

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD
WORK SESSION
APRIL 13, 2010
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Trustee Bard, Trustee Binns, Trustee Bole, Trustee Deur, Clerk Rillema, Treasurer Hepler, Supervisor St. Amour

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Eklund and (0) zero interested parties.

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor St. Amour called the Tuesday, April 13, 2010 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland Board to order at 10:00 AM at the township hall.

AGENDA: Accept or amend the Tuesday, April 14, 2010 Agenda. Supervisor St. Amour asked for the following to be amended on the agenda: Add New Business #12 Board Comment.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, ***ADOPTED***, to accept the amended April 13, 2010 Work Session Agenda.

Upon Voice Vote: **7 AYES**

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 1562 Duck Lake Road – Supervisor St. Amour received communication back from the Planning Commission. The Commission at this time unanimously agreed that the requirements should remain as they are currently written regarding accessory buildings. No response has been received back from the property owner to date regarding the options that were offered to them regarding the garage that remains on the property without a principal use. Attorney Eklund has had little communication with them also. Supervisor St. Amour will ask for the Boards decision at the Monday regular meeting regarding the direction that should be taken.
2. 5623 Murray Road – Supervisor St. Amour and Attorney Eklund stated that the appeal was on Monday, April 12, 2010. Judge Hicks will present his decision within a two week time frame.
3. 2745 Lorenson Road – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the check for \$500.00 was paid to the township and the cleanup of the property is looking successful. The Board agreed to allow Supervisor St. Amour to allow the property owner another 30 days to complete cleanup and removal of equipment that has been sold. Supervisor St. Amour will check near May 5, 2010 if this property is satisfactorily cleaned up.

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4. 3350 Bard Road – Supervisor St. Amour and Attorney Eklund stated that Mrs. Pyle served ten days in jail. Judge Ladas-Hoopes ordered Mrs. Pyle to have the property cleaned up in 60 days. If the property is not satisfactorily cleaned up, she could serve an additional 80 days in jail. Supervisor St. Amour will advise the Board of the action that occurs before the June 8, 2010 deadline.
5. Condemnation Hearings – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the property at 6168 & 6188 Murray Road has another hearing in July 2010, Nord Road has had permits for repair & demolition issued, Scenic Drive (garage) has had a demolition permit issued, Scenic Drive (house) may be considered for a WLFA burn application and the position for a Building Hearing Officer remains unfilled. Supervisor St. Amour asked the Board for possible candidates.
6. Township Property – Supervisor St. Amour stated that an ordinance for the hunting resolution passed last month has been prepared and will be presented in a motion at Monday's regular meeting. Trustee Deur pleaded with the Board to consider additional liability insurance because of the hunting resolution that was passed. Supervisor St. Amour stated that a premature article in the Muskegon Chronicle has caused several phone calls regarding the possible sale of township property. At this time, the Board is not interested in the sale of any property because of the low value of acre pricing. The Board is interested in the possible tree harvesting of some of its land. Supervisor St. Amour will investigate and report back to the Board his findings.
7. Community Building Drain – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he spoke with Drain Commissioner Hepler and it will be repaired on Friday, April 16, 2010.
8. Pressure Washer Purchase – Trustee Bole researched several different brands of pressure washers and suggested that a 2700 PSI Troybilt Pressure Washer be purchased from Lowe's Home Centers, Inc. at a cost of \$279.00. A motion will be presented at the Monday regular meeting.
9. Free Dump Day Status – Supervisor St. Amour asked for the Board's suggestions regarding a free dump day or reduced dump day. The discussion resulted in suggesting a one trip, \$5.00 maximum charge for residents/property owners for a limited time frame. Trustee Bard suggested we limit items allowed during that time frame. Supervisor St. Amour and Trustee Bard will present a motion at the Monday regular meeting for consideration.
10. Ordinance Enforcer – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he discussed the zoning ordinance enforcement with Zoning Administrator Sandel and he is willing to work with Supervisor St. Amour on Wednesday afternoons to enforce zoning ordinance violations and Supervisor St. Amour will enforce regulatory ordinance violations. The township truck may be used on Wednesday afternoons if needed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Road Ends – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he had signed the road end agreements for both Scenic Drive and Nestrom Road Ends. These agreements allow the township to place a porta-jon, trash barrel and dock at Scenic Drive Road End and a trash barrel and mow grass within the Nestrom Road Right-of-Way for 2010. Supervisor St. Amour stated that the dock at the Scenic Drive Road End was removed due to its unsafe condition. Attorney Eklund provided language that may not allow the township to place a dock at the Scenic Drive Road End without the vote of 3/5 of the registered voters at a special election. Supervisor St. Amour asked Attorney Eklund to research and advise the Board of his findings regarding the possible placement of a replacement dock at the Scenic Drive Road End. Supervisor St. Amour also received a request to dredge the Scenic Drive Road End, but at this time the Board is not interested until the dock issue is finalized.
2. CAC Residential/Planning Commission Recommendations – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he has received a lengthy report from the Citizens Advisory Residential Rental Committee. Trustee Deur and Trustee Binns requested a hard copy of the report and the remainder of the Board asked for an email copy of it. Supervisor St. Amour received the report back from the Planning Commission with its recommendation. Supervisor St. Amour will ask Steve Nagengast from the Citizen’s Advisory Committee to speak at the May work session.
3. Building Official/Inspector Position – Supervisor St. Amour stated that Troy DeBrot has resigned from this position as of Thursday, April 15, 2010. Supervisor St. Amour would like to contract this position for a trial 90 day period with the Inspector used by Whitehall Township (Val Jensen). A motion will be presented at the Monday regular meeting.
4. Civil Infractions – Supervisor St. Amour tasked Trustee Bard to ask the Citizen’s Advisory Law Enforcement Committee to take a look at Fruitland Township enforcing civil infractions. Trustee Deur stated that he has information on Newago County’s civil infraction policy.
5. Candidate Forum – Supervisor St. Amour asked if Fruitland Township should consider holding a town hall meeting for those candidates running for office that represent our area. He will be attending a candidate forum held by the Muskegon Chamber of Commerce and will inquire with those individuals if they would be interested.
6. Michigan Lake Association Nuts & Bolts (Cliff Bloom) Book Purchase – Clerk Rillema stated that Supervisor St. Amour would like Fruitland Township to purchase a copy of this book at a cost of \$18.50. A motion will be presented at the Monday regular meeting.
7. White Lake Area Cancer Mapping Report – Trustee Deur stated that Claire Schlaff is currently working on a study of cancer in the White Lake Area. This study is a project of the Health Committee of the White Lake Public Advisory Council and Muskegon County

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Health Department. Trustee Deur asked if Supervisor St. Amour could place this information about the study on enews. Supervisor St. Amour agreed to do so.

8. Muskegon County Road Commission Project Update – Supervisor St. Amour stated that road projects will be starting within the next few weeks. Right-of-way issues on Dame Road project need to be clarified because the road is not a straight east-west road. He will advise the Board of the MCRC findings.
9. Sign Request – Do Not Litter – Supervisor St. Amour received a request to place a Do Not Litter sign at McMillan Road and Weber intersections. A considerable amount of trash is littered in this area. The Board at this time does not feel that any signs will discourage littering from continuing to occur.
10. Boy Scout Project – Treasurer Hepler stated that a request from area Boy Scouts was received to donate a project to Fruitland Township for their eagle scout awards. If anyone has an idea of a project, please contact Treasurer Hepler.
11. Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks – Education Day in Lansing – Clerk Rillema and Deputy Clerk Garvey will be attending an electronic poll book demonstration in Lansing on Thursday, April 15, 2010 at a cost of \$120.00 which also includes a 2010 membership for each to the Municipal Clerks Association. Trustee Bole asked if the township truck would be used. Clerk Rillema stated that she will be providing her own transportation at no cost to the township. A motion will be prepared for the Monday regular meeting.
12. Board Comments – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he would like to have an additional 30 yard container placed at the Ecology Station due to heavier volume. He received a letter from the EPA regarding public comment on the Occidental Chemical site plan. White Lake Ambulance Authority is collecting unused medicine on April 17, 2010. He also received a letter from Tom & Betsy Grein of the Friends of the White River Light Station referencing their position on the fundraising efforts for the White River Light Station. At the Parks & Rec's meeting on April 5, 2010, Supervisor St. Amour asked the Commission to please adhere to our policies and procedures and provide a copy of the invoice for the internet service at the WRLS that is reimbursed to Curator McDonnell. Moments later, Curator McDonnell withdrew her reimbursement for the internet service. Supervisor St. Amour asked Attorney Eklund to resurrect the Nord Road Petition for possible road repairs/maintenance. Clerk Rillema stated that she has an election on May 4, 2010. Supervisor St. Amour also stated that possible parking lot repairs at the township hall should be considered to preserve the life of the parking lot. Trustee Deur stated that the Planning & Zoning Conference he attended by Clifford Bloom warned about the importance of Open Meetings Act Compliance. He also met with Lee Holly about a proposal for the future of the White River Light Station. Supervisor St. Amour will forward on to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

ADJOURNMENT:

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Motion by Treasurer Hepler, second by Trustee Bard, ***ADOPTED***, to adjourn the Tuesday, April 13, 2010 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 12:12 PM.

Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk
Township of Fruitland