

Charter Township of Orion

Oakland County, Michigan

Environmental Resources Committee Minutes Final

Regular Meeting, Thursday, March 5, 2015

Orion Center – 7:00 PM

1. Call to order by George Hanley, the Chair, at 7:05 pm
2. Roll call: Mike Flood, Joe Laveque, George Hanley, Christine Modovsky, Madeline Braley (nonvoting). Also attending the meeting was Kathy Klein to provide the group with an update on recycling processes.
3. Determination of a quorum: Yes, there is a quorum.
4. Regular order of business

Approval of minutes for December 2014 meeting: Mike Flood made a motion to approve, Joe Laveque seconded; motion passed.

Approval of agenda: Mike Flood made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Chris Modovsky seconded; motion passed.

5. Pending Business

Phragmites/Invasive species ordinance project status: George briefed committee:

- Phragmites on Camp Agawam property and at a home on Joslyn at Newman Road have been cut; signs will be installed at these locations when the weather improves.
- Ordinance review meeting: Joint meeting of Board of Trustees/Planning Commission/ Zoning Board of Appeals was held on 2/24/15. The Ordinance Committee's recommendation (George Hanley, Mike Flood, Mark Thurber and Lucy Koscierszynski) was discussed. It requested that four existing ordinances be modified and one new ordinance be created specifically to address phragmites management in the township. As summarized by Mike Flood in an email prior to tonight's meeting: "At last evening's (3/2/15) BOT meeting the Board unanimously approved moving forward with approving all the recommended updates to existing township ordinances and a stand-alone ordinance. The motion is verbatim as follows:

Authorize Carlise Wortman, Township Planners, to work with the Phragmites committee and the Township Attorney to draft amendments to the current applicable Township Ordinances (78, 79, 107, & 139) and to draft a separate Phragmites Control ordinance, at a cost not to exceed \$3,000.00 (from account 101-248-806) for both options.

The additional referenced ordinances can be viewed on the township website under the banner *Information* and dropdown menu *Ordinances*."

- George gave an update on considerations going into the options for a draft ordinance: based on prior year experiences, process would involve mapping, property owner identification, education, solicitation of interest in voluntary treatment, cost estimation, treatment and DEQ reporting. In certain cases, treatment will be mandatory where hazardous conditions are created by phragmites infestations (fire, environmental/ecological, safety), subject to a hearing to request an exemption. Specification of hazardous conditions requiring mandatory treatment will need to be defined. In addition, contractors requesting building permits on property with infestations would be required to treat appropriately before, during and after project completion. Also, upon transfer of ownership, owners of property with infestations would be required to set up an escrow with the Township from proceeds to support appropriate treatment.

OTERC Ad Hoc committee status- -2015 treatment process –draft treatment process laid out by George in accordance with his discussions with township officials to date. A number of items need to be developed to support committee members in the outreach process. George/Chris will request the township to consider having the contractor covering the administration fee instead of the landowner.

No Haz dates/status for 2015: from 8am to 2pm on 5/16 at Oxford Middle School, 6/6 at Oakland University, 8/22 at North Sashabaw Elementary School, and 9/19 at Wildwood Amphitheater. In addition, a fifth site this year from 8am to noon at OCC Highland Lakes campus. Joe indicated that volunteers over 18 will be needed and signup is essential to avoid penalty fees.

Project opportunity- -update & maintain daily drop-off recycle sheet: corrections are needed. Joe will start this effort and George will provide support as needed.

Project opportunity- -update licensed hauler recycle procedures information. Discussion concluded that there would be a benefit to residents from publishing the chart, which identifies the details of service provided by the township's licensed haulers. Kathy Klein from Waste Management, in attendance at this meeting, volunteered to update WM's information. Committee will send form to other haulers to also update their details and will make it available online.

6. New business

LOve Your City citizen education campaign – Madeline gave a presentation on the campaign. The group discussed possible actions to build on it and increase awareness and

citizen involvement, obtain grant possibilities from entities such as Keep America Beautiful, presentations to civic groups (KOC, Chamber of Commerce, Sunrise Rotary, others). Committee to provide feedback on presentation as it is developed. George will contact ONTV regarding creating a program featuring Madeline and hosted by Chris Barnett. The committee members were encouraged to provide input on potential subject matter to Madeline. Options for youth contests such as creating a 30-second PSA were also discussed.

Update on recycling issues – Kathy Klein from WM provided some input on current issues related to recycling but a subsequent meeting would allow a more complete presentation of trends and issues. She also provided several information sources as references.

Consideration of holding April meeting – the next meeting will be on April 13 at 6:00 pm at Eagle Valley Landfill, 600 W. Silverbell Road. Enter at the 2nd gate east of the main gate by the fire hydrant, via the driveway to the house office from Silver Bell. An update from WM on recycling issues will be included in the agenda for April.

7. Committee comments: None
8. Adjournment – Based on a motion by Joe and second by Mike, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm

**The next meeting is April 13, 2015, 6:00 pm, Eagle Valley Landfill, 600
W. Silverbell Road**