

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

PRESENT – Treasurer Pachman, Supervisor Marcinkowski, Clerk Fagan, Trustee Graham, Trustee Lundell, Trustee Holman, Trustee Jeske

ALSO PRESENT – (2) Two interested parties

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

AGENDA - Motion by Trustee Lundell, second by Trustee Jeske, ***ADOPTED***, to accept the November 14, 2022 Work Session Township Board Meeting Agenda.
Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT – There were none.

PRESENTATIONS -

- a. **Park Commission – 11/9 meeting update – Bob Murray** – Herb Huch has resigned from the Parks Commission. Bob Murray has been voted as Chairperson, Lynn Knopf is now Vice Chairperson and Carlet Mitenbuler is the Secretary. Parks Commission has a company coming in to do a professional inspection of the bleachers. Most of the last meeting was spent discussing the current budget, future budget and the upcoming Spark Grant. Items they considered with a possible Spark Grant would be repairing the current ring drive and adding additional parking at Nestrom Park, adding sand volleyball with a small shelter, repairing the fence, reinstalling gates, installing lights, cameras and Wi-Fi along the ring road, adding sidewalks to be ADA compliant. They're still looking into tennis court repairs and would possibly add pickleball courts. They're also considering adding permanent restrooms. They have discussed adding a dog park, but there are some disagreements within the Commission. Spark Grant ideas for Marcus Park included parking and a cement pad for a portable restroom, a dock and kayak launce, upgraded play structures. There may not be enough projects to meet the minimum \$100,000 for Marcus Park. Chairman Murray's own opinion is for the Board to consider using the middle section between the Township Hall and Park for additional parking.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS –

- a. **McMillan Road End – Looking at slope stabilization** – Supervisor Marcinkowski spoke with the Conservation Club and they will consider planting along the area but slope stabilization is needed first.

- b. Forest Management – Blank and Lakewood – completed** – The logging/forestry company was able to sell more fallen trees than expected so the payment we received is higher than was expected. The Board discussed using some of the proceeds to plant some natural trees to replant. Supervisor Marcinkowski commented that we had previously applied for trees from the Conservation District but nothing materialized. Trustee Graham discussed working with the Parks Commission to determine where new trees could be planted. Supervisor Marcinkowski also suggested including new trees in the Spark Grants.
- c. Ecology Station attendant** – Dennis Reefman was hired and started 11/5/22 and it seems to be going well. The Board discussed future changes to the Ecology Station, including changing the days it is open.
- d. Devin Barbier** – Eagle Scout Project is complete at the Fruitland Township Cemetery and many people have commented that it looks good. Maintenance Supervisor is planning to put Armed Services flags on the old flag pole.
- e. Tree Removal** – Community Building and Ecology Station have been completed. Township Hall and White River Light Station are scheduled for week of 11/14.
- f. White Lake Drive Road End** - The road end was temporarily blocked off by property owners on either side. MCRC notified and spoke to the owners regarding the road right of way and that MCRC does maintain the road end. It has been re-opened but there may be future issues.
- g. Veteran’s Day dinner in the hall** – Fifty-Four people signed up and approximately 44 showed up. Supervisor Marcinkowski clarified that the food, set up, and clean up is all handled by the Veterans. Trustee Jeske questioned whether we should review our current policy for using the Township Hall.
- h. 2022 MCRC Road Report** – Supervisor Marcinkowski shared the 2022 Road Report from the Muskegon County Road Commission.
- i. Compactor repair – Sebright Products, Inc.** – There are some repairs required on the compactor at the Ecology Station. Supervisor Marcinkowski has approved the work to be done by Sebright, who has always been used in the past.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

- a. Exterior Library lockers** – Supervisor Marcinkowski is still working on concrete pad and walkway but has not been able to get any vendors to send quotes or agree to do the work. We may have to move the lockers inside for the winter and reevaluate moving outside in the Spring.
- b. White Lake Fire Authority Board appointee** – Supervisor Marcinkowski shared James Konieczny’s resume and spoke about his reasons for nominating Mr. Konieczny.
- c. Proposed Agenda format changes** – Supervisor Marcinkowski is proposing some wording changes to current agenda formats. The Board discussed making Work Sessions more relaxed but leaving current wording for Regular Meetings.

NEW BUSINESS –

- a. **Water System Policy Board – Sections 4 and 5 Mandatory Connection** - Supervisor Marcinkowski shared a sample resolution that will become active once the Northside Water Policy Board makes their final approval.
- b. **Jay Rd Assessment Procedure** – Supervisor Marcinkowski shared the Special Assessment Procedure for the Jay Rd Assessment. He is currently waiting on costs updates from the Muskegon County Road Commission.
- c. **SPARK Grant update** – Supervisor Marcinkowski shared the Spark Grant information with the entire Board and may require help as applications are due by December 19, 2022. There will be three rounds of awards, the minimum amount that can be requested is \$100,000 and each grant can only focus on one property. Previous discussions have involved Nestrom Park, Duck Creek Natural Area, and Marcus Park. However, Supervisor Marcinkowski would like the Township Board and the Parks Commission to consider the designated future Community Center property by adding park elements and then use one of the Spark Grants for that property and use general fund/parks commission budget for Marcus Park. He still needs to do some research whether that would be an allowed project. Trustee Jeske questioned using a Spark Grant for parts of the Scenic Road Shoulders project but Supervisor Marcinkowski wasn't sure they could meet the minimum \$100,000 threshold.
- d. **Forest Management – 40 acres – corner of Wabaningo and Nestrom – Elder's Forest Products** – The Board asked Supervisor Marcinkowski to provide additional quotes for this property, with references.
- e. **County Broadband – revised proposal** – Supervisor Marcinkowski shared a revised proposal regarding the countywide broadband, due to some communities not qualifying due to small number of unserved residents. The project is still moving forward.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Carlet Mitenbuler, 4623 Nestrom Rd – Commented on the trees that have been marked to be cutdown. Believes the White Pine in front of the township hall should be left. Asked the Board to consider leaving that tree for now. Commented on using Fire Station 2 as a building rather than a new builder.

Bob Murray, 5582 Duck Lake Rd – Is also very against removing the White Pine. Spoke about also having trouble getting answers from contractors and suggested checking with Duke Schropp to see if he can help get a reply from a concrete company.

BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION –

Clerk Fagan reported a smooth Election Day. There was an overall turn out of approximately 64% with 3205 voters total between in person and absentee voting. She also reported that the

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Community Building required some electrical work due to lightening damage the weekend before the election. The kitchen lights and some wiring for the furnace had to be replaced and we will be looking to get some quotes to have everything checked out for safety reasons. SPLKA is planning to budget for a generator for the White River Light Station and are looking to place more directional signage throughout the area. The new director will start in December and will likely attend an upcoming meeting. Their last day of business for the winter was October 30th. Supervisor Marcinkowski has received one signed lease from Otterbacher/Craft and is still awaiting the signed lease from Byam.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Holman, second by Trustee Jeske, ***ADOPTED***, to adjourn the November 14, 2022 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 11:57 AM.

Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Breann Fagan, Clerk
Township of Fruitland