

**MINUTES OF THE CASCADE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, April 27, 2011

7:00 P.M.

Article 1. Supervisor Beahan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Present: Supervisor Beahan, Trustees Lewis, Fox, Goldberg, Clerk Goodyke and Treasurer Peirce.
Absent: Trustee Koessel (excused)
Also Present: Manager Bill Cousins, State Senator Dave Hildenbrand and those listed on Supplement #1.

Article 2. Supervisor Beahan led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Article 3. Motion was made by Clerk Goodyke and supported by Trustee Fox to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Article 4. Presentations/Public Comments

a. State Senator Dave Hildenbrand will update the Board on Legislative activities in Lansing.

- New business tax that is moving through the process, I am very supportive of it. It replaces the existing business tax and surcharge with a sort of a flat 6% corporate income tax on C corporations in the State.
- Simplifying our tax structure...carve out special abatements that we have for folks and try to make it simple and easy for everyone to understand.
- On the Budget Front (re: spending)...proposing a budget of about 45.5 billion dollars (a reduction from prior years)
- Governor has an aggressive agenda for the State.
- Very optimistic about the State's future.
- Supports including Townships in Business Improvement District.

Discussion/questions followed.

b. Public Comments

Michael Southwood, 6883 Cascade Rd., Natural Alternative Compassion Club was present to comment on Article 8. 023-2011. Would that impact existing/current businesses? We are trying to err on the side of caution...we have been existing at the above address with no complaints from tenants or landlord.

Steve Afendoulis, 3142 Manhattan Lane, owner of the building at 6883 Cascade Rd. was asked by his tenant to be at the meeting tonight for the simple reasons that what you are considering tonight might adversely affect them. I don't think whatever Cascade Township does should be applied retro-actively.

James Cortade, 9038 Whitneyville Ave., what would be the purpose of enacting a moratorium and leaving existing in place. The ultimate result would only be to deny customers the opportunity to take advantage of the competitive atmosphere that otherwise would have prevailed.

John Placencia, 4662 East Forest, I have degrees in Finance, Human Resources, Business Management and Technology. I am very well educated in this subject. The research I've done basically shows that there is a definite positive result that comes from dispensaries.

Naomi Buress, 1324 Centennial Ct., Plainwell, MI, I am currently a patient and I also work for NACC as well. I was in a bad car accident in

February and they have me on many medications, but the marijuana “edibles” help me better than all my medications.

Kary Warner, 1617 10 Mile Rd., Comstock Park, MI, I also am a patient of NACC; I too was on 22 pills a day for back pain, chronic pain, headaches and spasms. The medical marijuana helps for me... sometimes it could be the edibles, sometimes I smoke.

Trustee Goldberg questioned Mr. Southwood regarding what his patient relationship has to be under the law. Caregiver can have up to 5 patients and grow up to 72 plants. Discussion followed.

Treasurer Peirce asked Mr. Southwood how many patients you serve out of your facility. Currently (as a guesstimate) 150 folks on a weekly basis.

Trustee Goldberg asked if they allowed use of the drug in the facility. Mr. Southwood stated that they did not.

Dave Hubbard, 2646 Cascade Springs Dr., there are three dispensaries in Cascade Township right now. I think they are a useful thing for our community. I would like to hear that it is not going to be retroactive. Steven Brawner, 716 Bates, shared a short story with the Board.

Article 5. Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Receive and File Various Meeting Minutes
 - 1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes for 04/13/11.
 - 2. Regular Planning Commission Meeting Minutes for 03/21/11.
 - 3. Parks Committee Meeting Minutes for 03/04/2011.
- b. Receive and File Communications
 - 1. Correspondence from/to David Hildenbrand – re: Simple, Fair & Efficient Government Service.
 - 2. Correspondence from/to Friends of the Cascade Library – re: Donation.
 - 3. Correspondence to Honorable Rick Snyder, Governor – re: Service Sharing and Consolidation & Simple, Fair & Efficient Government Service.
 - 4. Public Hearing Notice Michigan Consolidated Gas Company – Case No. U-16757.
 - 5. Letter from Charter – re: Add more high-definition channels to line-up.
- c. Receive and File Various Reports
 - 1. Treasurer Department Monthly Report for March, 2011.
 - 2. Fire Department Monthly Report for March, 2011.
- d. Education Requests
 - 1. Denise M. Biegalle – Advanced Payroll – Okemos, MI – May 10, 2011.

Motion by Trustee Lewis and supported by Trustee Fox to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Article 6. Financial Actions (None)

Article 7. Unfinished Business (None)

Article 8. New Business

023-2011 Consider Approval of Ordinance to Impose a Moratorium on Medical Marihuana.

Trustee Goldberg did not see anything in the text of the Ordinance that limited the Ordinance to prospective businesses or operations and I know we gave the public the answer that it would only operate prospectively,

but this document doesn't seem to reflect that. We may not be in a position to act on this particular document, because I don't really feel comfortable modifying the text of an ordinance without our attorney here. I might be more comfortable with a moratorium that dealt with the subject matter in Section 2, which is a moratorium on issuing permits. Not comfortable with a moratorium that contains something like Section 3 which would purport to restrict the dispensing of this medicine. Supervisor Beahan declared with hearing no motion this particular action dies.

Article 9. Public Comments on any other matters. (limit comments to 3 minutes)
No public comments.

Article 10. Manager's Comments

Manager Cousins offered the following comments:

- This Saturday the Forest Hills Business Association will have a Document Shredding Day at Family Fair from 9:00 – 12:00 (noon).
- The Sheriff is having a prescription drug “take back” day...also this Saturday the 30th from 10:00 – 2:00 at the main office of the Sheriff's Dept. on Ball St.
- Dumpsters will be arriving Friday morning at Township Hall for recycling of yard waste.
- State Representative Ken Yonker will be holding office hours here in this facility May 10th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- The Grand Valley Metro Council is working on teaming up with the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce to start in the next few weeks to figure out the best way to replace the personal property tax in Michigan.

Article 11. Board Member Comments

Treasurer Peirce offered the following comments:

- Still have some concerns about the manager's involvement in this First Kent Committee. I wouldn't want this to be construed as in any sense an endorsement by me personally or the Board that this is a good proposal or something that we are endorsing until all the information is in. I want to go on record as not endorsing that proposal in its current form.

Clerk Goodyke offered the following comments:

- Thank you to the audience for your orderly and intelligent comments.

Supervisor Beahan offered the following comments:

- May 7th is the clean-up for Cascade/Ada at the end of Fase St from 8:00 – 2:00.
- There is also an invitation to the Board members from the Kent County Road Commission for a May 10th luncheon...so we can go over any issues we may have with the Road Commission.
- Also have the Tri-Valley Museums that are open. There are 20+ museums that have free admission. The Cascade Historical Museum is one of them.

Article 12. Adjournment

Motion was made by Treasurer Peirce and supported by Trustee Lewis to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise M. Biegalle
Deputy Clerk

Approved by:

Ron Goodyke, Clerk

Robert Beahan, Supervisor