

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES  
August 19, 2015**

Chair Brownlee called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Chair Brownlee; Commissioners Ahamiojie, DeBuck, Gibson  
Merritt, Wilson; and Board Representative Trustee Jahr

**Absent/Excused:** None

**Staff:** Director of Planning and Economic Development Akers,  
Board Representative Trustee Hart and Acting Secretary Price

**Audience:** 9

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Commissioner Gibson requested to add #3 Cadillac Asphalt and #4 Odor Complaints to Unfinished Business/Updates. Motion by Wilson, Supported by Gibson to approve the Agenda for August 19, 2015 as amended. **Motion Carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by DeBuck, Supported by Wilson to approve the meeting minutes of June 17, 2015 as presented. **Motion Carried.**

**COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE:** Chairman Brownlee introduced Director of Planning and Economic Development Akers.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/UPDATES**

**1. Coal Tar Sealant:**

Commissioner Wilson gave a brief explanation of what the Commission had been working on regarding polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Rebecca Esselman from the Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC) was present indicating that the HRWC is actively working to inform the public of the dangers of coal tar sealants and alternatives to its use as well as encouraging municipalities to ban the sale and application. Ms. Esselman explained that Washtenaw County changed language in the request for bids for work completed on the municipality property to support the alternative. Ms. Esselman also shared that some municipalities have taken the lead on a banning the sale and applications. Dana Sherry a representative from Kathy Pagans Office was in attendance at the meeting indicating their office is supporting the efforts and have drafted a house bill. Chairman Brownlee requested Ms. Sherry share the bill with the commission. Chairman Brownlee also suggested Pagans office work closely with the Huron River Watershed Council.

The commissioner's agree that education and support recommending to the Township Board to consider banning the sale and application of pavement sealcoat with polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) content exceeding 1%, including but not limited to coal tar sealcoat.

*Motion Brownlee seconded DeBuck to recommend to the Township Board to consider banning the sale and application of pavement sealcoat with polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) content exceeding 1%, including but not limited to coal tar sealcoat. Motion Carried.*

2. **Recycling Road Map:** Chairman Brownlee requested that the members continue to do research for the recycling booklet. Information will be presented to Director Akers after he has a chance to settle in.
3. **Cadillac Asphalt:** Commissioner Gibson shared with the commission that the trucks coming in and out of the Cadillac Asphalt facility are leaving material on the roadway from their trucks. Commissioner Gibson asked if they had a street sweeper on site. Director Akers will look into this. Chairman Brownlee requested this to carry over to September Agenda.
4. **Odor Complaints:** Commissioner Gibson filed an odor complaint last month and did not get a follow up from Management or the County. Commissioner Gibson shared concerns that the employees at the Township did not know proper procedures to take an odor complaint. Director Akers indicated he will get the form updated with his contact information and generate an email to the employees notifying them the correct department that should be receiving the complaint.

**NEW BUSINESS:** There were no items of New Business brought before the Commission.

5. **GENERAL DISCUSSION:** Chairman Brownlee requested an update on the Lake ordinance. Director Akers indicated that the Planning Commission will reviewed the draft and he will get follow up information back to the Commission. Chairman Brownlee requested that the Commission reviews the ordinance before its finalized.

**ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Wilson, Supported by Jahr** to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m.  
**Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted by,

Jennifer L. Price  
Acting Recording Secretary