

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP  
WORK SESSION MEETING  
APRIL 10, 2023 MINUTES**

**PRESENT** – Treasurer Pachman (left at 11:15 am), Supervisor Marcinkowski, Clerk Fagan, Trustee Graham, Trustee Lundell, Trustee Jeske, Trustee Holman

**ABSENT** -

**ALSO PRESENT** – (2) Two interested parties

**CALL TO ORDER** - Supervisor Marcinkowski called the April 10, 2023, Work Session Meeting to order at 10:02 AM and led the pledge of allegiance.

**AGENDA** - Motion by Trustee Lundell, second by Trustee Jeske, **ADOPTED**, to accept the amended April 10, 2023 Work Session Township Board Meeting Agenda.

*Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried*

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – There were none.

**PRESENTATIONS** –

- a. **Bob Murray - Park Commission – 4/3 meeting update** – The Sodini Field sign has been installed, and the Parks Commission is considering a plaque with a short explanation. Katy Bradford was suggested to be appointed to the Parks Commission to replace Commissioner Huch and introduced herself at the last meeting. The Parks Commission would support her appointment. Chairman Murray has been getting ready for the upcoming baseball season and has confirmed that our field will be used for the upcoming season. A bleacher inspection recently cited a few safety issues on our bleachers and Chairman Murray has begun to explore whether the repairs and suggestions can be done in house. Incoming numbers for the Nestrom Road Park Spark Grant plans are coming in much higher than expected, so they are working on splitting the dream plan into phases. Parks Commission would like to ensure that the restrooms and pickleball courts stay in the Phase 1 plan. A land swap has been suggested to acquire more land for Marcus Park from the DNR, and they are suggesting that Fruitland Township consider swapping some of the property at Wabaningo. A local teacher reached out to ask if her class could build and install a boot cleaning station and was approved by the Parks Commission.

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

*Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried*

Trustee Holman questioned why the Parks Commission position took so long to fill. The Board discussed a lack of interest and disconnect between the Township Board and Parks Commission on who was responsible for finding a new member. The vacancy was posted on the website and sent via e-news.

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

*Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried*

- b. Dave Rice – DCNA DNR Trust Fund Grant update** – David Rice shared that the DNR Trust Fund Grant was submitted prior to the deadline. Determination will not happen until the end of the year, but we should hear throughout the year if there are any questions or if we receive initial approval. The EGLE permit has been started for Bridge 1 over Duck Creek, which connects sections A & B. Dave is hopeful that the bridge can begin to be built this summer using volunteers and some donated materials. Cleaning and maintaining the trails is ongoing and ramping up. The Friends of Fruitland Trails booth at the White Lake Business Expo went well and they received many supportive comments and some donations.

Motion by Trustee Graham, second by Trustee Jeske, **ADOPTED**, to suspend from Robert's Rules for discussion.

*Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried*

Trustee Graham asked about plans if the grant is not awarded. Dave discussed applying again in future years as well as other funding opportunities that have come up during the grant writing process. Admittedly, the ADA trails are costly and may not be able to be completed without a large funding award. Trustee Graham suggested reaching out to Home Depot for help building a kiosk.

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

*Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried*

- c. Mike Holman – Planning Commission meeting 4/6 – update** – Planning Commission met on April 6<sup>th</sup> and elected officers for the year. David Roesler was voted as the Chairman again. They have been researching solar farm ordinances, especially with the ongoing issues in White River Township. Current ordinances just require a permit for ground installed solar panels, or a permit and electrical permit for solar panels placed on homes. They will continue to investigate.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS –**

- a. **Meeting with Pioneer Resources – Senior Transportation** – Supervisor Marcinkowski is meeting with Pioneer Resources to discuss whether this should be considered using ARPA funding. Trustee Jeske mentioned that transportation was offered the first year and was not used.
- b. **EV Charging Station - MODAS host – ZOOM meeting – site survey – third party management** – Supervisor Marcinkowski has a meeting today to discuss the site evaluation to determine if they think this would be a good site for them.
- c. **Scenic Dr Road end ramp – sand and rock removal – David Ridders – volunteer waiver signed** – David Ridders has begun to clear out some rocks and sand at the boat launch, but there are some large rocks that may need to be marked so that boaters can see them. Trustee Holman suggested contacting Herb Huch to see if his son can help with the removal of larger rocks.
- d. **White Lake Youth Sports Club – soccer field use – Troy Van Geison – volunteer waiver signed** – The WLYSC will be using the soccer field this year.
- e. **Concrete pad is in for library lockers – Duke Schropp** – Concrete pad has been installed.
- f. **Regional Water System Policy Board – letter to the City of Muskegon, agenda, water quality and cross connection reports** – The Regional Water System Policy Board has written a letter regarding how the costs are divided and paid, which will be sent to the City of Muskegon. Also included were water quality reports and they have recommend placing these reports on our website.
- g. **Demo of 3321 Scenic Dr and 4434 South Shore Dr** – Scheduling possibly for Mid-May due to Utility Company project schedule. Supervisor will continue to update the Board as dates are settled.
- h. **Attorney letter to Steve and Debra Beck – 3319 Scenic Dr – Dangerous Building** – The home is on the edge of the bluff and has begun to fall. Val Jensen has been keeping an eye on the home and believes action needs to be taken at this time.
- i. **Gypsy Moth Spraying application** – Has been completed.
- j. **Muskegon Area Conservation District** – Hemlock Woolly Adelgid project begins this month. The Conservation District will place traps and be out every two weeks to check and replace the traps.
- k. **ARPA Annual Report – GMED starting to work on report – Due April 30**
- l. **Citations and Court dates** –

Buxton – April 10, 2023 at 11:00am

Thompson – April 12, 2023 at 9:30 am

Cabrero – April 12, 2023 at 9:30 am

- m. **Letter to Larry Royster – Clerk of the Court Michigan Supreme Court** – Supervisor Marcinkowski prepared this letter with the help of Attorney Even

- n. **Senior Snow Plowing for winter season – Living Word Church – 303 pushes - \$11,665.50 – ARPA**
- o. **Letter to Joshua Springstead – 2525 Simonelli Rd – Val Jensen sent to resident regarding a new build that has not had any work completed in a few years.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS –**

- a. **Jay Rd – gravel upgrade - MCRC – Supervisor Marcinkowski asked for an updated contract from last years agreement for Jay Rd gravel upgrade. He is still waiting on schedule confirmation.**
- b. **Small Subdivision and other roads – letters mailed with petitions –** Petitions have started to come in, as well as questions about the changes. Supervisor Marcinkowski has a meeting with Doug Drive residents this week. Petitions are due April 28.
- c. **Community Center – bathroom floor repairs – Lanthier Construction should begin the repairs this week.**
- d. **McMillan Rd End dune stabilization – quote - The Dune Grass Man –** Clerk Fagan met with Tom from Olde Paths Industries. He stated that the dune grass would help with the erosion and runoff but cannot withstand if the water level increases and takes out the stairs or dune. Clerk Fagan will work on tracking down some reviews/references.
- e. **Scenic Drive Road end parking –** Supervisor Marcinkowski is working with Engineer of Record to complete road commission and county applications and oversee work.
- f. **Scenic Drive Safe Street Initiative – Feasibility Study – EOR - \$15,800 split with Laketon Twp - \$5,000 allocated (ARPA) – request additional \$2,900 (ARPA)**

**NEW BUSINESS –**

- a. **Weather Station at WRLS – sensor not functioning – replacement requested**
- b. **Land Exchange with the DNR to increase the size of Marcus Park –** With the current size of the land at Marcus Park, more land would be necessary to do any improvements at Marcus Park. It was suggested that Fruitland Township offer a land swap of township owned land at Wabaningo for some of the DNR land next to Marcus Park.
- c. **Well – Township Cemetery – quote – ARPA –** Supervisor shared the quote from Central Wells. The Board discussed whether this is a typical cost for a well and were happy with the amount quoted. If the Board approves, Supervisor Marcinkowski will work on scheduling an install date.
- d. **Transfer Station – site plan – Part 115–** New laws and regulations are coming from the state level for transfer stations/recycling centers and funding may be available to improve our ecology station to support the requirements. Also provided an example of a new hours of operation sign. Clerk Fagan will send the 2022-2023 Ecology Station report this week.

- e. **Trailer request** – Maintenance Supervisor Arron Ferris is requesting a new dump trailer, which would be easier to use than the box truck. He has been looking for options that would make his job more efficient and lower the amount of help needed in the fall. He is suggesting we sell the box truck to purchase.
- f. **Park Commission – Open spot** – Supervisor Marcinkowski and the Parks Commission recommend Katy Bradford.
- g. **Any size load \$5 dump day** – The Board discussed the \$5 any size load dump cards for May and discussed that Muskegon County has delayed their free dump day until the Fall so the township will not offer one this spring. Sprague Auto has reached out to ask if we could share their information with residents as they are a licensed salvage yard and can help residents clean up old vehicles and scrap metal. This could be included in a letter to all residents regarding the ecology station prices and \$5 any size load for May.
- h. **Main copier** – Current copier is 7 years old and leased through Office Machines in Muskegon. We are currently happy with their service and cost, but the copier has required more upkeep and service lately. Clerk Fagan will start gathering quotes and information to consider upgrade to newer model.
- i. **Nestrom Park Cost Estimate – Fles&Vandenbrink** – Costs for the initial plan for the Nestrom Road Park Spark Grant request are higher than anticipated. Work is being done to divide the large project into phases and focus on what is most important for this grant application.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – There were none.

**BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION** – Trustee Holman would like to see a part of the maintenance building portioned off and insulated and then heated so that the maintenance team can work in there during the colder seasons and during bad weather. The board discussed the part time summer maintenance position and advertising to the schools to fill the position. Trustee Graham asked about the Duck Lake Dune Cemetery, and the posts are available, and maintenance should be able to get them installed soon. Supervisor Marcinkowski suggested cleaning up the current information marker and adding one at the top of the stairs. Clerk Fagan spoke on a prior board member that is no longer with us; “May they be remembered for their fierce devotion to Fruitland Township.” Clerk Fagan also shared that absentee ballots are available for the May 2, 2023 election and sample ballots and election information can be found in the lobby/hallway of the township hall. Trustee Holman asked for an update on the White Lake Fire Authority Articles of Incorporation. Supervisor Marcinkowski shared that the WLFA Board is going through the Articles of Incorporation section by section, but reminded everyone that any changes will have to be approved by each municipality before it is accepted. Trustee Holman asked how the WLFA can afford to have two people on per shift, and is also questioning raises requested by the Chief, new vehicles, and other budget and staffing concerns. Supervisor Marcinkowski expressed that the WLFA may be seeking a millage increase

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next year. The Board had a long discussion regarding the representation of Fruitland Township on the White Lake Fire Authority.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Trustee Holman, second by Trustee Jeske, ***ADOPTED***, to adjourn the April 10, 2023 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 12:30 PM.

*Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried*

Respectfully Submitted,

Breann Fagan, Clerk  
Township of Fruitland