

**ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2009, 9 A.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Supervisor David Meister.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members present: Trustee James Wisniski, Treasurer LaVonne Schafer-Beebe. Absent: Clerk Helen Mathieu, Trustee Roland Clement.

Consensus of the board to have Mary Lou Millard take minutes in the absence of the clerk and deputy clerk.

MINUTES: Motion by Wisniski, second by Beebe to accept the minutes of the Nov. 2, 2009 Regular Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Placed on file.

AMEND AGENDA: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

COMMISSIONER ED HAIK: Absent.

COMMISSION KEN HILLIARD: Hilliard reported the board re-appointed West Shore Medical Board Trustees; a study session is scheduled Dec. 1 to discuss jail improvements; The AES will meet with Cyndy Fuller.

RECYCLE: Mary Pitcher of the Manistee County Recycling Initiative reported the recycling bids came in higher, the specifications were made more flexible; Consensus of the board to appoint Beebe to the Initiative's Respondent Review Team.

FIRE/RESCUE: Tom Kleinsorge reported 1 fire run, 2 meetings, 1 training session; 17 rescue runs, 1 training meeting. The department is reforming the fire truck committee and will present some new specifications; it is training with Arcadia and Bear Lake; would like a monetary amount on donations to the department in order for the group to decide what piece of gear or equipment can be purchased; an application has been received but no action taken as yet; resignation received from Pete Dulas, who is moving from the area. **Motion** by Wisniski, second by Beebe to approve payment of the payroll for the fire department. Motion carried. The board requested that the fire department work further in advance of Revenue Sharing Grant application deadlines, in order to ensure that the Onekama grant application is submitted in ample time for consideration.

The board accepted the resignation of Peter Dulas.

ONEKAMA COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMISSION: Behring reported the group will review the proposed Master Plan before the public hearing on Thursday, Jan. 21 at 6 p.m.; Commissioner Jon Phillips is working on preparing the first Capital Improvement Program which should be ready in March; a review team will meet with Mike DeVoe to review his Special Use Permit; the pump out at the inn is going as planned.

BOARD OF REVIEW: The board will meet Tuesday, Dec. 15 at 9 a.m. for errors or corrections. No appeals will be heard at this time.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: Chairman Tom Gerhardt reported a 30-foot variance was granted to Gary Diebel for a side yard, which established at 20 foot setback in accordance with a variance granted earlier to another property owner; a hearing is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. for Jim Trout.

MTA: Several township representatives will attend the annual MTA Conference in January in Grand Rapids.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: Zoning Administrator Dana Schindler reported 2 Land Use Permits issued and 2 violations are pending, 1 variance was issued. Schindler was instructed by the board to send a letter to a property owner in violation of Section 1025 regarding dock without a principal residence and only for private use.

PORTAGE LAKE HARBOR COMMISSION: No report.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE: Committee secretary Gerhardt reported the group discussed setting an action program for 2010; it will plant 1,000 trees on Arbor Day April 30, 2010; no meeting until April 8, 2010.

ALLIANCE FOR ECONOMIC SUCCESS: The Alliance applied for a grant for \$207,640 to Great Lakes Restoration and the township match would be “in kind” in the form of time donated.

WATERSHED COMMITTEE: Member Mary Reed reiterated the grant information which was done in conjunction with the Watershed Committee, and added the grant money would also be used to work with schools on education and protection of water.

DEQ: No report.

INVASIVE SPECIES: Mary Reed reported the committee received the 2009 report; it is working on the budget for 2010; contract was discussed with Jennifer Jones of Lakeshore Environmental, Inc.; member Herb Lennon sent out a letter explaining that fish were not endangered because of the spraying on the lake; information on noxious weeds has been included in the ordinance; a newsletter will be sent in the Spring outlining progress and plans.

SUZANNE SCHWING: Schwing spoke on the Portage Lake Wetlands Project, pointing out that the township is eligible to apply again for a grant for the project and the request is due by April 1, 2010. She said a meeting will be scheduled in January for informational purposes. The township would have to decide to sponsor the project since it must be sponsored by a government entity. The millage request would be one mill for one year and would be in August, 2010. She asked the board if it would pay for an ad in the newspaper announcing the date of the public meeting. The board approved this request.

ROAD COMMISSION MEETING: Meister reported, report placed on file.

DIRKSEN/BROWN: No report.

WATER WELL: Motion by Beebe, second by Wisniski to permit the clerk to pay the bill when it is submitted. Motion carried.

CONSERVATION EASEMENT: Behring was asked to look into the conservation easement issue and report back to the board.

STATE TREASURER INFORMATION REQUEST: Supervisor Meister instructed the clerk to fill out the questionnaire and return it to the state treasurer regarding questions asked on impact of revenue sharing on the township.

PAYROLL TAX CLASSIFICATION FOR TWP. ASSESSOR: Topic discussed, Meister will supply figures to the board for 2010.

SEWER: Village Board member Bob Blackmore briefly discussed the recent grant and loan received by the village for a sewer reconstruction project. Tim Ervin of the Alliance for Economic Success pointed out that stimulus funds could be available for considering the feasibility of extending the sewer around the lake. Supervisor Meister will instruct the clerk to schedule a meeting on the subject in January.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

BILLS: Motion by Beebe, second by Wisniski to pay all regular and incoming bills.
Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

---Charter Communications

---Dept. of Energy, Labor

---UIA

---Fed. Great Lakes Program

ADJOURN: 10:37 a.m.

David Meister, Supervisor

Absent
Helen Mathieu, Clerk

LaVonne Schafer-Beebe, Treasurer

Absent
Roland Clement, Trustee

James Wisniski, Trustee