

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD  
WORK SESSION  
AUGUST 12, 2013  
MINUTES**

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

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor St. Amour called the Monday, August 12, 2013 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 Deur, **ADOPTED**, to accept the August 12, 2013 Work Session Agenda.  
*Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES - motion carried*

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supervisor St. Amour stated that Eric VanDop of Brickley Delong will be in attendance at our August 19th meeting to present our 2012-13 Fiscal Year End Report. Muskegon Area District Library may be looking to add a location in the North Muskegon area. This would affect our Reeths Puffer residents. As more information or meetings are known, Supervisor St. Amour will keep us abreast. SPLKA Acting Director, Bob Baltzer, would like to meet with Supervisor St. Amour and Curator Griswold to discuss our partnership going forward sometime in September. Ride United will be taking place in September and using the Fred Meijer Berry Junction Rail Trail. Novotny continues its efforts to get the monitoring of life rings up and going on the pier wall. Wilson Forestry is currently marking pine trees on Simonelli and will be seeking quotes for forestry.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Ordinance Enforcement – Supervisor St. Amour reported on several ordinance cases that are on his list. Deputy Ashker has been contacted to visit several.
2. White Lake Ambulance Authority - Attorney Even distributed a packet containing consolidated answers filed by defendants to Plaintiff's complaint in Case No: 13-49058-AW Fruitland Township vs White Lake Ambulance Authority, *et al* for declaratory judgment, Injunctive Relief and Writ of Mandamus. The City of Montague has not responded to the complaint. Attorney Even thought mediation would be ordered before the scheduled five day trial in December 2013.
3. Community Building Rental - The proposed license agreement prepared by Attorney Even was discussed. The board supports the agreement with a few minor clerical corrections to be corrected by Attorney Even and authorized Supervisor St. Amour to forward on to the White Lake Group of Alcoholics Anonymous for their approval and signature.
4. Caller ID/Caller Recording - Trustee Rissi reported that several options are available for caller recording. The first option would be to use the small hand held recorder currently

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being used to record meetings. Clerk Rillema stated that the cost of the recorder was approximately \$49.00. Trustee Rissi stated that a connection cord for the telephone/recorder would need to be purchased at approximately \$17.00 per cord and could be used on the township telephone system or on smart phones. Another option would be to purchase a recorder that would remain stationary with each phone that would record all telephone conversations at a cost of approximately \$70.00 per phone. Trustee Rissi will make a recommendation at the Monday Regular meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Cemetery / Block 3 - Clerk Rillema stated that she and Zoning Coordinator Dion researched the cemetery ordinance file for any thought process on why Block 3 would prohibit above ground markers, head stones and urns. No reasoning was found other than general thinking for ease of yard maintenance. Clerk Rillema recommends striking item (c) language from Article 7, Section R 7.05 Markers and Memorials. She will amend the Ordinance and prepare for adoption at the Monday Regular meeting.
2. Liquor on Township Grounds - Supervisor St. Amour received information that the Friends of the White River Light Station are hosting a fundraising event at the White River Light Station tomorrow, August 13, 2013, and may be having alcohol. Past history has allowed alcohol on the premises with a one day permit at the museum. Much discussion on procedure and possible ordinance changes such as liquor licenses and crowd generating permits were discussed but no decision was made. Attorney Even will contact the Friends Group and inquire if an alcohol permit was secured and make a recommendation for any ordinances or amendments necessary to the Board at the next work session.
3. WRLS /Exterior Paint Grant - Supervisor St. Amour stated that one quote was received for the paint grant applied through the State of Michigan under the State Historic Preservation Office. Unfortunately the quote was for \$19,500.00 which is over the amount approved by \$7,500.00. After discussion with the bidder, the quote was lowered to \$16,000.00. SPLKA discussed the possibility of partnering with the Friends of the White River Light Station to contribute the additional \$4,000.00 over the approved grant of \$12,000.00 (Fruitland - \$4,000.00 and SHPO - \$8,000.00). Clerk Rillema stated that Curator Griswold will be applying for another extension of the grant due to the over-quote received.
4. McMillan Road End Signs - Supervisor St. Amour stated that he has received several calls that the property at McMillan Road end does not have enough signage stating where the township property ends. Trustee Hampel thought the signage was adequate. Supervisor St. Amour stated that a call was received that someone placed a sign at the stairway top that a bees nest was at the bottom and to not use. Maintenance employee Andrews checked out the stairway and found no bees nest. The date of the placement of the sign is unknown and by whom.
5. Land Conservancy - Trustee Deur stated that the Land Conservancy of West Michigan protects land in three ways: (1) Conservation easements, (2) Preserves and (3) Government Assists. Supervisor St. Amour stated that the Land Conservancy contacted him via email with interest in a potential conservation easement on our property off Duck Lake Road. The actions recommended in the Duck Creek Watershed Assembly Management Plan prompted

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the Land Conservancy to seek interest in granting a conservation easement to the Land Conservancy for payment to Fruitland Township for 50% of its appraised value. This would allow the Township to get some equity out of our land and give the Township the means to designate this property as park land and invest in the recreational development of the property. The Board okayed the Supervisor to write a letter to the Land Conservancy with our interest. The Parks and Recreation Commission will be alerted as some of the land is under their jurisdiction.

6. Board Comments - Clerk Rillema stated that a letter from the State of Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs was received notifying the township of a transfer of ownership of a 2013 Resort B Hotel & SCM license for Lakeside Inn from the Groesel family to Wallace W. Kaehler, Jr. Clerk Rillema was tasked at the July regular meeting to investigate the invoicing procedure for the GIS Basic Level of Service to Fruitland Township. She spoke with Tom Van Bruggen, GIS Administrator and shared the invoicing procedure with the Board of Trustees. A letter was received from resident, Charles Silky, regarding WLAA litigation. Attorney Even stated that he would respond to the letter. Clerk Rillema reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals meets tonight to re-hear, 4483 Park Street and 2293 Scenic Drive. Trustee Deur stated that Michillinda Beach Resort interested buyer, Jon Rooks, attended the Planning Commission meeting on August 7 asking questions of the commission. The Planning Commission did not act on any requests as no plans were available. The Planning Commission held three public hearings and the language will be included in the regular meeting packet which will need to be adopted by the Board of Trustees at the Monday Regular meeting. Trustee Rissi stated that the Conservation District Executive Director Jeff Auch and Steve Coverly will be meeting with Michigan Adventure to start the talks on rectifying the Michigan Adventure drainage into Duck Creek this fall. Once talks begin, then Supervisor St. Amour and Trustee Rissi will be asked to join conversations. Attorney Even announced that his firm will be joining another firm from the Grand Rapids area in October 2013.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Trustee Rissi, second by Treasurer Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the Monday, August 12, 2013 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 11:40 AM.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk  
Township of Fruitland