

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP  
WORK SESSION MEETING  
JULY 12, 2021 MINUTES**

**PRESENT** – Trustee Holman, Trustee Jeske, Treasurer Pachman, Supervisor Marcinkowski, Trustee Graham, Trustee Lundell, Clerk Fagan

**ALSO PRESENT** – (1) One interested parties

**CALL TO ORDER** - Supervisor Marcinkowski called the July 12, 2021 Work Session Meeting to order at 10:07 AM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA** - Motion by Trustee Holman, second by Trustee Graham, **ADOPTED**, to accept the amended July 12, 2021 Work Session Township Board Meeting Agenda.  
*Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried*

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – There were none.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS** –

- a. **Park and Recreation Commission update** – Herb Huch – Commissioner Huch spoke about some budget amendments the Parks and Recreation Commission has voted on to pay for a new scoreboard and an additional portable restroom for Nestrom Park.

Motion by Trustee Jeske, second by Trustee Holman, **ADOPTED**, to suspend from Roberts Rules for discussion.  
*Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried*

The Board and Commissioner Huch discussed the need for an accepted Master Plan to apply for grants and other projects. There was some confusion as to whether the Parks and Recreation Commission has a formal master plan finalized. Herb stated that the commission had discussed looking at outside companies to help with the Master Plan but also that he was told by a previous commission chairperson that the plan was done. Trustee Jeske clarified that a Master Plan has not been approved by the Township Board. Commissioner Huch expressed concerns regarding the Duck Creek Natural Area and worries that a focus on that area would be a detriment to current parks in the township.

Motion by Trustee Lundell, second by Trustee Holman, **ADOPTED**, to unsuspend from Roberts Rules for discussion.

*Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried*

- b. Letter to Muskegon Conservation District on Tree Planting Program** – Supervisor Marcinkowski has written a letter to accept 40 trees from the Muskegon Conservation District. These will be placed on Township grounds in an effort to mitigate storm water runoff.
- c. Several phone calls and emails on Gypsy Moth Caterpillars** – We continue to receive calls regarding the gypsy moth issue. Supervisor Marcinkowski shared that there will be a County wide municipal officials meeting on July 14, 2021 at 2pm at Dalton Township Hall with Rob Ribbens (County DPW) presenting.
- d. Senior Millage update** – Clerk Fagan shared that we still have not received our portion of the Senior Millage Grant and the Board may need to consider paying for the programs now and being reimbursed when the check is received.
- e. Call and email to Jennifer Venema – Tokio Marine – Risk Management Group** – Supervisor Marcinkowski spoke with Jennifer Venema to get the correct wording necessary for a signage needed at Duck Creek Natural Area and McMillan Rd.

Motion by Clerk Fagan, second by Trustee Graham, **ADOPTED**, to suspend from Roberts Rules for discussion.

*Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried*

Carlet Mitenbuler shared that there are a few ATV type vehicles that drive through Nestrom Park on a regular basis, and that she is aware they might be trapping animals at the park. She wondered if signage could be ordered to deter those activities within Nestrom Park as well.

Motion by Trustee Lundell, second by Trustee Jeske, **ADOPTED**, to unsuspend from Roberts Rules for discussion.

*Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried*

- f. Call to Morgan Carol at the Greater Muskegon Economic Development** – Supervisor Marcinkowski had a conversation with Morgan Carol to explore options for managing the American Rescue Plan funds that the township is set to receive. If the Board decides to use some of the funding for local businesses, Greater Muskegon Economic Development may be able to be used as an administrator for the funds.
- g. Duck Lake Cemetery** – Supervisor Marcinkowski has had some phone and email conversations with GVSU Anthropology and Geology to help locate the cemetery so that we can secure the boundary.
- h. Email from Drew Rayner (DNR) – Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.** Mr. Rayner is offering support to the township for educating and dealing with the HWA.
- i. ENews items** –

- i. **Town Hall meeting with District 8 County Commissioner Doug Brown – July 26 – 6 to 8PM – Township Hall**
- ii. **ARP funds - infrastructure ideas** – Supervisor Marcinkowski has reached out to the township residents via Facebook and E-News for thoughts on what it wanted/needed in the township. Many residents are requesting better internet options and a bike path along Scenic and South Shore Drive.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS –**

- a. **Duck Creek Natural Area** – Supervisor Marcinkowski is still working on finding additional companies who can establish a scope of work for the Natural Area and will schedule meetings and interviews.
- b. **Request by residents to change Board Meeting time to 7PM** – One resident has requested that the Board Meeting time be changed to 7 pm.
- c. **Technology –**
  - i. **Township Hall Phone System update** – Clerk Fagan has reached out to 2 additional companies (Google and Fuze) to get quotes and information about phone systems similar to Zoom. She has not received a response. The trial with Zoom continues to go well.
  - ii. **Township website update** – The Board discussed the four website proposals that have been received. They narrowed the choices down to three companies (STG, Wowie, and SiteTent) and the plan is to choose a proposal at the next meeting.
- d. **Ecology Station – Strategic Planning** – Supervisor Marcinkowski and Trustee Holman met with Kathy Evans of WMSRDC to start initial planning. A letter was received from resident Mike Byam confirming he may be willing to agree to the proposed land swap. He is requesting 35 acres of parcel 61-06-118-400-0001-00 as well as parcel 61-06-012-300-0007-00, a .24 acre lot on the corner of Murray Road and Starboard Drive. The Board would like to see a report on the values of those properties versus the property Mr. Byam is willing to swap.
- e. **McMillan Rd end stair and platform removal** – Supervisor Marcinkowski shared a revised quote for removal from Aggregate Excavating Logistics for \$15,000 after they revisited the site. The Board discussed that many residents have been expressing that they would like to see the stairs repaired or replaced. He also shared that the Township’s insurance company has been contacted about investigating whether this could be covered by insurance.
- f. **Scenic Drive Road End** – Supervisor Marcinkowski is working with Consumers Energy on pole and light installation. The pole location has been established. We will need a power pedestal to power camera. Supervisor is still working on quotes for cameras. Supervisor Marcinkowski also shared a Parking Area Lease that has been prepared at the request of residents John Otterbacher and Barbara Craft to continue to allow

parking and use of their property at the Scenic Drive Road End, while protecting their ownership in the property and holding them harmless.

- g. “Good Neighbor Policy” and Ordinance NO. 50** – Trustee Graham is continuing her work on this ordinance.
- h. 3905 Scenic Dr – Attorney Even** – Supervisor Marcinkowski shared the litigation filed by Attorney Even regarding the property at 3905 Scenic Drive.

**NEW BUSINESS –**

- 1. Park and Recreation Commission update** – Supervisor Marcinkowski shared information from the state of Michigan regarding upcoming funding opportunities for local parks. The Board discussed the need for the Parks and Recreation Commission to finalize their Master Plan in order to be able to apply for funding. Supervisor Marcinkowski also asked the Board to consider whether township road ends and the Duck Creek Natural Area should be under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Clerk Fagan mentioned that she was told by township employee Sally that the Board had been advised before that the Board had been told previously by the attorney that road ends should remain under the control of the Board. The Board also discussed that members of the Parks and Recreation Commission have expressed their belief that the Duck Creek Natural Area project should be put on hold, or stopped altogether, and that giving them jurisdiction of the Duck Creek Natural Area may mean that the project would not be continued.
- 2. Planning Commission update** – Trustee Holman shared some upcoming ordinance language changes and a request for a kennel permit will be reviewed at the upcoming Planning Commission meeting.
- 3. 4344 South Shore Drive** – Building Inspector Val Jensen issued a stop work order for issues with ongoing construction and not meeting permit requirements. Construction has gone above and beyond what was approved on the original permit. The **Army Corps of Engineers** sent a letter to the homeowners regarding considerable debris along the shoreline. EGLE, Muskegon County, and Muskegon County Road Commission have also been informed.
- 4. 3321 Scenic Drive – Zielinski Estate** – Supervisor Marcinkowski shared that Attorney Even has sent a letter to the estate attorney regarding the dilapidated structure citing Section R 54.03 of the Township’s Dangerous Building Demolition Ordinance.
- 5. Insurance update** – Clerk Fagan shared the yearly insurance renewal through Berends Hendricks and stated that she and Supervisor Marcinkowski would be working to update inventory lists to ensure that coverage is sufficient.
- 6. Library Lockers (interior or exterior) and WIFI (for pavilions)** – Supervisor Marcinkowski shared communication from Virginia DeMumbrum at the White Lake Library. They are applying for a grant that would provide a set of remote lockers, and she is wondering if the township would consider allowing the lockers to be installed at the township hall. Residents would be able to pick up book orders and return library books using the remote lockers. The township would need to provide a place for the lockers that included electricity and wifi access.

- 7. Electronic door locks** – Along with the library remote lockers, Supervisor Marcinkowski shared the idea of installing electronic door locks that could be opened by anyone with a particular fob. The Board agreed this may be something to look into in the future, but for now the remote lockers should be placed outside.

**PUBLIC COMMENT –**

Carlet Mitenbuler 4623 Nestrom Rd – Agreed that the Parks and Recreation Commission needs to focus on the Master Plan. Added that snowmobiles should be mentioned specifically as a type of ATV that is not allowed at the township parks when signage is made. Also expressed concern about the involvement of the Friends of Fruitland Trails and expressed the importance of making sure the neighbors of the Duck Creek Natural Area are aware of the plans.

**BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION** – Clerk Fagan shared a letter from the Liquor Control Commission that shows Kordecki Family, LLC has applied to have the licenses at the Red Rooster transferred. Trustee Jeske asked that the Board go back to using a consent agenda in the format adopted in the Policies and Procedures manual.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Trustee Holman, second by Trustee Jeske, ***ADOPTED***, to adjourn the July 12, 2021 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 1:05 PM.

*Upon Voice Vote: **ZAYES – motion carried***

Respectfully Submitted,

Breann Fagan, Clerk  
Township of Fruitland