

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF EAST CHINA**  
**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**

**MARCH 16, 2009**

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**CALL TO ORDER** – Supervisor Randolph called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., with Clerk Arnold, Treasurer Beaudua, and Trustees Horn and Patsalis. Trustees Bober and Simons excused.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Seven in the audience.

**APPROVE MINUTES** – Treasurer Beaudua, supported by Trustee Horn, moved to approve the Minutes of March 2, 2009. Carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA** – Trustee Patsalis, supported by Treasurer Beaudua, moved to accept the Consent Agenda as follows: Beautification Committee Minutes of February 9, 2009, Marine City and St. Clair Area fire reports for February 2009, Historical Commission Minutes of March 4, 2009, Building Department report for February 2009, thank you letter from the St. Clair High School Senior All-Night Committee, and a letter dated February 27, 2009 from the St. Clair County Road Commission regarding support of the Wadhams Road Bridge project. Carried.

**DISBURSEMENTS** – Treasurer Beaudua, supported by Trustee Patsalis, moved to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$391,866.91, payroll in the amount of \$18,834.94, ACH payments in the amount of \$30,346.73, tax account in the amount of \$90,722.20, and Brownfield Authority in the amount of \$2,845.69. Roll call vote: Yea: Beaudua, Patsalis, Horn, Randolph, and Arnold. Nay: None. Carried.

**MEMBER REPORTS** – Treasurer Beaudua reported on the Historical Commission meeting of March 4, 2009. They plan to host visiting school classes in March, a mannequin display is being set up and new program brochures are being printed. Walter and Marjorie Radike were thanked for donating information about the Belle River Mills School rock, books, teacher records, contracts, and pictures.

Trustee Horn reported on the Beautification Committee meeting of February 5, 2009. They asked about hiring a part-time worker. Community service workers are scheduled for cleanups in April and May. They discussed the Arbor Day Tree Planting ceremony and are gathering ideas for their lecture series.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Trustee Patsalis, supported by Trustee Horn, moved to appoint Steven Brown to the Zoning Board of Appeals, for the unexpired term of Susan Tkachik, ending September 4, 2011. Carried.

Trustee Patsalis, supported by Trustee Horn, moved not to renew a long-term contract with My Choice Energy to provide natural gas at a fixed price to township facilities. Carried.

Trustee Horn, supported by Trustee Patsalis, moved to reappoint George Barna to the Planning Commission, term ending April 7, 2012. Carried.

Received a letter from seven homeowners on Belle River Boulevard affected by the Belle River flooding at the west end of Shady Lane on February 13, 2009. They asked if the road-end could be barricaded or if a seawall could be installed at the river's edge and that the slope be filled with sand and soil to prevent flooding in their area. Supervisor Randolph will contact the Road Commission and follow-up with Grace Halpin.

Supervisor Randolph said some residents are forming a "River Watch Committee" to monitor the water levels of the Belle River. The township plans to install markers along certain points of Belle River and committee members will contact the Township Office when water levels begin to rise. Grace Halpin asked if the sand from sandbags could be emptied into Belle River.

The St. Clair Chamber of Commerce is seeking representatives from the City of St. Clair, China, East China, and St. Clair Townships to form an Economic Development Consortium. The overall objective of the EDC will be business sustainability, job creation, employment retention, increased tax base, and improved quality of life for the citizens of the City of St. Clair and surrounding Townships.

Trustee Patsalis, supported by Treasurer Beaudua, moved to prepare a Resolution in support of Marine City's request not to close Washington Elementary School located in downtown Marine City. Carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Township Offices will be closed Friday, April 10, 2009, in observance of Good Friday.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS** - Supervisor Randolph invited members to the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners and St. Clair County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Legislative Breakfast on Friday, May 8, 2009, at 7:30 a.m., at Fore Lakes Golf Course.

Supervisor Randolph is trying to establish a cooperative effort between the Township and Marine City to support each other in emergency situations such as the recent flooding and evacuation. It was difficult to have both the Emergency Coordination Center and a temporary shelter for residents in the township hall at the same time. Supervisor Randolph asked Marine City Mayor Lepley if they could provide a Marine City facility to be used as a temporary shelter for our residents in the event of an emergency. Supervisor Randolph offered use of our township hall as a temporary shelter for Marine City residents in the event of an emergency while they handle their Emergency Coordination Center at their established Marine City location.

The City of St. Clair has requested temporary assistance from our Wastewater Superintendent for about 10-15 hours per week in order to operate their sewage plant. They are in the process of finding a replacement for a retiring employee with the necessary licenses.

Treasurer Beaudua said Water Plant employees are working with contractors and Zenon-GE, to get the new system up and running, and the train of modules is running well. Coal has been found in the strainer at the water intake and it is larger than previous pieces found.

Trustee Horn suggested installing drainage at the cemetery because the paved drive is holding water in the area and the water has no place to drain to. Repairs have been made to the headstones that were displaced.

**ADJOURN** - Trustee Horn, supported by Treasurer Beaudua, moved to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. Carried.

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John A. Randolph, Supervisor

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Gary J. Arnold, Clerk

March 16, 2009