

MEETING MINUTES

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

JUNE 12, 2017 - 7:30 PM

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING - BOARD CHAMBERS
304 E. Grand River Avenue, Howell, MI 48843

GENERAL GOVERNMENT & HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

COMM. CHILDS COMM. DOLAN COMM. GREEN COMM. BEZOTTE

1. **CALL to ORDER:** Meeting called to order by: **COMM. DENNIS DOLAN AT 7:30 PM.**

2. **APPROVAL of MINUTES: MINUTES OF MEETING DATED MAY 8, 2017:**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES, AS PRESENTED.
MOVED BY: CHILDS / SECONDED BY: GREEN
ALL IN FAVOR - MOTION PASSED

3. **APPROVAL of AGENDA:**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS PRESENTED.
MOVED BY: BEZOTTE / SECONDED BY: GREEN
ALL IN FAVOR - MOTION PASSED

4. **REPORTS: None.**

5. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

- **MELISSA GIBSON** - Grand Blanc, MI: Volunteer at Livingston County Animal Control. Dismissed recently from Volunteering. Only reason given for dismissal was that she asked too many questions. Asking for transparency so that questions can be answered, more marketing to move animals faster, and having animals more available to the public. Would like to meet with someone for some guidance on getting concerns addressed.
- **SHIELA BELKOWSKI** - Brighton, MI: Friend of Melissa Gibson. Worked for many organizations where volunteers are a pressing need.
- **BILL FOUNTAIN** - Hartland Township Supervisor: Township has approved request to establish Rehabilitation District. Next step is County approval and, If approved, will then go to State for approval. Site plan is currently being amended by lowering the number of theaters to bring their cost down. Liquor licenses are available. Previous developers brought \$9 Million to improve the

intersection and traffic. A lot of development has gone on in the 35 Acres. Only asking for an abatement to 7-acre portion. Fallow versus developed County tax situation was approximately \$1,300 to \$6,000, respectfully, under the abatement. This development will enhance the current business in area.

- **GLEN WILKINSON** - Hartland Township: Does not support development or abatement. If not feasible without abatement it should not be built. Financing concerns are the Developer's problem, not Township residents'. Seems that the Township is giving the Developer whatever he wants. Horrible precedent to be setting.
- **JIM MARSHALL** - Hartland, MI: Agrees with many of the points that Glen Wilkinson made. Finds it unbelievable to give taxpayer money to someone who should be able to afford the development in the first place. Safety is a major concern: many traffic accidents in area. Adding another business will only acerbate the current intersections congestions. Liquor License approval would be preferable if it was located off of a main road. Feels it should go to a vote of the public in the Fall, not slipped in at a Spring election.
- **JOE COLAIANNE** - Hartland Township Trustee / Planning Commissioner: Previous comments made deal with the Planning Commission process. Legislation allows tax abatements to attract business. Concerns mentioned tonight are better placed to the Legislature. County approved a 49-acre site for district, with no developer. This opportunity means jobs - jobs for young people and community members. This particular developer is bringing a \$15M opportunity to Hartland Township. Property has been fallow for 20 years and this is an opportunity that the Township cannot overlook. Advised that he understands where opposition is coming from, however, 2/3 of the taxes will still be garnered. This is going to be a destination development. Other move theaters are looking to change their model to be similar to Emagine Theater's. He advised that the Township Board took a lot of time looking over these plans and nothing was rushed into.
- **STEWART OLDFORD** - Hartland, MI: All of the numbers that are used to base abatement are based on a true cash value of \$10M. Wondering what happened to the other \$5M? Asked this at the public hearing but did not get an answer. Numbers are not matching the developer's statements.
- **WES NAKAGIRI** - Hartland Township. Provided handout. Concern is that we are subsidizing a movie theater in a very competitive industry. Marketplace for movie tickets is declining, from 20%-40% in future years. Quoted various magazines regarding decline. MJR did not and does not receive a tax abatement. Advised that Emagine CEO states that they cannot get financing without the abatement. 19 theaters within 26 miles of Hartland, 73 within 30 miles.
- **JOE PETRUCCI** - Hartland Township Board Member: They are not subsidizing business, they are promoting business. Go to every city where Emagine has built and every one has grown. Every retailer is hurting - it's a cyclical industry. This development would be the hub to spark the District. Competition is good for citizens. Traffic concerns were addressed by the State, County and developer representatives and \$9M was put into the safety of the community. Traveling farther to go to something is not safer for residents. Today's market makes it very difficult to get loans, ask any developer, builder, etc. There is no past history for a theater in Hartland because there has never been a theater in Hartland, so financing is based on pro forma in this situation. This particular piece of property fit the abatement requirements.
- **LARRY CIOFU** - Hartland Township Clerk: Previous small business owner. Previous statistics are misleading. This is not about the movie industry. It's about an opportunity for economic development in Hartland, in Livingston County. People will come to see what we have to offer and will generate additional business. This is an opportunity.
- **DENNIS DOLAN** - COMMISSIONER: Wanted to advise those present that this is the first time the Board of Commissioners, the Finance Committee or this Committee has evaluated or been apprised of this issue. Just wanted to clarify the situation.

6. RESOLUTIONS for CONSIDERATION.

7. HEALTH: RESOLUTION TO ELIMINATE A PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE (PHN) PROGRAM COORDINATOR POSITION (GRADE 10) AND CREATE A PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE (PHN) (GRADE 9) POSITION

**RECOMMEND MOTION TO: FINANCE
MOVED BY: GREEN / SECONDED BY: BEZOTTE
ALL IN FAVOR - MOTION PASSED**

8. ADMINISTRATION: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO MERS

**RECOMMEND MOTION TO: FINANCE
MOVED BY: GREEN / SECONDED BY: BEZOTTE
ALL IN FAVOR - MOTION PASSED**

9. ADMINISTRATION: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMERCIAL REHABILITATION DISTRICT IN HARTLAND TOWNSHIP

**RECOMMEND MOTION TO: FINANCE
MOVED BY: CHILDS / SECONDED FOR DISCUSSION BY: GREEN
CALL THE QUESTION: GREEN
YEAS: 2 / NAYS: 2 - MOTION FAILED**

10. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

- **BILL FOUNTAIN** - Hartland Township Supervisor: Questioning what decision tonight means and when can they expect an answer.
- **WES NAKAGERI** - Hartland Township: Not aware that the numbers he presented were inaccurate. He provided links, but if those are wrong he apologizes. Noted that if Committee does nothing more than what was done tonight, the District will go through. Recommends the matter go to the Full Board so that all commissioners are present. Urged the whole of the Commission to take this up and to look at the proposed resolution language he submitted.
- **MELISSA GIBSON** - Grand Blank: Wanted to reiterate that, unfortunately, the other volunteer who was dismissed was unable to appear but she did numerous things to help the shelter as well.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

**MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:40 PM.
MOVED BY: CHILDS / SECONDED BY: BEZOTTE
ALL IN FAVOR - MOTION PASSED**

Respectfully Submitted

CAROL SUE JONCKHEERE
RECORDING SECRETARY