

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 20, 2010
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Trustee Bard, Trustee Deur, Trustee Binns, Trustee Bole, Clerk Rillema, Treasurer Wilks, Supervisor St. Amour

ALSO PRESENT: Sixteen (16) interested parties.

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor St. Amour called the Monday, September 20, 2010 Regular Meeting to order at 7:03 PM and welcomed those present, led the pledge of allegiance and asked all to stand for a moment of silence.

AGENDA:

Motion by Trustee Binns, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, to accept the September 20, 2010 Regular Township Board Meeting Agenda.
Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Laura Shields, 5225 W. McMillan Road – Stated that she was disappointed in the newspaper article written about the curator and her internet reimbursement issue. Mrs. Shields also inquired about the status of McMillan Road End. She asked what is the time frame for the building of the stairway and encouraged the Board that she would like to see some movement.
2. Nick Wolting, 5677 W. McMillan Road – Stated that he has used the McMillan Road End for over 15 years and would like to see it open again for the public's use. He is willing to help get it cleaned up.
3. Nancy Lilly, 6039 Murray Road – Stated that she has lived in the township for 81 years and would like very much for the township to find a way to fund the lighthouse and keep the curator's position secure.
4. Rachel Benson, 5785 W. McMillan Road – Stated that she and her fiancé' chose to come back to the area and would like to see McMillan Road End open for everyone to use.

MINUTES:

Motion by Clerk Rillema, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to accept the August 9, 2010 Work Session Minutes and August 16, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes.
Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES

RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS:

Motion by Clerk Rillema, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to accept the Receipts of \$94,732.67 and Bank Balance and Certificate of Deposits of \$1,023,028.01 for the period of August 1, 2010 through August 31,

FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP SEPTEMBER 20, 2010 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

2010 as reported by Melissa Wilks, Fruitland Township Treasurer and approve General Fund 101 Disbursements in the amount of \$55,350.14 and Fund 140 Disbursements in the amount of \$5,510.23 for the period of August 1, 2010 through August 31, 2010, as reported by Karolyn Rillema, Fruitland Township Clerk.

Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Supervisor St. Amour stated that Commissioner Mahoney and Deputy Jake Ashker were in attendance. The State continues to work on balancing the budget. The Muskegon County Road Commission will hold its September 22, 2010 meeting here at Fruitland Township. After the MCRC meeting, a ribbon cutting for Scenic Drive will occur. Supervisor St. Amour encouraged all Board of Trustees to attend if possible. Deputy Ashker received his assignment once again as our P.I.N.S. Officer. A request for a speed sign on Scenic Drive at the corner of Scenic and Michillinda was requested. No sign is present coming from the north. The White Lake Historical Society has written a letter requesting to replace three signs in Fruitland Township. Fruitland Township will be hosting a candidate forum on September 29, 2010 at 7:00 PM. The ecology station passed its inspection on September 8, 2010 by the DNRE. Supervisor St. Amour stated that information received indicates that health insurance premiums may be on the rise.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Trustee Binns, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to appoint Betsy Grein of the Friends of the White River Light Station to the White River Light Station Citizens Advisory Committee.

Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES 1 NAY

Trustee Bard was concerned with appointing Ms. Grein due to bad publicity and poor cooperation in past discussions of fundraising for the museum and dislike for this board. Trustee Deur stated that the Friends of the White River Light Station are willing to change their bylaws and should be represented.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Clerk Rillema, **ADOPTED**, to appoint Melissa Wilks to the White Lake Fire Authority.

Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES

Trustee Deur asked Trustee Bole if his resignation from the WLFA, the ZBA and the Citizens Advisory Regulatory Ordinance Committee was permanent for the tenure of his term. Trustee Bole declined to answer. Trustee Deur stated that trustees have responsibilities of serving the community and is disappointed by his unwillingness to carry some of the load.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to appoint Penny Larson to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term of 9/20/2010 – 3/31/2011.

Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES

COMMITTEE/BOARD UPDATES:

- White Lake Ambulance Authority – Trustee Bard stated the WLAA meeting was held on August 25, 2010. There were 188 calls which are above average. Due to the increase in calls, the ambulances have needed more repairs than normal. The blood pressure clinics will continue through year end. The next meeting is scheduled for September 29, 2010.
- White Lake Fire Authority – Treasurer Wilks and Supervisor St. Amour stated that the WLFA was quoting the larger piping for the dry hydrants and reviewing their budget for adoption.
- Parks and Recreation Commission – Trustee Binns asked that changes to the Parks & Recreation Master Plan either be called or emailed to her for review at the October work session. Supervisor St. Amour stated that the Parks & Recreation Commission has given him verbal instruction to sell the old playground equipment. A request from the Parks & Recreation Commission for additional parking along Scenic Drive at Marcus Park was received. He will contact the MCRC to gain insight on this request. Supervisor St. Amour stated that he has had conversation with members of the Parks & Recreation regarding the possibility of disbanding the commission. Attorney Eklund will be instructed to write a letter to inform the commission of the necessary steps that would need to be taken.
- Planning Commission – Trustee Deur stated that the commission will be looking at the zoning map and modifying the maximum height requirements for accessory buildings and will be tasked to look at zoning ordinance for dealing with medical marijuana use in the township.
- Zoning Board of Appeals – Trustee Bole reported that the property next door was granted the variance due to the existing garage in the front yard zoning setback.
- Citizen’s Advisory Wireless Committee – Trustee Deur stated that he receive disturbing news from Frontier Communications that extended DSL coverage was slowing down due to capital shortages. Possibly in 2011 more coverage could be extended. Azulstar, a Grand Haven based company, still has not heard any news on any grant awards. Commissioner Mahoney stated that Merit Communications has received two awards to install a fiber backbone to the entire ISP but does not include residential use.
- Citizen’s Advisory Regulatory Ordinance Committee – Supervisor St. Amour stated he has put this committee on hold until after the first of the year (2011).
- Citizen’s Advisory Residential Rental Committee – Trustee Deur stated that Attorney Eklund issued his opinion but is in conflict with the information he received from the State of Michigan Building Official. Attorney Eklund was tasked to contact the State of Michigan to discuss.
- Citizen’s Advisory McMillan Road End Committee – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the Board of Trustees at this time is waiting for the ruling of the Ganges Court Case and until year end for the fundraising to close. At this time no further money will be spent at the road end.
- Fred Meijer Berry Junction Rail Trail – Supervisor St. Amour is working with Chris Hall, Supervisor of Dalton on a grant that should close the gap for funding.

FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP SEPTEMBER 20, 2010 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

- White Lake Public Advisory Council – Trustee Deur stated he had no report due to no meeting.
- WRLS Blue Ribbon Committee – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he has tried several times to make contact with Terry Pepper of the Great Lakes Lighthouse but has not been successful at this time.
- White Lake Senior Center – Clerk Rillema stated that a new director, Christi Marsh, has been hired. At this time, no letter has been received requesting funds from Fruitland Township.
- WRLS Curator Report – Curator McDonnell reported that admissions were up from last year. She has been asked to attend a gathering at Goodrich Park on September 30 and dress up in the Lighthouse Keeper uniform. Supervisor St. Amour questioned the validity of the reports that Curator McDonnell furnishes as they do not balance the general ledger. Treasurer Wilks will schedule a time to visit the lighthouse and review the WASP program with Curator McDonnell.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 5623 Murray Road – Supervisor St. Amour stated that no word has been received to date from the Appellate Court.
2. Condemnation Hearings – Supervisor St. Amour stated that 6168 & 6188 Murray Road have been issued permits for demolition of both buildings. The buildings on Nord Road have received a letter of acceptance.
3. Township Property Harvest Agreement –

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Clerk Rillema, **ADOPTED**, to instruct Supervisor St. Amour to sign the harvest agreement with Wilson Forestry.
Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES
4. Moratorium for the Sale or Dispensation of Medical Marijuana – Trustee Deur stated that the Planning Commission will be tasked to review a zoning ordinance regarding the sale or dispensation of medical marijuana
5. Ordinance Enforcement – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the owner of 1490 W. Duck Lake Road pled guilty and has until November 2, 2010 to get his property cleaned up.
6. Secretary/Receptionist Position – Treasurer Wilks stated that six applicants were interviewed and one candidate was presented to Supervisor St. Amour to conduct his interview. Supervisor St. Amour has left a message for the candidate to schedule an interview time with him.
7. Camera/Recording System – Trustee Bole stated that the Swann system presented would work for our needs at a price of \$350.00. This would include two cameras and a digital recording system. More discussion will take place at the October work session.

FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP SEPTEMBER 20, 2010 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

8. White River Light Station –

Motion by Clerk Rillema, second by Trustee Binns, **ADOPTED**, to approve the repair work of the sidewalk at the White River Light Station by Morden Construction in the amount of \$1,035.00 and gutter work by A-1 Gutter Co., LLC in the amount of \$837.00. Morden Construction will coordinate schedules with A-1 Gutter Co to complete the necessary work.

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

Supervisor St. Amour stated that he will work with the Curator to complete the deeds of donations/loan agreements in the off season. Treasurer Wilks will schedule a time with Curator McDonnell to review the WASP software that is used at the museum. Supervisor St. Amour stated that the Friends of the White River Light Station are willing to negotiate a proposal for funding of the White River Light Station.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Hazard Mitigation Plan for Muskegon County and Constituent Local Governments –

Motion by Trustee Deur, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, to instruct Supervisor St. Amour to sign the letter indicating that Fruitland Township will participate in the County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.

Upon Voice Vote: **7 AYES**

2. Sale of Township Land – Trustee Deur stated that he serves on the board of the Land Conservancy of West Michigan and a bequest of a Fruitland Township resident to have land purchased in our township could provide an opportunity to sell some of our land. A possibility may be the land off Duck Lake Road behind our maintenance building. The Board gave verbal authorization to have Trustee Deur recommend that property to the Land Conservancy Protection Company.

3. Board Comments – Treasurer Wilks reported that 93% of the summer taxes were collected at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Bole, second by Trustee Binns, **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the September 20, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Township of Fruitland at 8:30 PM.

Upon Voice Vote: **7 AYES**

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk

FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP SEPTEMBER 20, 2010 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Township of Fruitland