

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
WORK SESSION MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2025 MINUTES**

PRESENT – Supervisor Marcinkowski, Treasurer Roggero, Clerk Steffes, Trustee VanOosterhout

ABSENT – Trustee Cross, Trustee Brower, Trustee Holman

ALSO PRESENT – Attorney McGahan + 10 interested parties

CALL TO ORDER – Supervisor Marcinkowski called the August 11, 2025, Work Session Meeting to order at 10:00 AM and led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA - Motion by Clerk Steffes, second by Trustee VanOosterhout, ***ADOPTED***, to accept the August 11, 2025 Work Session Township Board Meeting Agenda as amended.
Upon Voice Vote: 4 AYES – motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Carlet Mitenbuler- inquired about needs-based purpose of a community building, cost and how it would be paid for

Lynn Wiedrich- Spoke about the natural beauty of Fruitland Township and about her opposition to spraying pesticides to clear the road right of ways. She provided signatures from residents opposing road right of way spraying and advocated on behalf of the dogs that walk along the streets of Fruitland Township.

Tom Wiedrich- Spoke about how the EPA does not test the pesticides, only the ingredients. Opposed spraying the road right of ways due to the potential for the chemicals and carcinogens seeping into the wells. Asked the township to consider prohibiting the use of pesticides for spraying the road right of way.

Lynn Knopf- Suggested having an advisory committee to look into what options are available for maintaining the road right of ways. She also discussed the issues the salt that is sprayed on the roads is causing in local lakes and their natural ecosystems.

Tyler Grove- Advocated for preserving the natural biodiversity along the roadsides.

PRESENTATIONS –

- a. **Serkaian's – Building issue – 6555 Sheltering Way-** Discussed their experience with the WLFA and the requirements for a fire suppression system. Mr. Serkaian read the letter from his attorney to Fruitland Township and the WLFA. He presented the board with a letter from previous Zoning Administrator, Val Jensen, on Fruitland Township Letterhead.
- b. **Lynn Knopf – Park Commission -8/4 meeting update-** Lynn provided an update about the Nestrom Park restrooms, the movie night, the baseball field at Nestrom Park and the request from the Township Board asking for land for a potential community building.
- c. **Dave Rice – DCNA update –** Dave provided an update about the progress of Bridge #3. They have a tentative plan to have a celebration for the completed Bridge in mid-September. Muskegon County Conservation has been treating the Hemlocks in DCNA.
- d. **Aaron Ferris – Maintenance Supervisor –** Proposed taking on additional duties, including cemetery management, working with contractors, and supervising maintenance staff and ecology station.

Motion by Supervisor Marcinkowski, second by Treasurer Roggero,
ADOPTED, to suspend Roberts Rules for the duration of Presentations.
Upon Voice Vote: 4 AYES – motion carried

Motion by Supervisor Marcinkowski, second by Trustee VanOosterhout,
ADOPTED, to reinstate Roberts Rules.
Upon Voice Vote: 4 AYES – motion carried

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS –

- a. **August Check disbursement report-** will be placed on file
- b. **August Ordinance Enforcement report-** will be placed on file
- c. **August Zoning Report-** will be placed on file
- d. **August PINS Report-** will be placed on file

FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP AUGUST 11, 2025 WORK SESSION MINUTES

- e. **Citizen's Advisory Committee – Community Center** – proposed location on current township property
- f. **BLOX Container building for transfer station**- Provided schedule for production and installation of building
- g. **Town Hall Meeting – 9/9**- Confirmed WLAA will be in attendance
- h. **Gaule – 4290 Weber – Default Judgment and Order**- Will be placed on file
- i. **Beck's – 3319 Scenic** – Summary Disposition Hearing will take place on August 12

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

- a. **Nestrom Park Restrooms- BLOX container or conventional build**- Preliminary budget for each option included.

NEW BUSINESS –

- a. **Review and Renewal/Approval of Franchise Ordinance Article R6** – Final draft will be presented at Regular Board meeting.
- b. **RESOLUTION 2025-25 RESOLUTION FOR MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR ON FRUITLAND #1 DRAIN**- Supervisor Marcinkowski will get more information about the estimated cost of maintenance
- c. **RESOLUTION 2025-26 RESOLUTION REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE BOARD OF APPEALS – for 6435 Sheltering Way**
- d. **ROW “NO SPRAY” program discussion**- The Road Commission advised that the township would have to clear 15 feet out from the edge of the road and 15 feet up from the ground. Discussed a citizens advisory committee and providing more information to residents.
- e. **State Revenue Sharing**- Discussed impact of reduced state funding
- f. **Planning Commission Master Plan recommendation**- The Planning Commission decided to completely rewrite the Master Plan rather than making changes to the existing plan.
- g. **Adam Stark** – Supervisor Marcinkowski discussed appointing Mr. Stark to WLFA Board open position
- h. **Traffic and Safety Review Proposal – Fleis & Vandenbrink – MCRC email on traffic study**
- i. **Employee Manual**- tabled until next meeting
- j. **Policies & Procedures Manual**- tabled until next meeting
- k. **Earned Sick Time Policy**- tabled until next meeting
- l. **VC3 Computer and Windows 11 Upgrade Quote**

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Tylor Grove- Discussed placing No Trespassing Signs in the areas where DCNA turns into private property as it is not marked. Discussed using drones to plant native plants or see if there is any ability to use drones to clip overgrown areas. He discussed a Labor Day parade on Nestrom.

FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP AUGUST 11, 2025 WORK SESSION MINUTES

Lynn Wiedrich- Stated she has a contact that can help the township with options for maintaining the road right of ways as well as a wildflower/pollinator program.

Carlet Mitenbuler- Stated P&R had someone discuss pollinating at the gardens at WLCL and the township hall, so that may be another option. Discussed a survey for a Community Center to see if the residents are interested. Thanked Supervisor Marcinkowski for his work to improve safety on Whitehall Rd. Discussed the restroom at Nestrom Park and the picnic table on the beach.

BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION –

Clerk Steffes stated she would be out of office 8/12-8/15.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Clerk Steffes, second by Treasurer Roggero, ***ADOPTED***, to adjourn the August 11, 2025 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 12:29 PM.

Upon Voice Vote: **4 AYES – motion carried**

Respectfully Submitted,

Alexa Steffes, Clerk
Township of Fruitland