

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
WORK SESSION MEETING
MARCH 14, 2022 MINUTES**

PRESENT – Treasurer Pachman, Supervisor Marcinkowski, Trustee Lundell, Clerk Fagan

ABSENT – Trustee Jeske, Trustee Graham

ALSO PRESENT – (4) Four interested parties

CALL TO ORDER - Supervisor Marcinkowski called the March 14, 2022 Work Session Meeting to order at 10:00 AM, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA - Motion by Clerk Fagan, second by Treasurer Pachman, **ADOPTED**, to amend the March 14, 2022 Work Session Township Board Meeting Agenda by adding Channel Crossing update to Announcements and Communications, and adding PINS Agreement and Citizens Advisory Committee to New Business.

Upon Voice Vote: 5 AYES – motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Lynn Knopf, 4328 Mystic Ln – Parks and Recreation Commissioner. Has been communicating with Catherine Mulhapt at the Michigan Township Association and claims that Catherine told her she “has never seen a recreation area not under Parks and Recreation Jurisdiction” and that because they are a statutory authority (elected) they could have their own Recreation plan. Encouraged both boards to work together to have a united front and work together.

Kimon Kotos, 6171 Duck Lake Rd – Spoke in favor on the Friends of Fruitland Township Trails plan and encouraged the board to approve their plan and start moving forward with the Duck Creek Natural Area.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS –

- a. **Board of Review** - Appointments start today: 3/14 1-4pm and 6-9pm and tomorrow 3/15 9am-12pm and 1-4pm
- b. **Board of Review organization meeting** – Took place last week 3/8 – Approved 24 Veteran’s Petitions
- c. **Park and Recreation Commission update** – Chairman Huch stated they had finalized the budget and had to wait on a few projects due to budget constraints. There should be more baseball teams using the field this year and Parks and Recreation

plans to focus on making Nestrom Park more ADA accessible. Trustee Lundell asked if there was room in the budget for anything at the Duck Creek Natural Area and Chairman Huch responded that there is not at this time.

- d. **Melissa Beegle email** – The Board received an email from Melissa Beegle stating she is opposed to rejoining the White Lake Ambulance Authority and a timeline of the events that took place when Fruitland Township withdrew from the authority as well as more recent concerns. She also spoke about the process previous boards used to plan road projects.
- e. **Land Conservancy letter** – The township received a letter from the Land Conservancy of West Michigan that there will be an ecological planned burn at the Anderson Woods Nature Preserve in April or May.
- f. **Fink – Channel Crossing Project** – Received an email from Steven Fink with updates on the Channel Crossing Project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

- a. **Senior Assistance** – The Board discussed allocating portions of the ARPA funds to the Vikings Athletic Center and Living Well Senior Services in addition to the funds already allocated from the Senior Millage Grant.
- b. **Dangerous Buildings** – Both 4434 South Shore Dr – Tanis and 3321 Scenic Dr- Zielinski have been noticed as “Dangerous Buildings” – Supervisor Marcinkowski is working with Attorney Even on the next steps, which will involve Hearing Officers.
- c. **Rosene** – The court case between Rosene and Fruitland Township has been dismissed. Fruitland Township did have to provide some documents requested by Rosene during the case via FOIA, but did the court ruled that no privileged documents need to be provided.
- d. **3321 Scenic Dr** – Repairs have been made to the home without permits. Attorney Even has recommended sending a “Stop Work” notice.
- e. **Friends of Fruitland Township Trails** – Dave Rice gave a presentation for the Friends of Fruitland Township Trails and their hopeful plan for the Duck Creek Natural Area. He gave a summary of phases 1&2 and estimated cost for each phase. They are looking for Board approval to move forward with these phases and also asking the Board to reject the Park Commission’s request to dedicate the DCNA to the Parks and Recreation Commission, publish the DCNA ordinance and notify neighbors surrounding the area, organize a volunteer network and repurpose material left from the removal of the McMillan Road End Stairs. They would also like approval to apply for grants.

Motion by Supervisor Marcinkowski, second by Trustee Lundell,
ADOPTED, to suspend from Robert’s Rules.

Upon Voice Vote: 5_AYES – motion carried

Supervisor Marcinkowski reminded Dave Rice that he would need volunteer waiver forms signed for any volunteers at the work day. He also reminded the Board that any

grants will come with requirements, especially the DNR grant, and that if the requirements are not met Fruitland Township may have to pay the grant money back to the grantor. Supervisor Marcinkowski questioned whether we should be required to get three bids for proposals for the DCNA. Trustee Lundell suggested that maybe we would request multiple bids when the actual work is being done and contractors are being hired. Clerk Fagan responded that we have heard from other companies such as Bob Ford and Pete Bosheff's proposal last year and the Land Conservancy previous to that, and that the Friends of Fruitland Township Trails aren't asking to be paid for their work. Clerk Fagan also reminded the Board that a relationship with the Friends of Fruitland Township Trails was already established in previous years and that the disconnect seems to be connected to Board and member turnover. She also suggested coordinating grant writing with the Greater Muskegon Area Economic Development relationship that has been established with the ARPA fund administration – so that the Board would have more control over the grant writing but also allow FFTT to be involved. Supervisor Marcinkowski will gather more information regarding the grant process and what steps would already need to be in place to apply for grants or whether "start up/seed" money would be necessary to start.

Motion by Trustee Holman second by Trustee Lundell, **ADOPTED**, to unsuspend from Robert's Rules.

Upon Voice Vote: 5 AYES – motion carried

- f. **Request to designate DCNA to Park Commission** – Clerk Fagan commented that the letter requesting the dedication was read to the Board by Carlet Mitenbuler at a previous meeting, but that the Board has not seen an actual copy of the letter and questioned what law she is citing that states all recreation areas must be dedicated to the Parks Commission. Trustee Lundell questioned why the Parks Commission is only requesting this area when there are other recreation areas within the township and how they will handle those areas within their budget when their budget is already at the maximum amount. Clerk Fagan also brought up that the formal dedication of Nestrom Park, Marcus Park, and the Duck Lake Road Park was just done by the previous board in the last three years and questioned why the DCNA was not dedicated at that time if it was "legally required." Supervisor Marcinkowski questioned the information being given to us by Lynn Knopf from the MTA Attorney and whether it is considered "legal advice" since it is not being done through the township attorney's office and nothing has been put in writing.
- g. **Road Projects – chip and seal – sub division roads** – Supervisor Marcinkowski provided information from the Muskegon County Road Commission that recommends a formula of: 50% paid by the MCRC, 25% paid by Fruitland Township and 25% to be paid by the residents via special assessment. Clerk Fagan will look into the process for establishing a special assessment for the road projects.

- h. Ambulance Service Template/Questions** – Supervisor Marcinkowski presented a form he is using to create an information template to get the most important information regarding ambulance service in Fruitland Township out to residents. Trustee Lundell suggested adding something that might be able to give residents an idea of how much their tax bill would increase with White Lake Ambulance Authority and also making an effort to make the information easy to understand by all residents. The Board also discussed a small synopsis of why Fruitland Township withdrew from the White Lake Ambulance Authority but also the updated information about how they have improved since that time, as well as a brief comment about recent response times by ProMed and why this has been brought to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS –

- a. 2022-2023 Budget – First look** – Supervisor Marcinkowski presented the proposed General Fund budget, including the Parks and Recreation Commission budget and stated the budget does balance.
- b. Fireworks Application** – The White Lake Yacht Club is requesting approval for their usual firework shows.
- c. Planning Commission – Zoning Ordinance language changes** – The Planning Commission is recommending language changes for Accessory Buildings and Uses, Lake Michigan Shoreline District, and Inland Lakes District. Trustee Holman shared that the Planning Commission approved the changes unanimously and did not have any public comments during their public hearing.
- d. Road Brining – D&B – MCRC** – Supervisor Marcinkowski provided two quotes for brining in 2022. The Muskegon County Road Commission is approximately double the amount of the D&B Brine quote. The Township has used D&B in the past and many residents complained about the timing and application by the MCRC last year. Supervisor Marcinkowski will check on their lead time and how to schedule brining with D&B Brine.
- e. Ratify Resolution 2021-19 – Regulatory Ordinance Article 63 – Natural Area Conservation District** – This was initially approved in November 2021, but it was not properly published. This needs to be ratified so that it can be properly published and accepted.
- f. Resolutions 2022-07 Establish Depositories for Township Funds; Resolution 2022-10 Citizens Advisory Committees** –
- g. PINS Agreement 2022** – Supervisor Marcinkowski presented the 2022-23 agreement for the PINS program. The cost has increased slightly and will need to be adjusted in the budget.
- h. Citizen’s Advisory Committee Township Property** – The Citizens Advisory Committee for Township Properties has finished their project and provided their recommendations. They will make a full presentation at the Regular Board Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Attached

BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION – Clerk Fagan shared that White Lake Senior Center is having their annual meeting on 3/15/22 at 8:30 am. They also announced on their postcard that their lease with the City of Montague has been renewed and they plan to be able to remain for “years to come.” Clerk Fagan said the website has been updated with the changes requested and after the budget is finalized she will be working with the website designers to finalize everything and receive training to update it. Supervisor Marcinkowski shared that the Gypsy Moth egg count did support spraying this year and he is sending information to the residents on how they can get their property sprayed.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Holman, second by Clerk Fagan, **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the March 14, 2022 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 11:50 AM.

Upon Voice Vote: 5_AYES – motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Breann Fagan, Clerk
Township of Fruitland

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Zoom Chat File:

0:48:13 Vicki Graham: Just wondering if we could add to the senior budget the community open house we had talked about?

00:51:00 Vicki Graham: Also, WLAA, please stress the Current Facts are also brought forth before the community makes a decision.

01:34:07 Vicki Graham: What is happening with our web page? When can we expect it up and running?

01:38:39 Vicki Graham: Me again... I have heard that a township is not required to have a Parks Board. We voted to establish a board. Is this not true? Let alone having them in charge of all our rec. areas.?

01:44:59 Vicki Graham: WLAA, I would like to know what has changed between when we had left them until now and why we should go back to them? OR why should we stay with Pro Med? What are they doing to keep us?

01:48:50 Vicki Graham: We did not vote on the disability insurance? Correct?

01:58:15 Vicki Graham: Do you think if we go with D&B and not the MCRC and at sometime we need to go back to MCRC they will tell us it will be even more expensive than if we just stay with them?