

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP BOARD
Regular Meeting of August 9, 2010

1. Call to Order

Township Supervisor Frank Force called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

F. Force led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

D. Timmons read the roll call. Members present: Supervisor F. Force, Treasurer Sabrina Freeman and Clerk J. Fues. Members absent: Trustee D. Heffron (excused) and Trustee P. Knoerl (excused). Township Fire Chief Lou Kirkbride also attended the meeting.

4. Approval of the Agenda

F. Force added Vietnam War Veterans Resolution as item 11 and PUD amendment as item 12 under new business. J. Fues moved and S. Freeman seconded to approve the amended agenda. All ayes. The motion carried.

5. Officers Report (Clerk's Report)

Approval of Minutes

S. Freeman noted 2 minor corrections. S. Freeman moved and J. Fues seconded to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2010 regular meeting as amended. All ayes. The motion carried.

Budget Amendments

There were none.

Accounts Payable

J. Fues moved and S. Freeman seconded to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$55,030.96 (checks 33450-33509 inclusive). All ayes. The motion carried.

6. Consent Agenda

Payroll

Treasurer's Report (all funds)

Correspondence

J. Fues moved and S. Freeman seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. All ayes. The motion carried.

7. Working Agenda

Draft: 08/11/10

Approved: 09/13/10

Hearing of Public

Tom Manikowski asked if U.S. Environmental provided a quote for sludge removal. F. Force said they did. He agreed to provide additional information after the meeting.

Department Reports

Fire Department

L. Kirkbride said there were 2 brush fires, 1 personal injury accident without extraction, 1 personal injury accident with extraction, 11 medical calls, 1 false alarm, 1 mutual aid given, and 1 training for a total of 18 in the month of July. He said the Fire Department expects delivery of the air trailer within the next 2 weeks.

Fire Administration and Safety Committee

There was no meeting.

Zoning Officer Report

F. Force reviewed the July 2010 zoning complaint report. Board members had no questions.

Safety Board of Appeals

There was no meeting.

Sewer Report

John Rydbeck, Infrastructure Alternatives, reviewed their July 2010 monthly report. He said trials of Flygt grinder pumps at BPI-PS #6 and RL-PS #15 showed both pumps improved and were working at near design capacity. Chemical treatment for duckweed on lagoons is being investigated.

Planning Commission

F. Force gave a brief report on the August 4, 2010 Planning Commission meeting. The group approved a special land use for Barb Dennis, 5170 Abrahams Dr., reviewed proposed changes to Article 14.05 regarding PUD's, discussed regulation of medical marijuana within the township and biosolid application in the township.

Zoning Board of Appeals

There was no meeting.

Building Department

There was one new building permit, 5 other building permits, 5 electrical permits, 2 plumbing permits and 2 mechanical permits issued in the month of July for a total of 15 permits.

Unfinished Business

PDR Update

Draft: 08/11/10

Approved: 09/13/10

J. Fues said he received notification of a completed Farmland Development Agreement for land within the township.

Budget Issues

J. Fues said the current year's budget is in good shape with the exception of sewer improvement. That account is approximately \$50,000 short. Board members discussed and agreed that although money spent has been for needed repairs, they must review the sewer budget when all Board members are in attendance.

New Business

Fire Fighter Trainee-Matt Trann

Fire Chief Lou Kirkbride introduced Matt Trann, explained the application process to become a firefighter trainee and the applicant's experience. He highly recommended approval of the applicant.

J. Fues moved and S. Freeman seconded to approve Matt Trann as a firefighter trainee. Roll call: Ayes: J. Fues, F. Force and S. Freeman. Nays: none. The motion carried 3-0.

KCDL Presentation

KCDL representatives did not attend the meeting.

Concrete Quote

F. Force moved and J. Fues seconded to hire Joe's Creative Impressions, LLC to repair concrete sidewalks as outlined in their bid. Roll call: Ayes: F. Force, S. Freeman and J. Fues. Nays: none. The motion carried 3-0.

Fee Schedule Amendment

J. Fues moved and S. Freeman seconded to approve resolution 10-021 updating labor fees on the Freedom of Information Act request form to the amount of current office staff hourly wages. Roll call: Ayes: S. Freeman, F. Force and J. Fues. Nays: none. The motion carried by 3-0.

Building Inspector Duties

F. Force asked Board members to consider paying the Township's Building Inspector the same rate as the Zoning Enforcement Officer for work done outside the Building Inspector's job description. J. Fues said work done at an hourly rate should be added to the Building Inspector's contract. Board members agreed on payment of \$20 per hour for those tasks.

DNRE Site Inspection

F. Force said replacement of a flow meter and controlling duckweed at the Grattan lagoon were recommended by the DNRE following a recent site inspection of sewer systems. F. Force said this will be costly. He has written a letter to the DNRE asking permission to take care of those items next year before the irrigation season.

Draft: 08/11/10

Approved: 09/13/10

Discharge Permit Drafts

F. Force said the township recently received response from the DNRE regarding renewal of the Grattan wastewater discharge permit. He has received quotes for the required work and noted that the cost of performing the four items outlined in the permit's schedule of compliance would be very costly. F. Force said some requirements seemed excessive. F. Force has not yet received a response to his letter to the MDNRE, asking for relief from some of these requirements. Board members discussed Prein & Newhof's offer to also write a letter to the DNRE asking for relief at a cost of \$1000. Tom Manikowski said F. Force should first make sure the DNRE is not requesting this information for the old orchard site before making that decision.

SAC Recommendations

F. Force said the Sewer Advisory Committee recommended replacement of one pump in each of Big Pine Island PS 6 and Ratigan Lake PS 15. Board members discussed at length how to pay for those pumps.

F. Force moved and J. Fues seconded to approve the expenditure of replacing BPI-PS #6 and RL-PS #15. Roll call vote: Ayes: F. Force and J. Fues. Nays: S. Freeman. The motion failed 2-1 (with only 3 Board members in attendance a unanimous vote is required to pass a motion.)

Millage Rates

J. Fues moved and S. Freeman seconded to approve resolution 2010-013 establishing Township property tax rates for 2010. Roll call: Ayes: S. Freeman, J. Fues and F. Force. Nays: none. The motion carried 3-0

Marijuana Control Moratorium

Board members discussed the Planning Commission's request for a temporary moratorium on the issuance of permits or the granting of other approvals for the sale, dispensing or cultivation of medical marijuana in the Township.

J. Fues moved and F. Force seconded to approve resolution 2010-022 approving the temporary moratorium. Roll call: Ayes: S. Freeman, F. Force and J. Fues. Nays: none. The motion carried 3-0.

Vietnam War Veterans Resolution

J. Fues moved and S. Freeman seconded to approve resolution 2010-023 designating September 17, 2010 as Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Recognition Day. Roll call: Ayes: F. Force, S. Freeman and J. Fues. Nays: none. The motion carried 3-0.

PUD Amendment

J. Fues moved and S. Freeman seconded to amend Zoning ordinance Article 14.05, Planned Unit Development, to require a Township Board public hearing on

Draft: 08/11/10

Approved: 09/13/10

PUDs. Roll call: Ayes: J. Fues, S. Freeman and F. Force. Nays: none. The motion carried. 3-0

8. Board Member Communications

Meeting Dates

Board members agreed to schedule a special Board meeting August 23, 2010 at 7:00 p. m. to discuss the budget. The next regular Board meeting date is September 13, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Field trip to Wyoming Clean Water plant is August 11, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, F. Force declared the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Jim Fues, Township Clerk

Date

Franklin J. Force, Township Supervisor

Date

Diane Timmons
Recording Secretary