

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA
Public Meeting Room A
Delta Township Administration Building
7710 West Saginaw Highway
Lansing MI 48917

**TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2009**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Ken Fletcher called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. OPENING CEREMONIES – Pledge of Allegiance

III. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Supervisor Kenneth Fletcher, Clerk Janice Vedder,
Treasurer Howard Pizzo, and Trustees Jan Cunningham,
Jeff Hicks, Barb Poma and Cara Spagnuolo

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Manager Richard Watkins, Executive Secretary Kathy Ernst
and Department Secretary Shayla Thomas and Heather Bouck
Pettinger

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS –

Supervisor Fletcher stated Ella Hartman is celebrating her 107th birthday on Friday. The 39ers will be having a birthday luncheon celebration for her. Supervisor Fletcher presented a proclamation declaring Friday, January 23, 2009, Ella Hartman Day in Delta Township. The proclamation stated:

WHEREAS, ELLA AUGUSTA HARTMAN WAS BORN JANUARY 23, 1902
WHEN THEODORE ROOSEVELT WAS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATED, AND

WHEREAS, ELLA AUGUSTA HARTMAN, AFTER MARRYING WILLIAM
HARTMAN IN 1920 AND RAISING FOUR CHILDREN BOTH ELLA AND
HER HUSBAND BOUGHT AND RAN A RESORT ON OSTEGO LAKE
UNTIL 1970, AND

WHEREAS, ELLA AUGUSTA HARTMAN JOINED THE DELTA WAVERLY
39ERS IN 1977, AND HAS A RICH HISTORY OF SHARING WITH

OTHERS AS DEMONSTRATED BY HER INVOLVEMENT WITH THE
ACTIVITIES OF THE GROUP,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD
OF DELTA TOWNSHIP WISHES TO ACKNOWLEDGE ELLA AUGUSTA
HARTMAN AND WISHES TO RECOGNIZE HER BY DECLARING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2009, ELLA AUGUSTA HARTMAN DAY IN DELTA
TOWNSHIP.

CLERK VEDDER MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROCLAMATION.

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM SUPPORTED THE MOTION.

MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

1. Creyts Road Sidewalk/Path Project Presentation – Bob Ford, Landscape Architect

Mr. Bob Ford of Landscape Architects & Planners, Inc. gave an overview of the projects. Mr. Ford introduced Mike Bristor, who is also part of the planner's staff. The Delta Township Non-Motorized Transportation Study began in 2003.

Broad goals for this project included:

- Promote safety throughout the non-motorized system
- Connect neighborhoods, schools, parks, commercial areas, and township owned lands, natural and cultural scenic features
- To provide the basis for non-motorized transportation
- Develop primary and secondary routes
- Work with local agencies and the community to gain insight into specific needs
- Connect to other non-motorized efforts in the surrounding areas
- Develop continuous primary routes that run north and south, east and west
- Encourage physical activity by increasing the number of residents who walk or bike daily
- Enhance the quality of life the township provides for its residents

The review process in which the public was engaged included:

- Delta Magazine
- Website
- Direct Mailing (400 random mailing surveys included in resident's water bills)
- 17 Public input meetings (9 were public meetings)

- Total public involvement (543 attended over a period of time, average 60 attendees per meeting)

Steering Committee included:

- 4 Residents which included one representative (NE, SE, SW, NW)
- 1 Business owner
- Waverly and Grand Ledge School Districts
- 2 Township Board Members
- 1 Planning Commission Member
- Delta Township Engineer
- Eaton County Road Commission
- Eaton County Sheriff Department
- Eaton County Drain Commissioner
- Delta Township Assistant Township Manager

Tools used for the study included:

- Sidewalk (6' is preferred)
- Bike lane (5' is preferred)
- Shared use path (12' wide in order to receive funding)
- Lane conversion
- Mid block crossing
- Pedestrian overpass
- Round-A-Bout

Other topics that were covered in the presentation included:

Non-motorized planning, Health (why non-motorized activity is important), Safety (372 trails studied), Economics (national park service study), Non-motorized activities (Delta Trail survey), Destinations from public input and student input, Challenge areas from public input and student input. Four trails were studied for this project.

Public Comments:

Attorney Mike Hocking, of Windcharme Estates, stated that he lives in the area and was asked to speak on behalf of his neighbors. Mr. Hocking stated this is a beautiful project and a great idea, but should not be implemented at this time. He feels that this project should be delayed in respect to fiscal responsibility. The residents are not willing to grant easement rights for this project. CMAQ funds are supposed to be used to reduce CO2 and other bi-products of combustion. After reading the rules on what is required to qualify for the CMAQ grant money, Mr. Hocking stated that he

found it to be a stretch for this project to qualify for grant money. Mr. Hocking made mention that if the residents needed to challenge either the State or Federal Government in regards to the use of CMAQ funding, they would; but preferred not to.

Trustee Hicks asked Mr. Hocking who he represented. Mr. Hocking stated he was requested by Jim Webster to speak in litany of those affected by the proposed pathway that connects Sharp Park to Creyts Road and from Saginaw north to the river. Mr. Hocking clarified that he is the spokesman on behalf of 96% of the residents along those routes who are opposed to the project.

Trustee Hicks stated that timing appears to be an issue relative to the funds. Trustee Hicks asked Mr. Hocking to elaborate on the idea that five years from now we could be sitting here and everyone would be here supporting the project. Mr. Hocking replied that he didn't have a crystal ball. Trustee Hicks sat through a public hearing prior to this meeting and didn't get that impression from other residents. Mr. Hocking reiterated that during this economic crisis, money should only be spent on essential things such as public safety.

Mr. Pat Harrington of 1709 Marcy Road, phone number 517-322-0899, spoke next. Mr. Harrington became active with non-motorized transportation in the fall of 1976. Mr. Harrington stated Delta Township has thousands of residents who have an interest in creating a walkable bikeable route on this existing public right-of-way. Funding has been provided so that property owners are not responsible for the cost.

Gail Hanna stated she had been a lifelong resident of Delta Township but moved to Marquette two years ago. Ms. Hanna became involved with this project in 2003 and was asked to come and give an overview of the planning process the citizens went through. Ms. Hanna stated that she talked to hundreds of people throughout the community about this project and received over 1,000 resident signatures on a petition in favor of the Delta Township Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. She applauded the efforts of the board to make this a more walkable community.

Tami Mullett resides at 2020 Webster Road and supports this project. Ms. Mullett stated the most important issue is her family and the safety of her children. Ms. Mullett indicated that some of her neighbors, who support this project, were not present.

Hugh Forster resides at 7048 Captiva Drive. Mr. Forster stated 15 years ago Creyts Road was expanded to five lanes and a sidewalk was put in front of his house. Mr. Forster stated that the trails and sidewalks are an issue of public safety. Mr. Forster stated that there are several residents who violate the speed limits which poses a public safety issue specifically for residents who are in wheelchairs and have to cross Saginaw to get to work.

Joette Laseur resides at 1421 N. Creyts Road. Ms. Laseur stated that her main concern is the value of her property and not being able to sell it.

Jim Osieczonek resides at 316 N. Creyts Road. Mr. Osieczonek stated hazardous areas should be identified and extension of the current sidewalks should be made. He would like to see sidewalks on both sides, but not sure how that would be possible.

Julie Buckmaster resides at 1409 Strawflower Circle. Ms. Buckmaster stated her backyard is affected by this plan. She's not in favor of this project and it disrupts her privacy. She wants to know who's responsible for plowing the snow, what happens to the trees and how this affects her property value. Supervisor Fletcher stated when the project is implemented, details will be decided upon. Ms. Buckmaster asked to receive a call regarding the snow plowing, trees, and what this does to her property value. Her contact phone number is 517-321-7090.

John Barber resides at 5905 Cabrena. Mr. Barber stated that he would rather not see the path behind his house nor did he think it would bring more people out to walk.

Dr. Kimberly White resides at 6343 Bluestone Drive. Dr. White stated that her concern is safety for her child, speed limit on the road, and no barrier between the path and Creyts Road. Dr. White stated it's not safe.

Nancy Krupiarz is the Executive Director of Michigan Trails Greenway Alliance. Ms. Krupiarz stated her organization has been involved from the beginning with the non-motorized transportation plan and congratulates Delta Township. Ms. Krupiarz stated the highlights of the major arteries throughout the township should be retrofitted in order to provide for community vitality and the health of its residents. It reduces the reliance on automobile transportation as a way of getting around, especially for many of the small trips that are carried out every day in which citizens may choose to access in a non-motorized way. Ms. Krupiarz stated Delta Township has secured a CMAQ grant. This grant is not plentiful, very competitive, and is meant for those projects that help clean up our air. Ms. Krupiarz says residents will receive many benefits such as health, economics, vitality and sustainability.

Ron Klepal resides at 2023 Webster. Mr. Klepal stated Creyts Road has separate issues from Webster Road. Mr. Klepal's house sits right on the corner of Creyts and Webster Road. Mr. Klepal stated he had no idea that non-motorized transportation meant a sidewalk or path on his property. Mr. Klepal stated that he needs answers to his questions and was told that they couldn't be answered until a plan was approved. Mr. Klepal wants to know what the exact plan is; specifically for his property before a decision is made by the township regarding his property.

Laurie Hoppe resides at 812 N. Creyts Road. Ms. Hoppe stated prior to the purchase of their home in 2003, she inquired about plans of widening Creyts Road or putting in sidewalks and was told that there were no plans in the foreseeable future. Ms. Hoppe

stated she didn't receive honest answers and purchased this home because it had no sidewalks on the property. Ms. Hoppe says this project is going to be a drain on finances.

Jim Webster resides at 1115 N. Creyts Road. Mr. Webster stated this can be a win, win for everyone. Mr. Webster suggested Delta Township use the funding to find an alternative path that doesn't impact 107 houses with backyard pathways, front yard pathways and sidewalks. Mr. Webster stated to hold off on the sidewalks and let the economy get better.

V. SET/ADJUST AGENDA

Trustee Hicks requested St. Gerard's Anniversary be added to the agenda.

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM MOVED THE AGENDA BE APPROVED WITH THE ADDITION OF ST. GERARD'S ANNIVERSARY.

TRUSTEE POMA SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ACTION – None.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS – None.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA – None.

IX. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY – None.

X. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES – None.

XI. PASSAGE OF ORDINANCES – None.

XII. CONSENT AGENDA

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM MOVED THE CONSENT AGENDA BE APPROVED WITH THE REMOVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 8, 2008; DECEMBER 29, 2008; AND JANUARY 5, 2009.

TRUSTEE POMA SUPPORTED THE MOTION.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM, TREASURER PIZZO,
TRUSTEE SPAGNUOLO, SUPERVISOR FLETCHER,
TRUSTEE HICKS, TRUSTEE POMA, AND CLERK
VEDDER.

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

2. Minutes

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM MOVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 15, 2008 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

TRUSTEE POMA SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

3. Bills and Financial Transactions

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM MOVED TO APPROVE BILLS AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,887,676.21

TRUSTEE POMA SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

4. Waiver of Lien, Deed of Grant, Easement Grant for Crippen Properties

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM MOVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA ACCEPT THE WAIVER OF LIEN, DEED OF GRANT AND EASEMENT GRANT FOR THE WATER FACILITIES INSTALLED TO SERVE THE CRIPPEN PROPERTIES, LLC SITE IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 9 OF DELTA TOWNSHIP AT 8300 WEST SAGINAW HIGHWAY, AND

FURTHER, THAT SAID WATER FACILITIES BE ACCEPTED INTO THE DELTA TOWNSHIP WATER SYSTEM, AND THAT JANUARY 20, 2009 BE ESTABLISHED AS THE DATE OF ACCEPTANCE, AND

FURTHER, THAT THE MUNICIPAL UTILITY AGREEMENT SUPPLEMENT SUBMITTED BY CRIPPEN PROPERTIES, LLC PERTAINING TO THE EXTENSION OF THE SEVEN YEAR PERIOD OF THE ORIGINAL MUNICIPAL UTILITY AGREEMENT DATED MAY 5, 2008 BE APPROVED, AND

FURTHER, THAT THE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR AND CLERK BE AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO SIGN THE MUNICIPAL UTILITY AGREEMENT SUPPLEMENT.

TRUSTEE POMA SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

5. Waiver of Lien, Deed of Grant, Easement Grant for Our Savior Lutheran Church

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM MOVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA ACCEPT THE WAIVER OF LIEN, DEED OF GRANT AND EASEMENT GRANT FOR THE SANITARY SEWER AND WATER FACILITIES INSTALLED TO SERVE THE OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL PROJECT LOCATED AT 7910 WEST ST. JOE HIGHWAY IN THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 20 OF DELTA TOWNSHIP, AND

FURTHER, THAT SAID SANITARY SEWER AND WATER FACILITIES BE ACCEPTED INTO THE DELTA TOWNSHIP SANITARY SEWER AND WATER SYSTEMS, AND THAT JANUARY 20, 2009 BE ESTABLISHED AS THE DATE OF ACCEPTANCE.

TRUSTEE POMA SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

XIII. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION

2. Minutes

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM MOVED TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 8, 2008 AS CORRECTED.

TRUSTEE POMA SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

TRUSTEE POMA MOVED TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 29, 2008 AS CORRECTED.

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

TREASURER PIZZO MOVED TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM JANUARY 5, 2009 AS CORRECTED.

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

XIV. ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA UNDER SECTION V. SET/ADJUST AGENDA

6. Proclamation for St. Gerard

Trustee Hicks requested a proclamation to honor St. Gerard's 50th Anniversary. He will draft a resolution and present it to the board at the next meeting on February 2, 2009.

XV. OTHER BUSINESS

8. Consolidation of Elections – 2 Year School Contracts

CLERK VEDDER MOVED THE TOWNSHIP CLERK BE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN CONTRACT FOR TWO YEAR PERIOD FOR THE CONDUCT OF SCHOOL ELECTIONS FOR GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, WAVERLY COMMUNITY SCHOOL, HOLT PUBLIC SCHOOLS, LANSING PUBLIC SCHOOLS, EATON INTERMEDIATE AND LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE PURSUANT TO CHANGES WITHIN MICHIGAN ELECTION LAW.

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM SUPPORTED THE MOTION.

MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

9. Sponsorship and Referral of Zoning Ordinance Amendments Pertaining to ZBA Public Notice Requirements Variance Time Limits

TRUSTEE HICKS MOVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA SPONSOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SECTIONS 23.4.0 AND 23.6.0 OF THE DELTA TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE TO MAKE PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS CONSISTENT WITH THE MICHIGAN ZONING ENABLING ACT, 2006 PA 110 (MCL 125.3101 *ET. SEQ.*); AND TO EXTEND THE VALIDITY OF VARIANCES FROM ONE (1) YEAR TO TWO (2) YEARS, RESPECTIVELY; AS DESCRIBED IN CASE NO. 1-09-1. FURTHER, I MOVE TO REFER THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING AND MAKING A RECOMMENDATION TO THE TOWNSHIP BOARD.

CLERK VEDDER SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

10. Appointment Process for the Delta Township District Library

TRUSTEE POMA MOVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA ADOPT THE APPOINTMENT PROCESS FOR THE DELTA TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD AS ATTACHED.

TREASURER PIZZO SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

11. Delta Township Board of Review Appointment and Reappointments

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM MOVED THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA REAPPOINT JON WISE AND CHARLES F. "FRANK" WALKER TO THE BOARD OF REVIEW FOR TERMS EXPIRING DECEMBER 31,

2010, AND APPOINT LISA MCCORMICK TO THE BOARD OF REVIEW FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2010.

TRUSTEE HICKS SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

12. **Compiled Policy Manual Policy**
13. **Policy On Committees**
14. **Orderly Succession of Authority Policy**
15. **Rules of Procedure**

Trustee Hicks stated that the redline copy and the minutes should be available so that exact changes are noticeable. Reviewing committee minutes would also be beneficial before adopting the policies. Trustee Poma thought it would be a good idea for the redline copy and the minutes be made available on line and accessible to residents.

TRUSTEE HICKS MOVED TO TABLE THE ADOPTION OF ITEMS #12-15 ON THE FOLLOWING POLICIES: COMPILED POLICY MANUAL POLICY, POLICY ON COMMITTEES, ORDERLY SUCCESSION OF AUTHORITY POLICY, AND RULES OF PROCEDURE.

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM MOVED TO POSTPONE ADOPTION OF THE POLICIES UNTIL THE NEXT BOARD MEETING ON FEBRUARY 2, 2009, A DATE CERTAIN.

TRUSTEE POMA SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

XVI. OLD BUSINESS – None.

XVII. OFFICERS, DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE MINUTES

16. **Property Tax & Assessment Presentation – Brian Thelen, Assessing Director**

TRUSTEE HICKS MOVED TO TABLE THE PROPERTY TAX AND ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION UNTIL THE NEXT BOARD MEETING ON FEBRUARY 2, 2009, A DATE CERTAIN.

TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

17. **Manager's Report**

Manager Watkins report:

- Delta Township received a \$1500 fencing grant for Leland Park.

- Deputy Hefner received an award for \$6000 to enhance our commercial motor vehicle highway enforcement.
- Manager Watkins and Jenny Wohlfert attended an informational meeting at the MEDA (Michigan Economic Development Association) and received documentation on how to help companies in our community become diversified with their products. Specifically companies that are involved in the Automobile Industry who are slow and looking for ways to convert to the Aerospace Industry, Medical Device Industry, Defense Industry, and the Alternative Energy Industry.

Clerk Vedder introduced Shayla Thomas as the new Department Secretary for the Clerk's office.

XVIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA

Gail Hanna, a former Delta Township resident, stated that she was curious about any feedback the board received regarding the widening of Willow Highway and sidewalks that were added. Trustee Poma reports that she had been contacted and residents were happy with the bike lanes.

Michael Atayan, Eaton County Drain Commissioner resides at 7147 Steeplechase Way in the Morgan Creek Subdivision. Mr. Atayan gave a brief summary of the items the drain commission office is working on. Projects to be address include:

- Areas of concern for the Mount Hope property the drain district has.
- List of drain concerns presented by the engineering department.
- Richard Watkins requested a meeting with Commissioner Atayan.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

TRUSTEE HICKS MOVED THE MEETING ADJOURN AT 9:45 P.M.

CLERK VEDDER SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA

JANICE VEDDER, TOWNSHIP CLERK

KENNETH FLETCHER, TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR