

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD
WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 15, 2009
MINUTES**

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

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

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor St. Amour called the Tuesday, September 15, 2009 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland Board to order at 4:05 PM.

AGENDA: Accept or amend the Tuesday, September 15, 2009 Agenda. Supervisor St. Amour asked the Board to amend the following on the agenda: add announcement Alcoa Nature Plant Tour, Habitat for Humanity House Tour, a potential October 5, 2009 joint meeting with the Parks & Recreation Commission and an update on the Berry Junction Rail Trail, add under New Business, items 3 Muskegon Area District Library and item 4 State Shared Revenue.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Deur, ***ADOPTED***, to accept the amended September 15, 2009 Work Session Agenda.

Upon Voice Vote: **6AYES, 1ABSENT**

Trustee Binns arrived at 4:12 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Supervisor St. Amour announced that an upcoming Parks & Recreation meeting will be forthcoming, an Open House for a Habitat for Humanity home on Belfast is on Sunday, September 20, 2009, tours for the Alcoa Native Plant Landscape are available and he will be going to Lansing to investigate funding regarding the Berry Junction Trail that may be revived by some new grant money available.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Policies & Procedures – Sections 4.0 – 6.7, Appendix A – Attorney Eklund stated that he spoke with Clerk Rillema about the changes/additions to these sections of the Policies and Procedures. Clerk Rillema and Trustee Deur will schedule a time to make those changes/additions and provide the Board of Trustees with a copy to review before the next work session. Trustee Deur stated that there are still some areas that need to be addressed before it will be complete.
2. 1562 Duck Lake Road – Supervisor St. Amour is still awaiting response from the owner regarding status of getting an inside inspection of the garage. The outside inspection was completed by Building Official DeBrot on July 16, 2009.
3. 5623 Murray Road – Attorney Eklund stated that Judge Hicks reported his decision on September 9, 2009 and has granted the Gardner's an appeal to the township Zoning

Board of Appeals within seven days. Fruitland Township was granted summary judgment on the additional lawsuit. Attorney Eklund is researching the cases stated for Judge Hicks decision and will advise Supervisor St. Amour if an appeal of this decision is deemed necessary.

4. Fruitland Township Representation (Joint Planning Commission/West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission) – Supervisor St. Amour and Trustee Deur will be attending the next meeting of the JPC on September 25, 2009 and present the information prepared by Attorney Eklund for discussion.
5. Road Improvements – Hard Surface to Gravel, MCRC Strategy – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he and Trustee Deur will be meeting with the Muskegon County Road Commission to further discuss the relationship between both entities for the future. Supervisor St. Amour received from the MCRC a list of road segments that could potentially be considered in the next few years for a crushing operation, i.e. returned to a gravel condition.
6. 2745 Lorensen Road – Supervisor St. Amour stated that there has been no additional cleanup. Attorney Eklund stated that an October 28th trial date is scheduled.
7. McMillan Road End – Stairway, Drawings, Raising Funds – Supervisor St. Amour stated that Al VandeVusse was successful in having drawings completed and engineer stamped. Supervisor St. Amour will present a motion at Mondays Regular Meeting for approval of the invoices. Attorney Eklund stated that a court case is near a decision in regards to road ends. He will keep the Board abreast of the decision.
8. Plastic Shredder – Treasurer Hepler announced that she has sold the shredder at a cost of \$500.00. The buyer is to pick up the shredder tomorrow, Wednesday, September 16, 2009.
9. Township Liability – Supervisor St. Amour stated that this item is a placeholder at this time.
10. 3350 Bard Road – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he visited the property and there appears to be more stuff in the yard. A pretrial court date is scheduled for September 23, 2009.
11. Community Building (Grants/Ramp) – Clerk Rillema stated that we received the 2008 Polling Grant award in the amount of \$4,952 and has been a 2009 Polling Grant award in the amount of \$8,600.00 for the ramp at the Community Building. Supervisor St. Amour stated that DeRose Builders is to start the project sometime the week of September 21, 2009. He also stated that a wall will be built in the interior of the building to close off the stairway to the basement as a safety precaution.
12. White Lake Fire Authority – Dry Hydrants/Cistern – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the grant for the dry hydrants will most likely be awarded soon and will be a spring 2010 project. The cistern grant is still in the early stages and he will be speaking to the Supervisor at Laketon Township to get her feedback for interest in this potential project. Trustee Bole was recently appointed to the White Lake Fire Authority and attended the

last meeting. Trustee Bole stated that the WLFA would like to know what we would like out of our lease for Fire Station #2 on Duck Lake Road. Are we looking for a profit center or looking to break even.

13. Liability Insurance - Supervisor St. Amour stated that a three year contract had been signed by prior administration. We are able to cancel with a 30 day notice in the month of July but any cancellation after that date no money will be refunded. Our insurance policy costs us about \$18000.00 a year. This item will be reviewed for budget time for fiscal year 2010-2011.
14. Duck Lake Building/Maintenance Garage – Drain Field/Maint. Building Hookup – Trustee Bole stated that the drain field was completed along with the additional work to hook up the maintenance building into the new drain field at an additional cost of \$140.00. Supervisor St. Amour will prepare a motion for approval of this invoice at the Monday Regular Meeting.
15. Copier Maintenance – Treasurer Hepler reported that she has received a quote for a savings of \$25.00 a month from Applied Imaging. She will be switching our copier maintenance over to Applied Imaging the first of the week.
16. Parks & Recreation – Master Plan/Budget Amendment – Trustee Binns has compiled all our comments on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Supervisor St. Amour asked Trustee Binns to provide the Board of Trustees a copy prior to presenting to the Parks & Recreation Commission. Attorney Eklund stated that because the budget clearly has notations on expenses, that the Parks and Recreation has no room to shift expenses around to cover additional expenses. Supervisor St. Amour would like this to be discussed at the joint meeting of the two boards.
17. Ordinance Enforcer – Clerk Rillema stated that interviews are scheduled for Thursday, September 17th. Trustee Deur, Treasurer Hepler and Clerk Rillema are serving on the interview committee.
18. Muskegon County Drain Commission – Board of Determination – Supervisor St. Amour stated that this will be a 2010 project.
19. RAP Amendment for Muskegon Chemical Superfund Site – Trustee Deur reported that his wife, Chris will attend the meeting on Monday, September 21 due to the conflict of our meeting on the same night and time.
20. 5601 South Shore Drive – Attorney Eklund stated that an attorney has been hired to represent this case due to his conflict of interest. The court case is scheduled for September 29, 2009.
21. Ecology Station – 30 Gallon Price – Supervisor St. Amour stated that many residents have complained about the price of the 30 gallon bag/can when not full and being charged the full \$2.00. Supervisor St. Amour recommended that we adjust the price to \$1.00 if the 30 gallon bag is 2/3 or less full. Supervisor St. Amour will prepare a motion for Monday's Regular Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. White Lake Senior Center – Annual Contribution – Clerk Rillema stated that we received our billing for our annual contribution of \$1500.00. Trustee Bard asked how many Fruitland Township residents use the center. Clerk Rillema provided the listing to Trustee Bard who reported 39 residents. Supervisor St Amour will prepare a motion for Monday’s Regular Meeting.
3. Muskegon Area District Library – Supervisor St. Amour stated that there has been discussion about moving the North Muskegon Branch to a location in Laketon Township.
4. State Shared Revenue – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he is concerned about further reduction in our stated shared revenue. He explained that along with the constitutional payments that we did receive some statutory payments. The State of Michigan has now chosen to take back those statutory payments and has deducted \$5,124.00 from our August constitutional payment.
2. Board Comments – Clerk Rillema stated that a Consumers Energy bill for the Cemetery appeared to be quite high. An electrician was contracted to make a service call to look over the electric pump. There appears to be no service trouble at this time. Clerk Rillema also stated that the Reeths Puffer School Election scheduled for November 3, 2009 will only have one polling location due to the low number of voters. Precinct (2) – Fruitland Township Hall will be the location. It will be a savings to the school system which reimburses the township for all costs incurred for holding the election. Clerk Rillema also stated that driver’s license numbers will no longer be changed when a person changes their name to the beginning letter of the last name. Clerk Rillema also stated that Treasurer Hepler and herself have reconciled the bank statements and have balanced all accounts. The General Fund 101 and Tax Account 703 are off the same amount for the months of June, July and August. They have communicated with Brickley DeLong and have been given advice as to the writing off of these two amounts (Fund 101 (\$369.23) and Fund 703 (\$3.61) too much on the general ledger. A motion will be prepared for Monday’s Regular Meeting. Trustee Binns reported that resident Chuck Ekholm passed away and stated that he will be missed. Trustee Deur would like to attend the MTA Fall Regional Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan on Monday, September 28 at a cost of \$109.00. A motion will be prepared for Monday’s Regular Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT –

Motion by Trustee Bole, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the Tuesday, September 15, 2009 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 5:40 PM.

Upon Voice Vote: 7AYES

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk

Township of Fruitland