

Henrietta Township
11120 Musbach Road
Munith, MI 49259
517-596-3374

Regular Meeting
July 14, 2010

A work session was held prior to the beginning of the Regular Meeting for the purpose of reviewing invoices and communications.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Henrietta Township Meeting Room, 11120 Musbach Road, Munith, MI 49259. Members present: A. Faist, S. Keene, A. Grimes and L. Bamm. Member absent: S. Dodge.

L. Bamm presented the agenda for review and added a proposal for removing lumber from the Industrial Park and budget amendments for the 2009-2010 budget to New Business.

Moved by A. Grimes, supported by A. Faist to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 9, 2010 and Special Meetings held April 12, 2010, May 19, 2010, May 25, 2010 and June 30, 2010 as written. Motion carried.

SPECIAL ORDER

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

R. Hudson spoke regarding an abandoned car body on property located at 858 White Lake Road. He noted he had complained about this property last month, and last October. L. Bamm noted he would check with J. Southworth to see what was happening with this property.

B. Burris also spoke regarding 858 White Lake Road. They are having problems with the tenants in the house, and is concerned that the septic system is not working property. L. Bamm will speak with the Jackson County Health Department regarding the septic issue.

TREASURERS REPORT – S. DODGE

General Fund Balance 6-01-10	\$ 193,343.71
Income	\$ 34,903.16
Disbursements	\$ 50,421.17
General Fund Balance 6-30-10	\$ 177,825.70
Stabilization Fund Balance 6-30-2010	\$ 100,127.42
Delinquent Tax Account Balance 6-30-2010	\$ -0-
Public Improvement Fund Balance 6-30-2010	\$ 269,531.25

Vehicle Replacement Fund Balance 6-30-2010	\$	98,466.06
Total Interest Earned	\$	98.39

BUILDING DEPARTMENT – R. TRIPP

Building Fees Collected	\$	1,719.65
Electrical Fees Collected	\$	325.00
Plumbing Fees Collected	\$	-0-
Mechanical Fees Collected	\$	65.00
Site Plan Review Fees Collected	\$	240.00
Address Fees Collected	\$	-0-
Total Fees Collected	\$	2,349.65
Cost of Construction	\$	271,200

Permits included 6 building permits for 1 new house, 1 addition to house, 1 3-season porch, 1 addition to deck, 1 pole barn and 1 above ground pool, 4 electrical permits 1 mechanical permit and 6 site plan reviews.

ASSESSOR – VICKIE BRADLEY

V. Bradley was not present; L. Bamm gave her report. The Board of Review is scheduled for Tuesday, July 20, 2010. They will correct qualified errors, PRE's, poverty exemptions, qualified agricultural exemptions and incorrect uncapping of taxable values. The summer tax bills have been mailed, and are generating many questions regarding taxable value. The department continues to do field work, and is currently working in section 30.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – R. WETMORE

R. Wetmore reported the fire department responded to 33 incidents in June, including 21 EMS calls, 10 arcing or downed power lines, 1 mutual aid structure fire at Grass Lake, and 1 smoke investigation.

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT/ZONING – J. SOUTHWORTH

J. Southworth was not present; report was given as written. J. Southworth reported there were 6 site plan reviews, 8 ordinance complaints, 2 written warnings, 8 requests for information and 170 miles driven for a total of 17 hours.

TRANSFER STATION – A. GRIMES

Monthly Reported Income:	\$	4,466.00
Northwest Refuse Trucking:	\$	533.00
Jackson County Incinerator:	\$	1,803.42
Salary for Month:	\$	1,220.00
Total Expenses:	\$	4,194.31

Total Recycled for June:	7.05 tons or 14,100 pounds
Total Recycled for 2010:	38.09 tons or 76,180 pounds

PLANNING COMMISSION – A. FAIST

N. Hawley reported that the planning commission had provided the township board with a sample sidewalk ordinance for review. She noted she had attended a conference regarding different governmental units working together for grants to improve housing and sidewalks in communities. The planning commission is working to take inventory of artisans and artists in the township, and to encourage entrepreneurship within the township. N. Hawley also discussed the wind turbine ordinance and gave an explanation of wind speeds, noise levels, ambient noise levels, setbacks and decommissioning.

NEW BUSINESS

L. Bamm presented the names of election officials selected for the August 3, 2010 Primary Election. Moved by A. Grimes, supported by A. Faist to approve the election officials for the August 3, 2010 Primary Election. Motion carried.

L. Bamm presented a proposal for the removal of specific trees that are located on township property in the Industrial Park. The trees would be removed by a company that is logging off property owned by K. Findley in the Industrial Park. The proposal indicates that 19 trees would be harvested, and the township would receive \$2,630. Discussion included whether the trees needed to be removed, whether removal of the trees could deter a potential buyer in the future, quality of workmanship, and whether other bids had been received. Moved by A. Grimes, supported by A. Faist to decline the offer at this time, and have other logging companies bid for the trees. Motion carried.

L. Bamm reported that once invoices were entered for June, three departments were over budget for the 2009-2010 budget. Specifically, the Fire Department was over by \$830.00, the Electrical Inspector was over by \$100.00, and Streetlights was over by \$50.00. L. Bamm noted that the township ended the fiscal year with expenses being less than revenues and a surplus of \$16,456, and that the township had done an outstanding job working within reduced revenues. Moved by S. Keene, supported by A. Grimes to approve budget amendments as presented to balance the 2009-2010 budget. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

L. Bamm presented the Munith sidewalk plan for discussion. S. Keene is meeting with representatives from the township insurance company to review the sidewalks. After the second meeting with Munith residents, it appears that the majority of residents do not want the sidewalks replaced. Once all information is obtained, the township will send out a request for proposal to remove the sidewalks in Munith. It was noted that if individual property owners wanted to install their own sidewalks, the township would need to develop an ordinance to cover liability and maintenance of the sidewalks.

L. Bamm presented the final draft of the Pleasant Lake sewer project for discussion. He noted that all board members had a copy of a sample petition that included the option of voting yes or no. All owners listed on the deed would

have to sign the petition in order for it to count. They would have to sign in the presence of a certified petitioner or whoever is designated to collect signatures in the township office, or other predetermined location in the township. R. Troman suggested that the certified petitioners be someone unbiased towards the project. He also questioned how those property owners who live outside the area would be able to sign the petition. L. Grinage stated that a notary public could not certify the petition, and that the petition circulator must be a property owner within the sewer district. A. Faist added that if the property owners really wanted the sewers to be installed, they would have to come to the township to sign the petition. A. Grimes added that it was a private group of residents who requested the sewers be installed. The township has gathered the information, will hold public meetings to provide that information to the property owners in the district, and will mail the petitions to those property owners. He doesn't feel it is the townships responsibility to circulate petitions. R. Troman commented on how other communities allowed ballots to be returned by mail. L. Bamm replied that our township was using a formal petition because it would be binding in court. E. Carlson spoke regarding a legal challenge if a biased person didn't properly explain the petition when collecting signatures. It was noted that there would be 2 or 3 public hearings before the petition drive begins. R. Hudson questioned who would own the system once it is completed. L. Bamm stated the township will own the system and will be responsible for operating it. After further discussion regarding who will collect the signatures on the petition, L. Grinage stated he would research the issue. A. Faist noted the township would send the petition by mail, with a specific date that it must be returned. Moved by S. Keene, supported by A. Faist to approve the petition as presented. Motion carried. It was the consensus of the board that the petitions will be sent by mail to property owners within the sewer district; certified circulators or the township office will witness signatures on the petition; and that it is the responsibility of the property owner to come into the township to sign the petition. L. Bamm noted that a letter would be included with the petition explaining what the petition is for. Moved by S. Keene, supported by A. Faist to mail every property owner within the sewer district a petition and letter of explanation from the Clerk's office. Motion carried. L. Bamm requested the board meet for a work session to further discuss the sewers. The board will meet July 28, 2010 beginning at either 5 pm or 6 pm, depending on everyone's' schedule. R. Troman requested that the board reconsider how it is determining the REU's for commercial property. He is concerned it would be too expensive for the commercial property owners to connect to the sewer. He is suggesting only 1 REU be charged to commercial property, and to include the county park in the sewer district at 1 REU. Discussion included the extra cost to all the other property owners, and that the attorney recommended removing the county park from the district. L. Bamm suggested that the board wait until S. Dodge is present and the entire board can decide whether to change how the REU's are determined. Moved by S. Keene, supported by A. Faist to table discussion on how commercial property REU's are determined until July 28, 2010. Motion carried.

OTHER REPORTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sharon Renier spoke regarding her candidacy for 65th District Representative.

Moved by S. Keene, supported by A. Grimes to pay the bills as submitted and reviewed. Motion carried.

Moved by S. Keene, supported by A. Grimes to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

S. Keene, Henrietta Township Clerk