

**EAST CHINA CHARTER TOWNSHIP
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS (TELEPHONIC PUBLIC MEETING)**

MAY 4, 2020

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Simons at 7:30 pm.

ROLL CALL –

Present: Supervisor Larry Simons, Clerk Robert Freehan, Treasurer Donald Beaudua, Trustee Angelo Patsalis, Trustee Donald Horn, Trustee Deborah Babel, Trustee Herbert Blackstock

Also in attendance: Township Manager Cynthia Paparelli

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE -- led by Supervisor Simons

(ALL ACTIONS REQUIRE ROLL CALL VOTE)

APPROVE TENTATIVE AGENDA – Motion by Clerk Freehan, supported by Trustee Horn to approve the tentative agenda with the additions of NB-2 Resolution 7-2020 Adopt the MERS Defined Contribution Plan and NB-3 Resolution 8-2020 Establishing Authorized Signatories for MERS Contracts and Service Credit Purchases. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Freehan, Beaudua, Patsalis, Horn, Babel, Blackstock. Nays – None. Motion passed.

APPROVE MINUTES – Motion by Trustee Patsalis, supported by Trustee Babel to approve the minutes of April 20, 2020 as submitted. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Blackstock, Babel, Beaudua, Horn, Patsalis, Freehan, Simons. Nays – None. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion by Trustee Blackstock, supported by Trustee Babel to receive the following reports: April 2020 Park Commission Special Meeting. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Freehan, Simons, Horn, Patsalis, Blackstock, Babel, Beaudua. Nays – None. Motion passed.

DISBURSEMENTS – Motion by Trustee Patsalis, supported by Treasurer Beaudua to approve Accounts Payable of \$ 81,553.14, Payroll \$ 27,827.88, EFT's \$ 10,252.45 for Total Disbursements of \$ 119,633.47. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Babel, Beaudua, Horn, Patsalis, Blackstock, Simons, Freehan. Nays – None. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Rate of Pay for Seasonal DPW Township Employees. Motion by Trustee Patsalis, supported by Trustee Horn to adopt the following hourly wage schedule for seasonal DPW employees: Starting wage \$ 11.00; After 1 year \$12.00; After 2 years \$13.00; After 3 years \$14.00; After 4 years \$ 15.00; After 5 years \$16.00. These wages reflect the relative increase in the Michigan Minimum Wage and would be at the recommendation of the DPW Supervisor and approval of Township Manager. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Freehan, Patsalis, Horn, Babel, Beaudua, Blackstock. Nays – None. Motion passed.

2. Resolution 7-2020 Adoption of the MERS Defined Contribution Plan. Motion by Clerk Freehan, supported by Trustee Blackstock to adopt Resolution 7-2020 as follows:

RESOLUTION 7- 2020
ADOPTION OF THE MERS DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN

East China Charter Township
County of Saint Clair, Michigan

Minutes of a regular telephonic meeting of the Township Board of Trustees of East China Township, County of St. Clair, Michigan, held in the Township Hall, on the 4TH day of May 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Larry Simons, Clerk Robert Freehan, Treasurer Donald Beaudua, Trustee Angelo Patsalis, Trustee Deborah Babel, Trustee Herbert Blackstock and Trustee Donald Horn

ABSENT: None

The following Resolution was offer by Clerk Robert Freehan and supported by Trustee Herb Blackstock.

This Resolution is entered into under the provisions of 1996 PA 220 and the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan (MERS) Plan Document, as each may be amended

WHEREAS, the participating entity desires to adopt the MERS Defined Contribution Plan for its designated employees;

WHEREAS, the participating entity has furnished MERSD with required data regarding each eligible employee and retiree;

WHEREAS, as a condition of MERS membership, and pursuant to the MERS Retirement Board's power as plan administrator and trustee under Plan Document Section 71 and MCL 38.1536, as each may be amended, it is appropriate and necessary to enter into a binding agreement providing for the administration of the Defined Contribution Plan, the reporting of wages, and the payment of required contributions of a participating entity and withholding of employee contributions; now, therefore

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Charter Township of East China Board of Trustees hereby adopts the MERS Defined Contribution Plan in accordance with Plan Section 4 for its eligible employees as described in the MERS Defined Contribution Adoption Agreement, subject to the MERS Plan Document and as authorized by 1966 PA 220, as both may be amended;

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Defined Contribution Resolution adopted at the official meeting held by the governing body of this municipality:

Dated: _____

(Authorized Official)

Printed Name: Larry J. Simons

This Resolution shall have no legal effect under the MERS Plan Document until a certified copy of this adopting Resolution is filed with MERS, MERS determines that all necessary requirements have been met, and MERS certifies the Resolution.

AYES: Simons, Freehan, Beaudua, Horn, Patsalis, Babel, and Blackstock
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

Robert Freehan, Clerk
East China Charter Township

Motion Passed.

3. Resolution 8-2020 Establishing Authorized Signatories for MERS Contracts and Service Credit Purchase Approvals. Motion by Clerk Freehan, supported by Trustee Babel to adopt Resolution 8-2020 as follows:

RESOLUTION 8- 2020
ESTABLISHING AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES FOR MERS
CONTRACTS AND SERVICE CREDIT APPROVALS

East China Charter Township
County of Saint Clair, Michigan

Minutes of a regular telephonic meeting of the Township Board of Trustees of East China Township, County of St. Clair, Michigan, held in the Township Hall, on the 4TH day of May 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Larry Simons, Clerk Robert Freehan, Treasurer Donald Beaudau, Trustee Angelo Patsalis, Trustee Deborah Babel, Trustee Herbert Blackstock and Trustee Donald Horn

ABSENT: None

The following Resolution was offer by Clerk Robert Freehan and supported by Trustee Deborah Babel.

This Resolution is entered into under the provisions of 1996 PA 220 and the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan (MERS) Plan Document, as each may be amended. This resolution applies to reporting unit(s) #01 of the participating municipality listed below.

WHEREAS, East China Township ("Employer") is a participating municipality with the Municipal Employees Retirement System of Michigan ("MERS") and has adopted one or more retirement, insurance, investment or other post-employment benefit products administered by MERS;

WHEREAS; MERS requires signatures of an authorized representative of the Employer to execute contracts with MERS, the entry of which is authorized by the governing body and permitted under the applicable MERS Plan Document(s);

WHEREAS, the Employer wishes to designate certain job position(s), the holder(s) of which may sign MERS' contracts relating to the adoption, amendment and termination of MERS products, and defined benefit service credit purchase approvals on behalf of Employer to implement decisions and actions of the governing body;

WHEREAS, this Resolution is not intended to apply to MERS forms or any other MERS document except as specifically mentioned herein,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Charter Township of East China Board of Trustees hereby adopts the holders of the following job position(s) are hereby *Authorized Officials* that can sign: (1) MERS Adoption Agreements, Resolutions, Participation Agreements, Administrative Service Agreements, Withdrawal Agreements and any other contracts between MERS and the Employer with respect to Employer's participation in and MERS-administered product and any amendments and addendums thereto, and (2) MERS Defined Benefit service credit purchase approvals:

1. Supervisor
Optional additional job positions:
2. Clerk

This Resolution may be revoked in writing or amended by the Governing Body at any time, provided that it will not be effective until such writing or amended Resolution is received by MERS. The Governing Body agrees that MERS may rely upon this Resolution as conferring signing authority upon the holders of the above job position(s) to bind Employer with respect to MERS.

Adopted at a regular meeting of the Governing Body on May 4, 2020.

Authorized Signature _____

Name: Larry Simons

Title: Supervisor

AYES: Simons, Freehan, Beaudua, Horn, Patsalis, Babel, and Blackstock

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

Robert Freehan, Clerk
East China Charter Township

Motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Simons announced that the Summer Recreation Program will not be held this summer as a safety measure because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Board members welcomed Mr. Beaudua back to the meetings and wished him good health. They also encouraged everyone to stay safe and stay healthy and hope for a “light at the end of the tunnel.”

Supervisor Simons said that reports are that water levels may not go up as much as expected this summer (4-5 inches instead of 9-12 inches). He also reported that yesterday there were no new cases of Covid-19 and today there was one. St. Clair County has had 385 cases. The Parks Commission is trying out use of a private contractor to cut the grass in all the Township parks. He also wants to put a discussion of hiring an additional DPW employee on the next agenda because of the volume of work the department has to do. He also said that he will contact the Township Engineers to contact the contractor to complete the two lift station projects.

Township Manager Cindy Paparelli reported that there has been a meeting between the Township, the Township Engineers (PCE) and EGLE to discuss permits, processes and INI requirements for the Pointe Drive sewer/forcemain projects as they relate to the township’s long-range infrastructure maintenance and replacements efforts. Meetings are scheduled with the contractor. All DPW employees are back full time and operating individually, observing CDC and state covid-19 safety measures. The water and sewer plant staffs have moved from a two-week on/two-week off schedule to a one-week on/one-week off schedule until May 15th while continuing to observe safety measures. The Township Hall staff will move to a regular schedule after May 15th while observing safety measures and will open the building to the public once safety measures are installed at the counter. The outside drop box, phone system and e-mails have been working well and will continue until staff and visitor safety measures are in place.

Mr. Beaudua asked about the status of the Meisner Road bridge. Mr. Simons said that it was originally scheduled for later this year but he would check with the Road Commission.

ADJOURN - Motion by Trustee Babel, supported by Treasurer Beaudua to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 pm. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Simons, Freehan, Beaudua, Patsalis, Horn, Babel, Blackstock. Nays – None. Motion passed.

Larry Simons, Supervisor

Robert Freehan, Clerk