

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

The September 11, 2012, meeting of the Charter Township of Oakland Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall.

PRESENT: Joan Fogler, Supervisor
Judy Workings, Clerk
Sharon Creps, Treasurer
Michael Bailey, Trustee
Marc Edwards, Trustee (arrived 7:38 p.m.)
Sharon McKay, Trustee
Kathrine Thomas, Trustee
James Creech, Manager
Steve Joppich, Attorney

ABSENT: None

A quorum was present.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Board and everyone present observed a moment of silence in remembrance of the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Fogler led the Board, staff and those present in the Pledge of Allegiance, pledged before the flag that flew over the Township Hall on September 11, 2001.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY CREPS, to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2012, meeting with the following corrections: on page 62 under "Clerk Workings' Report – Detroit Sewerage and Water Department Meeting," the first paragraph should be revised to read, "...Manager Creech held a ~~lengthy~~ three hour meeting...~~However, she was upset~~ She observed that he did not...plans and schematics, and said ~~she feels it would have been~~ that, in the future, it would be more appropriate if Manager Creech ~~had been~~ were accompanied by..."

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

MOTION CARRIED (Absent: Edwards).

There were no changes proposed to the closed session of that meeting.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

AMENDMENTS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Supervisor Fogler said the Board will not be considering the reappointment of At Large Citizen Representative Agnes Bochenek to the Older Persons' commission this evening. Trustee Bailey requested that the WadeTrim report on the Millrace be moved earlier in the agenda. Trustee McKay requested that an additional item be added to discuss fracking.

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY THOMAS, to approve the agenda with the revision that the deletion of the item to reappoint At Large Citizen Representative Agnes Bochenek to the Older Persons' Commission, to move the report from WadeTrim regarding the Millrace earlier in the agenda, and to add a discussion regarding fracking.

MOTION CARRIED.

CITIZENS

Supervisor Fogler invited those present to comment at this time on an item that is not on this evening's agenda. Further, she stated that if someone wishes to comment on an item that is on this evening's agenda, they may do so at an appropriate time when the Board is considering that item.

Blossom Ridge

Petition for Referendum

Robin Buxar of 1540 W. Gunn Road stated that on August 24th she filed a Notice of Intent to File a Petition" requesting that the Blossom Ridge rezoning question be submitted to the voters of Oakland Township for their approval or disapproval. She said she understands that the Board's approval of the Blossom Ridge PRRO does not take effect until the petition and referendum process is concluded. Therefore, she requested that the Township's boards and commissions not waste time or resources on any additional Blossom Ridge matters until the process has been completed. Specifically, she asked that a member of the Board make a motion to put all of the Blossom Ridge activity on hold until the statutory process relating to the Notice of Intent and Petition is completed in its entirety.

Attorney Joppich responded that at least two items submitted by the property owner are not covered by the PRRO (the PRRO is the subject of the referendum petition). He continued that the property owner has submitted under separate parts of the ordinance for approvals for (1) special accommodation use, and (2) zoning interpretations. Attorney

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

Joppich said that Oakland Township must process these submittals in order to be consistent with how the Township has applied its ordinances in the past.

Additionally, Attorney Joppich said that the property owner is seeking concept site plan approval under a petition in the Zoning Ordinance that allows a property owner to petition for *concept* site plan approval while a rezoning request is being processed. It is the property owner's position that, while the referendum petition is being circulated, the rezoning is still "in process." Attorney Joppich specified that the applicant may only obtain *concept* site plan approval, and that this review process occurs only at the Planning Commission level. He said it is his opinion that, even if the referendum upholds the PRRO rezoning, the applicant would need to return to the Planning Commission and obtain a formal approval. The Planning Commission has accepted the plan for study.

Attorney Joppich stated that the applicant has submitted the required fees for review of all three applications.

Supervisor Fogler asked how the Board should proceed with Ms. Buxar's request that the Board make a motion to put all of the Blossom Ridge activity on hold until the statutory process relating to the Notice of Intent and Petition is completed in its entirety. Attorney Joppich responded that, at a minimum, he would like to review the matter and advise the Board. Supervisor Fogler directed Mr. Joppich to prepare an opinion for the Board's review prior to the next meeting.

Flyer from Blossom Ridge Developers

Jim Chauvin of 3185 St. James Court said that he received a piece of literature from the developers of Blossom Ridge that contained an orange sticker that cautioned residents, "Don't sign the petition. The referendum violates federal and state fair housing laws." He said that he found this to be intimidating. He questioned how the referendum can be interpreted to violate fair housing laws, and further questioned whether Planning Commission and Board members had violated the fair housing laws by voting against the developer's request for rezoning. Mr. Chauvin asked Supervisor Fogler to have Attorney Joppich provide an opinion regarding the fair housing issue and the legality of the referendum.

Attorney Joppich reviewed the wording of the flyer and said he does not feel it would be appropriate for the Board to take any action on this. He said that there are varied opinions regarding the proposed development, and much passion on both sides of the matter. The developers are using this flyer to exercise their right to free speech. He added that the Township does not have any ordinances that address this issue.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

When urged again by Mr. Chauvin to render an opinion regarding his understanding of the statement on the sticker regarding whether or not members of the Planning Commission or Board violated fair housing laws when they voted against the rezoning, Attorney Joppich noted that he is hired to attend the meeting this evening, and that laws prohibit a government from spending monies on elections, such as this.

Beth Markel of 245 Birch Hill Drive commented that she, too, was intimidated by the orange sticker on the flyer.

Special Accommodation Use

Marty McQuade of 5605 Muirfield Drive asked about the public hearing scheduled for September 26th regarding the developer's application for Special Accommodation Use, which will allow the public to comment regarding the developer's request for approval of the Blossom Ridge rezoning under the Special Accommodation Use Statute. He asked Supervisor Fogler to have Attorney Joppich provide an overview of the process that will be used to evaluate this latest application, and the anticipated time to complete the process.

Attorney Joppich explained that the process is set forth in the Zoning Ordinance, and includes the standards and other information regarding when the Special Accommodation Use statute applies.

Mr. McQuade said that the Special Accommodations Use Statute sets forth the requirement that this process can only be used if the zoning request cannot be fulfilled under any other part of the Township's Zoning Ordinance. He questioned how the applicant can use the Special Accommodation Use provisions if, should the referendum fail, Blossom Ridge *could* be considered under another part of the Zoning Ordinance. Thus, he questioned how this process may be used when the referendum (and therefore the rezoning issue) is pending. Attorney Joppich said that this is a factor that the Supervisor and the Board will consider when they decide whether or not this process may be used.

Pat Kirby of 5740 Wellwood Drive questioned why Supervisor Fogler set the date for this public hearing for Wednesday, when the Board holds their meetings on Tuesdays. Supervisor Fogler responded that it is up to her discretion to set the date for this public hearing, and pointed out that this is not a Board meeting. She continued that she selected this date because it worked with her schedule as well as those of Attorney Joppich and the applicant. Further, the meeting date has already been posted, published in the local newspaper, and notices have been sent to neighboring property owners.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

Attorney Joppich reiterated that this is not a special meeting of the Board, but rather a public hearing required by the Zoning Ordinance, and it is the responsibility of the Supervisor to set the date.

Mr. McQuade said that this is short notice, and he questioned how many interested residents will be able to attend.

Jim Hollenbeck of 2055 Aberdeen Court asked that a Board member make a motion to change the date of the public hearing.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

MOVED BY BAILEY, to reschedule the public hearing, currently scheduled to be held on September 26th, regarding the developer's application for Special Accommodation Use, to the date of another regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meetings.

~~MOTION FAILS FOR LACK OF SUPPORT.~~

Supervisor Fogler stated that this matter is not for the Board to decide as this is a meeting that the Supervisor sets.

(Trustee Edwards arrived at this time, 7:38 p.m.)

Mr. Hollenbeck asked if it would be possible to hold the public hearing following the Board's meeting on September 25th. Supervisor Fogler said that the meeting has already been noticed for September 26th.

John Giannangeli of 5846 Muirfield questioned where Attorney Joppich's fiduciary responsibilities lie. Attorney Joppich responded that he represents the Board of Trustees, and does not represent the members of the Board individually. Mr. Giannangeli asked how Attorney Joppich will handle the September 26th public hearing. Attorney Joppich stated that he will be present at that meeting, that this is a meeting that is being called by the Supervisor (and it is not a Board meeting), and that he will provide his legal opinion if the Supervisor so requests.

Transition Plan

Mrs. Markel recalled that at the August 14th meeting, her husband had inquired about a plan to transition from the current elected officers and Trustees to the newly-elected Board. Supervisor Fogler responded that she has emailed Supervisor-elect Gonser regarding Oakland Township matters, although she has not received a response from him. She noted that Manager Creech and the other administrative staff will help to facilitate the transition. However, she said she has many, many years of experience with Township matters, and she is unable to "hand over" this personal knowledge.

RESTORATION OF MILLRACE AND MILL WHEEL

Jason Kenyon, an engineer with WadeTrim, and former Paint Creek Cider Mill owner ~~Gerry~~ Jerry Mancour were present this evening to make a presentation, along with Trustee Bailey, regarding the restoration of the millrace and mill wheel.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

Trustee Bailey said that it is important to have water in the millrace – not just to look nice, but to power the historic mill wheel. He showed a video of the mill wheel operating in ~~the early 1990s~~ 1993.

He then recalled that the agreement between the Township and the Clinton River Watershed Council (“CRWC”) specified that “the dam shall be removed in a manner that will preserve the historical significance and marker for the millrace, including maintaining flows that are necessary for this.” However, since the CRWC removed the dam, there is no longer any water in the millrace. Additionally, the agreement specified that “The CRWC will at their expense apply for two grants for the cleanout and restoration of the Mill Race within one year or upon completion of their grant...” Trustee Bailey said the Township needs to remind the CRWC of this promise. With respect to the dam removal project, Trustee Bailey said that there were “missteps.” Specifically, he feels the Township Board and residents should have been better informed of the outcome of the millrace flows and its final appearance following the removal of the dam. Additionally, the millrace design, project funding and improvements should have occurred concurrently with the dam removal project.

Given these problems, the Board approved a third-party evaluation by Wade Trim. Mr. Kenyon stated that he worked with Mr. Mancour, Mr. Bailey, Township administration and residents. Specifically, he was asked, as a third party, to evaluate the millrace, including the CRWC dam removal plan, and establish flow requirements for the millrace and mill wheel. He was also asked to determine if it would be possible to divert enough water into the millrace to meet flow requirements.

In accomplishing this, Mr. Kenyon said he visited the site and collected data, conducted a hydraulic evaluation, and developed proposed solutions. This evening, he shared a Power Point presentation. Based on his findings, Mr. Kenyon is recommending a two-step restoration process, which will include the removal of sediment from and the restoration of the millrace, and the restoration of the mill wheel.

Mr. Kenyon first reviewed his recommendations for restoring the millrace. He is recommending the removal of approximately two to four feet of deposits on the bottom, modification of two driveway culverts, elimination of the 18-inch inlet pipe and excavation of previous channel on the Nightingale property (the head of the millrace), and restoration of the existing head gate/valve structure to control flow through the millrace. When the sediment is excavated, he is also recommending that the banks be stabilized and improved by placing native plantings in the area. Mr. Kenyon said he estimates that this work will cost approximately \$300,000. He recalled that a condition of the Board’s agreement with the CRWC was that the CRWC was to apply for two grants for this purpose; he suggested that the Township Board should pursue this requirement at this time.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

~~Gerry Jerry~~ Mancour then reviewed proposed mill wheel improvements. He pointed out that it will be a big benefit to the community to have the mill wheel functional; the mill is a big attraction for people coming to Goodison, and their visits would be enhanced by this improvement. Making the mill wheel functional would involve restoration of the water wheel and the controls to regulate the flows, and restoration of water to the wheel pond. Mr. Mancour noted that ~~when he sold the Paint Creek Cider Mill, the turbine that ran the wheel (which had been there since 1913) was removed~~ was from 1913. However, he has done some research and has located a source for a similar turbine. Additionally, he explained that the “forebay,” (where water is stored and then flows onto the wheel) would need to be rebuilt. If there is a problem obtaining adequate water flow, he suggested that water could be stored in ~~this forebay~~ the millrace during the evening hours, and then used to power the wheel for demonstration purposes.

Trustee Edwards commented that he understands from the CRWC that, some years ago, Mr. Mancour illegally diverted water to the ~~other side of Gallagher Road~~ Paint Creek. Mr. Mancour responded that he purchased the mill in ~~1973-1976~~ and the “flume” that Trustee Edwards was referring to, was in place at that time. Mr. Mancour responded that he did not do this, and that a flume is a part of every ~~mill~~ millrace.

With respect to diverting water to the millrace, Trustee Edwards stated that the MDEQ limits the amount of water that may be diverted to 8 to 10 percent of the flow of Paint Creek. He continued that the CRWC indicated to him that they would be willing to pursue grants as long as the plans for the millrace do not require diversion of water in amounts in excess of what the MDEQ permits. He also pointed out that the Township may not use public funds to make improvements on private land.

With respect to easements, Mr. Kenyon said it will be necessary to establish a continuous legal access for the improvements to be made now, as well as for the area to be maintained in the future.

Jan Olson of 4190 Orion Road shared some information regarding the flume that Trustee Edwards referred to earlier this evening. She stated that in 1954, former mill owner Dale Miller built the dam and put in one gate that goes to the flume, which flows into Paint Creek, and a second gate that goes to the mill wheel. This is necessary so that the mill owner can clean out the “pit” annually and fix the wheel as necessary. Supervisor Fogler thanked Mrs. Olson for this explanation.

Next, Mrs. Olson discussed easements. She said she understands that in 1954 a millwright had the right to go over the millrace properties, work on them, and clean out the millrace in order to maintain the operation of his mill. Further, the area property

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

owners' deeds reflect this. Attorney Joppich did not have a copy of the deeds with him this evening, but acknowledged that these deed restrictions may have existed at one time. However, he said that, depending on deed language and how events and facts have transpired over the years, these restrictions may no longer be binding. Nonetheless, Attorney Joppich agreed that it will be essential to obtain the necessary easements so that if Oakland Township applies for a grant, it can show that it has the authority to control the property in question.

Mrs. Olson commented that, in September 2011, following a Township Board meeting, Ms. Vaara announced to her associates in the parking lot that this involves private land and that there would be no grants available to aid in the restoration of the millrace. However, Mrs. Olson pointed out that the Township in fact owns a large portion of the land in questions.

Mrs. Olson continued that she and her husband vacationed in ~~Leeland~~ Leland this past ~~summer~~ week. One of the attractions for them was the dam and mill. She said Oakland Township needs to cherish our mill. She further commented that, over the Labor Day weekend, she observed people visiting the Paint Creek Cider Mill, wandering over to the wheel, and wondering out loud why it looks the way it does. She said the cider mill with its millrace and wheel are an icon of the Township and need to be preserved. Additionally, she pointed out that the millrace provides a "safety valve" to divert water in the event that we experience flooding of the Paint Creek. She speculated that the only reason residents did not have to deal with a flood this year was because of the very small amount of snow that we had and the unusually warm weather. However, the millrace, in its current condition, has presented a problem by harboring insects and overgrown vegetation.

In conclusion, Mrs. Olson said Oakland Township needs the millrace fixed, and that the community needs the Board's support of this endeavor.

Trustee Bailey said that if the Board wishes to move forward with restoring the millrace and making the mill wheel functional, the next step will be to ask Wade Trim to develop plans as well as an estimate of costs. Supervisor Fogler said she believes some residents have already obtained soil borings for their properties. Mr. Kenyon confirmed that he has received this information from some (but not all) of the residents in this area.

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY THOMAS, to request that Wade Trim develop a scope of work, schedule, and proposed fees for the proposed millrace improvements.

Discussion:

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

Greg Olson of 4190 Orion Road said it is his understanding that the CRWC was to have two grant applications in by September 28th, and he would like to see that this is done.

Trustee Edwards questioned when the wheel was last powered by water. Mr. Mancour and Barbara Barber, Administrative Assistant to the Historic District Commission, agreed that it was last powered by water in 1998, one year after Mr. Mancour sold the mill. Mr. Mancour noted that when he sold the mill, he also sold the water rights ~~in order to have adequate water to power the mill~~. He offered to share this information with the Township.

There being no further discussion, Supervisor Fogler called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

MILLAGE LEVY FOR DECEMBER 2012

The Board referred to Manager Creech’s memorandum of September 7th. The total millage proposed is 6.396 mils; last year’s millage levy was 6.6000 mils. The payoff of the general obligation unlimited tax levy for the Older Persons’ Commission debt is set for October 1st. Last year, the amount levied to pay that debt service was .2040 mils, and that millage will not be levied any more. The Historic Preservation millage was renewed at the Headlee-reduced amount. With these exceptions, all other millage amounts are the same as the previous years. The associated boards and commissions have affirmed their request to levy the amounts indicated. All millages (with the exception of the General Operating millage, which is statutory and ongoing) were voted on and approved by the electorate. The millages represent the statutory maximum amounts.

MOVED BY CREPS, SECONDED BY EDWARDS, to establish the following millage rates for the December 2012 tax collection:

General Operating	.8774
OPC	.2342
OPC Transportation	.0900
Library	.4971
Library	.1241
Historic Preservation	.1170
Police	1.7646
Fire	1.0000
Trails	.2500
Parks	.7500
Land Preservation	.6916

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

OLDER PERSONS' COMMISSION: Appointment of At Large Citizen Representative

Supervisor Fogler stated that she had intended to recommend that the Board reappoint Agnes Bochenek as the At Large Representative for Oakland Township to the Older Persons' Commission. However, she said that Mrs. Bochenek will be moving out of Oakland Township and will no longer be able to serve in this capacity. Supervisor Fogler read the letter received from Mrs. Bochenek, which reflects that she and her husband have sold their home in the Township, were unable to find a suitable condominium (with lower maintenance requirements than a house) within the Township, and therefore have been forced to look outside the Township. Mrs. Bochenek has been involved in the community for many years.

Supervisor Fogler said that Treasurer Creps has offered to fill this vacancy temporarily.

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY WORKINGS, to appoint Sharon Creps to serve temporarily as the At Large Representative for Oakland Township to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Agnes Bochenek.

MOTION CARRIED.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

The terms of Planning Commissioners James Carter and Janine Saputo will expire this month. Both have indicated a willingness to continue to serve on the Planning Commission. Trustee Edwards, who also serves on the Planning Commission, said they both do an outstanding job.

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY THOMAS, to reappoint James Carter and Janine Saputo to three year terms on the Planning Commission, ending in September 2015.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS APPOINTMENT

The terms of Zoning Board of Appeals member Michael Tyler will expire this month. He has indicated a willingness to continue to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

MOVED BY BAILEY, SECONDED BY EDWARDS, to reappoint Michael Tyler to a three year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals, ending in September 2015.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Supervisor Fogler noted that she has received two applications from people interested in serving on the Planning Commission and/or the Zoning Board of Appeals. At this time there are no vacancies. However, she will consider these applicants if a vacancy occurs. Trustee Bailey recommended that the applicants be interviewed by the Board.

ROCHESTER AREA YOUTH ASSISTANCE: Appointment of Representative

Supervisor Fogler stated that Lisa Khoury has resigned from her position as Oakland Township's representative to the Rochester Area Youth Assistance board due to health issues. She recommended that the Board appoint Joanna VanRaaphorst to fill this vacancy.

MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY THOMAS, to appoint Joanna VanRaaphorst to serve as Oakland Township's representative to the Rochester Area Youth Assistance board to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Lisa Khoury.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ROCHESTER AREA YOUTH ASSISTANCE: Request for Funding

RAYA provides free counseling and casework services to school-age children through 16 years of age who reside in the Rochester Community Schools District. During the 2011-2012 budget year, RAYA served 388 families. Additionally, RAYA provides many other services to families including a summer camp scholarship program, a general scholarship program (to assist families with after-school activities, sports activities, Rochester Community Schools summer learning classes, independent learning classes, tutoring, etc.), and a child care scholarship program (for before- and after-school care, and during the summer months). RAYA also has a mentoring program.

Rochester Area Youth Assistance has requested funding for this program in the same amount as Oakland Township provided last year.

MOVED BY WORKINGS, SECONDED BY BAILEY, to contribute \$7,219.00 to Rochester Area Youth Assistance for their 2012-2013 program year to support the youth programs and services, which are made available and provided to the residents of Oakland Township.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The parties will execute the “Agreement to Provide Youth Programs and Services to the Public,” acknowledging the benefits received in conjunction with the Township’s contribution to this program.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

FRACKING

Trustee McKay said that in August she attended an educational meeting hosted by the MSU Extension service regarding fracking for oil and gas in Oakland County.

In May, the State of Michigan auctioned off mineral rights to 18,347 acres in Oakland County, which were purchased by Jordan, an oil exploration company. They explore for oil and gas by “fracking.” (Fracking is the procedure of creating fractures in rocks and rock foundations by injecting fluid into the cracks to force the cracks further apart.) Trustee McKay said she is concerned about this activity, especially how it might affect our water tables and wells, and our air quality. She stated that a number of municipalities have written ordinances to ban hydraulic fracking, and said she would like Oakland Township to look into this matter.

Attorney Joppich explained that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources owns the mineral rights in many parks and public properties. (When land is acquired using Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund monies, one of the requirements is to transfer mineral rights in those properties to the MDNR.) He confirmed that the MDNR recently auctioned off many of those mineral rights to oil and gas exploration companies. However, Attorney Joppich said that in most cases, the local municipality reserves a percentage of those rights, so the exploration company must go through the municipality before beginning any fracking activities.

Manager Creech stated that he is not aware of Oakland Township having received any fracking requests.

Attorney Joppich acknowledged that one of the main concerns about fracking is environmental contamination. With respect to other municipalities adopting ordinances to ban fracking, he said that the State of Michigan Supervisor of Wells grants the drilling permits, and he questioned whether they would be pre-empted by the State. Nonetheless, if the Board wishes, he will look into the Township’s authority to regulate well drilling and exploration. The Board agreed that he should do this, stating that they wish to be proactive to the extent possible.

Jan Olson of 4190 Orion Road said she understands there will be a meeting regarding this tomorrow evening, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Oakland County Commissioners’ Auditorium, located at 1200 N. Telegraph Road in the Oakland County complex.

Diana Borrusch of 1168 Rochaweis Drive recalled that there was drilling for natural gas near her property in the 1980s. She explained how representatives had tried to get neighbors to sell their rights to permit this exploration and drilling, as well as the noise and smell, and how it negatively impacted the health of neighbors.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

Barbara Barber of 1385 E. Snell Road said that she attended the educational meeting that Trustee McKay attended. She pointed out that municipalities and property owners cannot limit the amount of time that a well may be kept open, and said that wells may be kept open as many as 100 years. Additionally, the fracking process involves trucking in millions of gallons of water, and she anticipates this would have a negative impact on the roads. Finally, she said the process involves the release of methane gas, and she pointed out that in one municipality, residents could ignite their tap water.

Attorney Joppich said that a number of municipalities are looking into fracking. He noted that once an exploration company has authority from a certain number of property owners, they can proceed with their activities without consent of others (i.e., they do not need the consent of all property owners).

The Board agreed that Attorney Joppich should put together information regarding this matter for the Board's review.

MANAGER'S REPORTS

Building Department Acitivity

Manager Creech stated that the Building Department has issued over 100 new home permits so far this year.

Goodison Good Tyme

Goodison Good Tyme will be held on Saturday, September 15th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Bear Creek Nature Park.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Historic District Ordinance

Attorney Joppich will be meeting with Historic District Commission ("HDC") Chairperson Josi Whitson on Friday to review changes to the Historic District Ordinance. They will also discuss issues regarding the transition of maintenance and management responsibilities for Cranberry Lake Farm from the Parks and Recreation Commission to the HDC.

TRUSTEE McKAY'S REPORT

Website Improvements

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

Trustee McKay reported that she and Clerk Workings are working on “phase 2” of the Township’s website improvements, and are currently looking to put a simplified budget on the site.

Clerk Workings said she would also like to include Township email contact information for the various board and commission members on the site. Supervisor Fogler suggested that board and commission members be given specific Oakland Township email addresses in lieu of using their personal or business email addresses for this purpose.

Additionally, Clerk Workings said she would like to set up an automatic notification system so that residents can be notified of public hearings, special meetings, etc. She stated that this could be accomplished through the Oakland County alert system, and the information can also be posted on the home page of the Township’s website.

TRUSTEE THOMAS’ REPORT

Household Hazardous Waste Day

Trustee Thomas stated that she will not be able to attend the September 22nd No-Haz event.

TRUSTEE BAILEY’S REPORT

Refurbished Oakland Township Sign

Trustee Bailey thanked Manager Creech for having the Oakland Township sign at the intersection of Orion Road and Dutton Road refurbished.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES

The Board reviewed the lists of invoices.

MOVED BY CREPS, SECONDED BY THOMAS, to approve payment of the invoices as presented, dated August 23, 2012, in the amount of \$53,691.12, and September 11, 2012, in the amount of \$2,045,425.04.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A copy of the lists of invoices is attached as a part of these minutes.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

Trustee McKay asked that Manager Creech prepare a monthly account statement for the Board's review.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APPROVED

September 11, 2012

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

Ingrid R. Kliffel
Recording Secretary

Judy Workings
Clerk