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**LEE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

October 13, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Lee Township Hall located at 877 56th Street, Pullman, Michigan.

Members Present: Trustee Black, Trustee Christensen, Treasurer Lowery, Supervisor Schlack and Clerk King.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Comments: Clerk King stated that she will be holding office hours on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. until the election.

Presentation for Candidate Cronin for Judge- Mrs. Cronin spoke on behalf of her husband and his campaign for Judge in Allegan County. She passed out flyers and encouraged anyone with questions to look at their website or call their home directly. He is a family man, who has been a foster parent and seen first hand the results of decisions made regarding their welfare. He has been an attorney for 29 years and the Hopkins Township Supervisor as well. He has served as an advocate in Lansing and volunteered many hours working on foster care legislation.

Democratic Candidate Tom Clark (District 88) – Introduced himself and spoke about his concerns that the average citizens are not be represented in Lansing with the issues such as the economy, school, employment. He believes that education is a large part of the solution to the problems we are facing. He stressed that he is for the real people, and will be visiting township meetings and will be very accessible to the public.

Citizens' Comments: 1 citizen commented. L. Loud made a request to have a change made on the minutes regarding an addition to the agenda regarding the recount held in September. She also wanted to request that people be mindful of not using highly scented personal care products when attending meetings or in large groups of people. These products can be harmful and uncomfortable for those that might be sensitive to them.

Motion was made by Black and seconded by Lowery to approve the September 8, 2008 minutes of the Regular Board meeting as presented. All voted "Aye". Motion carries.

Motion was made by Christensen and seconded by Black to receive the Treasurer's report as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

County Commissioner Report: Commissioner Jessup passed out his monthly newsletter of the happening in Allegan County Government. Some of the highlights were Allegan Budget and Resolution on jail location. He also announced a new director at the Fennville Library and the open house to be held on October 25 from 12 -5 pm. He also answered questions regarding roads that are closed due to the recent rain storms. There were a couple in Lee Township that will need to be repaired and probably take some time to be completed.

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Deputies Report : No report was given due to the switch over of computer systems. September's report will be given next month. Deputy Lytle stated that there are a few blight complaints currently in process and will give more of an update next month.

Fire Department: During the month of September there were 15 calls. Chief gave an update on what has transpired during the month. There has been no word on the federal grant. The fire hose has been ordered and will take 6 weeks to receive. Central dispatch has started working on Lee Township, but the fax line in the offices is experiencing some difficulties. At the Fire Prevention training on Friday 10/10/08, the Chief was very proud of them for a job well done. In the upcoming month, there will be 2 individuals that will be taking fire fighter classes I & II at Saugatuck station. Also during the month to come, there will be the reflective green vest purchased for the fire fighting staff. These vest are inexpensive and very beneficial to the safety of the fire personnel. Last item, there is a new vaccination form that will be filled out by all Lee Township emergency staff.

First Responders: During the month of September there were 18 calls. The First Responders will be doing a popcorn party for Halloween and invite the community to participate. There also will be candy inspection done.

Ambulance report: Trustee Black read the minutes of the Ambulance meeting on September 11th he attended.

Building Inspector report: Building Inspector Shamblin was ill, so his wife gave his report for the month. During September there were 2 building, 6 electrical, 3 mechanical permits issued with a total property improvement of \$33,000.00

Cemetery Report: It is time to post the cemetery clean up date. The clean up will begin on November 1st.

Library Report: The report will be given next month.

Transfer Station: During the month of August there were 75 coupons redeemed with money collected in the amount of \$575.00. For the month of September, there were 36 coupons redeemed and a total of \$613.00 collected.

Lake Board: The season is coming to an end and there still has not been a dredging permit issued.

Newsletter Committee: Currently the newsletter is in process and is set to go out after the election results can be added. You can look for your copy after November 15th. If anyone does not receive one, they can pick on up at the township office.

Assessor's report- Assessor Brousseau presented the board with a resolution to be signed. Board of Review date has been set for December 8th at 5:00 p.m.

Motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Black to approve and sign the resolution presented by the Assessor. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries.

The Assessor also presented a revision to the application for Land Divisions for the board's review. The process will be done as such: The application will be signed by the Building Inspector and sent electronically

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to the Assessor which will be approved and sent 14 days prior to the regular board meeting for approval. The Board tabled the application till next month for adequate time for review.

Holiday Committee: A reminder was given that Friday, December 5th will be the date for the Holiday Social. There will be a live manager scene, Santa, musical performances and the lighting of the tree. There also will be a Holiday Business Open House with local businesses in the area of the tree lighting. Residents will be given a card to have stamped at each business that they visit for refreshments which can be turn in with their name, address and phone number for a chance at the prize of \$100.00 of coupons. A request was made for anyone who has animals appropriate for the manager scene to contact L. Galdikas.

Pullman Pride Committee: No report

Clean Team: The final clean team session will be held on Saturday, October 18th at 10:00 a.m. Anyone who would like to volunteer their time to this worthy cause is welcome to join in at Saturday's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Lower Scott Lake Dam – After talking to Merit Engineering, Supervisor Schlack has recommended that we have the firm come out and do the necessary study. From the study, recommendations will be given on what is needed in the way of repairs. Supervisor Schlack felt that the repairs would cost no more than \$10,000.00 for a replacement or around \$5,000 if only repairs are needed. He stated that the dam was erected sometime in the 1930's.

A motion was made by Black and seconded by King to contact Merit Engineering for the study to be done. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries. Roll call vote: Yes – all.

NEW BUSINESS-

Land Splits: None

Work order for 49th Street – 1000' south: The Allegan County Road Commission has submitted a work order for approval for repair of the drain on 49th street south of 109th, which was damaged by the recent storm. The work order is in the amount of \$5,000 for the township's portion.

Motion was made by King and seconded by Christensen to approve and sign the work order presented for the repair of the washout at 49th street south of 109th as presented by Allegan County Road Commission in the amount of \$5,000.00 Roll call vote was taken: Yes- Black, Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries.

Snow Plow bid's – *Motion was made by Christensen and seconded by Lowery to authorize the clerk to publish the request for bids for snow plowing to be opened at the November 10th Regular Board Meeting. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries.*

A motion was made by Christensen and seconded by Lowery to authorize the clerk to publish the Cemetery Fall Clean up to begin November 1st. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries.

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Trick or Treat Hours – Hours were set for the Halloween trick or treating as 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31st. The local paper will be contacted. *Motion was made by Schlack and seconded by Lowery to set the Trick or Treat hours for October 31st as 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. All voted “Aye”. Motion carries.*

Folding Machine: The board was provided with information on the purchase of a folding machine to allow the Treasurer to handle the folding and stuffing of envelopes for tax notices. The machine would be able to be used for other mailing as well. The material was reviewed and a motion was made and rescinded by Trustee Christensen until further review could be done by Treasurer regarding the possible lease instead of purchase.

Treasurer Lowery requested that a possible work shop meeting be held for further review of opinions in leasing.

Payment of the Bills:

Motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Black to authorize the clerk to pay the bills in the amount of \$85,165.52. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries.

Citizen’s Comments: 11 citizens commented. A synopsis of the comments was as follows.

-Questions regarding the candidate forum that was scheduled for the 22nd of October at 7 p.m. at the Pullman Elementary. Larry Ladenburger from the Allegan County Treasurer’s office was scheduled to moderate.

-Candidate Nancy Endres introduced herself as a write in candidate for trustee. She is committed to the area and has a background in education. Her issues are high property taxes and the on going blight situation in the township. She believes in representing all citizens and transparent government.

-Citizen Cary Sue Ahlman spoke to the audience regarding starting a community neighborhood watch. She has served as a victims advocate and has serve 3 years in Columbia Township with their neighborhoods watch. All those that are interested are encouraged to participate.

-Albert Rawson announced that the First Responders will have a popcorn party from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on October 31st. He also gave his support for Victor Rawson, who is a Republican candidate for Township Trustee. Victor has lived his life in Lee Township and was a member of the Lee Township Fire Department. He currently works at Genzink Steel and part time for Rawson Brothers.

-John Walker questioned the police presence at the election and the law regarding candidates not campaigning within 100’ from the polls during the election. He also expressed concern for the theft of election signs that has been going on. Clerk King expressed that the rule is no campaigning within a 100’ which includes talking to voters, signs etc. The only exception to this rule is the clerk who has the legal responsibility of the election and might need to come in to handle issues, but this exception would not include un-necessary conversing with voters or campaigning. She also expressed her disgust with the sign theft. These signs are personal property and if someone does not like a candidate, just don’t vote for them. There is no need for the unlawful act of stealing or destroying signs.

-Jan Lehto introduced herself as a write in candidate for Treasurer and spoke briefly on her opinion of the investments of the township. She questioned the safety of banks and the FDIC insuring.

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-Ed Brock – Spoke of his frustration with not being able to hear the meeting. He felt that a sound system is necessary and should have already been in place. He also questioned if the bills presented for payment were reflected in the Treasurer’s report. The Treasurer’s report is through August 31st, so it does not.

-T. Tierney -Questions were asked regarding Proposal 3 – Renewal for First Responders millage. Please support the First Responders because they depend on this funding for their services and secures the ambulance service.

Correspondence:

Supervisor Schlack read a letter from the State Dept of Treasurer in regards to the return of the rolls and the perfect score on their 14 point review.

Meeting was adjourned – 9:26 pm

Minutes submitted by

Jacquelyn Ann King, Clerk