

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
WORK SESSION MEETING
MARCH 13, 2023 MINUTES**

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

ABSENT - Trustee Holman

ALSO PRESENT – (6) Six interested parties

CALL TO ORDER - Supervisor Marcinkowski called the March 13, 2023, Work Session Meeting to order at 10:00 AM and led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA - Motion by Trustee Jeske, second by Trustee Lundell, **ADOPTED**, to accept the amended March 13, 2023 Work Session Township Board Meeting Agenda.

Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT – There were none.

PRESENTATIONS –

- a. **Bob Murray - Park Commission – 3/6 meeting update – Nestrom Park site plan – SPARK grant** - The Parks Commission continues to work on the site plan and meet with community members and companies for suggestions and quotes. They are considering the suggested land swap but would like to investigate the proposed properties. They are planning to spray Nestrom Road Park for spongy moths. They are considering adding a picnic bench and maybe a small parking lot for their property near the bike trail. They are considering improvements to Marcus Park but would have to acquire more property.

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

Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

Supervisor Marcinkowski discussed the 2022 Spongy Moth spraying and how it was paid for. They also discussed the considered land swap, with Supervisor Marcinkowski mentioning the parcel recently committed for a future Community Center. The Parks Commission is asking the Township Board if communication could be opened with the DNR to see if land could be swapped with the DNR for additional land at Marcus Park. Trustee Lundell suggested adding a kayak

launch and Chairman Murray confirmed that they have discussed that and would like to see it be ADA accessible.

Motion by Supervisor Marcinkowski, second by Trustee Jeske, **ADOPTED**, to return to Robert's Rules.

Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

- b. Dave Rice – DCNA DNR Trust Fund Grant update** – Reported that tree harvesting in the DCNA should be finished in April. Dave continues to put the DNR Trust Fund grant together and is making sure all the deadlines, forms, and quotes are in order and moving forward. Original quote for ADA trails in the entire area were \$500,000+ so he has scaled the project back to just Area A. He has been looking into sourcing materials personally to cut costs rather than paying for material through contractors. He has reached out to Howmet's grant program to ask for a commitment of \$20,000 for 2024 to put towards matching funds for the DNR Trust Fund Grant and is working with a local resident to present to the Rotary Club to ask for donations. His records show that there is currently about \$42,000 towards the \$75,000 match but he asked that the Board consider allocating the remainder so that it is a firm commitment in time to submit the grant. He expressed other options would be to table the grant application until next year or consider not making Area B ADA compliant. He is also asking the Board to consider allowing Friends of Fruitland Township Trails and volunteers to create the bridge without the use of a contractor, but with proper permitting. He has quotes for approximately \$6900 for materials and would ask the Board to contribute \$5000 with the rest being paid for by the Friends of Fruitland Township Trails or his personal funds.

Motion by Supervisor Marcinkowski, second by Trustee Lundell, **ADOPTED**, to suspend from Robert's Rules for discussion.

Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

Supervisor Marcinkowski asked if poles from Consumers Energy could be used in the water due to being treated woods. Dave responded that he will check with EGLE but believes he was told they would be safe to use. Supervisor Marcinkowski suggested using White Oak, as it should last 60+ years in water and suggested contacting Chad Alpers. Trustee Lundell clarified that the Board will need to make a decision about matching the required funds by next Monday's meeting.

Motion by Supervisor Marcinkowski, second by Trustee Lundell, **ADOPTED**, to return to Robert's Rules.

Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS –

- a. **EOR – Fleis&Vandenbrink – PSA** – Supervisor Marcinkowski shared the Professional Services Agreement with Fleis&Vandenbrink.
- b. **MODAS host application** – Supervisor Marcinkowski has completed and sent in the application for the Electric Vehicle Charging Station.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

- a. **Jay Rd paving – Discussion – Gravel upgrade and paving** – Supervisor Marcinkowski discussed the changes that occurred with the cost of the Jay Rd upgrades vs paving from last year vs this year. Previously the Board had agreed to pay \$30,000 for the gravel upgrades as part of the 2022 Road Projects. The residents petitioned to have it paved and take on the increased cost over and above what had already been agreed on, but the project was unable to be scheduled by the MCRC. With the new year, the MCRC has changed the parameters of the project and their cost split and this increased the cost to the residents. The Board will need to decide to either absorb the extra cost on this year's quote, pass the extra cost to the residents, or choose to complete only the originally planned gravel upgrade and let the residents choose to re-petition for the paving. Attorney Even reminded the Board we will need to act on the petition.
- b. **Small Subdivision and other roads – cost review** – Supervisor Marcinkowski and Clerk Fagan met with the MCRC to discuss these projects. The MCRC is now stating that the wedging must be done, the residents cannot choose to only have the chip & seal done as quoted last year. This increases the cost to Fruitland Township by about \$28,000 and increases the cost per parcel for the residents. The Board will need to decide if more funding should be allocated for the projects and whether to move forward with the projects. If approved, new letters will need to be sent to residents to determine if enough residents will sign the petitions with the increased amounts.
- c. **4434 S Shore Dr - Tanis – Court Denied Order for Reconsideration – Quote for Demo** – The Board can approve the demolition of the home. The garage will need to remain as it was not included in the dangerous building hearing.
- d. **3321 Scenic – Quote to Demo** – The mortgage company that currently owns the house has agreed to have the house demolished and will pay within 30 days of invoicing. They are requesting that the septic tank be left.
- e. **Budget Update** – Clerk Fagan shared some changes that have been made since the last meeting, including increased costs to Elections due to the new election laws as well as some lowered amounts due to duplications. The Board discussed additional costs that should be considered for Road Ends.

NEW BUSINESS –

- a. **Senior Services – Transportation – Pioneer Resources - ARPA** – Supervisor Marcinkowski would like to consider allocating some of the Living Word Senior Services allocation of \$25,000 toward other transportation options for township residents.
- b. **Spongy Moth spraying** – Spongy moth spraying information will be communicated to residents as it was last year. Supervisor Marcinkowski is suggesting we continue to spray the Nestrom Road Park and the Township Hall grounds, via the Parks Specialty Fund, as we did last year.
- c. **Timber Purchase Agreement – Michillinda** – The next area for tree harvesting will be township property located between Todd Rd and Michillinda Rd.
- d. **Berry Junction Trail – Maintenance, seal coat - request ARPA allocation of \$18,000** – Supervisor Marcinkowski is recommending the Board take no action on the Berry Junction Trail at that time as he believes the maintenance is not needed at this time and would like to reconsider in a few years as well as research grant opportunities to cover the costs.
- e. **Todd Rd – Weber to Lorenson – recommend letter to residents for them to petition Water Resources Commissioner for drain structure replacement** – Todd road continues to be a concern for residents. Supervisor Marcinkowski has started the conversation with the Water Resources Commission and the MCRC and encouraged residents to reach out to them as well. Coordination will be required to get Todd Rd repaired correctly and completely.
- f. **Community Center – bathroom floor repairs – Lanthier Construction \$2,974** – Supervisor Marcinkowski was alerted that the toilets were wobbly/not secured to the floor, and when our Maintenance Supervisor went to repair, it was found that the floor was damaged and needed immediate repair. More work will be required.
- g. **Agent Authorization Letter – Westshore Engineering and Survey – Attorney Reviewing** – Supervisor Marcinkowski has asked the Attorneys to review a letter from Westshore Engineering regarding the fire barn property.
- h. **Emergency furnace repairs at the Community Building** – Clerk Fagan was contacted on March 6th because the furnace was not working at the Community Building. Scheid was called to investigate and it was determined that a new control board was needed. Scheid stated it should be approximately \$1400 and was repaired on March 8th.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Carlet Mitenbuler, 4623 Nestrom – Jeff Lanthier built her home and does great work and thinks outside the box. He is a great engineer.

BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION – Trustee Lundell would like to see a Solar ordinance put together now instead of waiting, due to issues happening at White River Township. Planning Commission had tabled the issue to wait to see what other municipalities were doing. Trustee

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Jeske asked what needs to be done with the vacancy on the Parks Commission, and Attorney Even responded that the Board needs to appoint someone. Trustee Jeske also asked that the sign for the Ecology Station, which Supervisor Marcinkowski will work on. Clerk Fagan shared that absentee ballot applications have been mailed. AFLAC open enrollment is soon and they will be sending information out for anyone who may want to add self-paid coverage. If anyone is interested, they will be here at 12pm on March 30th, for questions and enrollment.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Lundell, second by Trustee Jeske, ***ADOPTED***, to adjourn the March 13, 2023 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 12:22 AM.

Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Breann Fagan, Clerk
Township of Fruitland