

## EAST CHINA CHARTER TOWNSHIP

### OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

MARCH 7, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER** – Clerk Mattei called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., with Treasurer Hart, and Trustees Knotts, Babel, Blackstock and Reichle. Township Manager, Cynthia Paperelli also present.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVE AGENDA** – Trustee Blackstock, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to approve the Agenda with addition of NB5-Resolution for US Bicycle Route 20. Carried.

**MINUTES** – Trustee Reichle, supported by Treasurer Hart, moved to approve the Minutes of February 22, 2022, with changes. Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – China Township Supervisor John Golan asked the Board to reconsider late fees due from China Township to East China Township, with the billing starting in December 2020. East China will set up another meeting to review the details of his request outside of the Board meeting.

Tim Cook, representing Diamond Cove North and South Condo Associations, said that the Gardens of St. Clair development should not be located in an R-2 area, next to single family homes. He is opposed.

William Czebatul, 3716 Riverview Terrace North, asked about an outcome for his sprinkler bill and late fees from 2021 usage.

Township Supervisor candidates introduced themselves to the Board: James Schafer, Meredith Stanko, Verne Westrick.

Gardens of St. Clair, Architect and Steve Williamson, were present to address the Board members regarding the conditional rezoning request for #74-18-007-1007-320, from R-2 to RM-1. They planned to build a 60-bed elderly assisted living facility; with 30-of those beds for special memory care residents.

**CONSENT AGENDA** – Trustee Knotts, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to accept the Consent Agenda items as follows: December 2021 & January 2022 Park Commission Minutes, February 2022 Building Permit Report, Marine City Area Fire Authority Runs Report for February 2022. Carried.

**DISBURSEMENTS** – Treasurer Hart, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to approve Invoices \$17,440.13, Payroll Direct Deposits \$37,870.58, Accounts Payable \$176,355.36, EFT's \$58,772.54, E-Checks \$302.30 and Tax account \$307,121.94. Roll call vote: Yea: Hart, Knotts, Reichle, Babel, Blackstock and Mattei. Carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**OB 1** - Trustee Knotts, supported by Trustee Reichle, moved to not adopt Resolution 02-2022 - Fire Insurance Withholding Program as provided by the Building Official and State of Michigan. Roll call vote: Yea: Knotts, Reichle, Hart, Blackstock, Babel, and Mattei. Carried.

**OB 2** – Clerk Mattei, supported by Trustee Blackstock, moved to authorize the Township Manager to sign the current Assessing Agreement. Carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Trustee Knotts said that the Conditional Rezoning Request for Gardens of St. Clair should not be located where proposed, next to single family residences. The nearby surrounding neighbors are opposed to the development, as noted in the Planning Public Hearing Minutes of December 14, 2021. He is opposed.

Trustee Babel said that she lives near an assisted living facility and it is quiet there with minimum traffic incoming and outgoing. There is a need in our community for elder care facilities.

Trustee Blackstock said that the information presented for the Conditional Rezoning was approved by the Planning Commission and St. Clair County Metro Planning; and recommended by our Township Planners for approval. The East China Township Master Plan update has designated the subject site for future Multiple Family Residential use.

**NB 1** – Trustee Blackstock, supported by Clerk Mattei, moved to approve the Conditional Rezoning request for Gardens of St. Clair Development, including the conditions offered through the Statement of Conditions dated January 27, 2022, with the classification to revert to R-2 if the conditions are not met within 3-years from today, subject to the Township and the property owner executing a conditional rezoning agreement, which shall be initially drafted by the property owner and submitted to the Township and its attorney for review to the Board for final approval. Roll call vote: Yea: Blackstock, Babel, Mattei. Nay: Knotts, Reichle, Hart. Motion Defeated.

**NB 2** – Trustee Blackstock, supported by Treasurer Hart, moved to approve the Clerk to renegotiate our current Agreement with the City of St. Clair dated January 2009, for Channel 6 services. Carried. The current agreement states: The Township receives an annual franchise fee from Comcast Cable Television based upon a percent of its Township cable television revenues. Of this annual franchise payment, 50% shall be paid by the Township to the City of St. Clair as consideration of services received. Carried. At the time of this 2009 Agreement the East China Township received 3% of total Comcast revenues in the township. As of 2019 East China Township receives 5% of total Comcast revenues in the township.

**NB 3** – Trustee Blackstock, supported by Trustee Knotts, moved to adopt Resolution 03-2022 – Commitment to NPDES MS4 Advisory Group for St. Clair County's Watersheds. Roll call vote: Yea: Blackstock, Knotts, Babel, Reichle, Hart, and Mattei. Carried.

**RESOLUTION 03-2022**  
**COMMITMENT TO NPDES MS4 ADVISORY GROUP FOR**  
**ST. CLAIR COUNTY'S WATERSHEDS**

The following Resolution was offered by Blackstock and supported by Knotts:

**WHEREAS** the Charter of East China Township is committed to protecting local waterways for the public health and welfare of its current and future residents; and

**WHEREAS** the Charter of East China Township is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) to comply with the requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II Storm Water Permit; and

**WHEREAS** the Charter of East China Township has partnered with municipalities, education institutions and county agencies within St. Clair County's NPDES MS4 WATERSHED ADVISORY GROUP for several years in order to jointly implement activities to comply with state and federal storm water requirements; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Charter of East China Township supports ST. CLAIR COUNTY'S NPDES MS4 WATERSHED ADVISORY GROUP 2022 budget and the Charter of East China Township payment of its cost share of \$ 855.17 which will be paid to the St. Clair County Health Department upon receipt of an invoice; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the township manager and treasurer is authorized and directed to forward this resolution on behalf of the Charter of East China Township to the St. Clair County Health Department.

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.**

**NB 4** – Trustee Knotts, supported by Trustee Blackstock, moved to Table action regarding increasing the Building Department fee schedule. Carried. Trustee Knotts requested the Building Official attend the next meeting.

**NB 5** – Clerk Mattei, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to adopt Resolution 04-2022 – U.S. Bicycle Route 20 Route Change through East China Township. Carried.

**Resolution 04-2022**  
**U.S. Bicycle Route 20 Route Change through East China Township**  
East China Township Board Meeting  
March 7, 2022

WHEREAS, bicycle tourism is a growing industry in North America, contributing \$47 billion a year to the economies that provide facilities for such tourists, and

WHEREAS, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has identified, designated, and signed an east and west, 300-mile bicycle corridor through the lower peninsula of Michigan connecting Marine City, Michigan and Ludington, Michigan, as United States Bicycle Route 20 (USBR-20); and

WHEREAS, stakeholders who worked with AASHTO to recommend and designate the original USBR-20 route, propose to reroute USBR-20 through East China Township, the new route shown on the attached map, which is herein incorporated into this resolution by reference; and

WHEREAS, the proposed route for USBR-20 will now pass through East China Township and provide a benefit to our residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, East China Township officials find the proposed route to be a suitable route and desire that the route be designated so that it can be mapped and signed, thereby promoting bicycle tourism in our area; and

WHEREAS, East China Township acknowledges that USBR-20 is necessary along the route and will support and permit the installation of signage in appropriate locations; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the East China Township Board strongly supports the continued development of USBR-20 and the proposed route change through the Township, and respectfully requests the appropriate officials complete the necessary documents needed for the proposed route change and monitor progress to verify the route is officially changed by AASHTO as soon as reasonably practicable.

RESOLVED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022.

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.**

**MEMBER COMMENTS** – Clerk Mattei asked members if the township wishes to send a letter of support for “Hold Harmless Funding” to our Senator and House Representative. The letter would urge our legislators to support a \$50 million supplemental appropriations to hold our constitutional revenue sharing harmless and avoid reductions in our April 2022 payments.

**ADJOURN** – Trustee Reichle, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Carried.

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Sandra Mattei, Clerk