

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2007**

Supervisor Reaume called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and introduced Jason Ripp, new Plymouth Township police officer; his father, Robert Ripp; and his grandfather, Leon Ripp; who led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Reaume, Supervisor
Marilyn Massengill, Clerk
Ron Edwards, Treasurer
Kay Arnold, Trustee
Charles Curmi, Trustee
Steven Mann, Trustee
Robert Doroshewitz, Trustee

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: James Anulewicz, Director of Public Service
Mark Lewis, Chief Building Official
Randy Maycock, Fire Chief
Thomas Tiderington, Police Chief
Timothy Cronin, Township Attorney
Michael Bailey, Dietrich Bailey & Associates
Robert Antal, Police Lieutenant
Joe Bridgman, Deputy Clerk
Patrick Fellrath, Township Civil Engineer
Stephanie Harbour, Dietrich Bailey Associates
Thomas Hollis, Public Works Manager
Robert Smith, Assistant Police Chief
Susan Vignoe, Solid Waste and Public Service Coordinator
Alice Geletzke, Recording Secretary
26 Members of the Public

Police Chief Tiderington presented a badge and commission as a Police Officer from the State of Michigan to Jason Ripp, a recently hired Police Officer. Officer Ripp thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve and protect the residents of Plymouth Township.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, June 26 , 2007

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the agenda for the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting of June 26, 2007, as presented. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

E.1 Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, June 12, 2007

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E.2 Approval of Township Bills

		Year 2007
General Fund	(101)	\$607,775.24
General Fund Loan to Downtown Development Authority	(101)	-
Water/Sewer	(592)	1,047,918.04
Improvement Revolving	(246)	281,252.54
SWD	(226)	12,698.20
Trust and Agency	(701)	-
Tax Pool	(703)	-
Drug Forfeiture	(265)	16.00
Special Assessment Capital Project Fund	(805)	152,452.55
Total:		\$2,102,112.57

E.3 Approval of Easements – N/A

E.4 Communications-Resolutions-Reports

a. Communications

Thank you to Kathy Pumphrey from Paul Tantalo

b. Resolutions

Resolution from City of Southgate

c. Reports

Wayne County Appraisal Quarterly Report
(Plymouth Township Tax Appeals)

May 2007 Building Department Monthly Report

May 2007 Plymouth Community Fire Department Monthly Report

April 2007, May 2007 Police Department Monthly Reports

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the consent agenda for the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting of June 26, 2007, as submitted. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT AND QUESTIONS - There was none.

G. PUBLIC HEARING – N/A

H. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – N/A

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – N/A

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J. NEW BUSINESS

J.1 Presentation by Chief Maycock – Plymouth Community Fire Department

Fire Chief Maycock presented an overview of the Fire Department clarifying the services provided by the Plymouth Community Fire Department to the Plymouth Community.

J.2 2006 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

Martin Olejnik of Plante and Moran reviewed comparison graphs and answered questions. Joseph Heffernan of Plante and Moran then reviewed their letter of comments and recommendations regarding state-shared revenue, property tax legislation, new cable franchise legislation, municipal finance act revisions and changes in accounting procedures for retiree health care benefits.

Mr. Edwards thanked Plante and Moran for their report and noted the receipt by Plymouth Township of the Certificate of Achievement for Accounting for 2005, one of only nine townships in the state who received this certificate.

Ms. Arnold moved to receive and file the 2006 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Charter Township of Plymouth. Seconded by Mr. Mann. Ayes all.

J.3 New SCADA Hardware System

Township Engineer Bailey explained the system-wide enhancements to the water distribution system.

Ms. Arnold moved to award the bid for the new SCADA Hardware System to D.F. Best Company, Inc., in the amount of \$158,850.00, and authorize the Clerk and Supervisor to execute the contract for same. Seconded by Mr. Mann. Ayes all.

J.4 Northville Road Sidewalk

Board members discussed the sidewalk area with Mr. Bailey and Mr. Anulewicz, as well as the need for updating the sidewalk plan.

Mr. Edwards moved to authorize the Township Engineer to advertise and obtain bids for the construction of the Northville Road sidewalk with the bids being brought back to the Board for approval. Seconded by Mr. Curmi. Ayes all.

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J.5 Water and Sewer Rate Changes / Sewer Use Ordinance
Ordinance No. C-07-04
First Reading

Mr. Heffernan of Plante and Moran reviewed their recommendations regarding water rate increases, considering debt payments and future repairs to a mature system. They felt an increase of 25% would successfully cover these eventualities.

There was no action taken on this item; however, it was the consensus of the Board to increase the water rates 15%. Mr. Edwards agreed to refigure the fees listed in the ordinance on this basis for the next Board meeting.

J.6 Saddlebrook Boardwalk / Footbridge

Mr. Anulewicz and Mr. Lewis discussed with Board members the area in question and how upgrading the construction to a synthetic material would lessen upkeep and maintenance.

Mr. Edwards moved to approve the \$14,832 expenditure, to be paid out of the SAD/Sidewalk fund, to upgrade the Saddlebrook boardwalk footbridge from pressure-treated wood to a synthetic-type deck board with synthetic railings. Seconded by Mr. Doroshewitz. Ayes all.

J.7 Wayne County Appraisal, LLC - Contract / Tax Appeals

Board members, Attorney Cronin, John McLenaghan of Wayne County Appraisals and Nevin Rose, attorney for Wayne County Appraisals, discussed defending or settling various tax appeals. Mr. Shaw of Wayne County Appraisals had suggested implementing a 1% administrative fee on the tax bills to cover the costs of fighting the increased numbers of tax appeals. Mr. Edwards said when he pointed out he didn't feel the Board would concur, Mr. Shaw said they would defend what they believed they needed to defend and the Township would be billed, possibly totaling a quarter million dollars. Mr. Edwards said he believes it is the Board's decision as to what cases they wish to defend.

Mr. Cronin said he reviewed the contract with Wayne County Appraisals and spoke to Mr. Edwards, Mrs. Massengill, Mr. Shaw and Mr. Rose. Also, Mr. Rose has written a letter to the State Tax Assessor's Office and has received their letter in response from Kelly Sobel.

Mr. Cronin said Mr. Shaw had raised his concerns that the Township's actions affected his certification, so he felt compelled to protect his certification by defending the appeals. In response, Mr. Rose indicated he should take a look at the administrative code, which he did.

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Mr. Cronin said his recommendations are that the Township Board should have each individual settlement come before the Township Board or that someone should be designated as liaison to go to the settlement conferences, or parameters should be set for the attorney and the assessors on the settlements.

Mr. Doroshewitz and Mr. Mann cautioned Mr. Rose not to write letters such as he had, purportedly on behalf of the Township.

Board members also requested being kept abreast of appeals via the quarterly report to the Treasurer from Wayne County Appraisals.

There was no action taken on this item; however, the Board agreed further discussion is necessary to clear up these matters.

K. SUPERVISOR COMMENTS

Mr. Reaume had Mr. Anulewicz update the Board on progress on the Ann Arbor Road/Haggerty shopping center.

He also presented distribution figures from the District Court. Plymouth Township will receive \$61,743 for 2006.

He also informed Board members of the route through the Township for the 3-Day Breast Cancer Walk.

L. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Mr. Edwards questioned whether work on the water main interconnection with Northville had begun prior to Board approval on Tuesday, June 12. He was told by a worker in the field that they had begun work on Tuesday. He also questioned lack of contracts for the vendor and for half payment by St. John's, which is neither in keeping with current policy nor an example of good internal controls.

Mr. Bailey said they were not given the go-ahead until Wednesday after he had spoken with Mr. Reaume to ascertain that he felt comfortable that he had the arrangement from St. John's in hand. Mr. Bailey said he was very specific that there was no commitment until after it came to the Board, and there wasn't.

Mrs. Massengill asked Mr. Lewis to convey thanks to Kathy Pumphrey for assistance to the Building Department during the absence of clerical personnel. Mrs. Massengill said one of her staff members has also assisted.

The Board also discussed the lights being on in the parking lot at the old Clerk's Office facility which has been purchased by Fifth Third Bank and electrical bills.

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M. PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

N. ADJOURN

Mrs. Massengill moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Doroshewitz. Ayes all.

Mr. Reaume adjourned the meeting at 11:15 p.m.

Marilyn Massengill, Clerk
Charter Township of Plymouth

The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Human Resource Office, Charter Township of Plymouth, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170, (734) 453-3202, TDD users: 1-800-649-3777 (Michigan Relay Service).