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**Lee Township**  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
June 14, 2010

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

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Board Comments:**

Trustee Ferguson commented on recently being out of town and received a message from a resident that didn't leave their number. He requested that anyone calling be sure to leave their return number, because he doesn't have caller ID.

Supervisor Miller gave an update on the proposed Fire Station/Township hall. He has been working with the State Treasury, auditors and attorneys. It appears that we as a board need to discuss what route we want to take. The State Treasury Department did not approve our application without some adjustments to our paperwork, budget and possibly plans. The board will need to discuss if they still want to include the expense of the new township hall in light of the decreasing revenue and poor economy.

Trustee Ferguson commented that he has noticed the need for a Fire Department and what it would take to revamp the current township hall.

**Citizen Comments:**

Citizen L. Galdikas commented that it would be nice to get a commitment from the entire board to take on the challenge of finding uses for buildings that could be vacant.

Citizen S. Anderson asked what could be done with the old office?

Inspector Shamblin stated that he could prepare pictorials for the board on possible uses for the township hall.

Chief DeWeerd requested that the board hold a Special Meeting to have the discussion on what will happen with the old buildings and what will the board decide to do with the new facility.

Citizen P. Clemens commented on the Scott Lake Drain project. He didn't think that the plans provided by the Drain Commissioner in the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting will help any of the residents that are experiencing flooding.

Citizen C. Pugh stated that he had spoken to the Wightman Jones, the engineering firm, and it appears to him that it will ease the problem of flooding. He stated that they were planning on taking the drain through the north area into the lakes to avoid Clemen's property.

Deputy Ray asked the residents in attendance to please be sure to report anything suspicious. It is important to call Central Dispatch and let them know that their might be a crime in process. Never confront the situation.

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*A motion was made Black and seconded by Lowery to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting dated May 10<sup>th</sup> as presented. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

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

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

#### Committee Reports:

**County Commissioner's Report:** Commissioner Jessup handed out his monthly newsletter to board members and those residents in attendance. He highlighted the Senior Services, which will be on the ballot for renewal of their millage. The August election will also have the Jail millage on the ballot. The County is requesting 32 million for the renovation of the newly purchased facility. They originally planed to ask for \$25,808,939 with a contingency plan of 5,936,056 for construction. This brings the total of \$31,744.990 million. This millage would not cover operational cost. Commissioner Jessup stated that the commissioners feel that the operational budget can stay the same for a couple of years. The county has currently pledge 1,000,000 for its annual payment to float the bond. Even though the bond would cover the jail project, they are required to request a millage to cover it. Commissioner Jessup also stated that the county's budget is short 2.5 million and they are requesting cuts. He stated that this will result in loss of services and most likely personnel layoffs. Lastly he took a minute to honor our veterans.

#### Deputies' Report:

During the month of May there were 112 complaints. There were 5 domestic violence, 3 breaking and entering, 5 warrants and 1 CSC. Deputy Ray reiterated that anyone that witnesses a crime or some suspicious activity, please call Central Dispatch.

**Fire Department Report:** During the month of May there were 10 calls. A proposed contract has been drafted and will need to be presented to the Valley Township Board. The contract is a flat \$450.00 per month for being on call and \$800.00 per call responded to. The Valley Township board will hold a Special Meeting to discuss the approval of this contract. DeWeerd announced that this coming Saturday was the Walk of Life event in Fennville. They will be meeting at the Fennville High School and the walk will take place for 24 hours. Chief DeWeerd announced that they had a resignation for Fire Station 2 and the position has been filled. Albert Rawson has been promoted to Captain of Station 2.

**First Responders' Report:** During the month there were a total of 30 calls of which 24 were medical, 4 accident and 2 calls were to assist. The First Responder will have Continuing Education to update their licenses in the month of June. The annual calls up to June total 114.

**Ambulance Report:** Trustee Black read the minutes from the June 10<sup>th</sup> Ambulance meeting.

**Building Inspector's Report:** During the month there were 4 building permits, 6 electrical, 1 plumbing and no mechanical permits issued. The total property value was \$62,000.00

**Cemetery Report:** Committee member E. Pacholski reported the cemetery looking it's best for the Memorial ceremony. She thanked Mike and Janet Curley for doing such a fine job in putting down mulch and making sure everything was freshly painted. She also stated that the board will want to make a decision regarding sending out letters on the rules of the cemetery. There are some sites that are not in compliance and need to be contacted.

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**Library Report:** No report.

**Transfer Station:** During the month, there was \$835.00 dollars collected and 42 tickets redeemed.

**Lake Board Report:**

Committee member E. DeWeerd reported that the dredging has been in process for 2 to 3 weeks and that everything is going well.

**Newsletter Report:** Committee member, L. Galdikas reported that the newsletter committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Tonight was the deadline for any articles to be placed in the next edition. The issue will be out in the first week of July.

**Assessor's Report:** No report.

**Holiday Committee:** Committee member L. Galdikas wished everyone a "Happy Flag Day". She also thanked the VFW for providing the flags that are displayed through town.

**Pullman Pride Committee:** A. Rawson spoke on behalf of Committee member, Pam to report that everything is falling into place. They would like to see more vendors and people to participate in the flea market. They hope to see everyone there on Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Clean Team Report:** No report.

**Road Committee Report:** Committee member, C. Pugh announced that the deadline for the November ballot would be August 24<sup>th</sup> if the board was going to possibly consider a road millage. This is premature, due to little to no discussion has taken place.

**Church/Activity Center Committee:** - Committee member, S. Anderson announced that only one person attended their last meeting. The next meeting will take place on July 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. There will be representatives from Allegan County at the next meeting.

A comment was made regarding the sign out in front of the township hall. Does the township have letters so that the sign can be used? It was also mentioned that the sign was in need of repair. Supervisor Miller requested that Trustee Black look into the price to purchase a new sign and letters.

**Unfinished Business:** NONE

**New Business**

**Publish tax newsletter summer 2010 tax bills-** Treasurer Lowery presented the other board members with a informational brochure that is usually placed in each tax bill. The board members gave her their changes or corrections.

*Motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Miller to have the newsletter brochure printed with changes and corrections to be placed in the July taxes bill. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

**Fire Work Permits** - Supervisor Miller had request for approval of firework permits for the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. Great Lakes Experimental will have additional minor fire works and have requested a permit. Pat Nolan from Nolan's Party Store also requested a fire permit for their display on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. These permits are for one event, and do not extend through the year. Great Lakes Experimental will be holding their event on June

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26<sup>th</sup> at 10 pm. The new firework law states that a permit by the State police is obtained along with insurance to be presented to the board for approval. Great Lakes Experimental has already provided information as requested.

*Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to issue a one time fire permit to Great Lakes Experimental for their June 26<sup>th</sup>. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

*Motion was made by King and seconded by Miller to issue a permit for the July 3<sup>rd</sup> event for Pat Nolan upon receipt of the necessary insurance and permit from the State police. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

Deputy Ray requested a copy of the address from the application to inform the local deputies.

**Dump Tickets-** In the past years, the board has issued 2 transfer station tickets per property owner in place of the annual clean-up day. Treasurer Lowery requested approval from the board to place two tickets in each tax bill.

*Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to authorize the treasurer to place 2 free transfer station tickets in each tax bill. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

**July Board of Review Dates** – Assessor Brousseau suggested that the July dates for the Board of Review be set for July 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm.

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to accept the suggested dates of July 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. for the Board of Review. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Miller to authorize the clerk to publish the July Board of Review dates in the Allegan County News & Gazette. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

**Approve the Letter for Commitment-** Engineering firm, Wightman & Associates presented the board with a commitment letter to be signed for Community Block Grant to repair the 102<sup>nd</sup> culvert. This letter is a commitment from the township for their portion of \$24,000.00

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to authorize the signature on the letter of commitment as presented from Wightman & Associates to proceed for the grant on the repair of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Avenue culvert project. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Supervisor Miller presented the members of the board with draft of new ordinances from Attorney Schuitmaker. Treasurer Lowery stated that there is a process that is followed in the board approving new ordinances. There needs to be a public meeting set up with public comment along with a waiting period before they would become in effect, if approved. She suggested that this issue be tabled and a Special Meeting set. Copies of the ordinance will need to be made for the Ordinance Committee to have a chance to review before the Special Meeting.

Supervisor Miller set a Special Meeting for June 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm to have public comment regarding the newly drafted ordinances.

Supervisor Miller also set a Special Meeting for June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 , as requested by the Fire Chief for the proposed fire station to be discussed and the board to make a formal decision on if they want to proceed as planned or to revise the plan to remove the township offices from the project.

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**First Responders Pay Increase** –It was discussed back a few months ago that the First Responders pay be increased since they have a millage in place and their wages and call rate has not been raised in many years. It was discussed by the board that they would receive a small amount, with the intention of giving their full raise after the new budget year had begun. This issued should have been discussed at the April meeting.

*Motion was made by King and seconded by Lowery to increase Director's wages to \$400.00 per month and Assistant Director to \$200.00 and the rate per call to be \$15.00 each call to begin April 1<sup>st</sup>.*

*Roll call voted was taken: Yes – Black, Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.*

**Payment of the Bills:**

*Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to authorize the clerk to pay the bills in the amount of \$ 82, 698.41 Roll call vote was taken: Yes –Black, Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.*

**Correspondence:** Supervisor Miller read a thank you card sent by Emilie Rawson in appreciation for the Pullman Pride Scholarship she received.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:42 pm.

Minutes submitted by  
Jacquelyn Ann King, Clerk