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**LEE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

December 14, 2009

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 Miller and Clerk King.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Comments: Treasurer Lowery thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers during the recent loss of her husband. Please continue to keep their family in your prayers.

Comments:

Citizen S. Lacey commented on the beautiful Christmas lights and how beautiful the town looks.

Citizen N. Endres reminded everyone to be mindful of the many animals that have been taken to the Alvan Humane animal shelter by those that could no longer care for them in this economic crisis. They could really use donations to help provide for the numerous animals that have been brought to the shelter.

It was a suggestion from a citizen L. Galdikas to get a box and leave it where other residents can bring their donations.

Citizen Colegrove commented on his recent appointment with the tax tribunal. I was upset that he had made the trip and the Assessor for Lee Township did not show up causing him to have to reschedule. Supervisor Miller stated that he would follow up on the matter.

A concerned citizen N. Tice requested that a committee be formed to work on having a new ordinance written to insure that all rental properties would have to be inspected for safety before they could be rented out. There have been too many tragic fires in Lee Township and she would like to help by volunteering to work towards putting this ordinance in place.

A motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Miller to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting date November 9th. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Black and seconded by Ferguson to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting dated November 19th as presented. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Black and seconded to receive the Treasurer's report as presented. Roll call vote was taken. Yes – Black, Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

County Commissioner Report: Commissioner Jessup passed out his monthly newsletter to the board members as well as the residents in attendance. He discussed the new jail building that had just recently been purchased. The County Commissioners purchased the old Hayworth building on River Street in Allegan for 2 million dollars. He felt that this would be a large savings. Also discussed was the budget. There will be 11 county employees that will be laid off due to the budget crisis in the county. They estimate that next year will even be worse with a proposed 2 million dollar deficient. Questions were asked regarding the lay offs. Lee Township has contracted for two deputies and our Deputy K. Franck will be laid off in January. Clerk King expressed her disappointment that his job wouldn't be secured by the contract being in place. It was stated that we will get a temporary replacement until Deputy Franck is called back. Lastly, the H1N1 shot will now be available at the Health Department for all those that would like to be vaccinated.

Deputies Report: Deputy Franck reported that there were 98 calls in Lee during the last month. He summarized that there were 8 domestic, 11 traffic and 13 breaking & entering included in the total. He also wanted to state that he has enjoyed working with the residents of Lee and has requested to work back in Lee when he is called back from layoff.

Fire Department: During the month there were 12 calls. There also were 3 fatal house fires during the month. With the tragic fires, Chief DeWeerd scheduled a meeting to help the firefighters and first responders to cope with the tragedies. He received good feedback from those in attendance. There are new firefighters that will be starting their classes (Firefighter I and II) this coming fall. Chief DeWeerd also announced that they have received 50 donated smoke detectors and will prepare a release for distribution of them. They are also looking into possibility installing them as well. Chief DeWeerd also commented on the citizen comment earlier regarding putting an ordinance in place to inspect rental units before they are rent out. He would like to see the board work toward putting this in place for the safety of families in the township. Asst. Chief Chamberlain regarding the fire prevention program that they will be bringing to the schools. It was requested of the board approval of \$754.00, which is \$2.30 per child to purchase the require materials to pass out to students. In the past, they have had the children do an escape plan for their house, discussed the importance of smoke detectors as well as keep new batteries in each detector. This year they are planning on passing out the escape plan to be done at home with their families with a certificate presented for participation. The fire department is also planning to do a pancake breakfast on January 9th at the Pullman Elementary. They are planning to do one each month. The breakfast will be held from 7 am to 11 am on Saturdays.

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to authorize Asst. Chief Chamberlain to spend \$780.00 from the Fire Department's funds to purchase fire prevention materials for their upcoming school programs. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

A special thanks was given to all those on the fire department, police and the first responders from the Everett family for all their help in their recent house fire. A special thank you was given to Pam Rawson for her help and support

First Responders- During the month of November there were a total of 21 calls for the First Responders. Calls are slightly down this year with last year's total at 277 calls.

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Ambulance report: Trustee Black read the ambulance report from the meeting that took place on December 10th at 7:00 pm in Fennville. During the meeting an election was held for officers, and in Mr. Black's absence he was elected.

Building Inspector report: During the month of November the 4 building, 5 electrical, 6 mechanical and 1 plumbing permit issued with a total property value of \$52,482.00. An update was given on the Grove Street home that has been condemned. Inspector Shamblin reported that cleanup will be taking place shortly.

Cemetery Report - No report.

Library Report- No report

Transfer Station- During the month there was \$397.00 collected with 41 coupons redeemed.

Lake Board- No report

Newsletter Committee- Any information for the upcoming Spring newsletter will need to be submitted by the February Regular Board meeting.

Holiday Committee- Lisa gave a report on the Annual Tree Lighting Holiday Social. It was a great success with more than 200 in attendance. All enjoyed the Christmas carols sang by the Rawson Brothers and the students. Santa arrived on a Lee Township Fire Truck and gave away 175 gifts to those children that visited him as Mrs. Claus. Lisa wished to thank all those for their support and help in making this another successful event.

Pullman Pride Committee- None

Clean Team - None

Road report- None

News from the Local VFW – Sandy Anderson thanked all those that supported their annual Christmas Party. This year was another great success with 358 presents given away to all the children in attendance. This is the 3rd year that they have hosted this party and it has been fund all with donations. A special thank you was given to all that support this wonderful event.

OLD BUSINESS:

Passing the resolution on authorizing issuance and sale of 2010 general obligations limited tax bond- Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Lowery to sign the resolution authorizing issuance of the sale of 2010 general obligations limited tax bonds to move forward in the grant process with the new fire station project.

NEW BUSINESS-

Land Splits-

Motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Miller to accept the land split for Mulac located at 5411 107th Avenue with the legal description that was approved by the Assessor and Building Inspector. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

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Loan Resolution for RD 1942 – 47 USA – Supervisor Miller stated that it was a necessary part of the process to proceed with the loan/grant process for the new fire station.

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Black to sign the Loan Resolution for RD 1942-47US for the grant/loan process for the proposed new fire station project. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.

Payment of the Bills-

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Black to pay the bills as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.

Citizen's Comments: None

Correspondence:

A petition was presented to the board by those that wish to see Building Inspector Shamblin services remain with the township. The petition was placed at the conference table for those interested in signing. Supervisor Miller stated that there were 6 residents had currently signed the petition.

District Court Judge Baillargeon requested an opportunity to wish the board and all the residents a very Merry Christmas. He presented the board with a mug that commemorated the Allegan County Sheriff's Department's 175th Anniversary.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm.

Minutes submitted by
Jacquelyn Ann King, Clerk