \$100 billion investment in advanced telecommunications services nationwide and formed the basis for a national policy of broadband (high-speed internet);

**WHEREAS, Green Charter Township** strongly supports the provisions contained within the federal 1984 Cable Act including the anti-discrimination sections that have ensured against a 19<sup>th</sup> century world of digital “haves and have-nots” and ensured that Americans of all incomes, races and backgrounds can have equal access to television and broadband service as the information and communication that it provides becomes more essential in our daily lives;

**WHEREAS,** the current federal cable law has been effective in ensuring robust build-out of broadband networks and in protecting against cherry-picking of communities, and should be applied to both existing cable providers and new entrants into the cable marketplace;

**WHEREAS,** some telecommunications companies that now seek to enter the cable marketplace are attempting to gain a competitive advantage through federal and state preemption of local authority and are seeking to undermine the anti-discrimination and build-out requirements that have been a bipartisan cornerstone of our telecommunications laws for decades;

**WHEREAS,** these telecommunications companies are attempting to label their service as “video service” to bypass traditional cable laws and regulations, and have encouraged the introduction of legislation in Congress and in various states to attempt to circumvent federal and local regulations;

**WHEREAS,** in Michigan, legislation has been introduced in the House of Representatives, **HB 5895**, and in the Senate, **SB 1157**, that would strip away local cable franchising authority and hand control over to the State of Michigan (secretary of state);

**WHEREAS, Green Charter Township** strongly supports competition for telephone, broadband and video services, and recognizes that competition for such services is growing rapidly and encourages that these new competitive services are available to all its citizens;

**WHEREAS,** new entrants into the video marketplace face no unreasonable barriers to entry as federal law expressly provides that cable franchises not be exclusive and that local governments have franchised numerous second cable providers throughout the country;

**WHEREAS,** excluding local elected officials from the franchise process as some telecommunications carriers and **HB 5895** and **SB 1157** suggests would be harmful to the citizens of Green Charter Township who use local franchise rules to ensure that cable services are provided to everyone, that service territory appropriately covers key areas for economic development and public safety and other community needs are met;

**WHEREAS, HB 5895** and **SB 1157** does not permit a build-out requirement which will allow

companies entering the cable market to cherry-pick high-value residents only, leaving low-value residents without service;

**WHEREAS, Green Charter Township** agrees that government policies should not determine winners and losers in the marketplace and thus the rules governing local franchises, including rules regarding build-out of networks, should apply to all cable providers equally;

**WHEREAS, HB 5895** and **SB 1157** would drastically limit or abolish the important role of local government franchising and weaken the non-discrimination provisions of the 1984 Cable Act that protects the interests of all citizens and promotes competition.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that **Green Charter Township**, Mecosta County, Michigan, strongly urges the Michigan Legislature to reject legislative proposals such as **HB 5895** and **SB 1157** that abolish the role of local government franchising and the ability of local governments to protect all citizens, that do not allow for build-out requirements, and that ensure that non-discrimination provisions of the 1984 Cable Act are met and promote competition for all its citizens;

**BE IT RESOLVED, Green Charter Township**, Mecosta County, Michigan supports legislation which promotes competition in broadband and cable services for everyone, recognizes and preserves local community needs, preserves local control over franchising, prohibits redlining and other discriminatory practices, and ensures that any new entrants into the cable market abide by the same standards that current cable, broadband or multi-channel video providers live by.

AYES: 7 Grant, Todd, Chipman, Wellnitz, Clark, Peek, Waldron

Nays: 0

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet Clark, Township Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Green at a regular meeting thereof held on the date first stated above, and I further certify that public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet Clark, Township Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS CAPITOL CONFERENCE**

**MOTION** was made by J. Peek and supported by D. Grant to approve conference fee, mileage and meals for attendance of the board to the Michigan Capitol Conference. **MOTION CARRIED. 7 YES.** Waldron, Peek, Clark, Wellnitz, Chipman, Todd, Grant

**MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS SPRING DISTRICT MEETING**

**MOTION** was made by D. Grant and supported by J. Peek to approve conference fee and mileage for the township board. **MOTION CARRIED. 7 YES** Grant, Todd, Chipman, Wellnitz, Clark, Peek, Waldron.

**WEBSITE**

Janet Clark the township webmaster and Bob Baldwin web consultant proposed to the township board the township offer all businesses located in the township a free business card listing on the township website.

Clark also presented the statute 41.100c where this is allowable appropriation and expenditure under the law.

Also presented was a report on usage statistics for the township website. March 2006 – 14541 hits.

**MOTION** was made by B. Waldron and supported by G. Todd to put township business cards on the website of township businesses. **MOTION CARRIED. 7 YES**

**TOWNSHIP HALL GARBAGE PICKUP**

Waste Management’s proposed contract has been received for renewal. There was a discussion and recommended the board get other quotes for weekly trash pickup at the hall.

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

3/31/2006						
<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>AMENDED AMOUNT</u>	<u>NEW NEW</u>	<u>AMENDED BALANCE</u>
<b><u>GENERAL FUND</u></b>						
<u>101-191-726</u>	ELECTION OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 608.79	\$ 171.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 621.00	\$ 12.21
<u>from</u>						
<u>101-191-900</u>	ELECTION PRINTING & PUBLISHING		\$ 574.00	\$ (450.00)	\$ 124.00	\$ 124.00
<b><u>GENERAL FUND</u></b>						
<u>PAYROLL</u>	COMP FICA	\$ 6,081.95	\$ 6,065.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 6,085.00	\$ 3.05
<u>from</u>	from					
<u>PAYROLL</u>	COMP MEDICARE	\$ 1,422.26	\$ 1,500.00	\$ (20.00)	\$ 1,480.00	\$ 57.74

**MOTION** was made by G. Todd and supported by J. Peek to approve the above budget amendments in the General fund. **MOTION CARRIED. 7 YES.** Grant, Todd, Chipman, Wellnitz, Clark, Peek, Waldron.

**PAWFECT COMPANIONS**

Cynthia Glazier was present to ask the board to pass the “local governing body resolution for charitable gaming licenses. This organization is having a fund raiser for the Pawfect Companions

In order to have a fund raiser raffle animal pictures for this civic group.

MOTION was made by C. Chipman and supported by J. Peek to approve the resolution to recognize Pawfect Companions as a nonprofit organization operation in the community for the purpose of obtaining a charitable gaming license. RESOLUTION APPROVED. 7 YES.  
4-11-06

**HALL USE**

MOTION was made by J. Peek and supported by G. Todd to approve hall use at no charge for the Master Gardeners on May 30<sup>th</sup> for a meeting after they walk the Stone Hatchery grounds, for future volunteer work on the park.

MOTION CARRIED. 7 YES.

**CEMETERY – COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKERS**

G. Todd reported he will be using the community service workers to help cleanup Crapo cemetery.

And he will be fertilizing the cemeteries.

**AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF BILLS**

MOTION was made by G. Todd and supported by D. Grant to approve payment of the following bills:

MOTION CARRIED. 7 YES Grant, Todd, Chipman, Wellnitz, Clark, Peek, Waldron.

**GREEN GENERAL FUND** 3-31-06 CK # 7565 THROUGH #7582 \$ 4,485.74

CD PURCHASE # 7583 \$100,000.00

**GREEN SEWER FUND** 3-31- CK # 2093 \$ 5.29

CD PURCHASE # 2094 \$ 60,000.00

**GREEN GENERAL FUND** 4-11-06 CK # 7584 THROUGH #7612 \$ 79,930.23

**GREEN SEWER FUND** 4-11-06 CK # 2095 THROUGH #2102 \$ 12,541.07

MOTION was made by J. Clark and supported by B. Waldron to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED. 7 YES 9:50 p.m.

JANET CLARK, TOWNSHIP CLERK

*Unapproved*