

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD  
WORK SESSION  
OCTOBER 14, 2014  
MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Trustee Rissi, Trustee Bard, Trustee Deur, Clerk Rillema, Supervisor St. Amour, Trustee Hampel

**ABSENT:** Treasurer Beegle

**ALSO PRESENT:** Attorney Even and one (1) interested parties.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor St. Amour called the Tuesday, October 14, 2014 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland Board to order at 10:00 AM at the township hall.

**AGENDA:** Trustee Deur asked to amend the agenda by adding under New Business #9.5 Signs.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to accept the amended October 14, 2014 Work Session Agenda.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supervisor St. Amour stated that a political forum will be held here at the township hall on October 23, 2014 at 6:00 PM. A newly formed Fred Meijer West Michigan Regional Trail Network Maintenance Fund committee will be meeting on October 16, 2014 at 10:00 am in Walker Michigan to discuss fund reimbursement process for trail maintenance. The Muskegon County Juvenile Transition Center will be holding a ribbon cutting ceremony on October 16, 2014 at 2:30 PM.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Buzz's Lakeside Inn – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the Muskegon County Road Commission recently did some extensive tree removal/trimming at the Scenic Drive Road End. He received a phone call from the owner of Buzz's Lakeside Inn regarding the potential to improve on parking signage at the road end. Supervisor St. Amour will be meeting with Mark Timmer of the MCRC to discuss ideas.
2. White Lake Fire Authority – Supervisor St. Amour stated that surveys will be conducted at the expense of the WLFA for both the Dock Road End for an emergency launch and potential sale of Station #2 if a millage is approved next year.
3. Coal Tar Sealcoating Update – A resolution to eliminate the use of coal tar seal coat on township owned property and discourage the public from using and educating residents on the risks of coal tar seal coats will be presented at the Monday Regular meeting.
4. White Lake Ambulance Authority – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he requested information from Director Dresen has gone unanswered. An invoice was also received from the WLAA in the amount of \$23,091.00 listed as a deficit. The board remains concerned

## FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP OCTOBER 14, 2014 WORK SESSION MINUTES

about the lack of financial/management running of the authority. Attorney Even will FOIA information regarding backup of the invoice and other financial information necessary to determine the validity of the invoice. Supervisor St. Amour stated that he received several calls regarding payroll being unavailable to WLAA staff members which is also a concern. Other municipalities need to come on board to tackle these deficiencies.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Duck Creek Watershed Link – Trustee Hampel stated that the Duck Creek Watershed was interested in having a URL link on our website. Clerk Rillema investigated with IT Right about the adding of such link. The Board of Trustees favored such link as an addition on our website. Supervisor St. Amour will contact the watershed group to inform them.
2. 2014-15 Budget Amendments – Clerk Rillema stated that a motion will be prepared for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2014-15 Budget Amendments for the Monday Regular meeting.
3. Five Township 2014-15 Scrap Tire Clean-Up – Supervisor St. Amour stated that Laketon Township is willing to host this event again. A resolution will be presented at the Monday Regular meeting.
4. FOIA Denials –

Motion by Clerk Rillema, second by Trustee Deur, to affirm the FOIA coordinator's determinations of Mr. Kruse's FOIA requests dated September 26, 2014, October 3, 2014 and October 6, 2014 for the reasons stated by the FOIA Coordinator in her denials of September 29, 2014, October 6, 2014 and October 7, 2014 for the reason that a public body may exempt from disclosure as a public record under the Freedom of Information Act "Information or records subject to the attorney-client privilege." MCL 15.243(g).

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

5. Ecology Station Winter Hours – Supervisor St. Amour recommended closing the Ecology Station on Wednesdays during the winter months due to lighter traffic. The Board of Trustees favored this idea. Supervisor St. Amour will prepare a motion for the Monday Regular meeting.
6. Northern Long-Eared Bat Eagle Project – Supervisor St. Amour received an email from Eagle Scout Candidate Ryan Bouman who is interested in providing habitat for the Northern Long-Eared Bat which is being considered for placement on the endangered species list. He would like to plant approximately 25 trees and build shelters for the bats along the Fred Meijer Berry Junction Rail Trail. The Board of Trustees supports this project but Attorney Even stated that the right of way easement should be okayed by owner of such. Supervisor St. Amour will contact the DNR whom he believes is the owner with the request.
7. Letter of Support to Muskegon Conservation District – An email was received from the Muskegon Conservation District requesting our support again this year for in-kind services. Supervisor St. Amour will prepare a motion to authorize him sending such letter of support

FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP OCTOBER 14, 2014 WORK SESSION MINUTES

for the Monday Regular meeting. Trustee Hampel will contact Steve Coverly regarding the amount of funds for the in-kind service.

8. District Court Collection of Unpaid Fines – Attorney Even stated that the 60<sup>th</sup> District Court is requesting a letter from the Township to authorize them to initiate garnishment proceedings against individuals with outstanding balances arising from convictions for violations of the Fruitland Township civil and criminal ordinances. Supervisor St. Amour will prepare a motion to authorize him to send such letter for the Monday Regular meeting.
9. Appeal Process for Site Plan Reviews – Trustee Deur stated that he learned at the Citizen Planner Course he is attending that an appeal process for site plan reviews should be received by the ZBA not the Township board as stated in our ordinance. Attorney Even stated that other amendments are necessary also. Trustee Deur will get with Attorney Even to present to the Planning Commission before a public hearing can be held.
- 9.5 Signs – Trustee Deur stated that the White Lake Association (WLA) is asking if the township is willing to contribute towards the replacement cost of the speed limit sign for boats over 40 feet in length that travel White Lake which has been missing all summer. Before the Board commits a cost needs to be determined. Trustee Deur will follow up with the WLA. Also the Muskegon County Clerk is asking for uniformity of removal of political signs in Muskegon County with all municipalities. At this time our ordinance requests that political signs be removed within 5 days. The request of the Muskegon County Clerk is 10 days. At this time, no urgency to amend our language is the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Clerk Rillema will forward this information on at her next Clerk’s Association meeting next week.
10. Board Comments – Clerk Rillema stated that the three furthest life rings on the channel will be removed by November 1, 2014 for the winter months in coordination with White River Township. Clerk Rillema stated that Building Official Siegel will be discussing with other municipalities a letter received from the State of Michigan Construction Code Commission stating that all local units of government that administer Stille-DeRossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act, 1972 PA 230 must have access to various code books and referenced standards. The commission is encouraging all existing enforcing agencies to start a library of or provide access to the referenced standards. She also mentioned that the MTA 2015 Conference & Expo will be held in Grand Rapids on January 20 – 30, 2015. Anyone interested in attending should let Supervisor St. Amour know as soon as possible. Attorney Even stated that the Halland matter has been settled privately.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the Tuesday, October 14, 2014 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 11:10 AM.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk  
Township of Fruitland