

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 2015
MINUTES**

PRESENT – Trustee Bard, Trustee Deur, Trustee Rissi, Clerk Rillema, Trustee Hampel, Treasurer Beegle, Supervisor St. Amour

ALSO PRESENT – (7) seven interested parties.

CALL TO ORDER – Supervisor St. Amour called the Tuesday, February 17, 2015 Regular Meeting to order at 5:00 PM. The pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence was observed.

AGENDA – Supervisor St. Amour asked to amend the agenda by adding New Business #4.5 – Resolution 2015-13 Northside Water System Refunding Contract.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to accept the amended February 17, 2015 Regular Township Board Meeting Agenda.

Upon Voice Vote: **7 AYES – motion carried**

PUBLIC COMMENT –

- 1) Greg Kruse, 5617 South Shore Drive 1973 – questioned the Board of Trustees why the Pledge of Allegiance is not recited at its work sessions.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2015-2016 BUDGET

Supervisor St. Amour opened the public hearing for the proposed 2015-2016 Budget at 5:04 PM. Supervisor St. Amour briefly discussed the proposed Revenues and Expenditures for Fund 101 is a balanced budget. He explained that up to a 1.75% wage increase is proposed for hourly employees and elected officials.

PUBLIC HEARING PUBLIC COMMENT – There was no public comment.

BOARD COMMENTS – Trustee Deur asked if any additional funds were going to be added to possibly cover an overlap with a new zoning administrator. Supervisor St. Amour stated that he would be looking into that. Trustee Bard spoke about the 2012 quote for Assessing from the County. Dept. 209 Assessor has seen no changes in the past 3 years and is currently very comparable to the old quote. Treasurer Beegle expressed her concerns with contracting with the County because of the dependency her department has with the Assessing department. Trustee Bard also stated that she could not justify a 1.75% increase in any wages other than maybe for the Supervisor because of his efforts with the White Lake Ambulance Authority. Supervisor St. Amour stated that he would most likely be recommending the removal of the Joint Planning Commission fee under Dept. 101 Contracting – Community Planning of \$1000.00 but will know more after a meeting this week.

The public hearing closed at 5:12 PM.

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SPECIAL GUEST – Captain Pete McCarthy of the White Lake Fire Authority spoke to the Board of Trustees on the upcoming February millage election. The millage funds would be used to construct a new fire station #1 off White Lake Drive and renovate station #2 off Duck Lake Road.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Rissi, **ADOPTED**, to suspend for open floor comments at 5:20 PM for audience members to speak about the upcoming millage with Captain McCarthy.

Upon Voice Vote: **7 AYES – motion carried**

- 1) Herb Huch, 4272 Gibson Road – Does not support the upcoming millage request and would like to Fire Authority to stretch what it has to continue fire service in Fruitland Township.
- 2) Gee Achterhoff, 4330 Duck Lake Road – Concerned about the additional mills which would more than double her taxes for the WLFA. Residents on fixed incomes will be more strapped with the huge millage.
- 3) Henry Miel, 4395 Duck Lake Road – Concerned with how the funds would be spent and thought it was a volunteer authority with no paid fulltime staff.
- 4) Greg Kruse, 5617 South Shore Drive 1973 – Experienced three times in one week, both fire and ambulance authority in his neighborhood. Appreciates the need but at what cost for the health, safety and welfare of the people.
- 5) Trustee Bard – Concerned about the double dipping of both the fire and ambulance authority responding to the same call.
- 6) Trustee Rissi – If millage is successful, when would Station #2 be manned. Currently Station #2 is manned after 5 PM to 7 AM. If millage is successful, it would not be manned at all.
- 7) Trustee Hampel – Inquired about square mileage of fire authority – 54 square miles.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to close open floor comments at 5:43 PM.

Upon Voice Vote: **7 AYES – motion carried**

The Board of Trustees thanked Captain McCarthy for his presentation.

MINUTES –

Motion by Clerk Rillema, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, to accept the January 12, 2015 Work Session Minutes and January 20, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Upon Voice Vote: **7 AYES – motion carried**

RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS –

Motion by Treasurer Beegle, second by Trustee Rissi, **ADOPTED**, to accept the Receipts of \$126,447.20 and Bank Balance and Certificate of Deposits of \$1,118,718.29 for the period of January 1, 2015 through January 31, 2015 as reported by Melissa Beegle, Fruitland Township Treasurer and approve General Fund 101 Disbursements in the amount of \$95,504.61 and Public Works Fund 130 Disbursements in the amount of \$472.32 for the period of January 1, 2015 through January 31, 2015 as reported by Karolyn Rillema, Fruitland Township Clerk.

Upon Voice Vote: **7 AYES – motion carried**

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ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he received the 2013-14 MCRC Annual Report and will ask the Clerk to place on file.

COMMITTEE/BOARD UPDATES –

- Parks & Recreation Commission – Trustee Hampel stated that she has emailed all members of the Parks & Recreation Commission regarding their amending master plan with hopes that at their March meeting a schedule will be finalized for steps in completion.

OLD BUSINESS –

1. Board Sub Committees –

- Fee, Permit, Escrow Schedules –

Motion by Trustee Deur, second by Treasurer Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to amend Resolution 2015-01 to amend the Fee, Permit and Escrow Deposit Schedule effective April 1, 2015.

Roll Call Vote: Trustee Bard **NAY**, Trustee Deur **AYE**, Trustee Rissi **AYE**, Clerk Rillema **AYE**, Treasurer Beegle **AYE**, Trustee Hampel **AYE**, Supervisor St. Amour **AYE**

- Ecology Station Fees –

Motion by Supervisor St. Amour, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, Resolution 2015-12 to amend the fee schedule for the Ecology Station effective April 1, 2015.

Roll Call Vote: Trustee Hampel **AYE**, Treasurer Beegle **AYE**, Clerk Rillema **AYE**, Trustee Rissi **AYE**, Trustee Deur **AYE**, Trustee Bard **AYE**, Supervisor St. Amour **AYE**

NEW BUSINESS -

1. 2015-16 Salaries –

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION NO. 2015-02
ESTABLISH SUPERVISOR SALARY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 / 2016**

WHEREAS, The Township of Fruitland, County of Muskegon, is a general law township established in 1869; and

WHEREAS, The electorate of the Township of Fruitland, County of Muskegon, elected a Supervisor at a General Election, held November 6, 2012, in accordance with the Election Law of the State of Michigan, to fulfill the duties and responsibilities established by Statutes of the State of Michigan and the Township of Fruitland ; and

WHEREAS, The Township of Fruitland does not hold an Annual Meeting; and

WHEREAS, The Township of Fruitland has not adopted an Ordinance to Establish a Salary Compensation Committee;

THEREFORE, LET IT NOW BE RESOLVED, that this resolution identifies the authority of the members of the Fruitland Township Board to determine the salaries of the elected officials, in compliance with MCLA 41.95 (3), and

Motion by Supervisor St. Amour , second by Treasurer Beegle, **ADOPTED** , Resolution 2015-02 to approve Supervisor Salary for fiscal year 2015 – 2016.

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

“**AYE**”: Trustee Deur, Trustee Rissi, Clerk Rillema, Treasurer Beegle, Trustee Hampel, Supervisor St. Amour
“**NAY**”: Trustee Bard
“**ABSENT**”: None

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, as of April 1, 2015, the salary of the Supervisor for the Township of Fruitland shall be established at a proper level of \$33,978.21 for the Fiscal Year of April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016.

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk
Township of Fruitland

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION NO. 2015-03
ESTABLISH CLERK SALARY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 / 2016**

WHEREAS, The Township of Fruitland, County of Muskegon, is a general law township established in 1869; and
WHEREAS, The electorate of the Township of Fruitland, County of Muskegon, elected a Clerk at a General Election, held November 6, 2012, in accordance with the Election Law of the State of Michigan, to fulfill the duties and responsibilities established by Statutes of the State of Michigan and the Township of Fruitland ; and
WHEREAS, The Township of Fruitland does not hold an Annual Meeting; and
WHEREAS, The Township of Fruitland has not adopted an Ordinance to Establish a Salary Compensation Committee;
THEREFORE, LET IT NOW BE RESOLVED, that this resolution identifies the authority of the members of the Fruitland Township Board to determine the salaries of the elected officials, in compliance with MCLA 41.95 (3), and

Motion by Supervisor St. Amour, second by Treasurer Beegle, **ADOPTED**, Resolution 2015-03 to approve Clerk Salary for fiscal year 2015 – 2016.

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

“**AYE**”: Trustee Deur, Trustee Rissi, Clerk Rillema, Treasurer Beegle, Trustee Hampel, Supervisor St. Amour
“**NAY**”: Trustee Bard
“**ABSENT**”: None

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, as of April 1, 2015, the salary of the Clerk for the Township of Fruitland shall be established at a proper level of \$33,978.21 as a base salary for the Fiscal Year of April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016.

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk
Township of Fruitland

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION NO. 2015-04
ESTABLISH TREASURER SALARY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 / 2016**

WHEREAS, The Township of Fruitland, County of Muskegon, is a general law township established in 1869; and
WHEREAS, The electorate of the Township of Fruitland, County of Muskegon, elected a Treasurer at a General Election, held November 6, 2012, in accordance with the Election Law of the State of Michigan, to fulfill the duties and responsibilities established by Statutes of the State of Michigan and the Township of Fruitland ; and
WHEREAS, The Township of Fruitland does not hold an Annual Meeting; and
WHEREAS, The Township of Fruitland has not adopted an Ordinance to Establish a Salary Compensation Committee;
THEREFORE, LET IT NOW BE RESOLVED, that this resolution identifies the authority of the members of the Fruitland Township Board to determine the salaries of the elected officials, in compliance with MCLA 41.95 (3), and

Motion by Supervisor St. Amour, second by Trustee Rissi, **ADOPTED**, Resolution 2015-04 to approve Treasurer Salary for fiscal year 2015 – 2016.

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

“**AYE**”: Trustee Deur, Trustee Rissi, Clerk Rillema, Treasurer Beegle, Trustee Hampel, Supervisor St. Amour
“**NAY**”: Trustee Bard
“**ABSENT**”: None

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, as of April 1, 2015, the salary of the Treasurer for the Township of Fruitland shall be established at a proper level of \$33,978.21 for base salary with both winter and summer tax collection, for the Fiscal Year of April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016.

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Karolyn Rillema, Clerk
Township of Fruitland

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION NO. 2015-05
ESTABLISH TRUSTEE SALARY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 / 2016**

- WHEREAS,** The Township of Fruitland, County of Muskegon, is a general law township established in 1869; and
- WHEREAS,** The electorate of the Township of Fruitland, County of Muskegon, elected four Trustees at a General Election, held November 6, 2012, in accordance with the Election Law of the State of Michigan, to fulfill the duties and responsibilities established by Statutes of the State of Michigan and the Township of Fruitland ; and
- WHEREAS,** The Township of Fruitland does not hold an Annual Meeting; and
- WHEREAS,** The Township of Fruitland has not adopted an Ordinance to Establish a Salary Compensation Committee;

THEREFORE, LET IT NOW BE RESOLVED, that this resolution identifies the authority of the members of the Fruitland Township Board to determine the salaries of the elected officials, in compliance with MCLA 41.95 (3), and

Motion by Supervisor St. Amour, second by Treasurer Beegle, **FAILED**, Resolution 2015-05 to approve Trustee Salary for fiscal year 2015 – 2016.

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

- “**AYE**”: Treasurer Beegle, Clerk Rillema, Supervisor St. Amour
- “**NAY**”: Trustee Hampel, Trustee Rissi, Trustee Deur, Trustee Bard
- “**ABSENT**”: None

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, as of April 1, 2015, the salary of each of the Trustees for the Township of Fruitland shall be established at a proper level of \$3,892.74 for the Fiscal Year of April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016.

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk
Township of Fruitland

2. 4th Quarter 2014-15 Budget Amendments –

Motion by Clerk Rillema, second by Treasurer Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to authorize the Clerk to make the January 2014-15 Budget Amendments as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Trustee Bard **AYE**, Trustee Deur **AYE**, Trustee Rissi **AYE**, Clerk Rillema **AYE**, Treasurer Beegle **AYE**, Trustee Hampel **AYE**, Supervisor St. Amour **AYE**

3. Support for White River Township –

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION 2015-11
SUPPORT FOR WHITE RIVER TOWNSHIP**

- WHEREAS,** the White River Township Board purchased Lake Michigan pristine barrier dunes in 1986 naming such as the White River Township Barrier Dune Sanctuary, and
- WHEREAS,** the Board has worked tirelessly to prevent road access across the White River Barrier Dune Sanctuary, and
- WHEREAS,** the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has denied such access three times; 2001, 2003 and 2013, and
- WHEREAS,** the Board is now applying for a Michigan Natural Resource Land Trust Grant to purchase this property, and
- WHEREAS,** the White River Township Board has pledged funds to cover the one quarter match required by the Michigan Natural Resource Land Trust Fund to purchase this property,

THEREFORE, we support the White River Township in their efforts to obtain a Michigan Natural Resource Land Trust Fund Grant.

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Motion by Supervisor St. Amour, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, Resolution 2015-11 to support White River Township to obtain a Michigan Natural Resource Land Trust Fund Grant for its barrier dune sanctuary.

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

“**AYE**”: Trustee Deur, Trustee Rissi, Clerk Rillema, Treasurer Beegle, Trustee Hampel, Supervisor St. Amour

“**NAY**”: Trustee Bard

“**ABSENT**”: None

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Fruitland Township **ADOPTED** Resolution 2015-11 to support White River Township at its Regular Meeting of the Fruitland Township Board at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, February 17, 2015.

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk
Township of Fruitland

4. Board Comments – Trustee Bard reaffirmed that she does not favor the millage for the White Lake Fire Authority. Trustee Deur stated that he has had recent conversation with Duke Yeager of Verizon and no cause for concern is needed regarding the completion of the wireless tower as the environmental study was interrupted with the winter weather. The study will be completed when weather permits. Trustee Deur also stated that a town hall meeting on Legal Non-Conforming Uses in the Inland Lakes Zoning District will be held during the next planning commission meeting on March 4, 2015 at 6 PM. Clerk Rillema stated that the special election will be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2015. Treasurer Beegle reported that as of noon, 96% of winter taxes were collected.

ADJOURNMENT –

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Hampel, **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the February 17, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Township of Fruitland at 6:20 PM.

*Upon Voice Vote: **7 AYES – motion carried***

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk
Township of Fruitland