

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
WORK SESSION MEETING
AUGUST 14, 2023 MINUTES**

PRESENT –Supervisor Marcinkowski, Trustee Graham, Trustee Lundell, Clerk Fagan, Treasurer Pachman, Trustee Jeske, Trustee Holman (left at 11:08am)

ALSO PRESENT – (3) Three interested parties

CALL TO ORDER - Supervisor Marcinkowski called the August 14, 2023, Work Session Meeting to order at 10:00 AM and led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA - Motion by Trustee Lundell, second by Treasurer Pachman, **ADOPTED**, to accept the amended August 14, 2023 Work Session Township Board Meeting Agenda.
Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Steve Serkaian, Sheltering Way, Via Zoom – Has complaints about the White Lake Fire Authority’s policy to require fire suppression systems in homes built on private roads with a grade greater than 10%. Remarked that Fruitland Township ordinances and building codes do not reflect this change by the White Lake Fire Authority and this has caused expensive issues with his current new build.

PRESENTATIONS –

- a. **Lisa Tyler – Senior Resources** - Commended Trustee Graham and Fruitland Township for the success of Senior Palooza and explained the purpose of Senior Resources and the services they offer, as well as details about the Senior Millage Grant.

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

Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried

Motion by Trustee Lundell, second by Treasurer Pachman, **ADOPTED**, to remain suspended from Robert’s Rules for discussion/questions during the remaining presentation.

Upon Voice Vote: 7 AYES – motion carried

- b. **Bob Murray - Park Commission – 8/9 meeting update** – Commissioner Murray summarized the most recent Parks Commission meeting. The Parks Commission supports swapping with the DNR for additional land near Marcus Park. They had a long discussion regarding the

portable restroom issues this season and will plan to increase the number of portable restrooms next summer. The Commission continues to discuss locations and set up for a future dog park, and is planning to move forward with Trunk or Treat this year but are waiting to determine a date. They reviewed the Food Truck Ordinance and are supportive. They wondered if the number of permits would be limited and questioned an increase in the amount of trash. Trustee Holman remarked that a Parks Commission member should be checking in with the parks during big event weekends. Commissioner Murray and the Board discussed some possible solutions to the garbage issues as well.

- c. **Dave Rice – DCNA/FFTT update** – David Rice gave an update for the Friends of Fruitland Township Trails. They are still waiting on updates from EGLE for trail/bridge construction and DNR regarding the DNR Trust Fund Grant. The kiosk is still being completed.

David Rice, Commissioner Murray and Supervisor Marcinkowski discussed possible land swaps in the future to combine the current Duck Lake Road Park that is controlled by the Parks Commission with the Duck Creek Natural Area. David commented that he does not see an issue with Charles Carson using his lawn tractor in the trails.

Motion by Trustee Graham, second by Trustee Lundel, ADOPTED, to return to Robert's Rules.

Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

- ~~d. **Mike Holman – Planning Commission – 8/3 meeting update**~~

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS –

- a. **Small Subdivision and other roads** – Supervisor Marcinkowski shared an update from the Muskegon County Road Commission regarding an asphalt cost increase. This increase is likely above the 10% allowed increase. The Board will need to decide if they will cover the increased charge, pass some of it onto the residents (up to the 10%) or wait until spring as recommended by the MCRC. Attorney Even stated the approved Special Assessments remain active for up to two years.

Motion by Supervisor Marcinkowski, second by Trustee Lundell, ADOPTED, to delay the Special Assessment work until spring in hopes of a more competitive asphalt price.

Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

- b. **Summer Part Time Maintenance Position** – Position has been filled by Rodney Gifford who started on August 1, 2023.
- c. **Letters to residents** – EGLE has been sending citation letters to residents regarding temporary sand bag removal
- d. **3319 Scenic** – Steven Beck has committed to putting a plan together for repair and has agreed to a Structural Engineer to inspect for Dangerous Building in September if the plan is not available.

- e. **Recycling Feasibility Study for County** – Supervisor Marcinkowski provided a recycling feasibility study done by the County with new environmental guidelines per the state.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

- a. **Township Hall AC** – Martech has a back log and we are waiting on installation date
- ~~b. **Mobile Food Business Ordinance – Food cart/truck**~~
- c. **Planning Commission** – There is still an open position for the Planning Commission. Supervisor Marcinkowski will make sure the information is shared with residents again.
- d. **Track Chair for Duck Lake State Park** – Supervisor Marcinkowski wanted to bring the Track Chair back up for discussion as we consider how to allocate the remaining ARPA funds.

NEW BUSINESS –

- a. **Township Survey** – Supervisor Marcinkowski used his contacts from Grand Valley State University to put together a survey he would like to have sent to residents regarding millages. He is looking for Board thoughts, suggestions and comments by next week.
- b. **Berry Junction trail** – There is a request to place a roof structure over existing information kiosk and are looking for an approval letter from Township. Supervisor Marcinkowski believes this would also need to be approved by the DNR.
- c. **DCNA** – Charles Carson is a disabled resident that lives next door to the Duck Creek Natural Area and uses his lawn tractor to get around as he does not have a motorized wheel chair. He is requesting a permit to ride lawn tractor on trails. The Board discussed whether a policy change could be made that would still be fair to all residents without allowing all motorized vehicles. The Board would like to investigate other options for track chairs that could be used on our trails.
- d. **Office furnishings** - Supervisor Marcinkowski has started looking at new office furniture for the Township Hall. He will put together an RFQ based on the suggestions made by Grand River Office.
- e. **WRLS – Invasive Species** – Japanese Knotweed has been found by resident at the WRLS. Supervisor Marcinkowski contacted MCD for removal.
- f. **Scenic Drive Road End Parking Area** – RFQ was published WLB 8/6 and 8/13, there have not been any inquiries so far.
- g. **Tree removal** – Supervisor Marcinkowski is recommending tree removal on the north and south sides of parking lot. Removal of these trees will help with snow removal and stop the roots from breaking up the cement. He will work on obtaining more quotes and show the location of the trees.
- h. **Tranquil Trail Road Assessment** – Resident of Tranquil Trail claimed the second letter was misleading and thought it only needed to be signed if he did not sign last year. The Board discussed that this could be an option in the future but would like to focus on finishing the initial seven subdivision districts at this time.
- i. **Closed Session to discuss legal opinion from Attorney** –
Motion by Trustee Jeske, second by Trustee Lundell, **ADOPTED**, to enter into closed session at 12:01 PM

Roll Call Vote: Trustee Graham **AYE**, Clerk Fagan **AYE**, Trustee Lundell **AYE**, Treasurer Pachman **AYE**, Trustee Jeske **AYE**, Supervisor Marcinkowski **AYE**, Trustee Holman **ABSENT** – **motion carried**

Motion by Trustee Jeske, second by Clerk Fagan, **ADOPTED**, to return to open session at 12:15 PM

Roll Call Vote: Trustee Graham **AYE**, Clerk Fagan **AYE**, Trustee Lundell **AYE**, Treasurer Pachman **AYE**, Trustee Jeske **AYE**, Supervisor Marcinkowski **AYE**, Trustee Holman **ABSENT** – **motion carried**

Motion by Trustee Jeske, second by Trustee Lundell, **ADOPTED**, that the Supervisor and the Township’s environmental counsel be given full authority, short of the expenditure of funds, to work with representatives of EGLE to address the concerns with the Property located at 5281 Michillinda Road, Whitehall, MI 49461; the Township Ecology Station.

Roll Call Vote: Trustee Graham **AYE**, Clerk Fagan **AYE**, Trustee Lundell **AYE**, Treasurer Pachman **AYE**, Trustee Jeske **AYE**, Supervisor Marcinkowski **AYE**, Trustee Holman **ABSENT** – **motion carried**

PUBLIC COMMENT – There were none.

BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION – Clerk Fagan shared that a resident has requested that buoys be placed in Duck Lake along the beach at Nestrom Road Park. Clerk Fagan also shared that a “Gentle Stretch” class will be offered at the Township Hall through AgeWell. It will start in October. The Board continued to discuss upgrades to the township hall furniture and flooring and would like to see some new suggestions for the Board seating in the meeting room.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Graham, second by Trustee Jeske, **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the August 14, 2023 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 12:29 AM.

Upon Voice Vote: **6 AYES** – **motion carried**

Respectfully Submitted,

Breann Fagan, Clerk
Township of Fruitland