

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP BOARD
Regular Meeting of June 14, 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, Clerk J. Fues, and Trustee P. Knoerl. Members absent: Trustee D. Heffron (excused) and Treasurer Sabrina Freeman (excused). Fire Chief Lou Kirkbride also attended the meeting.

4. Approval of the Agenda

F. Force added disposal of old computers as item 4 under new business. J. Fues added personnel manual updates as item 4 under unfinished business and grant received for elections as item 5 under new business. J. Fues moved and P. Knoerl seconded to approve the amended agenda. All ayes. The motion carried.

5. Officers Report (Clerk's Report)

Approval of Minutes

J. Fues moved and P. Knoerl seconded to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2010 regular meeting as presented. All ayes. The motion carried.

Budget Amendments

There were no budget amendments.

Accounts Payable

J. Fues moved and P. Knoerl seconded to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$161,383.23 (checks 33352-33408 inclusive). All ayes. The motion carried.

6. Consent Agenda

Payroll

Treasurer's Report (all funds)

Correspondence

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

Draft: 06/15/10

Approved: 07/12/10

7. **Working Agenda**
Hearing of Public

There were no public comments.

Department Reports

Fire Department

L. Kirkbride reported 1 vehicle fire, 1 structure fire, 1 personal injury without extraction, 17 medical calls, 1 non fire, 1 mutual aid given, and 5 trainings for a total of 27 for the month of May. L. Kirkbride said there will be a county meeting next month regarding paying for the 911 center. J. Fues asked that he receive information regarding the meeting in order to notice the meeting.

Fire Administration and Safety Committee

There was no meeting.

Zoning Officer Report

F. Force reviewed the Zoning Officer's monthly report.

Safety Board of Appeals

There was no meeting.

Sewer Report

J. Rydbeck, Infrastructure Alternatives, reviewed the May 2010 monthly operations report. He said Leslie Sorensen, MDNRE, was pleased with the operation of the waste water treatment system. She would like to see duck weed in the ponds reduced to less than 10% coverage and will make recommendations for chemical treatment. She also noted a noisy flow meter.

F. Force said the township received payment for 2 insurance claims for damages incurred during 2 power surges this spring.

Planning Commission

There was no meeting.

Zoning Board of Appeals

There was no meeting.

Building Department

There were 2 new building permits, 3 other building permits, 7 electrical permits and 2 mechanical permits for a total of 14 in the month of May.

Unfinished Business

PDR Update

There was no update.

Draft: 06/15/10

Approved: 07/12/10

Budget Issues

There were no budget issues.

Concrete Repair

F. Force said he has been unable to secure any additional quotes for concrete repair. He said he has one quote for work. Board members will discuss this matter at the next meeting.

Personnel Manual Update

J. Fues explained proposed minor changes to the township's personnel manual. Board members discussed the matter.

J. Fues moved and P. Knoerl seconded to approve revision #5 to the township's personnel manual as discussed. All ayes. The motion carried.

New Business

PDR Budget

F. Force said D. Heffron had planned to present this item to the Board, but was unable to attend the meeting. F. Force read a proposed letter to the Kent County Agricultural Preservation Board regarding Grattan Township's authorization of a \$5000.00 contribution toward the preservation of the Phillip J. and Mary L. Heffron Trust farm covering 60.25 acres in two parcels (41-12-10-226-003 and 41-12-11-100-024) out loud. The Township Board previously nominated the Heffron property to the Kent County Agricultural Preservation Board. J. Fues reminded Board members that any remaining funds in the township's PDR budget must be rolled over at the end of each fiscal year. The \$5000.00 payment will probably be made in the spring of 2011.

F. Force moved and J. Fues seconded to approve the writing of this letter as referenced in the memo read at the meeting with the inclusion of minutes from this Board meeting. Roll call vote: Ayes: P. Knoerl, J. Fues and F. Force. Nays: none. The motion carried 3-0

J. Fues said there were 5 PDR applications to consider. He said the Colton application was not in proper order and he was not prepared to take action on that property.

J. Fues moved and P. Knoerl seconded to approve Dennis Malone's application for the purchase of development rights (PDR) for part of parcel 41-12-25-200-002 totaling 156.5 acres. All ayes. The motion carried.

J. Fues moved and F. Force seconded to approve Gerard Poulias' application for the purchase of development rights (PDR) for part of parcels 41-12-19-100-025 and 41-12-20-100-023 totaling 120 acres. All ayes. The motion carried.

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J. Fues moved and P. Knoerl seconded to approve Clayton Lovins' application for the purchase of development rights (PDR) for part of parcel 41-12-05-400-001 totaling 75 acres. All ayes. The motion carried.

J. Fues moved and F. Force seconded to approve Raymond Weeks' application for the purchase of development rights (PDR) for parcels 41-12-35-200-03 and 41-12-35-400-008 totaling 110 acres. All ayes. The motion carried.

MTA Dues

J. Fues asked Board members to consider the value of not renewing membership in the Michigan Township Association (MTA). He said the annual membership cost is approximately \$2800.00. Board members discussed and agreed not to pay for membership this year and see if this saves the township money in the next fiscal year.

ZBA Member

F. Force said the Board needs to consider applications for a new ZBA member. Information was not available at the meeting. Board members will discuss this matter at the next regular meeting.

Disposal of Old Computers

J. Fues said there are some old computers from the office he would like to dispose of. Previously the township took sealed bids for similar old computers. Board members discussed and agreed to post the sale of these computers on the Township door for one week at a price of \$50.00 each. If the computers have not sold at the end of the week's posting they will be posted on Craig's List. All computers for sale will be cleared of all data.

Grant Received for Elections

J. Fues said the township received a grant for the purchase of 2 laptop computers for elections (one for each election precinct). He said the township paid for an additional laptop as backup. J. Fues said these laptops will reduce the number of paid workers needed at elections.

8. Board Member Communications

Meeting Dates

The alternative Board meeting date (as needed) is June 28, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. The next Sewer Advisory meeting is June 22, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. The next regular Board meeting date is, July 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. News articles are due June 15, 2010.

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Approved: 07/12/10

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, F. Force declared the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Jim Fues, Township Clerk

Date

Franklin J. Force, Township Supervisor

Date

Diane Timmons
Recording Secretary