

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD  
WORK SESSION  
FEBRUARY 8, 2016  
MINUTES**

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** (7) seven interested parties and Attorney Even.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor St. Amour called the Monday, February 8, 2016 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland Board to order at 10:00 AM at the township hall.

**AGENDA:**

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Treasurer Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to accept the February 8, 2016 Work Session Agenda.  
*Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES - motion carried*

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supervisor St. Amour stated that the West Michigan Land Conservancy informed him that the grant contract was approved for signing and expected back from the DEQ in the near days.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Trustee Vacancy – Supervisor St. Amour stated that Val Rissi resigned as Trustee of Fruitland Township effective February 1, 2016. Information regarding the vacancy was sent out in E-news and nine applicants responded.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to suspend Robert's Rules to allow open floor comments from five of the applicants present at 10:15 AM.  
*Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES - motion carried*

Each candidate present was asked to give a brief introduction of themselves and interest in the trustee vacancy.

- Manny Cisneros - 3386 Scenic Drive - present
- Mike Holman – 5660 N. Weber Road - present
- Herb Huch – 4272 Gibson Road - present
- Jessica Kidder – 1547 Duck Lake Road - present
- R. Sydney Shaw – 3550 Jones Road – present
- Stan Burnell – 3707 Scenic Drive – absent
- Kim Cross – 6450 Zellar Road – absent
- Chuck Hulce – 5565 South Shore Drive – absent
- Linda Knapp – 5909 Zellar Road – absent

Board members inquired about the candidates' interest in environmental matters, availability to serve on additional committees, prior attendance at township meetings, and availability for times of work sessions and regular meetings.

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Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to unsuspend the rules at 10:30 AM.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6 AYES - motion carried**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Zellar Road – Supervisor St. Amour stated that Resolution 2016-01 – Zellar Road Improvements 2016 Special Assessment District will need to have action taken to proceed forward with setting up the special assessment district for culvert payment and to hold a public meeting in the near future with those residents within the proposed district. The resolution will be taken under consideration at the regular meeting.
2. 2016-17 Budget Discussion – Supervisor St. Amour highlighted the proposed 2016-17 budget of revenues and appropriations for Fund 101. He presented a balanced budget with revenues and appropriations projected at \$970,678.00. Under Revenues, funds are similar to this current year with the exception of a potential sale of the fire barn. He incorporated up to a 1.5% increase for staff and a 1.5% for elected officials. Trustee Bard stated that she was not in favor of any increases for office staff/elected officials but would favor maintenance staff increase. Supervisor St. Amour stated that this proposed budget concludes the three year agreement with Brickley DeLong, PC and was tasked to ask Attorney Even if another agreement could be agreed to beyond our elected terms. Under Attorney/Legal Counsel, he proposes contracting funds with Attorney a bit higher for this budget cycle. Under Township Hall and Grounds, proposed capital improvements include potential township hall lot paving/repair, additional lighting in parking lot, microphone upgrade in meeting room and carpet/vinyl replacement. Under Township Property, proposed capital improvements at the Maintenance Barn on Duck Lake for a new driveway, removal of trees and parking lot should the fire barn be sold. Under Police-Ordinance Enforcer, Supervisor St. Amour mentioned that he will be meeting with Muskegon County to discuss the PINS Agreement on March 3, 2016. Under Inspection Department, Laketon Township has increased our monthly payment for the Building Official/Inspector wage from \$1500.00 to \$1650.00 which is the first increase since inception of the agreement. Under Drains, he proposes \$20,000.00 as a placeholder for drain assessments. No pricing information has been made available by Muskegon County Drain Commissioner Moore at this time. Under Ecology Transfer Station, conversation with Muskegon County to take over the service for Dalton and Fruitland Townships continues. Talk amongst the board regarding \$5.00 Discount Dump Day was favored again. More information to come.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to suspend for open floor comments from Parks & Recreation Commissions' Commissioner Zoellmer and Commissioner Williamson present at 11:15 AM.

*Upon Voice Vote:* **6 AYES - motion carried**

Commissioner's Zoellmer and Williamson briefed the board of the proposed budget of the Parks & Recreation Commission and provided information and pricing on the tennis court repairs/replacement. After conversing with the Board of Trustees, it was decided to propose 9 meetings, 1 wheelchair accessible portable restroom at Nestrom Park only, R&M to include handicap stencils/signs/ tennis net replacement, retro-fit 4 picnic tables-handicap accessible, picnic table stain and purchase recycle bins. Capital improvements would be \$16,000.00 to repair current tennis courts with the go ahead for the Parks & Recreation Commission to seek grants to replace and \$2500.00 for a concrete sidewalk to the portable restroom at Nestrom Park.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, **ADOPTED**, to unsuspend from open floor comments at 11:45 AM.

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*Upon Voice Vote: **6 AYES - motion carried***

Supervisor St. Amour highlighted the additional funds showing the transfer of \$174,543.43 to the Road Fund and Equipment Fund. The proposed Zellar Road project is estimated at a cost of approximately \$450,000.00 of which Fruitland Township is asked to pay approximately \$101,300.00. A question of the White Lake Ambulance Authority settlement was asked. Attorney Even thought that a dollar figure if any owed for the withdrawal from the White Lake Ambulance Authority should be forthcoming within the next ten days. Supervisor St. Amour stated that at this time, no monies have been allocated for such withdrawal if any.

3. Board Comments – Clerk Rillema stated that January 4<sup>th</sup> quarter budget amendments will be presented at the regular meeting and that the MCRC 2014-2015 Annual Report was received and will be placed on file in her office. Trustee Deur stated that the Master Plan was approved and received two comments from neighboring jurisdictions, one comment for grammatical corrections and one comment to add the Muskegon County Hazard Mitigation Plan that was adopted by the Township last year.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Treasurer Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the Monday, February 8, 2016 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at Noon.

*Upon Voice Vote: **6 AYES - motion carried***

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk  
Township of Fruitland