

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
WORK SESSION MEETING
OCTOBER 14, 2025 MINUTES**

PRESENT – Supervisor Marcinkowski, Treasurer Roggero, Trustee VanOosterhout, Trustee Cross, Trustee Brower, Trustee Holman

ABSENT – Clerk Steffes

ALSO PRESENT – Attorney McGahan + interested parties

CALL TO ORDER – Supervisor Marcinkowski called the October 14, 2025, Work Session Meeting to order at 10:06 AM and led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA - Motion by Trustee Holman, second by Treasurer Roggero, **ADOPTED**, to accept the October 14, 2025 Work Session Township Board Meeting Agenda as amended.
Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

PRESENTATIONS –

- a. **Pete McCarthy – White Lake Fire Authority Chief-** Chief McCarthy was not present, WLFA Board Member Jeff Goss advised due to pending litigation involving WLFA Chief McCarthy will not be attending the upcoming FT Board Meetings and Mr. Goss will be the representative from WLFA in his place. Stated that there was good attendance at the Fire Prevention Open House, they had first responders provide a fire prevention program at Shoreline Elementary and they are working on other area elementary schools. Next WLFA meeting is 10/21 at 7 PM. They are working on a new website that will be more interactive. They are looking into the logistics of recording their meetings. They are also reviewing their Policies & Procedures. Stated they are in good shape with their equipment and man power.

Motion by Supervisor Marcinkowski, second by Trustee Holman,
ADOPTED, to suspend Roberts Rules.
Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

~~b. Dave Rice – Duck Creek Natural Area update-~~

c. **Mike Holman – Planning Commission meeting - 10/2-** Provided PC Meeting update.

- d. **Lynn Knopf – Parks Commission meeting – 10/6-** Provided P&R Meeting update. They are in discussion about the type of bathrooms they want to move forward with, they are leaning towards the traditional restrooms rather than the shipping container. Advised they are planning the Trunk or Treat for 10/31. Advised for next years' budget they aren't looking for anything big other than the bathrooms.

Motion by Trustee Holman, second by Trustee Cross, **ADOPTED**, to reinstate Roberts Rules.

Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS –

- a. **September Check disbursement and budget amendment reports-** Will be placed on file
- b. **September Ordinance Enforcement report-** Will be placed on file
- c. **September Zoning Report-** Will be placed on file
- d. **September PINS Report-** Will be placed on file
- e. **September Revenue and Expenditure Report and Cash Investments Report-** Will be placed on file. Treasurer Roggero explained the Cash Investments Report changes- Moved funds from Huntington Account into Huntington Liquidity Portal, Closed Route 31, Fifth Third and Comerica and transferred into Michigan Class.
- f. **Special Meeting – 10/8 – Consultants, Planning, Parks, ZBA and Twp Board – minutes-** Will be placed on file. Supervisor Marcinkowski and Trustee VanOosterhout are will sit as board members for the Steering Committee and will represent the board's interests.
- g. **CAC “No Spray in the Road ROW” – meeting 10/1-** CAC has not provided information from their 10/1 meeting, Supervisor Marcinkowski will make this available once he receives it.
- h. **Community Foundation – Make A Wish – Youth Soccer Field - \$45,000.00-** Supervisor Marcinkowski submits this project as a request each year for a donor to choose from.
- i. **State Revenue Sharing-** Approximately \$28K reduction in State Revenue Sharing due to changes in state budget.
- j. **Abandoned buildings taken down on Nestrom and Orshal roads-** The potentially dangerous buildings located at 4720 Orshal and 3720 Nestrom were demolished.
- k. **Beck's demolition permit-** Township is not approving the demolition permit due to the pending litigation with the Becks.
- l. **DTE Energy Efficiency Makeover –** Supervisor Marcinkowski applied but has not heard back.
- m. **Scott St. Pierre Email- Update of status of sale of Township Properties-** The last parcel on Whitehall Rd closed last week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

- a. **Additions to Maintenance staff** – Overview of budget impacts, approximate increase of \$21,349 salary increase and \$45,000 for additional truck.
- b. **Transfer station office – BLOX revised quote for port-a-jon screen walls-** will be placed on file
- c. **Community Center Proposed Location-** Supervisor Marcinkowski discussed logistics for putting a community center on the Twp Property near the Township Hall. Also brought up land on Riley Thompson and doing a joint community center with Dalton Township.
- d. **Ambulance Services-** Supervisor Marcinkowski advised that only White Lake Ambulance Authority responded to the RFP with a proposal of \$200,000 for a one year contract. He provided options for paying for that contract, including using the Special Contingency Fund and the option of a Special Assessment. He stated his opinion that if we did a Special Assessment it should only be on parcels that have a residence, not vacant parcels.

NEW BUSINESS –

- a. **Rescind Regulatory Ordinance Article R58 Fire Code-** Supervisor Marcinkowski discussed his opinion that the WLFA is able to adopt ordinances through the articles of incorporation and as a result doesn't see the need for the township to have this ordinance. Trustee VanOosterhout asked if it is recommended for townships to have a fire code adopted. Attorney McGahan stated the ordinances the WLFA is allowed to adopt are very limited and the WLFA can only enforce ordinances adopted by the township.
- b. **Dangerous Building Hearing – White Lake Cabins – Scheduled for 11/21 at 9am**
- c. **State Sovereignty Resolution- Proposed by Gary Griner-** Trustee Brower stated he sees some value in the resolution but wasn't happy with how it was written and his concern is that we do not have the authority to establish something like that. Supervisor Marcinkowski advised we have a Governor, Attorney General, State Constitution, Federal Government, Cabinet, Etc. that establish laws about State Sovereignty. He stated he is for the rule of law and does not want to adopt something to change what is constitutionally allowed. Stated he does not believe Fruitland Township alone can change a state or federal law and the resident should take it to the state level if he wants to see a law changed.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Carlet Mitebuler- 4623 Nestrom Rd- Asked about the flooring of the Nestrom Park Restrooms as they were presented as wood at the P&R Meeting but the ecology station container office is on cement.

Motion by Supervisor Marcinkowski, second by Trustee Holman, **ADOPTED**, to suspend Roberts Rules.

Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

Supervisor Marcinkowski explained some details about the container versus traditional restroom.

Motion by Supervisor Marcinkowski, second by Trustee Cross, **ADOPTED**, to reinstate Roberts Rules.

Upon Voice Vote: 6 AYES – motion carried

BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION –

Supervisor Marcinkowski discussed the compactor at the ecology station, no other transfer stations have compactors, they just have open top bins. Asked the board to consider removing the compactor once the existing one fails.

Trustee VanOosterhout brought up his concerns about the fire suppression system issues and asked how to proceed to get more information and answers.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Brower, second by Trustee Cross, **ADOPTED**, to adjourn the October 14, 2025 Work Session of the Township of Fruitland at 12:00 PM.

Upon Voice Vote: 5 AYES – motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Alexa Steffes, Clerk
Township of Fruitland