

**APRIL 14, 2008**  
**PRESS RELEASE**  
**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF HARING**

The Charter Township Board of Trustees met Monday, April 14, 2008 at 6:00 pm and held a public hearing addressing the City of Cadillac's Proposed 425 Agreement. The Agreement sought is to conditionally transfer approximately 66 acres of property belonging to Baker College from the Charter Township of Haring to the City of Cadillac for a period of fifty (50) years; at the end of the fifty years, the property would be fully annexed to the City.

The Charter Township of Haring Board was elected to do the day to day business of the Township and to look out for the future of its residents and property owners.

There has been a lot of controversy and opinion with the decision of the YMCA to locate on the campus of Baker College. It is not the responsibility of the Township Board to determine where the YMCA is located. It was the responsibility of the Township Planning Commission to review a site plan and determine if the YMCA should be granted a special use permit. On March 11, 2008 the Planning Commission approved the Site Plan and Special Use Permit.

Over the past two years the Township Board has been doing its due diligence by attending numerous meetings, hiring a consultant, hiring engineers, spending a large sum of money for studies and gathering any and all information possible relative to township utilities. The past two years have not been wasted, it was part of the decision making process that has led us to where we are today.

This decision is much larger than the YMCA or Baker College. Although Baker College would have you believe they are "being held hostage," or are at the "mercy" of the Haring Township Board, we would disagree. Baker chose to locate in Haring Township in 1991, knowing the property they purchased was not serviced with a municipal water or sewer. Baker College continued to expand their facility over the past few years knowing the property was not serviced with municipal water or sewer. In April of 2004 Baker purchased another twenty nine acres and within one year made a request to the Township asking to annex the entire property to the City of Cadillac.

It has been determined that the YMCA can be constructed with an on-site sewer system. The Board has also authorized the construction and extension of a 12" water main to the Baker College property. Therefore, the YMCA is not at the mercy of this Board as reported in the April 12th edition of the Cadillac News.

It is the opinion of this Board that the Township made a commitment to independence from city services when it established a water system, constructed a water tower built sewer infrastructure and became a Charter Township.

Every member of this Board feels it is unfortunate that the Township must consider building a wastewater treatment plant a mile or so away from an existing wastewater facility. Haring

Township must move ahead and find short term and long term resolutions to the current situation.

It was determined by the Township board that it would not be in the best interest of the entire Township to approve the presented 425 Agreement.

The Haring Township Board feels the existing 1980 Wastewater Treatment contract between the City of Cadillac and Wexford County regarding Haring Township is valid and enforceable. We believe that the contract requires the City to provide the Township the treatment capacity requested by Baker College and the YMCA

The Board has a responsibility to explore and exhaust all other possible alternatives before filing any legal action. We should always try to negotiate an issue before a decision is made to litigate it. Because of the unfortunate situation Haring Township now faces, the Board feels it necessary, and has no other choice at this time but to seek relief through the court.

At this time on behalf of Baker College, and in an effort to provide Baker College with municipal sewer, the Board felt it necessary to authorize the Haring Township Attorney to file a complaint in 28th Circuit Court and request that the Court provide the Board with a judgment regarding the 1980 Wastewater Treatment contract.

Robert Scarbrough,.. Supervisor  
Andrea Hofstra.....Clerk  
Beth McCain..... Treasurer  
John Long.....Trustee  
Dan Wilkinson.....Trustee  
Anita Fagerman..... Trustee