

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

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

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor St. Amour called the Monday, April 14, 2014 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland Board to order at 10:04 AM at the township hall.

**AGENDA:** Supervisor St. Amour asked to amend the agenda by adding under New Business #14 - Planning Commission Zoning District Recommendation for the White Lake Yacht Club.

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

*Upon Voice Vote:* **7 AYES - motion carried**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supervisor St. Amour stated that Drain Commissioner Moore does not expect any quotes back for the engineering of the Mason Drain until May 1. The five township tire collection grant event has been scheduled for May 31, 2014. Supervisor St. Amour will find out the specifics in the weeks to come to see if any volunteer help is needed from the Township. Supervisor St. Amour stated that he emailed a response to the board regarding a question of wage specifics that arose during the budget adoption meeting on the PINS Agreement. Several members of the board received a letter from resident David Leonard regarding the use of alcohol in the parks and his objection to such. Trustee Hampel and Trustee Deur asked to have it placed on the May work session.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Ordinance Enforcement – Supervisor St. Amour tasked the board to look at 3980 McMillan Road to access what steps if necessary should be taken regarding the cleanup of the property. Although the property owner is attempting to clean up the property, he is making slow progress. The property of 4554 River Road is now considered in compliance as the cleanup has taken place. Property owner at 3775 White Lake Drive 3839 Lakewood Road will be ticketed for unlicensed cars. The address of 6196 South Shore Drive has cleaned up the snowmobiles and jet skis and is now in compliance.
2. Community Building License Agreement - Supervisor St. Amour stated that the agreement is ready for signatures. A motion will be prepared for the Monday Regular meeting to sign the agreement and set up the Capital Improvement Fund.
3. Discount Dump Day - Supervisor St. Amour shared a sample of the postcard for the Discount Dump Day for the proposed month of June 2014. All board members agree that

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we should offer this again. A motion will be prepared for the Monday Regular meeting to offer this event again this year for the month of June.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Snow Day Policy - Conversation regarding changing the snow day closing policy resulted in Supervisor St. Amour appointing Trustee Deur, Trustee Rissi and Treasurer Beegle to a committee to develop language to amend the snow day policy on bad weather days during the winter months.
2. White Lake Association Membership - An invoice to join the White Lake Association was received in the amount of \$30.00. The board discussed and agrees to join the association. A motion will be prepared for the Monday Regular meeting. Both Trustee Deur and Clerk Rillema stated that they will abstain as they are both members of the association.
3. Transfer Station Attendant - Supervisor St. Amour placed an ad in the White Lake Beacon looking for a Transfer Station attendant for two days a week. He has interviewed candidate, Raymond Stark and will be presenting him to the board at the Monday Regular meeting for any additional questions.
4. Athletic Field License - Attorney Even has made the requested changes of the Parks & Recreation Commission for the Athletic Field License for use of the Nestrom Park Ball Field. He also recommends having all athletes sign a waiver, release of liability, indemnification and consent form also. A motion will be presented at the Monday Regular meeting and if adopted will be forwarded to the Parks & Recreation Commission to have the White Lake Little League sign and return the athletic field license and solicit signatures for the consent form from all athletes and present to the township each year to place on file.
5. Mediation Charge/2014-15 Budget (WLAA) - Supervisor St. Amour shared the 2014-15 proposed budget prepared by the Director. Several items need clarification for budgeted spending amounts which Supervisor St. Amour will ask at the next meeting at the end of the month. He also stated that an invoice was received from White Lake Ambulance Authority in the amount of \$517.86 for the mediation expense from the lawsuit. Discussion at the March WLAA meeting was to task the authority board members to take back invoicing information to their municipalities to discuss the splitting of the invoice by 1/7th and if all member municipalities agreed, would then be paid accordingly even though the judge's order requested a 1/15th split. No invoice should have been received. The Board with advice from Attorney Even agrees to pay 1/7th. Motions will be prepared for the Monday Regular meeting for both the budget and mediation payment.
6. Verizon Wireless Tower - Trustee Deur reported that Zoning Administrator Sandel, Supervisor St. Amour and he met to discuss the proposal received from Verizon to place a cell tower on township property near Nestrom and Wabaningo Roads just north of the township hall. Attorney Even has been forwarded a copy of the agreement to review. Verizon is looking for a general opinion response from the township in order to proceed forward as they will start to incur some expense to begin the process. Attorney Even will review and report back.

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7. McMillan Road End Stairs - A letter from the State of Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs - Bureau of Construction Codes was received regarding a complaint from resident Greg Kruse regarding the McMillan Road End stairway. Attorney Even met with Building Official Siegel to discuss and it was found that when the stairway was built, Building Official Siegel reported the railing deficiency to the volunteer workers but that message was never relayed to Jeff Auch, Muskegon Conservation District, who was overseeing the project. The stairway was approved by Building Official Siegel. Mr. Auch is currently getting quotes to correct the deficiency and will report the cost to the Township.

Clerk Rillema reported that Mr. Kruse has been submitting Freedom Of Information requests quite regularly on different topics. Attorney Even stated that one topic is the signing of Building Officials Siegel's name by Zoning Coordinator Dion after obtaining a verbal okay. Attorney Even suggested this practice is okay but proposed developing a Signature Policy for all staff and make it a practice going forward to have the individual sign off at his/her earliest convenience on the office copy. He will develop such policy and forward to Supervisor St. Amour to discuss at a future meeting.

8. Township Property Access - Supervisor St. Amour stated that now that the logging is completed near Simonelli/Todd/Riley Thompson Roads, it may attract vehicular traffic use where before it was not because of the widening of the path. The question to the board was if we wanted to have it reconfigured back to the non-vehicular use. Treasurer Beegle didn't think it could be traveled by vehicle because of some logs being placed across and the uneven ground. At this time, the board does not wish to take any action.
9. Sand - Supervisor St. Amour was questioned by a resident about removing the extra sand piles at the cemetery in our undeveloped lot resulting from the digging of graves. Clerk Rillema stated that West Michigan Burial should be contacted to make sure it is of no use to them. The board cautioned having staff be present to make sure no damage is caused to headstones/burial sites. Maintenance person Mark Bletsch will be asked to oversee the removal and the resident will be charged for his hourly rate.

Trustee Bard stated that she was concerned about recent snow plowing by an individual in the cemetery and wondered who would pay if damage was incurred. She was asked to report the individual to Supervisor St. Amour so a letter could be written explaining the concern of the township and ask them not to perform such duties in the future. Because of the heavy winter we had and lack of forethought for placement of snow, the cemetery was unable to be kept plowed open this winter like we had in past years. Every attempt will be made to keep it open next winter.

10. Insurance Grant for Citizen Planner Training - Supervisor St. Amour contacted our insurance agency, Berends, Hendricks, Stuit Insurance Agency, Inc., regarding a grant to cover individuals that attend the Citizen's Planner Training through MSU Extension. There is a grant available in the amount of up to \$5,000.00. An email has been circulated to all Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals members soliciting their attendance. Supervisor St. Amour has to submit the grant in the next few weeks. Clerk Rillema asked the cost of the class per attendee - Trustee Deur thought about \$275.00 each. Any Board of Trustees member interested in attending should contact Supervisor St. Amour.

Trustee Deur excused himself from the meeting at 11:45 AM.

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11. Brine - Supervisor St. Amour received a quote from the Muskegon County Road Commission for 2014 Brining in the amount of approximately \$10,000.00 which exceeds last year's amount by 65%. He will contact other township supervisors to investigate what they will be doing for this year.
12. Tree Planting - Supervisor St. Amour was contacted by Michael O'Lonergan of the North Side Lions who has 1,000 white pine seedlings available for planting. The township board could not think of any township owned property to plant at this time. Supervisor St. Amour will contact Mr. O'Lonergan with this information.
13. Planning Commission Zone District Request - The Planning Commission recommends approval to the Township Board to amend the zoning district and zoning map pursuant to receipt of plan to be dated and used for bench mark showing existing improvements at the time of the zoning change for parcel 61-06-012-300-0032-00, 6748 South Shore Drive, White Lake Yacht Club, from Inland Lakes District to Waterfront Marine District. A motion will be prepared for the Monday Regular meeting for approval.
14. Board of Comments – Clerk Rillema stated that every five years that the Verizon Metro Act Unilateral Form should be reviewed. She will forward on to Attorney Even for his review. Clerk Rillema also asked Attorney Even about the anonymous complaints received on two properties. Awaiting update. Trustee Rissi inquired about the townships position and restrictions on the west end of Duck Lake since the appeal decision was received on the Marcus Park Lawsuit. Attorney Even will forward a copy of the State of Michigan Court of Appeals to Supervisor St. Amour who will email to all Board of Trustee members.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Supervisor St. Amour, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the Monday, April 14, 2014 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at Noon.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk  
Township of Fruitland