

Regular Meeting of the Crystal Lake Township Board

Meeting held at 1651 Frankfort Highway, Frankfort MI 49635
March 15, 2016

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Amy Ferris at 7 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was made.

Roll Call: Ferris, May, Nielsen, Sullivan, and Trentham were present, constituting a quorum.

Agenda: Ferris moved that the agenda be amended and approved; May seconded: all ayes. Motion passed.

Conflicts of Interest: Ferris asked if there were any conflicts of interest; there were none.

Minutes: Ferris moved that the minutes of the February 9, 2016, Board meeting be approved; Sullivan seconded; all ayes. Motion passed.

Guest: Marlene Wood, Benzie County Recycling Coordinator, presented the County's Annual Recycling Report and new brochures and referred listeners to their website for additional information; she pointed out that the cost per household has remained at \$22 per year for the last 4 years; some major successes last year include collection of 190,854 pounds of hazardous waste, electronics and nearly 6,000 car tires as well as cleanup of 18 illegal dump sites.

“For the Good of the Community”:

- Griner Family Sugar Day will be Saturday, April 2nd;
- Public meeting re: Broadband on April 5th; and
- Conservation Resource Alliance volunteers are doing tremendous repair work on local rivers.

Correspondence:

- Steve Kelly recommended extending sewage service from Frankfort up M-115 past the Township Hall to promote development, but Board members concluded it wasn't appropriate at this time, because there wasn't enough density to make it economically feasible and the Master Plan calls for development to locate where infrastructure is already in place.

County Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Griner was not able to be present.

Public Comment: None.

Clerk:

- Sullivan moved that the outstanding bills be approved for payment; Trentham seconded; all ayes. Motion passed.
- Sullivan reported that voter turnout for the Presidential Primary election was well over 40%, many of them young, first-time voters; she expressed thanks and appreciation for the hard work and good humor of the election workers: Molly Comer, Alice Farr, Kathy Fishburn, Darlyne Leete, Kathy Picklo, Cathy Wilkinson, Janet and David Wynne, and Precinct Board Chairperson, Judy VanMeter.
- Ferris noted that the County posted detailed local election results on their website.

Financial Report by Treasurer:

- Trentham moved that the General Fund budget for FY 2015-2016 be amended to reflect greater than expected expenses in Public Safety, Communications, Insurance, Membership Dues, Deputy Clerk hours, Treasurer Supplies & Postage, Township Hall Supplies, Electric Service, Social Security/Medicare, and Zoning Supplies & Legal Services; May seconded; roll was called; all ayes. Motion passed.
- Trentham moved that the Cemetery Fund budget for FY 2015-2016 be amended to reflect greater than expected expenses in Sexton hours and East Cemetery Maintenance ; Sullivan seconded; roll was called; all ayes. Motion passed.
- The proposed Fire Fund budget for FY 2016-2017 will be presented in April when the City of Frankfort announces how much they will charge for their services.
- We do have a resolution on depositories, which Trentham will review v/v new regulations and Trentham will continue to present quarterly reports on investments.

Committee Reports:

- **Airport Authority:** Questions regarding the Airport Authority were postponed until the Board has an opportunity to speak with Bruce Harwood.
- **Assessment:**
 - Board of Review meetings were successful;
 - Ferris sent a letter to the Benzie County Registrar of Deeds requesting that our Assessor be granted access to the County's on-line record of Township deeds in lieu of receiving physical copies because they are frequently delayed; she affirmed that neither she nor the Assessor have interest in making money from this process; no response has been received from the Registrar of Deeds.
- **Building & Grounds:**
 - Dean Michaels arranged for a hot water heater to be installed in the bathroom;
 - Contract with Green Path Property Management was renewed for mowing the Hall and Cemetery grounds.
- **Planning Commission:** Greg Wright presented the Capital Improvement Plan; Ferris moved that the Capital Improvement Plan be accepted as presented; May seconded; all ayes. Motion passed.
- **Roads:**
 - Bruce Walton reported the County Road Commission announced that due to substantially lower than expected material expenses, they will be able to complete more Township road repairs in 2016; based on his recommendation and that of the other Road Committee members, Ferris moved that the Board of Directors approve the County Road Commission's proposal, updated 3/07/16, to add Didrickson and Bacon Roads, including culvert repair on Bacon to the list of Township roads to be improved by the Commission in calendar year 2016 at a total estimated cost of \$181,252.83; May seconded; roll was called; all ayes. Motion passed.
 - Additional improvements will be done next year, funded either by bonds or advances from the County, to be repaid when township road millage funds are collected.
 - In order to avoid disturbing nesting bats later in the season, MDOT has begun cutting trees adjacent to future M-115 roadwork.

- **Zoning:**

- Zoning Administrator Tom Kucera reported on permits processed thus far in 2016 and his ongoing work with the Planning Commission on updating Zoning Ordinances.
- Despite rumors to the contrary, Dollar General's new permit has been approved.

Unfinished Business:

- Ferris presented for discussion a draft "Nuisance" Ordinance prepared by Attorney Figura based on MTA templates; Nielsen said the Township is predominantly zoned Rural-Preservation and some rules, such as barking dogs, were too restrictive and/or not appropriate for agricultural properties; Trentham said even though her property is RP-2.5, her neighbors' homes are close enough that the noise of their barking dogs is irritating; Ferris agreed that some restrictions might be too tight; May said we shouldn't include anything we didn't want to enforce; Trentham said we were currently exploring a variety of avenues to impact a few specific properties; Greg Wright said some of this draft seemed to be applying a cookie-cutter approach more designed for suburbs and we need to make sure whatever we do coordinates with our other Ordinances.

New Business: Ferris announced that staff would meet with a Risk Control agent from the insurance company on March 22nd to discuss ways to limit potential expenses and liabilities.

Public Comment:

- Larry Picklo asked if the number and type of animals permitted was dependent on how a specific property was zoned; the answer was "Yes."

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Sue Sullivan, Clerk, reporting.