

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD
WORK SESSION
MARCH 10, 2014
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Trustee Hampel, Trustee Bard, Treasurer Beegle, Trustee Rissi, Supervisor St. Amour

ABSENT: Clerk Rillema, Trustee Deur - excused

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

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor St. Amour called the Monday, March 10, 2014 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland Board to order at 10:04 AM at the township hall.

AGENDA: Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Rissi, **ADOPTED**, to accept the March 10, 2014 Work Session Agenda.

Upon Voice Vote: **5 AYES, 2 ABSENT - motion carried**

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

SPECIAL GUEST: April Scholtz, Land Protection Director for the Land Conservancy of West Michigan, discussed a proposal to create an approximate 80 acre nature preserve known as Anderson Woods in Fruitland Township between Duck Lake Road and Bard Road along Simonelli Road. The preserve would be used for conservation health, trail usage including handicap accessibility and stewardship within the community. At this time, they are researching the possibility of such a preserve fitting with the zoning district in our township. The Conservancy is looking for a letter supporting the Conservancy with its endeavors for the preserve. Supervisor St. Amour encouraged the Conservancy to continue its talks with our zoning administrator/planning commission. Update on the grant application is not due until spring/summer of 2014 for the Duck Creek property that was submitted late last year.

Motion by Treasurer Beegle, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, to allow Supervisor St. Amour to sign a letter supporting the Conservancy with its endeavors for the preserve.

Upon Voice Vote: **5 AYES, 2 ABSENT**

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor St. Amour stated that one additional logging project is scheduled and the Riley Thompson/Simonelli Road logging project is now complete. The White Lake Chamber of Commerce is looking to form a northern municipality group to sit together and talk about community projects – economic developments for the White Lake area.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance Enforcement – Supervisor St. Amour stated that there is still too much snow so re-checking both 3980 McMillan Road and 4554 River Road are still on hold.
2. Community Building License Agreement - Supervisor St. Amour met again with two members of the White Lake Area Group. There are a few additional tweaks that Attorney Even is reviewing and has several questions. Supervisor St. Amour stated that the

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agreement should be ready to go for the upcoming fiscal year. While in conversation with the members of the White Lake Area Group, they stated that the slide is in need of repair or removal. It appears to be unsafe. The board would like to see it removed and scrapped.

3. 2014-15 Budget Discussion - Supervisor St. Amour stated that the Budget Approval meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 28, 2014 at 10:00 AM. The budget is balanced and the only area still needing to be determined is the Ecology Station/Maintenance. Chef Container is not interested in running our Ecology Station only at this time. He provided the latest revenue/expenditure spreadsheet on the ecology station which is in the black but does not include the chipping of the wood pile as it is not completed yet. Supervisor St. Amour explained the dynamics of our seasonal employee not being interested in working at the ecology station. He suggested employing someone to just work the ecology station and continue employment with our seasonal employee to do mowing/plowing year round. The tipping fee from Muskegon County will be increasing approximately \$2,500.00 per year. Discussion on raising costs for recycling/yard waste removal was discussed and possibly having the attendant placed at the lower driveway to collect fees and have residents place garbage into the compactor and tubs themselves. One additional item for thought would be to request quotes for a single source sanitation vendor for curbside service for Fruitland Township. Research will be done by Trustee Bard and Supervisor St. Amour with surrounding municipalities that have obtained such service before the Monday Regular meeting. Information was received from the County on one free tipping day. We have in the past provided a \$5.00 one day only trip for a whole month. The board supports the \$5.00 one day only for 2014.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 4th Quarter 2013-14 Budget Amendments - Clerk Rillema prepared the listing of additional amendments necessary for 4th quarter 2013-14. A motion will be prepared for the Monday Regular meeting.
2. 2013 Hydrant Fee – Treasurer Beegle stated that an invoice was received for the 2013 hydrant fee in the amount of \$2,200.00. A motion will be prepared for the Monday Regular meeting.
3. 2014-15 Trustee Salary Resolution - The resolution for Trustee's salaries will be put forth at the Monday Regular meeting in the same amount as 2013-14.
4. Board of Comments – Trustee Bard inquired if an agenda item could be placed on an upcoming agenda to discuss keeping the hall open on Friday afternoons and change the policy on closing the hall open during closures for Whitehall District Schools. Discussion on Friday closures was discussed and dismissed. The policy on closing the hall will be placed on the April work session. The Parks Commission has approved the pavilion rental agreement that will be placed on the Monday Regular meeting. Trustee Rissi also asked to have the Duck Creek Watershed on the Monday Regular agenda. Trustee Hampel asked what was happening with Michillinda Beach Lodge/Yacht Club planning commission requests. Both were tabled. No news on the Mason Drain update.

ADJOURNMENT:

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Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Treasurer Beegle **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the Monday, March 10, 2014 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 11:22AM .

Upon Voice Vote: **5 AYES, 2 ABSENT - motion carried**

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk
Township of Fruitland