

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD  
WORK SESSION  
FEBRUARY 9, 2015  
MINUTES**

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

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor St. Amour called the Monday, February 9, 2015 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland Board to order at 10:00 AM at the township hall.

**AGENDA:** Supervisor St. Amour asked to amend the agenda by changing a special guest name from Connie Maxim-Sparrow to Greg Leverage and adding FOIA Appeal #4 to New Busienss #1.

Motion by Trustee Bard, second by Trustee Rissi, **ADOPTED**, to accept the amended February 9, 2015 Work Session Agenda.

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

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

**SPECIAL GUESTS** – John Warner, Greg Leverage and Sara Damm all of Muskegon County Public Works spoke to the Board of Trustees about Muskegon County interest in our ecology station. The County is pursuing an initiative in the household recycling and disposal for Muskegon County and is reviewing revenues/costs associated with Dalton, Whitehall area and Fruitland Township to gain information. John Warner stated that they hope to have more information in the coming month and will keep us abreast of happenings. Sara Damm spoke about the possibility of partnering on the Michigan DEQ 2015 Pollution Prevention (P2) Grant of which approximately \$100,000.00 maximum is available due to Governor Snyder's goal to increase residential recycling in Michigan from 14.5% to 30% by 2016. The board is interested to keep talking with the County regarding such interest.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supervisor St. Amour stated that the County Road Commission has furnished a spreadsheet showing the disbursement of funds if the February Election is successful for each township and city in Muskegon County. Fruitland Township could benefit from \$375,000.00 is the millage is passed. Supervisor St. Amour stated that several entities have passed Resolutions supporting the MCRC Road Millage.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. White Lake Ambulance Authority – Supervisor St. Amour stated that he has received backup for the October 2014 Invoice to Fruitland Township for WLAA deficit in 2014. In a brief glance it appears that both fiscal year 2013 and 2014 are included in their backup. After discussion amongst the Board, continued discussion will take place at the Tuesday Regular meeting. Many feel that we had to spend over \$26,000.00 in attorney fees to force the financials to be looked at and confused why 2013 and 2014 invoices are bulked together.

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### 2. Board Subcommittees –

- Fee, Permit, Escrow Schedules – Trustee Deur and Clerk Rillema introduced the proposed fee increases which increases fees for applications for Zoning compliance, Site Plan Review, Subdivisions and Site Condominiums, Special Land Use, Variances, Land Divisions, and Private Streets. Demolition Permits would also be increased and Code Enforcement/Building fees would be increased. Prior Building Official Siegel and Zoning Administrator Sandel were consulted to review fees and suggestions. The fee schedule will not be effective until April 1, 2015 if amended by the Board of Trustees at its next Regular meeting.
- Ecology Station Fees – Supervisor St. Amour and Trustee Rissi introduced the proposed fee increases for the ecology station. The County tipping fee was increased last year by \$3.00 a ton and our current Trash/Recycling vendor raised its hauling fee for tubs last year which both have not been reflected in our current fees. The fee increases would not be effective until April 1, 2015 if amended by the Board of Trustees at its next Regular meeting. New signage would also be needed at the Ecology Station.

### 3. 2015-16 Fiscal Years Proposed Budget – Supervisor St. Amour reviewed the proposed budget for 2015-16 and clarified a few appropriations. The public hearing is scheduled for our next Regular meeting, February 17, 2015 at 5:00 PM. The adoption meeting is scheduled for March 31, 2015 at 10:00 AM.

## NEW BUSINESS:

### 1. FOIA –

Motion by Trustee Rissi, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, to deny Mr. Kruse of his FOIA appeal request dated January 27, 2015 that his request was unresponsive dated January 13, 2015 and uphold the FOIA Coordinator. The FOIA Coordinator responded to his request on January 13, 2015 by responding that the document does not exist within the records of the agency.  
*Upon Voice Vote: **7 AYES - motion carried***

Motion by Trustee Rissi, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, to deny Mr. Kruse of his appeal dated January 27, 2015 that his request was unresponsive dated January 16, 2015 and uphold the FOIA Coordinator. The FOIA Coordinator responded to his request on January 27<sup>th</sup> after locating his request in her email SPAM January 27, 2015 by responding that the document does not exist within the records of the agency.  
*Upon Voice Vote: **7 AYES - motion carried***

Motion by Trustee Rissi, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, to deny Mr. Kruse of his appeal dated February 4, 2015 that his request was denied and uphold the responses of the FOIA Coordinator. The FOIA Coordinator responded to Mr. Kruse's requests for the same information on January 13, 2015 for January 13<sup>th</sup> request, January 27, 2015 for January 15<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> requests and February 2, 2015 for January 28<sup>th</sup>, January 29<sup>th</sup> (7 requests), January 30<sup>th</sup> (3 requests) and February 2<sup>nd</sup> stating that the document does not exist within the records of the agency.  
*Upon Voice Vote: **7 AYES - motion carried***

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Motion by Trustee Rissi, second by Trustee Bard, **ADOPTED**, to deny Mr. Kruse of his appeal dated February 5, 2015 that his request was unresponsive dated January 29, 2015 and uphold the FOIA Coordinator. The FOIA Coordinator responded to his request on February 2, 2015 by responding that the document does not exist within the records of the agency.

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

2. Water Policy Board – Muskegon Township Letter – Supervisor St. Amour stated that the information received in letter form to the Board of Trustees from Muskegon Charter Township is being addressed by the Water Policy Board Attorney. At this time, the Water Policy Board is awaiting okay from one municipality to continue legal action against Muskegon Charter Township for its lack of payment of hydrant maintenance costs.
3. January 2014-15 Budget Amendments – Clerk Rillema discussed the proposed amendments necessary for January. She stated that more may be added before the Tuesday Regular meeting. A motion will be prepared for the Tuesday Meeting.
4. Parks & Recreation Commission Master Plan – A copy of the Proposed 2015 Parks & Recreation Commission Master Plan was provided by the Parks & Recreation Commission for our review. After conversation amongst the Board of Trustees, Liaison Trustee Hampel was tasked to gather information on a timeline for survey, public hearing and final approval as the steps taken thus far are not consistent in years past.
5. Municipal Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund – Supervisor St. Amour received an email on information from Bob Chapla of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County regarding the availability for Municipal Cemetery Perpetual Care funds to be invested through a fund at a Community Foundation. We currently do not have designated funds for our cemetery and are not interested at this time. Supervisor St. Amour will email Mr. Chapla of our disinterest at this time.
6. Public Input on Trails – Trustee Hampel shared an update of happenings from the Friends in support of public foot/bike trails in our township.
7. PINS Update – Supervisor St. Amour received the December 2015 Stats for our PINS program. It will be placed on file in the Clerk’s office for those who would like to review.
8. West Michigan Trails and Greenways Coalition – Supervisor St. Amour shared a letter from Kati Santee of the West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition requesting members of the Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail Commission to contribute \$5,000.00 each to raise a shortfall in funds for the completion of the trail between McMillan Road and the Shoreline Trail in North Muskegon. Caution was taken by the Board of Trustees because no quotes have been received for actual preliminary engineering or construction engineering costs. The funding request is based on an estimated guess. Supervisor St. Amour will contact Ms. Santee and express our caution and at this time, no funds will be sent for the shortfall.
9. Potential Fire Barn Sale – Supervisor St. Amour provided a drawing of the land that could be sold to the White Lake Fire Authority for Fire Station #2 on Duck Lake Road if the February millage proposal is successful.

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10. White Lake Association Dock – Supervisor St. Amour received a letter from the White Lake Association regarding clarification that the dock purchased by them for Scenic Drive Road End is under ownership of Fruitland Township. The White Lake Association is committed to our partnership to raise funds for the continued maintenance and management of the dock and in good faith donates the dock and all associated amenities, including the collection box to the township.
11. Board Comments – There were no board comments.

Motion by Treasurer Beegle, second by Trustee Bard, ***ADOPTED***, to adjourn the Monday, February 9, 2015 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 12:17 PM.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Karolyn Rillema, Clerk  
Township of Fruitland