

# **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FLUSHING**

**6524 N. SEYMOUR ROAD  
FLUSHING, MICHIGAN 48433**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**DATE: November 21, 2018**

**TIME: 7:00 P.M.**

**PHONE: 810-659-0800**

**FAX 810-659-4212**

**WEB PAGE: <http://flushingtowship.com>**

## **ADMINISTRATION:**

**SUPERVISOR:** Frederick R. Thorsby  
**CLERK:** Wendy D. Meinburg  
**TREASURER:** Terry A. Peck

## **TRUSTEES:**

Jenifer Almassy  
Sharilynn K. Willette  
Linda Minarik  
William L. Westenbarger

## **TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY:**

**STEVEN W. MOULTON PLLC**  
6258 W. Pierson Road  
Flushing MI 48433  
810-407-7658

**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:00 P.M. by **SUPERVISOR FREDERICK R. THORSBY** with Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**II. ROLL CALL:** Fred Thorsby, Terry Peck, Wendy D. Meinburg, Sharilynn K. Willette and William L. Westenbarger.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jenifer Almassy, Linda Minarik and Attorney Steven W. Moulton

**OTHER INDIVIDUALS PRESENT:** One (1)

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 21, 2018.**

**TREASURER PECK MOVED**, supported by Clerk Meinburg to adopt the agenda as presented.

## **ACTION ON THE MOTION**

**AYES:** Thorsby, Meinburg, Peck and Willette

**NAYS:** Westenbarger

**ABSENT:** Almassy and Minarik

**THE MOTION CARRIED**

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

One comment made.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS:**

No old business.

**V. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Public Hearing to offer the opportunity for citizens to express their ideas on the use of the 2019-2021 **FEDERAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT** – Supervisor Thorsby

**TREASURER PECK MOVED**, supported by Trustee Westenbarger to open the Public Hearing.

**THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**Public hearing is open at 7:05.**

A resident of Flushing Township made the suggestions as followed:

- More benches in the Flushing Nature Park
- Flushing Nature Park education classes
- Play equipment or play equipment updates in the Flushing Nature Park
- Help residents with special assessments
- Blight removal
- Concealed weapons class
- Mock election in Flushing High School
- Lighting for the Flushing Township office parking lot
- Pavilion behind the Flushing Township Offices
- Spot removal
- ‘Welcome to Flushing Township’ sign
- Senior citizen job training and classes in technology
- AED machines in Flushing Township office, Flushing Senior Citizen Center, Flushing Library and offer training classes for the use of the AED
- Safety classes
- Self defense classes
- Lights for the sidewalk by Flushing High School on Carpenter rd.
- Street lights on Duffield rd.
- Summer help in the Flushing Nature Park
- Security cameras in the Flushing Nature Park
- Mile markers in the Flushing Nature Park
- Parking lot improvements by the river entrance in the Flushing Nature Park
- Road improvements between the 2 parking lots in the Flushing Nature Park
- Picnic tables and bathroom at the river entrance in the Flushing Nature Park
- New sign and placement of sign for the Flushing Nature Park
- Handicap entrance to the Flushing Township Offices – the doors need repair

- Smoke detectors/carbon monoxide detectors/fire extinguishers/safety door lock rods made available to the residents free of charge

### **Trustee Minarik arrived at 7:10**

Supervisor Thorsby commented on the conversation he had with Damon from the County. The lighting by the Flushing High School would not qualify because we do not have Flushing Township residents living across from Flushing High School. Everything we use the funds for have to be low to moderate income or at the Senior Center. Treasurer Peck questioned using the funds at the park. Trustee Willette commented that the information on the use of funds could not be used at the Flushing Township Offices either. Supervisor Thorsby mentioned that the use for low to moderate income residents using the funds to reduce the cost of a special assessment but it cannot be used for an individual. The funds have to be used for a group or area. A van for the Senior Center would qualify. AED's and training might be a possibility. Blight enforcement has to be done in low to moderate income areas. Spot enforcement can be done anywhere. We are looking at a house on Elms road that needs to be removed. We don't own the house or have a court order yet. The grant could be used for that and a lien would be placed on the owner's property. Clerk Meinburg mentioned possibly spot removal for the gas station at Mt. Morris and McKinley Road. Public asked if a lien can be put on the owner's property for removal. Trustee Willette mentioned that the problem with the gas station is the tanks and that cost for removal would be more than the funds available. The property owner has been contacted and the property is for sale. The owner claims the gas tanks are safe and secure. The Resident mentioned adding more speed limit signs. Deputy Clerk Wilson mentioned that the Senior Center already have AED's. The resident mentioned putting an AED in the Senior Center van. Trustee Minarik mentioned Yoga classes at the Senior Center. Deputy Clerk Wilson said that the Senior Center has several Yoga classes offered and they are always full. Treasurer Peck asked what the process for the grant is. Supervisor Thorsby replied that the minutes from this meeting and the application will be sent this Monday. Treasurer Peck asked if the items we put on the application are very specific or can they be broad. Supervisor Thorsby replied by saying we will list everything and the grant program will reject the items that do not qualify and we will work from the remaining list of suggestions. Then there will be a final application that we will have to be very specific on the items that we are requesting to use the funds for. Supervisor Thorsby did mention that one of the items we have used is 15% of the funds goes to the operating cost of the Senior Center. We are now able to put up to 20% of the funds for operating costs. We could allocate those funds to split over the 3 years of the grant to be used at the Senior Center for operating costs. The County prefers that we suggest projects that are a minimum of \$5000. If we want to purchase a van for the Senior Center, we could see if the City of Flushing would like to split the cost. Clerk Meinburg asked if the funds could be used to help a senior resident clean up their property (blight). Trustee Willette mention that the grant information packet states 'clearance activities'. Supervisor Thorsby thinks it would have to be in a low to moderate income area. Trustee Minarik knew of a location that would qualify. Supervisor Thorsby will look into the possibility of using grant funds at a particular location to clean the property up. The resident asked when the house on Gillette Road

was coming down. Supervisor Thorsby replied that it should be cleaned up maybe this spring. The house needs to be checked for black mold and asbestos.

**Supervisor Thorsby asked for any other suggestions, with none given the Public Hearing was closed at 7:23 p.m.**

We will prepare the application next week and send it to Genesee County.

2. Motion to transfer the remaining \$2,000 from “Removal of Architectural Barriers” to “Demolition and Clearance” of the 2016-2018 Federal Community Development Block Grant – Supervisor Thorsby

**CLERK MEINBURG MOVED**, supported by Treasurer Peck to transfer the remaining \$2,000 from ‘Removal of Architectural Barriers’ to ‘Demolition and Clearance’ of the 2016-2018 Federal Community Development Block Grant.

Supervisor Thorsby stated that the previous Township Board submitted the 2016-2018 grant application with the intention of upgrading the Flushing Nature Park with new handicap accessible picnic tables and bathrooms. The bathrooms are already handicap accessible prior to the grant. He requested that we use the \$2,000 to be used for blight enforcement.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES:** Peck, Meinburg, Thorsby, Willette, Westenbarger and Minarik

**NAYS:** none

**ABSENT:** Almassy

**THE MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no comments.

**BOARD COMMENTS:** There were no comments.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

It was moved and supported to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 P.M.

**THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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WENDY D. MEINBURG, Clerk

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FREDERICK R. THORSBY, Supervisor

APPROVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Special Meeting date: November 21, 2018