

EAST CHINA CHARTER TOWNSHIP

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

JUNE 21, 2021

CALL TO ORDER – Supervisor Rausch called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., with Clerk Smith, Treasurer Hart, and Trustees Blackstock, Babel, Knotts, and Reichle. Township Manager Cindy Paparelli and DPW Supervisor Blayn Szyska present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA – Clerk Smith, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to approve the Agenda with the addition of New Business items: Employee raise, PCE study, and Oak Street paving. Carried.

MINUTES – Trustee Reichle, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to approve the Closed Session Minutes of May 3, 2021 and regular meeting of June 7, 2021. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – Trustee Knotts, supported by Trustee Reichle, moved to open the Public Hearing for the East China Township DWSRF Project Plan at 7:32 p.m. Carried.

The purpose of the proposed project involves replacement watermain along River Road and Pointe Drive, abandoning watermain along Meisner Road; installing a direct line from River Road to the north water tower, and replacement of two missing master meters on the boundary of China and East China Townships. Project construction will involve:

- Installation of 17,600 feet of 12” diameter HDPE pipe along River Road, Orchard, Walnut and Pointe Drive by directional drilling.
- Installing new magnetic inductive water meters at the intersection of Bree and St. Clair Highway, and on Recor Road near the East China west boundary line.
- Abandoning 5,500 feet of water main along Meisner Road and connecting residential services to the existing 12” watermain.
- Installation of 3,300 feet of 12” HDPE pipe starting from the intersection of Bree and River Road, then west along Bree, north along S. Riverside Avenue, west along Hathaway, north on Catherine ending at the north water tower.

Supervisor Rausch, supported by Trustee Blackstock, moved to close the Public Hearing at 8:05 p.m. Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Five in the audience. Randy Newhouse, 122 Marell, asked about the canal treatments and paving their road.

CONSENT AGENDA – Trustee Reichle, supported by Treasurer Hart, moved to accept the Consent Agenda items as follows: Financial Reports for May 2021, St. Clair Fire Report for May 2021, Historical and Park Commission Minutes for June 2021, Sewer & Water Authority Minutes for June 2021, and County Roads & Bridges Minutes for June 2021. Carried.

DISBURSEMENTS – Clerk Smith, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to approve payment of Accounts Payable in the amount of \$94,873.87, Payroll \$32,081.41, EFT’s \$11,349.97, E-checks \$302.30, Invoices \$128,049.96. Roll call vote: Yea: Smith, Hart, Babel, Blackstock, Reichle, Knotts and Rausch. Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Trustee Blackstock, supported by Treasurer Hart, moved to approve \$3,738.09 to Michigan Industrial Controls to upgrade the 9 lift stations with an inactivity alarm. Roll call vote: Yea: Blackstock, Hart, Babel, Knotts, Reichle, Smith, and Rausch. Carried.

Clerk Smith, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to approve Maple Landscaping and Lawn Service, LLC., to provide landscaping and mulch services at the Township Hall property in the amount of \$3,567.00. Roll call vote: Yea: Smith, Babel, Blackstock, Knotts, Reichle, Hart, and Rausch. Carried.

Trustee Knotts, supported by Clerk Smith, moved to approve a recommendation by the Elected Officials Salary Review Committee to raise the Treasurer’s annual salary from \$4,294 to \$9,500, effective immediately. All other positions will remain the same with no changes. Roll call vote: Yea: Knotts, Reichle, Blackstock, Babel, Smith, and Rausch. Abstained: Hart. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS – Trustee Knotts, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to approve a quote for Project Control Engineering to provide engineering services for a King Road Sewer Extension project in the amount of \$3,750, after a developer pays their \$3,750 to begin this review. Roll call vote: Yea: Knotts, Smith, Babel, Blackstock, Reichle, Hart, and Rausch. Carried.

Trustee Knotts, supported by Trustee Blackstock, moved to approve a \$4,960 to Project Control Engineering to provide a preliminary design and estimate for a new DPW building and demolition of the old wastewater treatment facility at that location. Roll call vote: Yea: Blackstock, Babel, Reichle, Hart, Knotts, Smith, and Rausch. Carried.

Trustee Blackstock, supported by Clerk Smith, moved to approve the annual sanitary sewer cleaning & CCTV project at a cost of \$79,093.52 performed by Michigan Pipe Inspection, Inc. Roll call vote: Yea: Blackstock, Babel, Reichle, Knotts, Hart, Smith, and Rausch. Carried. Other quotes: Michigan Underground Specialist \$99,782.60, and Plummer’s Environmental Services \$104,325.

RESOLUTION - Supervisor Rausch, supported by Trustee Blackstock, moved to adopt Resolution 08-2021 Adopting a final project plan for Water System Improvements and Designating Authorized Representatives. Roll call vote: Yea: Blackstock, Babel, Reichle, Hart, Smith and Rausch. Opposed: Knotts. Carried.

RESOLUTION 08-2021

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A FINAL PROJECT PLAN FOR WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND DESIGNATING AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

East China Charter Township
County of St. Clair, Michigan

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Township Board of East China Township, County of St. Clair, Michigan, on the 21st day of June 2021.

PRESENT: Supervisor Brian Rausch, Clerk Sandra Smith, Treasurer Nicole Hart, Trustee's Allen Reichle, Deborah Babel, Herbert Blackstock, Ralph Knotts.

ABSENT: None

The following Resolution was offered by Supervisor Brian Rausch and supported by Trustee Herbert Blackstock.

WHEREAS, the Township of East China recognizes the need to make improvements to its existing water treatment and distribution system; and

WHEREAS, the Township of East China authorized Project Control Engineering, Inc. to prepare a Project Plan, which recommends the construction of

- Installation of 17,600 ft of 12" diameter HDPE pipe along River Rd., Orchard, Walnut, and Pointe Drives by directional drilling.
- Installing new magnetic inductive water meters at the intersection of Bree and St. Clair Hwy., and on Recor near the East China Twp. west boundary line.
- Abandoning 5,500 ft of water main along Meisner Rd. and connecting residential services to the existing 12" watermain.
- Installation of 3,300 feet of 12" diameter HDPE pipe starting from the intersection of Bree St. and River Road, then west along Bree, north along S. Riverside Avenue, west along Hathaway, north on Catherine ending at the north water tower.

WHEREAS, said Project Plan was presented at a Public Hearing held on June 21, 2021 and all public comments have been considered and addressed;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of East China formally adopts said Project Plan and agrees to implement the selected alternative (Alternative No. 2).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the East China Township Supervisor, a position currently held by Brian Rausch, and the East China Township Manager, the position currently held by Cynthia Paparelli, are designated as the authorized representatives for all activities associated with the project referenced above, including the submittal of said Project Plan as the first step in applying to the State of Michigan for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan to assist in the implementation of the selected alternative.

Yeas: Rausch, Smith, Hart, Reichle, Babel, Blackstock

Nays: Knotts

Absent: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

Sandra A. Smith, Clerk
East China Charter Township

Clerk Smith, supported by Treasurer Hart, moved to approve a 5-year Agreement with The Pond Guy to provide canal treatments twice per year in the amount of \$11,800, as specified in the Special Assessment District created in 2020 for this purpose. The contract covers the period 2021-2025. Roll call vote: Yea: Babel, Blackstock, Knotts, Reichle, Smith, Hart, and Rausch. Carried.

Clerk Smith, supported by Trustee Blackstock, moved to approve a 5-year contract extension with Emterra for waste removal services with pricing per residence as follows: Year 1 \$11.95, Year 2 \$11.95, Year 3 \$11.95, Year 4 \$12.30 and Year 5 \$12.67. Roll call vote: Yea: Babel, Blackstock, Knotts, Reichle, Smith, Hart, and Rausch. Carried.

Trustee Blackstock, supported by Supervisor Rausch, moved to table action regarding a quote to upgrade the township hall lighting to LED and seek additional quotes. Carried.

RESOLUTION – Supervisor Rausch, supported by Trustee Blackstock, moved to adopt a revised Resolution 06-2021 – Establishing Authorized Representatives for the 2022 Wastewater Improvement Project. Roll call vote: Yea: Babel, Blackstock, Knotts, Reichle, Smith, Hart, and Rausch. Carried.

RESOLUTION 06-2021
ESTABLISHING AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE 2022
WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

East China Charter Township
County of St. Clair, Michigan

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Township Board of East China Township, County of St. Clair, Michigan, on the 21st day of June 2021.

PRESENT: Supervisor Brian Rausch, Clerk Sandra Smith, Treasurer Nicole Hart, Trustee's Allen Reichle, Deborah Babel, Herbert Blackstock, Ralph Knotts.

ABSENT: None

The following Resolution was offered by Supervisor Brian Rausch and supported by Trustee Herbert Blackstock

WHEREAS, the Township of East China recognizes the need to assign representatives for tasks such as signing of the financial documents associated with the loan for the project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the East China Township Supervisor, the position currently held by Brian Rausch, and the East China Township Manager, Cynthia Paparelli, are designated as the authorized representatives for all activities associated with the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan.

Yeas: Rausch, Smith, Hart, Reichle, Babel, Blackstock, Knotts

Nays: None

Absent: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

Sandra A. Smith, Clerk
East China Charter Township

Supervisor Rausch, supported by Trustee Knotts, moved to increase the rate of pay to \$15.50 per hour to employee #00048 after completing their 30-day probationary period for the Receptionist/Cashier position; effective at the next pay period. Roll call vote: Yea: Babel, Blackstock, Knotts, Reichle, Hart, Smith, and Rausch. Carried.

Members discussed a shared paving project of Oak Street with the City of St. Clair. There are 7 East China residents along Oak Street. St. Clair is proposing that East China pay 60% of the cost of \$115,000. East China's portion would be \$69,000. The City would then complete the maintenance for the life of the road from that time forward.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – The Assessor Contract has expired and is now month to month.

MEMBER COMMENTS – Trustee Babel said that the Red Brick Schoolhouse had a well-attended Open House over the weekend. Trustee Reichle thanked the Official Wage Review Committee. Trustee Knotts asked about the basketball backboards at the Riverside Park, and the tall grass at the vacant property at Elmwood and Riverside. Clerk Smith asked that when they design a new DPW facility that considerations be made to possibly accommodate future election space needs in their open space area design. Supervisor Rausch said there was a new virtual school ground breaking ceremony for East China School District.

ADJOURN – Treasurer Hart, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to adjourn at 9:29 p.m. Carried.

Sandra A. Smith, Clerk

Brian Rausch, Supervisor