

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

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

7:00 P.M.

Article 1. Supervisor Beahan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Present: Supervisor Beahan, Trustee Goldberg, Fox, Koessel, Treasurer Peirce and Clerk Goodyke.
Absent: Trustee Lewis
Also Present: Manager Cousins, Planning Director Peterson and those listed on Supplement #1.

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

Article 3. Motion was made by Trustee Koessel and supported by Treasurer Peirce to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Article 4. Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Receive and File Various Meeting Minutes
 - 1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes of 02/10/10.
 - 2. Regular Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes of 10/12/09.
 - 3. Regular Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of 01/25/10 and 02/01/10.
 - 4. Regular KCRC Meeting Minutes of 01/26/10.
 - b. Receive and File Communications
 - 1. Notice of Hearing for the Electric Customers of Consumers Energy Company – re: Case No. U-16191.
 - 2. Letter from Comcast – re: Update on Cable Guide for Digital Customers.
 - 3. Letter from Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Kent – re: Act 50 of 1999 reporting.
 - c. Receive and File Various Reports
 - 1. Fire Department Monthly Report for January, 2010.
 - 2. Treasurers Reports for December, 2009.
 - d. Education Request
 - 1. Firefighter Eric Rodegher – EMT Certification – Grand Rapids, MI
- Motion was made by Clerk Goodyke and supported by Trustee Goldberg to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Article 5. Financial Actions

- a. Consider Approval of January, 2010 (Pre-Audit) Public Utilities Funds.
Motion was made by Clerk Goodyke and supported by Trustee Koessel to approve the January, 2010 (Pre-Audit) Public Utilities Funds. Motion carried.
- b. Consider Approval of January, 2010 (Pre-Audit) General/Special Funds.
Motion was made by Trustee Goldberg and supported by Clerk Goodyke to approve the January, 2010 (Pre-Audit) General/Special Funds. Motion carried.

Article 6. Public Actions

Article 7. Public Comments

Article 8. Unfinished Business

Article 9. New Business

010-2010 Consider Adopting a Resolution to Consolidate Precincts 3 & 4 (Wisner Center) and 7 & 1 (Cascade Fellowship Church) for the May 4, 2010 Election.

Motion was made by Clerk Goodyke and supported by Trustee Goldberg to approve the Resolution to Consolidate Precincts 3 & 4 (Wisner Center) and 7 & 1 (Cascade Fellowship Church) for the May 4, 2010 Election. Motion carried by roll call vote.

011-2010 Consider Approval of Type II Special Use Permit for new driveway to Cascade Rd. for Pine Ridge Elementary.

Planning Director Peterson was present to review the request by Forest Hills Public Schools. Mr. Tom Walters was present to address any questions by the Board. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Trustee Koessel and supported by Clerk Goodyke to approve the Type II Special Use Permit for a new driveway to Cascade Rd. for Pine Ridge Elementary. Motion carried.

012-2010 Consider Approval of Type II Special Use Permit for contractor equipment yard at 5225 52nd St.

Planning Director Peterson was present to review the request. A landscape company at 52nd St. between Kraft and Patterson on the north side of the road. The applicant is proposing to renovate the existing building and construct a paved parking/contractor yard and driveway. Included with the project is the construction of a storm water detention pond. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Trustee Goldberg and supported by Treasurer Peirce to approve the Type II Special Use Permit for contractor equipment yard at 5225 52nd St. subject to the conditions recommended by the Planning Commission and staff. Motion carried.

013-2010 Consider Park Committee recommendations:

- **Cascade Peace Park Master Plan.**
- **Hunting rules for Cascade Peace Park.**
- **Set Public Hearing for Cascade Peace Park Ordinance.**
- **Sign Proposal for Cascade Peace Park.**

Planning Director Peterson stated that this was a “wrap-up” for the Cascade Peace Park. The Park Committee has met and have tried to get everything ready for when we have our opening (March 15th) a State requirement by our Grant (90 days after we close).

Wanted to bring a couple of things to the Board so we could be ready for that. We have developed the Master Plan for Cascade Peace Park. There are twelve different items that we are putting together for that Plan. We are using kind of the same format that we used for McGraw Park and at the Rec Park.

The most unique thing with Peace Park is that we are allowing hunting. That was part of the grant application...something that we had committed to...the State really encouraged. This would be for bow and arrow hunting for deer and small game. Working with a couple of the conservation officers as well as someone from the State Game Area we went over some of these hunting rules and regulations could be based on what is already being done. There was voiced some concern on how to monitor hunters vs. the general public. Mr. Peterson stated that part of that is an educational process. We will obviously have a permit system.

Trustee Goldberg suggested some minor wording changes to the ordinance. Planning Director Peterson will include them in the final draft. Discussion followed.

Planning Director Peterson presented the “draft” drawings for the Cascade Peace Park Signs. Discussion followed.

Motion was made by Trustee Goldberg and supported by Clerk Goodyke to set a Public Hearing for the Cascade Peace Park Ordinance on March 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Article 10. Manager’s Comments

Manager Cousins offered the following comments:

- Have been working with Library and with the B&G folks to clean up some of the areas in the basement in the Library. We have a group of items that are no longer useful to us...some are not in very good shape. Wanted to let the Board know prior to disposing of these items.
- The Legislature is considering a group of bills specific to Kent County. These bills will provide for Kent County to be the trial for some expanded opportunities for cooperation and consolidation of governmental services. I have talked with Grand Rapids Township and with Ada as to whether or not we should take another look at what more we can do to cooperate and maybe even consolidate...be it equipment or personnel in the area of Fire. I am asking that we create a committee of two board members to meet with Ada/Grand Rapids Township that would each appoint two; just to study in general where we are at...what we might or might not be able to do. Supervisor Beahan and Clerk Goodyke volunteered.
- The Right Place is published their 2009 Annual Report. They show that they have exceeded a lot of their goals for 2009. One of our businesses Hart & Cooley made their list. They created 48 jobs under a State program with 3 million dollars worth of payroll and 3.9 million dollars in new investments.
- As a matter of note, Friday, February 26th, weight restrictions go into effect on all the Kent County Roads.

Article 11. Board Member Comments

Trustee Goldberg offered the following comments:

- I noticed in one of things I reviewed a few weeks ago, progress appeared to be being made with the FERC on our dam. Wondered if we could get an update on that at some point. I feel that it is a looming liability that I am concerned about. If we actually had to do some of the things that the FERC was talking about having us do. There is a lot of money there. It is a concern because it is a liability that we really can’t control. It is something that I am very interested in keeping tabs on to make sure that we are doing everything we can to minimize that obligation.

Treasurer Peirce offered the following comments:

- Quick update on our tax collections... our tax season was over on the 16th. Last year at this time we had approximately a 5.2% delinquency and now we are at 5.53%.

Trustee Koessel offered the following comments:

- I was impressed with the thirty-six goals suggested for 2010. However, maybe before we have our meeting, it looks like to me that there are several that are redundant. Maybe we can kind of “lump” those together. Certainly some interesting ones on the list.

- During the winter time, now that we have more snow, what do we do to enforce that “not dumping snow” on to someone else’s property? It is really easy when there is a lot of snow for a plow to come running out of someone’s driveway and plow it into someone’s front yard. Planning Director Peterson addressed the question stating that Sandra Otey writes them a letter..not quite sure what her steps are after that. It is only complaint driven.

Supervisor Beahan offered the following comments:

- Just a reminder the Board’s Goal Setting Work Session is set for March 18th at 5:30 p.m.

Article 12. Adjournment

Motion was made by Trustee Goldberg and supported by Trustee Fox to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise M. Biegalle
Deputy Clerk

Approved by:

Ron Goodyke, Clerk

Robert Beahan, Supervisor