

REGULAR MEETING OF EAGLE TOWNSHIP BOARD
 September 5, 2000 at 8:00 p.m. at Eagle
 Township Hall, 14318 Michigan St., Eagle, MI

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Supervisor Morris with Pledge to the Flag. Board members present: Supervisor David C. Morris, Clerk Jane A. Korroch, Treasurer Patti J. Schafer, Trustees Ronald Hodge and Stephen Colby. Also present, County Commissioner Sara Clark Pierson, Jeremy Nagel from Community News and approximately 25 Township residents.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. McKenny asks to be brought up to date regarding the mobile home park on Grange Road at McCrumb Road. Sara explained the request for executive session by the Hartford Equities Group to try to settle the litigation in Olive Township. On advice of the County's attorney, the County Commissioners decided that with the concessions proposed by Hartford in Eagle township, it would be in the best interest of the County to settle the law suit with a Consent Judgment. A decision was needed that day as the trial would have started the following day at which point the decision would be in the hands of the Judge. Judge Martlew had already stated that he would not grant a continuance. The developers will still have to follow restrictions set by the health department, Drain Commissioner, DEQ and other permits. Sara was very upset by the vote of the commissioners. She and Larry Martin were the two no votes. Sara has suggested to the County quite some time ago that they file an Amicus Brief because of the defect in the zoning ordinance but Planning and Zoning didn't have a sense of urgency regarding this.

Residents were very unhappy with this decision and made comments regarding school overcrowding, property devaluation, drainage, wells going dry, traffic, safety, EMS protection, police, road improvements, economic impact and environmental, independent consultant hired by the county, no appeal process with a consent judgment, appointment of Sandy Green to the Michigan Manufactured Home Commission and other litigation against Landon in Grand Rapids, criteria for commissioner's vote. Also discussed was Rep. Garcia's lack of action to get new laws passed in this matter. After more discussion, possible recourse was discussed which included a possible law suit by a citizen group and the board was asked if it would help pay for legal fees. Also a blitz of letters and phone calls in objection made to Drain Commissioner, DEQ, etc. Sara stated that Finance and Personnel committees meet on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. if people wanted to attend. This would not change commissioners vote would show them the impact their vote has had on Eagle Twp.

Mrs. Donaldson asks about a hand dug 1902 county drain that runs on their property. With the new ditch cuts on Jones Road, they will get all the water drained onto their land and wants to know who is responsible. The County Drain Commissioner's office has told them that they are responsible for the repair. David stated that if it is a registered drain, the county should be responsible. The Donaldson's are very concerned about this and are thinking of selling the property.

2. MINUTES - moved by Schafer, supported by Hodge to approve as printed. Motion carried.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT - moved by Hodge supported by Colby to accept report as printed. Motion carried.

4. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT - none

5. LETTERS were presented by the clerk. After discussion of the letter from MTA regarding Ballot Proposal 002 and the negative impact it would have on townships and counties, moved by Morris, supported by Hodge to support a resolution opposing Ballot Proposal 002 in the November election. Resolution declared adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

6. BILLS - were reviewed. Patti asks that she be allowed to speak with the CCRC regarding the \$100,000.00 bill for Jones Road to make sure that the total bill was actually over \$200,000.00 as the bill is not itemized and the project has not been completed as stated. Moved by Hodge, supported by Korroch to pay the bills as listed and any regular bills received during the month and that the Jones Road bill for \$100,000.00 be paid only if detailed statement is received or to pay only 1/2 of total bill on work already completed. Motion carried. Aerial maps are an expense of assessor and not the Land Use committee.

7. NILES CEMETERY ORDINANCE tabled to October Meeting.

8. FALL MTA DISTRICT MEETING - Moved by Korroch, supported by Hodge to pay for David, Patti, Steve, Pat Hazen and Wendy Simmons to attend. Motion carried.

9. **GRAND LEDGE TANKER PURCHASE** was discussed. Casey Godlewski spoke in support of Eagle Township approving this purchase. He felt that a pumper/tanker would be a better selection. David stated that GL had not had a tanker until a few years ago. Casey thought the fire board had been remiss in letting the fire department rely on others for a tanker. Roy Zigler states that most of the equipment at the GL Fire Department is junk and outdated. As the rating of the fire department goes up, residents would save on their insurance premiums.

David stops discussion to introduce Scott Hummel, County Commissioner who represents Dewitt area.

Continuing Fire Department discussion, Casey stated that the ladder truck is 17 years old so it is getting close to its expected life and has needed recent repair for which parts were hard to find and had to be specially made. Formation of an authority was discussed. David stated that the problem was the unstable government at some of the entities and Eagle Township already levies a mill for EMS services. Casey spoke of the authority the fire chief had checked into in South Haven which has worked very well for that area. We need to decide what is in the best interest for the whole community here. Eagle Township could pay their share of the whole tanker without the financing charges as could the other townships, however the city cannot and they can't sign any further financing or lease agreements.

10. **LAND USE COMMITTEE** will be named and formed at the October meeting as the information and paper work has not been received from Mr. Fahey.

11. **E.T. TRANSPORT REZONE** was discussed. Moved by Colby, supported by Hodge to support the rezone of this parcel to be used as a transportation terminal. Motion carried.

12. **TALLMAN ROAD** - David discusses the possible paving of Tallman Road from West Main Street to State Road with MDOT paying \$125,000.00 of the cost. This would be used as a detour while the railroad crossing on Wright Road is closed for repair. Eagle Township has 1 mile in the proposed area and may be responsible for some of the cost, as would Oneida Township, City of Grand Ledge Eaton County and Clinton County. The McMillan Street railroad crossing is to be closed permanently. There is a federal mandate to close 25% of all railroad crossings.

The Commissioner's decision regarding the mobile home park on Grange Road was briefly discussed by Scott Hummel. He stated that it was a hard decision to make and the commissioners do care about Eagle Township but they had to make the best decision as possible for whole county.

Patti asked for direction on how the board felt regarding the pumper purchase and forming of an authority. There was more discussion but no decision was made.

Ron congratulated David on winning the primary for Supervisor and that he hoped there were no hard feelings and they shook hands. Ron does not plan to run as a write-in for any position on the Board.

ADJOURN - moved by Hodge, supported by Colby to adjourn at 11:00 p.m.

10-2-00
approved

Jane A. Korroch
Jane A. Korroch, Township Clerk

**RESOLUTION
OF**

 E A G L E **TOWNSHIP,**
 C L I N T O N **COUNTY**

**in OPPOSITION to PROPOSAL 002
to Amend the Michigan Constitution**

- *Our country's democratic principles are built on the principle that laws reflect the will of the majority of citizens, and*
- *Proposal 002 will thwart the ability of a majority of our elected representatives and senators to adopt new laws necessary for local government to better serve its citizens, and*
- *Growing townships are entitled to more state shared revenues to meet the service needs of expanding populations, and*
- *Townships are entitled to the same protection of boundaries as is afforded to cities, and*
- *Proposal 002 does not merely require a two-thirds vote on legislation that would usurp local control but also will require a two-thirds vote in both the House and the Senate for laws that enhance the statutory authority of townships, and*
- *Local control can best be preserved through township residents and their elected township officials communicating their expectations to the Michigan Legislature that local government is the most appropriate institution for resolving matters of local concern, now*

Therefore be it resolved, that the Board of Eagle Township opposes Proposal 002 and urges its defeat at the November General Election.

Motion declared adopted. *Sept 5, 2000* *Jane A. Korroch*
Jane A. Korroch, Township Clerk