

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD
WORK SESSION
APRIL 14, 2009
MINUTES**

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

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Eklund and eight (8) interested parties

CALLED TO ORDER: Supervisor St. Amour called the Tuesday, April 14, 2009, Work Session Meeting of the Township of Fruitland Board to order at 4:04 PM.

ACCEPT AGENDA – Supervisor St. Amour asked to amend the agenda by adding items #7 Budget Items-Election Revenue), #8 Community Building-Invoice/Grant, #9 White Lake Baptist Paper Drive Request, #10 MTA Seminar under New Business.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, ***ADOPTED***, to accept the amended April 14, 2009 Work Session Meeting Agenda as submitted.

Upon Voice Vote: **7AYES**

Supervisor St. Amour handed out to all Board members a Planning Commission Summary Report of 2008-2009 received from Chairperson Carol Kooistra on the accomplishments of the commission. Treasurer Boyer handed all Board members the March Receipts/Disbursements for review at Mondays Regular Board meeting. Supervisor St. Amour announced that special guest, Kim Arter – Laketon Township Supervisor, was unable to attend today's work session.

OLD BUSINESS –

1. Scenic Drive (Special Assessment) – Supervisor St. Amour asked Attorney Eklund to explain the process for special assessments and will place on Mondays Regular Board meeting agenda.
2. Lamos Road End – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the letter to adjoining neighbors at the Lamos Road End has been mailed and “No Trespassing” signs have not been purchased. Clerk Rillema offered to purchase the signs. Supervisor St. Amour was unable to find a survey on the property but will continue his research.
3. Parks & Recreation – Authority/Road Ends – Supervisor St. Amour asked Attorney Eklund to discuss the literature received by the Muskegon County Road Commission regarding road end abandonment. The current agreement between Fruitland Township and MCRC waives the road commission of any liability. Attorney Eklund stated that we currently have an agreement with Lakeside Inn Resort at the Scenic Drive Road End to provide a portable toilet and trash receptacle from May thru September each year. Supervisor St. Amour stated that he will be asking for a motion at Mondays Regular

Board meeting to seek abandonment at the Scenic Drive and Dock Road Ends. Attorney Eklund was to go to verify 1st, 2nd “rights”.

4. Policies & Procedures – Sections 4.0 – 4.11 – Clerk Rillema stated that Trustee Deur, Treasurer Boyer and herself have not been able to meet due to conflicts in schedules but will have this portion of the policies and procedures available for the next work session in May.
5. Nord Road – No report.
6. 1562 Duck Lake Road – Supervisor St. Amour stated that correspondence has been received before the April 16, 2009 deadline from the owners of 1562 Duck Lake Road. A permit to demolish the home has been issued but they are asking the Board to consider an agreement to leave the garage with future plans to rebuild a home on the site. The Board asked Supervisor St. Amour to discuss any possible ordinance violations with Zoning Administrator Sandel & Zoning Coordinator Garvey and report back. Supervisor St. Amour will keep the Condemnation Officer abreast of the situation.
7. 5623 Murray Road – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the Gardner’s have filed an appeal to Circuit Court against the Zoning of Appeals Ruling of February 23, 2009.
8. 1990 Truck Status – Supervisor St. Amour will sell by June 1, 2009. An ad has been placed in the White Lake Beacon for this upcoming weekend.
9. Maintenance/Ecology Station/Cemetery Sexton –Discussion amongst the board about proposed price list increases will be put forth in a motion at Monday’s Regular meeting to accept effective June 3, 2009. Supervisor St. Amour was pleased with the efforts of the elected officials and staff in working at the Ecology Station during this transition period. Supervisor St. Amour stated that he would ask this board to consider having Don Sandel and Sally Garvey fulfill the duties of cemetery sexton until further notice.
10. Blank Road-Simonelli Road Culverts – Supervisor St. Amour reported that both culverts have been repaired.
11. Fruitland Township Representation (Joint Planning Commission/West Michigan Shoreline Regional District Commission – Trustee Deur will report on this at Mondays Regular Board meeting.
12. West Michigan Coast Riders – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he had received correspondence for Township contact information by West Michigan Coast Riders and we were awaiting insurance coverage from them yet.
13. Simonelli-Dame-Nestrom-Simonelli Roads – No report.

14. 2745 Lorensen Road – Supervisor St. Amour stated that an April 30, 2009 District Court trial date is scheduled. Supervisor St. Amour has had contact with Ms. Cooper and is in hopes that property will be cleaned up before this trial date.
15. McMillan Road End – Discussion of ordinance draft R61 resulted in questions about being too restrictive, civil infraction enforcement, and lack of public usage. Trustee Bard stated that grants are being applied currently by Jeff Auch.
16. Brine – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he had not received pricing back from the Muskegon County Road Commission.
17. Wind Energy Ordinance – Trustee Deur stated that after the new language was approved at the last Planning Commission meeting, he found various inaccuracies with the new language pertaining to old language that need correction. He will be asking for a motion at the Monday Regular meeting to refer back to the Planning Commission to make this language correction.
18. Plastic Shredder – No report.
19. Township Liability Waiver – Attorney Eklund prepared a volunteer release and waiver. It was discussed to adopt this release and waiver to our policies and procedures. Supervisor St. Amour will place on Mondays Regular Board meeting agenda as a motion.
20. MTA Magazine Renewal – Clerk Rillema received back from all the Chairpersons the number of magazines for each committee/commission and it will be a savings from last year.
21. Marcus Park – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the next Citizen’s Advisory Marcus Park Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 23, 2009 at 7:00 PM.
22. Prein & Newhof – Supervisor St. Amour explained to the Board the costs involved with a sewer project for the areas of Whitehall Road/Riley Thompson Road - (\$1,450,000.00) and White Lake Drive/Whitehall Road – (\$530,000.00). At these costs, it is not feasible at this time due to lack of population/homes in those areas.
23. Passport Training – Clerk Rillema stated that Erika DeCair and Sally Garvey will be attending free passport training on Thursday, March 23 in West Olive. Trustee Bole asked about the staff using the township truck for transportation instead of reimbursing mileage.
24. Charter Communications – Supervisor St. Amour received a letter from Charter Communications stating that during their Chapter 11 reorganization, they will continue to pay franchise fees. Clerk Rillema provided Attorney Eklund with information received from another law firm on bankruptcy filing instructions for monies owed by Charter Communications.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. PINS Contract – Trustee Bard stated that the Citizen’s Advisory Law Enforcement Committee would be meeting with Captain Poulin to discuss additional options. Supervisor St. Amour stated that our contract with the PINS program has expired, but he has called Sheriff Roesler and asked for an extension of coverage until a recommendation from the CALEC is received.
2. Muskegon Chronicle – The County of Muskegon and The Muskegon Chronicle are cooperating in a publication commemorating the 150th anniversary of Muskegon County. They are soliciting ads for this publication. It is the Boards wishes to not participate at this time.
3. Humane Society & Animal Rescue – Supervisor St. Amour received correspondence regarding the Feral Cat Policy. Resident Jane Missimer offered to look over our current animal control ordinance and report back to Supervisor St. Amour her suggestions.
4. 3350 Bard Road – Supervisor St. Amour asked Attorney Eklund to follow up on ordinance violations at this address. One of the owners of the property has responded and Supervisor St. Amour is awaiting response as to the timing of the clean up.
5. Free Dump Day – Supervisor St. Amour received notification from the Muskegon County Waste Management Systems that they have approved a waiver of tipping fees at their Muskegon site for one event. Supervisor St. Amour will investigate if Allied Waste (our hauler) participates in this program and report back to the Board.
6. Brickley DeLong Contract – Supervisor St. Amour is in receipt of the auditing agreement for 2009-2010. The Board has asked Supervisor St. Amour to try to negotiate a lower price and ask for assistance in reconciling bank statements and reviewing our financial portion of the policies and procedures.
7. Budget Items - Treasurer Boyer stated that the journal entry for last year’s consolidated election was applied to offset the expenses and not journalized as a revenue item. Both Treasurer Boyer and Clerk Rillema said they will be reassessing how revenue should be categorized going forward.
8. Community Building – Invoices from Soraruf Builders have been received for repair work contracted by prior administration. The invoice in the amount of \$4400.00 will be reimbursed by the State of Michigan from ADA funds from a survey completed last year for polling places. The other invoice in the amount of \$1291.00 is for repairs contracted to widen a bathroom entrance. Supervisor St. Amour will ask for a motion at Monday’s Regular meeting to authorize this payment.
9. White Lake Baptist Church Paper Drive – Supervisor St. Amour received a request from this church asking for a donation of our paper recyclables at the Ecology Station. It was decided by the Board that we could not participate in this request because it is unlawful.

10. MTA Seminar – Trustee Deur will be attending the 25th Annual West Michigan Township Officials Conference at Muskegon Community College on April 18, 2009 at a cost of \$70.00. Supervisor St. Amour will be asking for a motion to approve this expenditure.

Supervisor St. Amour stated that currently the elected officials and employees of the township have been working at the Ecology Station and doing a fine job. Trustee Deur asked about the White Lake Fire Authority lease. Supervisor St. Amour stated that Treasurer Boyer is currently working on proposed language with members of the authority.

ADJOURNMENT –

Motion by Trustee Bole, second by Treasurer Boyer, ***ADOPTED***, to adjourn the April 14, 2009 Work Session at 5:50 PM.

Upon Voice Vote: **7AYES**

Respectfully submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk
Township of Fruitland