

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
WORK SESSION
DECEMBER 10, 2018 MINUTES**

PRESENT: Trustee Hampel, Trustee Bard, Trustee Holman, Treasurer Beegle, Clerk Rillema, Supervisor Jeske, Trustee Cisneros

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Kevin Even and two (2) interested parties.

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Jeske called the December 10, 2018 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland Board to order at 10:00 AM at the township hall and led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA: Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Treasurer Beegle, **ADOPTED** to accept the December 10, 2018 work session agenda.
Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES - motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- 1) James Pitney, 3674 Scenic Woods Circle E – encouraged the board to not allow the sale of the class one drug – specifically Marijuana in the township as it is still a Federal offense.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS: There were none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1) Proposed Recreational Marijuana Ordinance – Supervisor Jeske stated that Attorney Even has prepared Article R18 – Prohibition of Marijuana Establishments. The board discussed the proposed language for adoption.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Resolution 2018-13 – Opposition to Senate Bill 396 – Supervisor Jeske shared the proposed resolution opposing Senate Bill 396 which would allow exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (frost laws) to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads. The board opposes the bill.
- 2) Real Property Exemption Policy – Supervisor Jeske stated that Assessor Bowen recommends adopting the proposed real property exemption policy. Assessor Bowen's AMAR audit will now include having a policy in place in the spring audit of 2019.
- 3) Ordinance Amendment – Article R7 – Cemetery Ordinance – Clerk Rillema along with the review by Attorney Even has added the necessary language to Article R7 to allow for the inurnment of ashes in a monument or headstone. The Fee, Permit and Escrow Schedule will need to be amended to include a documentation fee of \$25.00 for internal office costs for burial recordkeeping. Trustee Bard commented that she would like the ground maintenance – Section R7.08, items I and J enforced. The board agreed and will work with our Maintenance Supervisor in the spring. Changeover in the maintenance department has been difficult for consistency but will hopefully improve with our current employee.

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BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION: Treasurer Beegle received the calculations for payoffs for the three drain district assessments to the township which total \$69,511.59. Paying these off now will save approximately \$20,000.00 in interest over the 7-10 year assessment period. The board agreed that these should be paid off. Treasurer Beegle also stated that another item that may be forthcoming out of the Assessor's 2019 AMAR audit is the amount of land a township owns and how it is used by the public. She asked the board to consider the possibility of vacating the Lakewood lots platted area to make them sellable and buildable to get them back on the tax roll. GIS Administrator Tom Van Bruggen is currently creating a map to identify the lots owned by the township. Attorney Even said it is possible but would need involvement of all parcel owners in the platted area to do so which would include Dalton Township. Treasurer Beegle was tasked by the board to continue with this process. Supervisor Jeske attended a meeting with Director James Koens of Muskegon Area Transit, in which the discussion of MATS' financial shortfall was discussed. MATS is looking for financial support from the jurisdictions their bus routes go through but the board is not interested in contributing for the three stops within the township. Supervisor Jeske reported that the Muskegon County Wastewater System group has approved a Memorandum of Understanding for the abundance of fund balance in the account. She also stated that the Northside Water Policy board has agreed to open the contract for changes. Clerk Rillema stated that she would like Attorney Even to review any and all changes proposed. Supervisor Jeske met with WRLS Curator Matt Varnum and SPLKA Director Peter Manting. The WRLS had its highest attendance this past summer which they credit the accessibility into the newly renovated outbuilding as a contributor. Clerk Rillema stated that the Wireless Citizen's Advisory Committee chaired by former Trustee Jan Deur will be meeting after the first of the year to review areas within the township that do not have broadband service. Any recommendations from this group will be discussed by the board of trustees. She also updated the board on the Duck Creek Natural Area that Attorney Even is awaiting language additions and/or corrections on the potential easement from the West Michigan Land Conservancy on the Duck Lake Road property. Trustee Hampel stated that she may be missing the two January meetings due to being out of the state.

Motion by Treasurer Beegle, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**,
to adjourn the December 10, 2018 Work Session at 10:55 AM.
Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES - motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk
Township of Fruitland