

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 21, 2016 MINUTES**

**PRESENT** - Trustee Bard, Trustee Deur, Trustee Cisneros, Clerk Rillema, Treasurer Beegle, Trustee Hampel

**ALSO PRESENT** – (14) fourteen interested parties.

**ABSENT:** Supervisor St. Amour

Motion by Trustee Deur, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, to have Clerk Rillema serve as chairman pro-tem due to Supervisor St. Amour's absence.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6AYES, 1 ABSENT – motion carried**

**AGENDA –**

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to accept the March 21, 2016 Regular Township Board Meeting Agenda.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6AYES, 1 ABSENT – motion carried**

**PUBLIC COMMENT –**

- 1) Greg Kruse, 5671 S. Shore Drive – Read from a police report dated November 16, 2015 for a dispatch to Fruitland Township from a phone call from Supervisor St. Amour regarding Mr. Kruse. Also stated that our January 2016 minutes were missing some information.

**PUBLIC HEARING – Zellar Road Special Assessment District**

Clerk Rillema opened the public hearing on the proposed Zellar Road Special Assessment District at 5:05 PM. Clerk Rillema briefed the board and audience members of the project and introduced Muskegon County Road Commission Highway Engineer Paul Bouman to explain the project and be available for questions. Paul Bouman stated that this project is federally funded for the paving but the funding for the drainage issues in this area falls on the residents/township. He explained that the failed culverts both in product and placement need to be changed out and that falls on the responsibility of a property owner. The township will be responsible for the cleanout of ditches, removal of the culverts and driveway repair once the culverts have been replaced. The cost of the culvert piping is approximately \$13,997.00 which is being proposed as a special assessment to the residents between Lakewood Road and Michillinda Road by frontage along Zellar Road. Because this project is federally funded, there are additional requirements necessary. The MCRC will be absorbing the additional cost of end caps necessary for each culvert at a cost of approximately \$9,700.00.

**PUBLIC COMMENT –**

- 1) Chris Sorauf, 4099 Dame Road – inquired about material cost for culvert vs frontage as he only has one culvert. Stated he would be paying \$4,000.00 for this project for only having one culvert. MCRC Engineer Bouman responded that costs for the culvert are only for the pipe itself, that the township will be absorbing the removal/replacement, cleanout of ditching and driveway repair costs. Clerk Rillema responded that the township board agreed that all in this one mile stretch would benefit so they priced for frontage along Zellar Road versus culvert replacement only per property owner.
- 2) Deb Corsi, 5747 Zellar Road – stated she doesn't like the culverts because they are hard to mow and keep clean. Asked if they would be any deeper. Doesn't remember the culverts being so full in years past. Asked Paul Bouman if with the first phase of Zellar Road being improved if those residents also had to pay to have culverts replaced. MCRC Engineer Bouman responded that the ditches have existed since 1906 in which they are necessary to route the water from road drainage and high water table away from the area or additional flooding would occur. No driveway culverts in the first phase of Zellar Road improvement needed to be replaced so no residents were special assessed. They did replace road culverts at intersections but that was absorbed by the MCRC.
- 3) Brian Short, 5563 Zellar Road – stated he is not opposed to the drainage improvement but inquired to Paul Bouman the costs for the first phase of Zellar Road (White Lake Drive to Lakewood) compared to the costs for this proposed project. Also wondered about a road study as Zellar Road is a highly traveled road. MCRC Engineer Bouman did not have the costs for the first phase but will get back to him with those costs. MCRC Engineer Bouman stated that a road study shows 1800-2000 cars a day travel Zellar Road which isn't considered heavy compared to other roads in the county.
- 4) Linda Sorauf, 4099 Dame Road – inquired with the Board of Trustees a time frame for payment of such assessment and asked about start time for this project this summer as they run a 6-8 week blueberry farm in which patrons would need to be able to travel to their farm site. The Board responded that discussion of length of assessment had not been decided but is looking for suggestions from those in the proposed district but a one or two year would seem appropriate. MCRC Engineer Bouman responded as to start date that bids were expected sometime in April. The project is expected to last approximately 3 weeks. Residents in that area would be able to get in and out of their driveways but may be disrupted when their particular culvert/ditch is being repaired. Additional signage could be posted to educate patrons how to access the farm site.
- 5) Karen Belrose, 5971 Zellar Road – inquired if any ditching would be necessary along her frontage as she has not standing water for any length of time. MCRC Engineer Bouman responded that no additional ditching would be necessary but cleaning out certain areas may occur.

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- 6) Matt Johnson, 2936 Nestrom Road – thanked the Board of Trustees and MCRC for keeping the road end at Nestrom open. Clerk Rillema reminded Mr. Johnson that this was the public hearing public comment for the proposed Special Assessment District for Zellar Road Improvement project but accepted his comment.

Public hearing was closed at 5:46 PM.

Clerk Rillema stated that after hearing the public comments that additional conversation regarding the assessment would take place at the work session in April. A resolution if the project is approved would be discussed at the regular meeting in April. Trustee Bard stated that she felt a two year assessment would benefit those property owners with a higher assessment. Trustee Cisneros concurred with Trustee Bard's comments. Trustee Deur explained the board's deliberated on either culvert or frontage but felt that all the property owners in that district would benefit overall. He too felt a two year assessment would be desirable. Treasurer Beegle abstained from comment. Trustee Hampel felt that assessing by frontage was the most beneficial for all involved.

### MINUTES –

Motion by Clerk Rillema, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, to accept the February 8, 2016 Work Session Minutes, February 16, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes and February 23, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes.

*Upon Voice Vote: **6 AYES, 1 ABSENT – motion carried***

### RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS –

Motion by Treasurer Beegle, second by Trustee Cisneros, **ADOPTED**, to accept the Receipts of 218,813.56 and Bank Balance and Certificate of Deposits of \$1,460,369.40 for the period of February 1, 2016 through February 29, 2016 as reported by Melissa Beegle, Fruitland Township Treasurer and approve General Fund 101 Disbursements in the amount of \$40,985.45 for the period of February 1, 2016 through February 29, 2016 as reported by Karolyn Rillema, Fruitland Township Clerk.

*Upon Voice Vote: **6 AYES, 1 ABSENT – motion carried***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS** – There were no announcements.

### CONSENT AGENDA –

Motion by Treasurer Beegle, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to renew the following persons to the various boards/committees:  
Val Jensen II (non-voting member), Planning Commission term ending 3/31/17

Thomas Thompson, Planning Commission term ending 3/31/19

Willie Josephson, Planning Commission, term ending 3/31/19

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Jan Deur (ex-officio Trustee), Planning Commission term ending 11/20/16  
Eileen Stoffan, Zoning Board of Appeals term ending 3/31/19  
Upon Voice Vote: **6 AYES, 1 ABSENT – motion carried**

**COMMITTEE/BOARD UPDATES –**

- Planning Commission – Trustee Deur stated that a public hearing will be held on April 7, 2016 at 6:30 PM on Special Land Use language for historic resorts within the township. He encouraged all Board of Trustees to attend.

**OLD BUSINESS –**

1. 2016-17 Budget Discussion – Clerk Rillema stated that she added back in the lease amount for the Fire Barn under Revenues and increased the PINS program to reflect Fruitland Township going 100% under Department 301. The budget adoption meeting will be Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at 10:00 AM here at the township hall. Trustee Deur asked if under the Fire Barn Revenues that “potential sale” be stricken. Clerk Rillema will remove. It is a balanced budget and there was no further comment on the proposed budget.
2. 2016-17 Trustee Salary –

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP  
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-06(a)  
ESTABLISH TRUSTEE SALARY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 / 2017**

- 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 Clerk Rillema, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED,** Resolution 2016-06(a) to approve Trustee Salary for fiscal year 2016 – 2017.

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

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** as of April 1, 2016, the salary of each of the Trustees for the Township of Fruitland shall be established at a proper level of \$3,825.78 for the Fiscal Year of April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017.

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk  
Township of Fruitland

**NEW BUSINESS –**

1. February Budget Amendments –

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Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to authorize Clerk Rillema to make the February 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2015-16 Budget Amendments as presented.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6 AYES, 1 ABSENT – motion carried**

2. Board Comments – Trustee Hampel inquired to Trustee Deur regarding the upcoming district meeting for the Quality of Life millage discussion. Trustee Deur stated that District 8's meeting is scheduled on March 29, 2016 at 7:00 PM hosted by Laketon Township. He explained that the Muskegon County Commissioners are gathering input from all local municipalities to possibly postpone putting the Quality of Life millage on an upcoming ballot to discuss the potential of creating a recreational authority for Muskegon County as the need for recreation development was overwhelmingly submitted from all municipalities in the county. He encouraged all residents and board members to attend.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Treasurer Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the March 21, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Township of Fruitland at 6:03 PM.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6 AYES, 1 ABSENT – motion carried**

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk  
Township of Fruitland