

LEE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES

June 8, 2009

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

Members Present: Trustee Ferguson, Treasurer Lowery, Supervisor Miller and Clerk King.
Absent: Trustee Steve Black

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members' Comments: Treasurer Lowery announced that Trustee Black had recently had surgery and asked that everyone keep him in their thoughts and prayers. Supervisor Miller commented on the property that is being considered for a new fire station/township hall. He mentioned that he had received a letter from a concerned citizen, and he gave an update to those in attendance as well as answered some of the concerns that were addressed in the letter. He stated that the properties researched either were on the wrong side of the tracks, or in an undesirable building location. The property that was originally discussed on 56th Street, did not test well when the health department came out to do a perk test, and the water table was too high and several thousands of dollars would be needed to make the location buildable as well as an additional pump for the septic to accommodate the location. The current location on 109th is a good buildable spot and has had good reports from the health department on the water table. Supervisor Miller stated that he was just looking for the best spot for the money and trying to be mindful of spending. He also stated that as this process advances, there will be a building committee formed.

Citizens' Comments:

A Citizen commented on the burned building at the four corners of Pullman and wondered what was being done?

A Citizen commented on the success of the parade. He thanked the Fire Chief as well as his department for their participation. He also thanked the Clerk for her Memorial speech given at the cemetery. Lastly he stated that he received a letter from a concerned resident and addressed the concerns from the letter.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to approve the May 11, 2009 Regular Meeting minutes with minor corrections. All voted "Aye" Motion carried.

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

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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

County Commissioner Report: Tom Jessup passed out his monthly newsletter. The discussion is still taking place regarding the current jail situation as well as the animal shelter. With the economy more animals are in need of homes. Commissioner Jessup suggested that a .5 mill might be placed on an upcoming ballot. Possibly the election will be scheduled for May 2010.

Deputies Report: Deputy Lytle gave the report for the month of May. There were a total of 125 complaints with 53 taken by the local deputies. Of these complaints 20 were taken by the day shift and 105 were taken by the night shift. Deputy Lytle stated that the previous Monday there was a large presence of law enforcement due to the two escaped convicts from Arkansas. Also during the month the Rodeo near 49th Street was cited for loud music.

Fire Department:

During the month there were 7 fire calls. Chief DeWeerd gave an update on the FEMA grant that he recently finished. Lastly the air packs will be inspected and the pump tested by Spencer.

First Responders: Albert Rawson gave the report for the month of May. Total calls were 26 with 25 medical calls and 1 was a call to an accident. Continuing Education classes were recently completed with another class to take place in June.

Ambulance report: Miller read the ambulance report.

Building Inspector : Inspector Shamblin stated that things were looking better. During the month 5 building permits were issued as well as 3 electrical, 3 mechanical for a total property value of \$74,500.00. Shamblin also announced that there was a clean up planned for the upcoming Saturday at 911 Grove Street. This resident was in need of help and Inspector Shamblin was looking for volunteers to help. Currently there were helpers lined up and the Clean Team stated that they would focus their clean-up there instead of the roadsides. The ultimate goal was to help this resident remain in his home.

Cemetery Report:

Cemetery workers did a wonderful job cleaning the cemetery. Upcoming repairs to the freeze pump, 5 cement stones that were crumbling. The quote for the repair for the stones would be approximately \$260.00.

Supervisor Miller thanked all those that made the Memorial Day events the best ever.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to authorize the repair of the stones at the cemetery in the amount of \$260.00. A roll call vote was taken: Yes – Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.

Library Report: No report.

Transfer Station: During the month of May, \$627.00 was collected with 29 cards redeemed. .

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Lake Board: No dredging has taken place yet. A meeting is scheduled on the 9th at 7:00 pm.

Newsletter Committee: The newsletter committee was scheduled to meet at 9 am on Saturday. If there are any other articles to be placed in this upcoming edition, they will need to be handed in prior to Friday's deadline. The newsletter is scheduled to be out during the first week of July.

Assessor's report: No report

Holiday Committee: A special thank you was given to Tom, Eve and all the businesses who were involved in the parade and the Memorial Day festivities.

Pullman Pride Committee: The Pullman Pride Committee met on the first of June. The next meeting is scheduled for the 29th of June at 7:00 pm. There were also 2 scholarships presented to two students, and their information will be in the next edition of the Lee Township Crossing.

Clean Team: The clean team announced that they will meet at the township hall on Saturday to help with the clean up on 911 Grove Street.

Lee Township Road Committee: Chuck Pugh read the names of those on the road committee and what they were currently working on. They will present their findings to the board this fall for review.

Neighborhood Watch Committee: There has been some difficulty with the leadership of the Neighborhood Watch Committee since the passing of C. Sue Alhman. Their next meeting will take place on June 11 at 7:00 pm. A representative from Columbia Township will be there to help organize the forming of this new committee.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Land Splits: None

Approval of Fire work Permits. There have been three requests for Firework Permits for July 4th Holiday: Tom Nolan, Rawson's and Great Lakes Experimental Light Effects in Grand Junction.

Motion made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to approve the fire work permits for Nolans, Rawson and Great Lakes Experimental Light Effects. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Adoption of Resolution: Supervisor Miller read the resolution provided by Attorney to sign necessary documents. Discussion took place regarding the purchase questions and if the land

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split has been done. The resolution would allow documents to be signed, instead of waiting until the next meeting or holding additional special meetings.

A motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Ferguson to adopt the blanket resolution drafted by Attorney Shuitmaker enabling the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the necessary documents in preparation of purchase of property. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Noise Variance for Jason Schmidt: Mud Run: Supervisor Miller stated that there have been no problems with noise and requested the board to consider approving a variance for the upcoming events on June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12 and October 10th. The hour of the Mud Run will be from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Lowery to approve the request for variance from Jason Schmidt for the Mud Runs to be held on June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12 and October 10th. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Board of Review Meeting: *A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to approve the Clerk to publish the July Board of Review dates. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

Tickets for the Transfer Station: In the past tickets were issued with the summer tax bills and the board has agreed to keep with this decision and send 2 tickets in the July tax bills to all property owners.

A motion was made by Ferguson and seconded by Miller to authorize the Treasurer to have the tickets printed for the transfer station for the amount of approximately \$199.00. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.

Clerk King requested the board to consider the printing fee of a bike registration to be filled out by the Deputies during Pullman Pride. Deputy Franck recommended that we offer this program. Currently the Sheriff's department doesn't offer this service, but Allegan City does and it has worked very well. *Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Lowery to authorize the Clerk to research and have printed bike registration cards and stickers. All vote "Aye." Motion carried.*

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to authorize the Treasurer to have the tax brochure printed to be placed in each July tax bill. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Pay Increase for Assistant Fire Chief: – Chief DeWeerd requested the board to review and approve a pay raise for the Assistant Fire Chief. T. Chamberlain has been doing more to help the Chief with the reports as well as the calls and he feels that this would warrant an increase. The increase would be from \$200.00 to \$400.00 per month.

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A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to increase the monthly salary for the Assistant Fire Chief from \$200.00 to \$400.00. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.

Payment of the Bills: *A motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Ferguson to authorize the clerk to pay the bills in the amount of \$44,341.44. Roll call vote was taken: Yes - Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.*

Citizen Comments: A comment was made regarding the Cemetery Committee member's letter that the citizen felt was unacceptable.

Correspondence:

A letter which was sent by L. Galdikas with questions/concerns regarding the possible new fire station/township hall. Supervisor Miller stated that he would put together information for the newsletter that would help explain this process to the residents. It was also announced that there would be a meeting at Pullman Elementary on June 11th regarding the flooding. The meeting will be conducted by the Drain office. The meeting will start at 4:00 pm.

Noise variance was requested by G. Montoya: Supervisor Miller stated that the noise needed to be kept down and that no variance would be given. The deputies have had to answer many complaints regarding noise as well as other issues. Supervisor Miller requested that Mr. Montoya follow the ordinances and to use his discretion in operating these events. Deputy Lytle has stated that there have been problems and the sheriff's department is going to expect cooperation in holding these events to help keep them from being a nuisance to the neighbors.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm.

Minutes submitted by
Jacquelyn Ann King, Clerk