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ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2010, 9 A.M.

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Supervisor David Meister.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

CONSENT AGENDA: **Motion** by Wisniski, second by Clement to accept the minutes of the August 1, 2010 Regular Meeting with the following correction: under Treasurer's Report change to "gave verbal report". Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Beebe reported the balance as of August 31, 2010 in the General Fund was \$431,480.98; as of August 31, 2010, in the Fire Fund, \$281,552.64.

AMEND AGENDA: Add Flood Plain News, Revenue Sharing, Auditor's Extension, under New Business; move Mary Pitcher and Darwin Booher before Public Comment.

MARY PITCHER: Pitcher discussed the County Recycling Program and told the board the Onekama site is well-used and much appreciated, thanked Beebe and others for monitoring the site. She said the proposed budget for 2011-2012 would be \$15 per household. She gave a summary of monthly reports for 2010 to the board. Pitcher said she will recommend to the county board that approval be given for a security camera for the Onekama site. She said grant money is available for it.

DARWIN BOOHER: Booher, Republican candidate for State Senate in the 35th District, addressed the board. He discussed various issues facing the state officials including the effects of opening up the state constitution for a vote. He said the last vote for a constitutional change was presented in 1963.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

COMMISSIONER ED HAIK: Haik reported the commissioners are working on the county budget; the sheriff and library contracts have increased. He told the board he intends to retire in December.

COMMISSIONER KEN HILLIARD: Absent.

FIRE/RESCUE: Tom Kleinsorge reported for the month of August: 7 fire runs, 6 meetings and 7 work sessions; 10 medical runs, 2 PR runs. Final blueprints are in and the department is waiting for final specifications and bids on a new truck; Chief Lawrence Hrachovina asked "911" group to order 12 new pagers, which "911" would pay for. He asked the board for approval to purchase Epson X-90 projector which would hook up to all the computers and projector, at an approximate cost of \$600. **Motion** by

Wisniski, second by Beebe to approve \$600 to purchase the projector. Roll call vote: James Wisniski, yes; Roland Clement, yes; LaVonne Schafer-Beebe, yes; Helen Mathieu, yes; David Meister, yes. Motion carried.

Consensus of board to have the department sell the pontoon boat. Hrachovina to be in charge of the replacement of parts and equipment on the boat, and removal and storage of it.

USDA: Motion by Beebe, second by Wisniski, to notify the USDA the Township will not continue with the loan process for a fire truck. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMISSION: Chairman Dan Behring reported that the commission will consider a SUP amendment request from the Covenant Bible Camp to locate a Welcome Center on the tennis courts in the campground when it meets Thursday, Sept. 16 at 7 p.m. Consensus of the board to give the township and village ordinances to the planning commission for its review and suggestions regarding a combined zoning ordinance. The existing ordinance committee will not be dissolved but will not meet until the review is completed and the report is given to the township board.

The board received four letters of application for a vacancy on the planning commission. Letters were from Allen R. Taylor, Tom Volkema, Jim Trout and Sue L. Wilson. The board members reviewed the applicants' letters prior to the meeting.

Motion by Beebe, second by Wisniski, to appoint Jim Trout to the planning commission to fill an unexpired term, which expires in 2012. Roll call vote: James Wisniski, yes; Roland Clement, yes; David Meister, no; LaVonne Schafer-Beebe, yes; Helen Mathieu, yes. Motion carried. The remaining applications will be kept on file.

A recess was taken at 10:52 a.m.

Clerk Mathieu issued the Oath of Office to Jim Trout.

The meeting resumed at 11 a.m.

BOARD OF REVIEW/ASSESSOR: Assessor Ginny Martz reported appraisal studies were completed with the Equalization Department for commercial, agriculture and industrial. She will do field work on new construction. She said Manistee County has formed a county-wide Assessors Association which will meet on a quarterly basis.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: No activity in August.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: Zoning Administrator Dana Schindler discussed water violations, boat lots and a visit and tour with DNRE official Barry Peterman. She reported one land use permit revised and approved, two violations pending, two violations resolved. Her complete report was received and placed on file.

INVASIVE SPECIES: Mary Reed submitted a report which listed tentative dates for treating Phragmites are Sept. 9, 10 and 11; copies of revised Portage Lake Improvement Management Study 2009 were received and a DVD was posted to the website. Brian Piccolo from the DNRE will oversee the treatment of the Phragmites around the lake; a permit for Phragmites treatment in Pierport was received. The August 20 survey showed that results of the June 29 treatment were very good. Based on current information, the committee would recommend that the 2010 assessment be reduced to at least half the 2009 assessment from \$144,000 in 2009 to \$72,000 in 2010.

PARKS & RECREATION: Committee Vice Chairman Mary Lou Millard reported the committee is

recommending to the township board that it approve an expenditure from the North Point Park Fund for \$1,400 to edge the Long Loop of the Blanche Miller Trail, clean with a blower and hot tar the cracks in the asphalt for a cost of \$1,100, and apply weed killer to edges of the entire loop for a cost of \$300. She reported that the Appreciation and Awareness Day had 325-350 visitors and the “Shark in the Parks” was a successful endeavor. The committee also requested the board consider putting “No Parking” signs on one side of Second Street at Langland Park, keep all parks mowed and obtain benches for parks. The board asked the committee to get prices for benches. The complete report is on file. **Motion** by Wisniski, second by Beebe approve the request to pay \$1,400 for maintenance work requested at North Point Park. Motion carried. The work will be done by Griswold Northwestern Sealing and Excavating of Kaleva.

COMMUNITY DOCK: Schindler reported that Peterman viewed the dock and its area and said steps can be replaced, a deck could be cantilevered on the high land but a deck on bottomland would require Army Corps of Engineer and DNRE permits. Peterman suggested the township could have a park plan for this dock and perhaps get a grant for beach access and swimming. The Portage Lake Association members Whitey Carpenter, Martha Pollock and Jim Moody presented plans for the Community Dock with wider, more substantial stairs. These plans will be sent to Barry Peterman. No firm decision has been made as yet. The issue will be placed on the October agenda.

MTA-Local: Meetings will be held in Onekama Township Hall.

PORTAGE LAKE HARBOR COMMISSION: Meister read a letter to Nordland Engineering from Jim Mrozinski thanking the engineering firm for its information and guidance in how to refurbish the historic North Pier Lighthouse.

ALLIANCE FOR ECONOMIC SUCCESS: No report.

WATERSHED COMMITTEE: No report.

DEQ APPLICATION: Clerk was instructed to fill out the application for a possible building expansion and driveway permit.

COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION: Consensus of board to send a letter to the commission regarding an ORV Ordinance. The letter informed the road commission that the Township intends to adopt an ORV Ordinance similar to the ordinance by the Village of Onekama and other surrounding communities, and plans to adopt it by Dec. 1, 2010. It is the Township’s intention to leave all township roads open to ORV access, for a trial period of one year, after which time the board will evaluate the ordinance and its effect on the community and the roads.

FARR RD., AVE. E.: No action.

PORTAGE LAKE AVE., SUNNYSIDE, LAKEVIEW: No report.

20 FOOT PUBLIC ACCESS: The board agree to place “public access” posts on the beach side of the public access area east of Little Eden amp.

SUMMIT MEETING: The annual county Summit Meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Manistee Golf Course. Attending will be Wisniski, Clement, Mathieu, Beebe, Millard, Bob Blackmore of the Village Council.

DDA: Meister explained the premise of the DDA.

WATER WELL: Consensus to send a letter to Hugh Rollins asking for a fixed time frame for working on the township well.

SPEED BUMPS: Meister will ask the road commission regarding speed bumps at Seymour Avenue and Portage Point Drive and halfway from there to the Portage Point Inn.

FLOOD PLAIN: Clerk to contact FEMA's flood plain map coordinator to see what is required from the township to participate in the new flood plain mapping process.

POVERTY EXEMPTION: Place on October agenda.

RAILROAD PROPERTY: The Quit Claim deed of January, 2006 has been recorded for Railroad Parcel # 51-41-025-012-00, in back of the Township Office/Fire Department, which was purchased for \$2,016.00.

PORTAGE PARK LAND ACQUISITION: Deed was recorded on land acquisition between the Township and DEQ for approximately 256 lots in Portage Park Addition and part of Outlot 4 between Sylvan Way and Little Eden.

ENERGY AUDIT: Township opted out of seeking an audit.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments received from Suzanne Schwing who said the trust fund for village property was withdrawn..

AUDITORS: Motion by Wisniski, second by Clement to ask the State of Michigan for a two month extension for Kalcher, Vanderwal & Torrey, P. C. and Dave Richards of the Manistee office to complete the township audit.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

---NWMCOG ---Alliance for Economic Success ---Dist. #10 Health Dept.

---MTA ---Manistee Clerks Assn. ---USDA

ADJOURN: 1:35 p.m.

David Meister, Supervisor

Helen Mathieu, Clerk

LaVonne Schafer-Beebe, Treasurer

Roland Clement, Trustee

James Wisniski, Trustee