

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings-October 2, 2012

A regular study meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton held Tuesday, October 2, 2012 at 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. Supervisor LaJoy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. **Roll Call**
Members Present: Anthony, Bennett, Demopoulos, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Taj, Williams Staff Present: Kristen Thomas **Public Comment:** Bryan Amann, NorthRidge Church, committed to run a marathon to raise money for clean water for Zambia, over 350 people signed up. Currently NorthRidge has 225 who will actually make the marathon in Chicago. Mr. Amann stated NorthRidge Church would like to thank the Canton community for its support. NorthRidge Church is in the process of trying to raise \$500,000 for the fresh water wells in Zambia. Every 30 seconds a child dies in underdeveloped nations from diarrhea and other conditions that could be solved if they had clean water. Those interested in contributing can go to the website www.teamworldvision.org/goto/ridgerunners and support a team member. Fifty dollars will supply clean water for a lifetime for a single individual. Typically woman and children will have to walk hours for water. Clean water will assist in breaking the cycle of poverty. **Adoption of Agenda** Motion by McLaughlin, seconded by Taj to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. **STUDY SESSION TOPIC Item 1. Economic Development Update**
Kristin Thomas, Economic Development Leader: **Economic Development Initiatives:** Four Initiatives have been identified to guide Economic Development in Canton Township 1. Provide a Responsive Government, Customer Service, Team approach: Planning, Engineering, Building, Public Safety 2. Strategically Promote the Community Enhanced Website Thinkcanton.org, Available properties, Step-by-step process, Flow Charts, Demographics, Outside organization links, "We've Got It" Campaign, International Council of Shopping Centers Tradeshows – local and national, Brokers Breakfast, Working with a consulting firm to write an RFP that will result in a market study/placemaking plan for: Ford Road, Michigan Avenue, Cherry Hill Village 3. Establish and Strengthen Partnerships: DDA, Brokers, Realtors, Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Economic Development Corp. (MEDC), Wayne County Economic Development Growth Engine (EDGE), Michigan Small Business Technology and Development Center (Mi-SBTDC), Schoolcraft Canton businesses and residents, Word of Mouth, A Good reputation goes forward 4. Attract, Expand, and Retain Business **Attraction:** Canton filled up nearly 2,000,000 square feet of industrial space. A wide variety of retail and commercial offerings have located in Canton. **Retention** Ms. Thomas goes on retention visits with the state to Industrial and Manufacturing businesses to discuss their needs and the tools available. Canton's BEST (Business Excellence Street Team) (October Focus) Canton Economic Development office, Canton Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center. One-on-one visits to give businesses the ideas, tools and resources necessary to help them succeed and grow. Regular retention visits with MEDC and Wayne County **Other**
The next Board meeting is Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Administration Building, First Floor, Board Room, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. **Adjourn** Motion by Demopoulos, supported by Anthony at 7:55 p.m. to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

– Philip LaJoy, Supervisor – Terry G. Bennett, Clerk –

Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the Clerk's office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton-mi.org after Board Approval. Publish: October 11, 2012

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