

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
**2011-12 PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING/REGULAR MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 22, 2011**  
**MINUTES**

**PRESENT** – Trustee Bard, Trustee Deur, Trustee Bole, Clerk Rillema, Treasurer Wilks, Supervisor St. Amour

**ABSENT:** Trustee Binns

**ALSO PRESENT** – Forty (40) interested parties.

**CALL TO ORDER** – Supervisor St. Amour called the rescheduled Tuesday, February 22, 2011 2011-12 Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting to order at 7:07 PM and welcomed those present, led the pledge of allegiance and asked for a moment of silence.

**AGENDA** – Supervisor St. Amour asked to amend the agenda by changing the date from February 21, 2011 to February 22, 2011.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, ***ADOPTED***, to accept the amended February 22, 2011 Public Budget Hearing/Regular Township Board Meeting Agenda.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6 AYES 1 ABSENT**

**PUBLIC COMMENT –**

- 1) Jack Lago, 3119 Scenic Drive – Cautioned the Board to review any agreement from oil companies for mineral rights for credibility and accountability.
- 2) Lee Holly, 6820 South Shore Drive – Stated that any lease signed for mineral rights can be sold by the firm to anyone at any time.
- 3) Peggy Dilley, 6035 Murray Road – Stated that past history of oil companies seeking mineral rights in the area did not succeed. Also stated that Trustees in the past did not receive pay, but volunteered.
- 4) Jeff Marcinkowski, 3767 Jay Road – Commented that additional parking should have been made available due to the expectancy of a big crowd for the meeting tonight.
- 5) Judy Marcinkowski, 3767 Jay Road – Stated that if mineral/oil exploration was ever going to be considered by Fruitland Township that a Citizen’s Advisory Committee should be formed to explore options.
- 6) Paul Bolde, 5176 South Shore Drive – Stated that Supervisor St. Amour being the Supervisor and Ordinance Enforcer was a direct conflict of interest and felt the position should be reposted. Inquired if smoking was allowed in township vehicles. Opposes a 3% increase at this time. Opposes Clerk Rillema receiving any additional pay for elections and opposes the insurance fringe taken by staff and/or elected officials.

- 7) Lee Holly, 6820 South Shore Drive – Feels the township appreciates the efforts of the Board in regards to cost savings but would like the budget adopted with no salary increases.

### **PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED 2011-12 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET**

Supervisor St. Amour opened the Public Hearing at 7:20 PM on the Proposed 2011-2012 Budget with a brief history of accomplishments of the past few years, items of increase in the budget such as the proposed wage increase, health insurance premium increase, ordinance enforcer wage and cleaning of township hall and explained the process for including those items in the budget.

- 1) Betsy Grein, 5780 Oak Tree Lane – Asked several questions ranging from why the Blueberry fund is set up as its own fund, why the prior years donations to the WRLS do not appear on the budget, what is the additional \$3000.00 or 4000.00 as listed under Dept. 210 Attorney, how was the 2009-10 rollover of \$145,000 used, where is the 2010-11 proposed \$50,000.00 rollover going to be spent and why the admissions to the WRLS are only budgeted at \$12,000.00 for this year. Asked if the rollover could be used for the museum. Supervisor St. Amour stated that several of those questions have been answered previously and others may be answered during discussion of the budget later in the meeting.
- 2) Jeff Marcinkowski, 3767 Jay Road – Stated that the Parks & Recreation Commission would like to remain at \$35.00 a meeting with no increase. Inquired if the Board follows any industry standards when budgeting for repair and maintenance of its assets.
- 3) Tom Thompson, 5565 South Shore Drive – Stated that approximately 10 years ago, a MTA survey was helpful in evaluating wages for elected staff and is not sure if it is available currently. The health insurance fringe was put into place years ago and was considered a cost savings to the township but probably back then it was probably not taken into consideration that health insurance premiums would be at the rate they are now days. He is pleased to see the Board still prioritizing roads in the budget.
- 4) Paul Bolde, 5176 South Shore Drive – Inquired why the weather station and portable restrooms are budgeted in Dept. 746 – Museum.
- 5) Carol Kooistra, 2553 Scenic Drive – Stated that she served on the health care committee years ago that put the health insurance fringe in place. It is a savings to the township to cover ½ of a premium versus an employee/elected official opting for the additional coverage.
- 6) Tom Martin, 1715 W. McMillan Road – Felt it might be a conflict of interest with Supervisor St. Amour also performing the duties of Ordinance Enforcer. Feels that the cleaning of the hall by the Clerk is a deal for \$1500.00. Feels that the wage increase should not be based on merit but rather that everyone receive equally – part time and full time.
- 7) Herb Huch – 4272 Gibson Road – Stated that the position of Ordinance Enforcer at a rate of pay of \$4608.00 is a good deal for the township and that Supervisor St. Amour is the right man for the job.

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Clerk Rillema stated that emails were received from the following and will be included as part of the public record.

- 1) Maryl Hook, Murray Road – Opposes raises and extra pay for Supervisor St. Amour for Ordinance Enforcer position.
- 2) Dave & Linda Wheeler, 5876 Murray Road – Opposes raises and increase in benefits.
- 3) Irene Pierson, 6100 Murray Road – Supports wage increase for staff but not elected officials at this time. Supports Ordinance Enforcer wage to Supervisor and Cleaning of Hall wage to Clerk. Opposes Sports and Shorts program.
- 4) Kim & Mary McGee, 6166 Murray Road – Opposes wage increase at this time.
- 5) Ted Boers, 6198 Murray Road – Opposes wage increase to full & part time elected officials at this time.
- 6) John & Nancy Truxell – 7862 Old Channel Trail, Montague – Opposes wage increase to elected officials.
- 7) Wayne & Graceia Golomb, 2899 Scenic Drive – Opposes wage increase for staff.
- 8) Ken Trojan, Simonelli Road – Asked if a decision had been made regarding Riverside Exploration and recommends selling the lighthouse.
- 9) Al & Sharon Vande Vusse, 2784 Scenic Drive – Opposes wage increase and opposes health insurance fringe.
- 10) Betsy Grein, 5780 Oak Tree Lane – Opposes wage increase and other increased in the budget.
- 11) Alice Gambel, 5730 Oak Tree Lane – Opposes wage increase at this time.
- 12) Bill LaNouette, Murray Road – Congratulations to you and your hearty staff on jobs well done.

Supervisor St. Amour closed the public comment at 7:40 PM and made some additional closing remarks.

Trustee Deur and Trustee Bard oppose any wage increase at this time. Trustee Bole is okay with the \$5.00 increase in meeting pay and possibly a 1% wage increase. Treasurer Wilks supports the wage increase. Clerk Rillema supports the wage increase. Supervisor St. Amour stated that the budget needs to be balanced and adopted by the end of March. The adoption meeting is scheduled for March 31, 2011 at 4:00 PM.

### MINUTES –

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Bole, ***ADOPTED***, to accept the January 10, 2011 Work Session Minutes and the January 19, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6 AYES 1 ABSENT**

### RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS –

Motion by Clerk Rillema, second by Trustee Bard, ***ADOPTED***, to accept the Receipts of \$115,431.18 and Bank Balance and Certificate of Deposits of \$1,001,791.28 for the period of January 1, 2011 through January 31, 2011 as reported by Melissa Wilks, Fruitland Township Treasurer and approve General Fund 101 Disbursements in the amount of \$51,158.27 for the period of January

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1, 2011 through January 31, 2011 as reported by Karolyn Rillema, Fruitland Township Clerk.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6 AYES 1 ABSENT**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS** – Supervisor St. Amour stated that Fruitland Township will host a coffee hour with 92nd District House of Representative Marcia Hovey-Wright on March 11 and May 13 from 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM. Residents are encouraged to attend to speak with Representative Hovey-Wright.

**CONSENT AGENDA –**

Motion by Supervisor St. Amour, second by Treasurer Wilks, **ADOPTED**, to appoint Charles Peabody, Lyle Kops and Karolyn Rillema to serve on the Citizens Advisory Scenic Drive Road End Dock Committee with term expiration at the pleasure of the Board.

*Roll Call Vote:* Trustee Bard **AYE**, Trustee Deur **AYE**, Clerk Rillema **AYE**, Treasurer Wilks **AYE**, Trustee Bole **AYE**, Supervisor St. Amour **AYE**, Trustee Binns **ABSENT**

**COMMITTEE/BOARD UPDATES –**

- White Lake Ambulance Authority – Trustee Bard stated that the February meeting was rescheduled for tonight February 22, 2011. She was unable to attend due to the rescheduling of this meeting. It may be proposed to revert back to the monthly meetings of the WLAA versus every other month.
- White Lake Fire Authority – Treasurer Wilks stated that the all permits have been received back for the dry hydrants and the WLFA is now waiting on weather to have installed. A procedure for the permitting process of burn permits in Fruitland Township is now in place. Contact Fire Marshal Ben Novak or Captain Greg Holman to obtain. Fire Marshal Novak is continuing his review of the suggested amendments to the appendices for private streets to the 2009 International Fire Code.
- Parks & Recreation Commission – Supervisor St. Amour stated that MCRC will remove the sand necessary and appropriate signage is being reviewed at this time by MCRC for the additional parking spots near Marcus Park.

Motion by Clerk Rillema, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to appoint Mary Nagengast to fill the vacancy on the Parks & Recreation Commission with a term ending November 2012.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **4 AYES 2 NAYS 1 ABSENT**

- Planning Commission – Trustee Deur stated that there was no February meeting.

Motion by Supervisor St. Amour, second by Trustee Bole, **ADOPTED**, to reappoint Carol Kooistra to the Planning Commission with a term ending 3/31/2014, reappoint Jan Deur as board liaison with a term ending

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3/31/2012 and appoint Dave Roessler to the vacancy on the Planning Commission with a term ending 3/31/2014.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6 AYES 1 ABSENT**

- Zoning Board of Appeals – Clerk Rillema that there was no February meeting scheduled.
- Citizens Advisory Wireless Committee – Trustee Deur stated that a meeting is scheduled in early March to explore more DSL capabilities in Fruitland Township.
- Citizens Advisory Residential Rental Committee – Supervisor St. Amour stated that Attorney Eklund was tasked to review the latest email received at the February work session. Discussion will occur at the March work session.
- Citizens Advisory McMillan Road End Committee – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he has been in touch with Jeff Auch from the Muskegon Conservation District. Jeff Auch has recommended a stairway versus the log pathway. He is reviewing the quote for material and is seeking a grant from Alcoa in the range of \$3000.00 - \$5000.00. The township has received \$1500.00 with another \$500.00 promise towards this project. Jeff is also speaking with other groups who might be willing to contribute monetarily or with labor.
- White Lake Public Advisory Committee –

Motion by Trustee Deur, second by Clerk Rillema, **ADOPTED**, Resolution 2011-02 to endorse the White Lake Public Advisory Council's White Lake: A Strategy for Completing Restoration Activities at a Regular Meeting of Fruitland Township on February 22, 2011.

*Roll Call Vote:* Trustee Bard **AYE**, Trustee Deur **AYE**, Clerk Rillema **AYE**, Treasurer Wilks **AYE**, Trustee Bole **AYE**, Supervisor St. Amour **AYE**, Trustee Binns **ABSENT**

**RESOLUTION 2011-02**

**ENDORING "WHITE LAKE: A STRATEGY FOR COMPLETING RESTORATION ACTIVITIES," DEVELOPED BY THE WHITE LAKE PUBLIC ADVISORY COUNCIL**

- WHEREAS**, White Lake was designated a "toxic hotspot" or Great Lakes Area of Concern in the mid-1980s, and;
- WHEREAS**, the White Lake Area of Concern qualified for a special Great Lakes cleanup program, which provided a vehicle for public involvement and access to funds, and;
- WHEREAS**, the White Lake Public Advisory Council was established in 1993 to provide local input and guidance into plans to restore White Lake, and;
- WHEREAS**, considerable progress has been made at restoring White Lake as part of this cleanup program, and;
- WHEREAS**, the White Lake Public Advisory Council has developed a strategy outlining final restoration activities needed for removing White Lake from the Great Lakes Area of Concern list, and;
- WHEREAS**, the White Lake Public Advisory Council has asked for community feedback on the strategy, and;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Fruitland Township fully endorses *White Lake: A Strategy for Completing Restoration Activities*, developed by the White Lake Public Advisory Council.

Motion by Trustee Deur, second by Clerk Rillema, **ADOPTED**, Resolution 2011-02 to endorse the White Lake Public Advisory Council's White Lake: A Strategy for Completing Restoration Activities at a Regular Meeting of Fruitland Township on February 22, 2011.

Upon a roll call vote, with all members present, the members voted as follows:

"AYE": Trustee Bard, Trustee Deur, Clerk Rillema, Treasurer Wilks, Trustee Bole, Supervisor St. Amour

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“NAY”:None

“ABSENT”: **Trustee Binns**

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Karolyn Rillema, Clerk  
Township of Fruitland

- Fred Meijer Berry Junction Rail Trail – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the MCRC will award the bid on March 3, 2011. The project is scheduled to be completed in summer 2011.
- White River Light Station – Curator McDonnell continues to work on projects and has met with Sable Points Lighthouse Keepers Association regarding future funding and employment retention if an agreement is offered and accepted by Fruitland Township.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Binns, **ADOPTED**, to suspend for a brief recess.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6 AYES 1 ABSENT**

Motion by Trustee Bole, second by Trustee Binns, **ADOPTED**, to unsuspend from the recess.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6 AYES 1 ABSENT**

**OLD BUSINESS –**

1. 5623 Murray Road – Supervisor St. Amour stated that no information has been received to date from the Court of Appeals.
2. Ordinance Enforcement – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the property owner of 1490 W. Duck Lake Road is struggling with the cleanup. The court has ordered 30 days and if not satisfactorily completed, will be sentenced to 28 days in jail and the township has the ability to hire the cleanup done and invoice the property owner for costs. The property owner at 3350 Bard is aware of the boats/boat lifts that need to be removed and is waiting for the weather to improve. The property owner of 4540 Weber Road has been placed into assisted living. Building Official Siegel performed an inspection of the home and it is deemed unsatisfactory for residing. Building Official Siegel will finalize his report and present his recommendations to Supervisor St. Amour.
3. Riverside Exploration – Supervisor St. Amour reported that the Board of Trustees will not be signing any agreements with Riverside Exploration for mineral/gas exploration on any township property. Supervisor St. Amour will contact Mr. Sniff and inform him of this decision. Supervisor St. Amour stated that he received a phone call from the DNRE regarding a 40 acre piece of Fruitland Township that the State of Michigan has mineral rights is going up for lease. This property is located in the 400+ acres that Riverside Exploration was interested in pursuing. Supervisor St. Amour also stated that over 1000 acres of resident property has been signed with Riverside Exploration. He also stated of a lake near Livonia in which a municipality declined mineral/gas exploration, but the neighboring municipality signed and slant drilled under the lake. Supervisor St. Amour reminded the board that even though we declined, our property may still be at risk.

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**NEW BUSINESS –**

1. MCRC – Brining 2011 – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the Board authorized the participation in the dust control policy with MCRC for 2011.
2. 4th Qtr 2010-11 Budget Amendments –

Motion by Clerk Rillema, second by Trustee Deur, ***ADOPTED***, to authorize the Clerk to make the 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr 2010-11 Budget Amendments as listed.  
*Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES, 1 ABSENT*

ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	INCREASE/	EXPLANATION OF BUDGET
<b>FUND 101</b>				
<b>REVENUES</b>				
101-000-451.000	Franchise Fees	\$ 4,317.14	increase	under budgeted
101-000-475.000	Zoning Permit Fees	\$ 25.00	increase	under budgeted
101-000-476.002	Permit-Electrical	\$ 286.00	increase	under budgeted
101-000-476.003	Permit-Mechanical	\$ 1,109.00	increase	under budgeted
101-000-651.000	Museum-Gift Shop Receipts	\$ 103.84	increase	under budgeted
101-000-658.000	Court Fines	\$ 144.00	increase	under budgeted
101-000-664.000	Bank Interest & Charges	\$ 285.25	increase	under budgeted
101-000-667.000	Twp Park Pavillion Rental	\$ 30.00	increase	under budgeted
101-000-671.000	Other Revenues	\$ 34.31		
		<b>\$ 6,334.54</b>		
<b>FUND 101</b>				
<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>				
101-101-801.001	Contracting-Computer Services	\$ 451.12	increase	under budgeted
101-101-801.005	Contracting-Payroll Services	\$ 332.92	increase	under budgeted
101-191-704.000	Office Help	\$ 125.50	increase	under budgeted
101-191-714.000	Pension 457	\$ 19.44	increase	under budgeted
101-191-715.000	EMP/ER Soc Sec/Med	\$ 7.32	increase	under budgeted
101-209-726.000	Supplies	\$ 154.00	increase	under budgeted
101-209-945.000	Education & Dues	\$ 30.00	increase	under budgeted
101-215-801.001	Contracting-Computer Services	\$ 10.00	increase	under budgeted
101-269-930.000	Repair & Maintenance-Twp Grounds	\$ 1,200.71	increase	under budgeted
101-276-900.000	Printing & Publishing	\$ 166.80	increase	under budgeted
101-371-726.000	Supplies	\$ 426.00	increase	under budgeted
101-458-990.002	1845 Whitehall LLC	\$ 15.59	increase	under budgeted
		<b>\$ 2,939.40</b>		

3. Muskegon County Wastewater System Master Contract – Supervisor St. Amour stated that Attorney Eklund is reviewing the contract for a potential sewer system.
4. Board Comments – Clerk Rillema stated that the Muskegon County Apportionment Commission for 2011 was meeting on Wednesday, February 23, 2011 at 9:00 AM in the Hall of Justice.

**ADJOURNMENT –**

Motion by Treasurer Wilks, second by Trustee Bard, ***ADOPTED***, to adjourn the January 19, 2011 Regular Meeting of the Township of Fruitland at 9:24 PM.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6 AYES, 1 ABSENT**

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk  
Township of Fruitland