

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
WORK SESSION
JUNE 12, 2017 MINUTES**

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

ABSENT: Trustee Holman

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

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Jeske called the Monday, June 12, 2017 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** the June 12, 2017 work session agenda.
*Upon Voice Vote: **6 AYES, 1 ABSENT - motion carried***

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

SPECIAL GUEST: Muskegon County Drain Commissioner Brenda Moore was in attendance and gave an update on the Saxe Drain. She stated that the project will require two new culverts at Bard Road near the Hyde Park Intersection, proposing another replacement culvert on Hyde Park Road, some drainage clean out only where there is sediment build-up and/or inadequate flow conditions, obtained 11 easements, obtained a DEQ permit, several private culvert replacements, drain banks to be stabilized with rip-rap or vegetation to prevent erosion, utilize J-hooks, riffles and meandering of the channel to meet MDEQ standards and stabilize the two drain outlets to Duck Creek with energy dissipation measures to prevent erosion and sedimentation into the creek. No project price was available. She will be scheduling a day of review in the near future. Questions of the board were: cost of the 11 easements and number of parcels in the district. Drain Commissioner will forward those answers to the Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS:

Clerk Rillema stated that the Public Open House for the Duck Creek Natural Area is scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at the township hall from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM. All are invited to attend. Clerk Rillema also received an email from Warren Zimostrad of the Muskegon Conservation District requesting the township renew the Mute Swan Control Program which was implemented back in 2012. The Board of Trustees supports this program. A Resolution will be drafted for the Monday Regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Muskegon Recreation Partnership – Representative Jan Deur shared the draft Articles of Incorporation of the Greater Muskegon Recreation Partnership. He shared that Muskegon County Public Works Director, Matt Farrar, has replaced grant coordinator, Connie Maxim-Sparrow for this project which is of concern to the Board of Trustees. At this time, no TIGRE grant is available. The Board of Trustees tasked Trustee Deur to attend another meeting but does not wish to take any action on the Articles of Incorporation at this time.
2. Ecology Station 2nd Attendant – Supervisor Jeske stated that Jerry Stafford has been hired to assist Attendant Sorenson at the Ecology Station on Saturdays through the summer months. Inquiry of when the attendant’s shed will be finished was asked – Supervisor Jeske will ask Trustee Holman who was assisting with that project.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. White Lake Community Library Board – Representative Tom Grein of the White Lake Community Library resigned on April 26, 2017. Former representative Ruth Duncan is interested in fulfilling that vacancy. A motion will be prepared for the Monday Regular meeting.
2. Muskegon County Tax Foreclosure Property – Treasurer Beegle received notification that a parcel on Simonelli Road near River Road was available through the tax sale. Fruitland Township does not own any contiguous property near that parcel. The Board of Trustees is not interested in purchasing.
3. Korthase & Sons Lighting Enhancement (Consumers Energy) Agreement – Supervisor Jeske received a quote from Korthase and Sons whom are a certified Consumer’s Energy Rebate vendor for the Lighting Enhancement Rebate Program. Total cost for the project is \$7,500.00 with a \$2,500.00 rebate from Consumer’s Energy. Although a couple of ballasts have been replaced over the past few years, the lighting throughout the township hall is being phased out. The Board of Trustees favored the rebate program. A motion will be prepared for the Monday Regular meeting.
4. Request to purchase 20 acres of Township Land – Supervisor Jeske received a letter of interest in purchasing Fruitland Township property – parcel #61-06-132-300-0003-00 which is near Nestrom Road/Scenic Drive. She disclosed that the inquirer, Justin McKee, is a friend of her family’s. Attorney Even suggested that an appraisal of the land be paid for by the purchaser to gain the appraised value. The Board of Trustees supported selling the property. Attorney Even will draft an agreement for Supervisor Jeske to present to Mr. McKee to review.
5. Amend Fruitland Township’s Asset Requirements – Treasurer Beegle explained that our current Asset Requirements for the Poverty Exemption should be amended by adding item (3) Under no circumstances shall a hardship exemption be granted to any applicant

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who owns any interest in marketable buildable real estate in addition to their principle residence. Assessor Bowen suggested adding this language after her review.

6. Lincoln Golf Course Settlement Agreement – Attorney Even stated that Lincoln Golf Club filed with the Michigan Tax Tribunal for a lower assessed value. Assessor Bowen investigated costs to challenge the value and informed Clerk Rillema that the cost for an appraisal paid by the township would be in upwards of \$4,500.00. Assessor Bowen would like to settle the case with Lincoln Golf Club before it would go to the tribunal and not pay for an appraisal. The Board of Trustees agreed to settle.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Treasurer Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to authorize Assessor Bowen to settle Tax Tribunal No. 16-002076, Tax Parcel No: 06-113-100-0005-00 (Lincoln Golf Club) on behalf of Fruitland Township.

Roll Call Vote: Treasurer Beegle **AYE**, Trustee Cisneros **AYE**, Clerk Rillema **AYE**, Trustee Bard **AYE**, Trustee Hampel **AYE**, Supervisor Jeske **AYE**, Trustee Holman **ABSENT- motion carried**

7. Fire Code Ordinance Amendment – Treasurer Beegle stated that the White Lake Fire Authority is requesting the township to adopt the 2015 edition of the International Fire Code. Supervisor Jeske prepared Ordinance NO. 136 showing the changes to Article 58 Fire Code. There was some question regarding Section R58.03 Changes to Fire Code Appendix D: pertaining to Private Street Standards. The Board of Trustees would like to defer back to the Planning Commission to review and make suggestion on this topic. Supervisor Jeske will forward the information on to recording secretary, Sally Dion, to add to their next meeting's agenda.

BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:

Supervisor Jeske stated that she is seeking quotes for the removal of dead trees at the Fruitland Township Cemetery. These trees were reported in our Risk Assessment report performed last October by our Michigan Par Plan Representative. Supervisor Jeske reported that she would like to hire a Part-time Maintenance Supervisor for approximately 32 hours a week. The work load has become too much for our current employee and our seasonal worker has not been able to work as much the last few years due to other conflicts. The work load is just not getting accomplished. Discussion of wage and benefits such as retirement, PTO and vacation were discussed. The ad will be placed in the White Lake Beacon for 32 hours, \$15.00 an hour and PTO/vacation time will be negotiable. Trustee Hampel inquired about her interest in attending the Trustee's Professional Development Retreat – August 5-6, 2017 in Frankenmuth, Michigan at a cost of \$299.00 per person. She will not need housing as she will be staying with a friend. Supervisor Jeske stated that she had signed up for the Supervisor's Professional Development Retreat – July 27-28, 2017 also being held in Frankenmuth, Michigan at a cost of \$299.00 per person. She will need housing. A motion will be prepared for the Monday Regular meeting. Clerk Rillema stated that our current computer policy names former Trustee Jan Deur as the backup IT Administrator. She would like to remove Jan and add Treasurer Beegle as the

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backup. A motion will be prepared for the Monday Regular meeting. Clerk Rillema also stated that Supervisor Jeske, Treasurer Beegle and herself attended the mediation for the White Lake Ambulance Authority on May 16th. No settlement was obtained. Attorney Even has scheduled depositions with WLAA accountant Terry Vanderleest, WLAA current & former board members, Mike Cockerill, Dennis Atchison and Scott Huebler for June 27th & 28th in which he would like Fruitland Township representation in attendance. Both Clerk Rillema and Treasurer Beegle are planning on attending.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Supervisor Jeske, **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the June 12, 2017 work session at Noon.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk
Township of Fruitland