

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

**SEPTEMBER 4, 2007**

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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 Knotts, Simons, and Patsalis. Trustee Bober excused.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Three in the audience.

**APPROVE MINUTES** – Trustee Patsalis, supported by Trustee Simons, moved to approve the Minutes from August 20, 2007, with the following changes. Carried.

*Trustee Bober* asked about the driver's license requirement from the Township's liability insurance carrier.

*Treasurer Beaudua* asked about the Hosey, Planning Commission business, as designated B-1, with OS-1 restriction, having less stringent setbacks. He also noted that 500 Bree Road had a structure fire, and the smoke detectors did not activate the alarm for residents. The St. Clair Fire Marshall will be contacted to review that situation.

Treasurer Beaudua asked why the Board was not part of the decision to proceed with the water bottling project, and the expenditures involved, and why the license from the state was issued to the St. Clair River Sewer and Water Authority, instead of the Township. As Chairperson of Sewer and Water Authority, he had no idea this was happening. The application from the state was dated November 2006. As of July 2007, \$2,310 was spent for this project. He has contacted the insurance underwriter, Larry Clever. We are covered for this project, but *Burnham & Flower* recommended that Water & Sewer Authority be listed as an additional insured on the bottling company's policy, and *East China Township, and China Township*.

Trustee Patsalis stated that he is concerned *that the Board recommended to send a letter to East China Gardens developers, with 10-days to show just cause why their site plan is not ready. But, instead a letter was sent reclaiming the 33-unused sewer taps.* He asked that Township Attorney Keith Zick, and New Life Ministry attend the next Board meeting. He asked for written confirmation from Attorney Zick regarding the letter sent by the Supervisor, reclaiming the 33-unused sewer taps. Trustee Patsalis stated his concern that we do not keep video recordings of past Board meetings. Office Manager Smith stated that if we video record a meeting or take a voice recording, its purpose is to assist in preparing the Minutes, and we only keep those until the Minutes are done.

**CONSENT AGENDA** – Treasurer Beaudua, supported by Trustee Simons, moved to accept the consent agenda items as follows. St. Clair Fire Report for July 2007, Letter from D.E.Q. regarding overpayment of 2007 fees in the amount of \$1,500, Lot Split Board Minutes for August 14, 2007, Sewer & Water Authority Minutes for June 20, 2006. Carried.

Trustee Knotts asked about how the Minutes are approved for consent items. By approving consent agenda, we are approving/accepting other Board's minutes.

**DISBURSEMENTS** – Treasurer Beaudua, supported by Trustee Knotts, moved to approve the payment of the bills in the amount of \$60,244.43, payroll in the amount of \$24,633.47, ACH payments in the amount of \$21,659.01, Tax account in the amount of \$258,978.84. Roll call vote: Yea: Beaudua, Knotts, Patsalis, Simons, Arnold, and Randolph. Nay: None. Carried.

**MEMBER REPORTS** – Treasurer Beaudua offered a report about the St. Clair River Sewer & Water Authority meeting from August 21, 2007. The water plant has a problem with coal plugging the strainer. It is getting through the screen at the water intake in the river. The coal dust is getting into the system as well, we may need to replace a whole train of modules due to these issues. The Authority made a motion to stop production of the water bottling until the insurance coverage is confirmed for the townships. Burnham & Flower Agency has since confirmed coverage for the process of water bottling, due to the fact that the water plant sterilizes the bottles before we fill them.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Trustee Knotts, supported by Trustee Patsalis, moved to approve Mike Schneider's attendance at the MDEQ classes September 24-26, 2007, at Higgins Lake, in the amount of \$275.00, with necessary expenses. Mike will earn 2.5 CEC's towards maintaining his current water/sewer licenses. He has also obtained free lodging. Roll call vote: Yea: Knotts, Patsalis, Beaudua, Simons, Arnold, and Randolph. Nay: None. Carried.

Attorney Keith Zick was present to review the Michigan Township Participating Plan, Risk Management Department's request that the Township participate in the State of Michigan driver license subscription program. He stated that it is not unusual for this recommendation as the insurer reviews operations and activities of the Township, and recommends from time to time improvements to areas of exposure, that the Township can take steps to create safer environments and decrease liability exposures for both the township and the insurer. Attorney Zick also recommended that the Township draft a policy governing such records, and what if any actions may result to the employee for having an unsafe driving record, while conducting township business. Attorney Zick also suggested that in reviewing driving records, to have consideration whether a driving offense or ticket occurred during personal time or on township business.

Treasurer Beaudua, supported by Trustee Knotts, moved to have staff seek sample policies from other municipalities regarding obtaining driver's license review records and maintenance of such records. Carried. Staff to confirm whether a valid driver's license is currently a condition of employment.

Pastor Robert Pannecouk was present to review New Life Ministries' sewer tap situation for East China Gardens subdivision. East China Gardens has yet to deliver 11-copies of their Final Site-Plan for Phase II. Once the township planners, engineers, St. Clair County Metro Planning, Township Attorney, and then the Planning Commission all review and give their final approval, then that information is conveyed to the Township Board through the Planning Commission Minutes and approved by the Board. The deadline for East China Gardens for an approved site-plan by the Planning Commission is October 15, 2007. Mr. Pannecouk explained that for East China Gardens to lose access to the sewer taps, it would severely impact the financial resources of the church.

Trustee Knotts, supported by Treasurer Beaudua, to accept the June 2007 Revenue/Expenditure Report. Carried.

The River District Hospital Flu Shot Clinic is scheduled for September 15, 2007. Trustee Simons, supported by Clerk Arnold, moved to pay for the township's portion of the vaccines for township residents. Roll call vote: Yea: Simons, Arnold, Randolph, Knotts, Patsalis, and Beaudua. Nay: None. Carried.

Treasurer Beaudua, supported by Trustee Knotts, moved to approve attendance by any Board member at the MTA District meeting on September 13, 2007, at the Thomas Edison Inn, in Port Huron. The cost per person is \$75.00, with necessary expenses. Roll call vote: Yea: Beaudua, Knotts, Patsalis, Simons, Arnold, and Randolph. Nay: None. Carried.

Clerk Arnold, supported by Trustee Patsalis, moved to approve the Marine City Fire Contract extension for years 2008-2009, as presented. Carried.

Year 2008, fixed charge \$18,934. + \$200 per run

Year 2009 fixed charge \$19,597 + \$200 per run

Trustee Simons, supported by Trustee Patsalis, moved to appoint Sally Johnson to the Beautification Committee, for the unexpired term of Amy Yeip of December 31, 2008, upon receipt of her written resignation. Carried. A letter of appreciation will be sent to Mrs. Yeip.

**ANNOUNCEMENT** – The Township Picnic, Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., lunch at 12:00, Pavilion II.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS** – Supervisor Randolph stated that East China Township is hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive, next Thursday, here from 2 – 8 p.m. The township picnic is this Saturday, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. We are looking to start our new part-time person this month. BS & A Software company will be here for program training September 17-26, 2007. Hathaway Drain bids will go out soon. The drain project is expected to be completed by December 2007. We are planning to distribute the township's bottled water at the picnic.

Treasurer Beaudua stated that a resident on the south side of Meisner Road, just east of the bridge is storing boats, trailers and campers. He asked for Supervisor to look into it.

Trustee Patsalis urged residents to come enjoy the picnic on Saturday.

Trustee Simons urged residents to join us at the picnic Saturday, and asked for residents to donate at the blood drive on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Patsalis, supported by Trustee Simons, moved to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. Carried.

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John A. Randolph, Supervisor

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Gary J. Arnold, Clerk