Lee Township

Regular Meeting Minutes July 12, 2010

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

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Comments:

Judge Baillargeon –Spoke to those in attendance regarding his campaign for re-election as judge in the Allegan County District court. He has been the judge in District Court for the past 3 years. He has the support of those that he works with and very strong support from law enforcement. Baillargeon is a member of the Michigan Judges Association, Michigan District Judges Association and American Judges Association. He been part of instilling the program that brings court to school to education students. He also works with students encouraging the importance of education, civic commitment and involvement. He works with Allegan Hospice, Children's museum and the Allegan United Way. He also works with the "Forgotten Man's" ministry and the Animal Shelter.

Bob Geneski – Reported that in their last budget meeting the State is predicting a 1.6 million dollar deficit. This year they did not cut education, and actually increased an additional \$11.00 per student. Unemployment is rising and the general fund is down as a result from personal income and business tax being down. They are projecting 2 different versions, 1 with a 0% revenue cut and one with a 4% revenue cut. They expect that the approved budget will fall somewhere in the middle.

Citizen Comments:

Committee Member, L. Galdikas, wondered why the new sign was not listed as unfinished business. Supervisor Miller stated that Trustee Black was not present to report his findings.

A motion was made Ferguson and seconded by Lowery to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting dated June 14th as presented. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Ferguson to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting dated June 23, 2010 at 6:15 and 6:30 pm as presented. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson approved the minutes from the Special Meeting dated June 30th, 2010. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

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

Committee Reports:

County Commissioner's Report: No report

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Deputies' Report: Deputy Retamal reported a total of 120 complaints during the last month. Of these complaints there were 4 domestic, 3 civil, 3 breaking & entering, 1 CSC, 6 larceny and 2 retail fraud.

Fire Department Report: During June there were 7 fire calls. The new station is pending until the annual audit report is received and can be forwarded to the State Treasury. The Valley Township contract has been approved by Valley Township Board, which will contract Lee Township Fire Department to assist at \$450.00 per month, and \$800.00 per call. Chief reported that on August 1st, they will be putting in a dry hydrant at the gravel pit in Cheshire Township. This will help those on the east side of the township. Lastly, Chief made a recommendation to the board to do away with the Verizon land line at Station 2. The signal is good in that location, and the expense of the land line is considerably more than what a cell phone would cost.

First Responders' Report: There were a 30 calls in June.

Ambulance Report: No report

Building Inspector's Report: No report

Cemetery Report: It was reported that the back road is in need of gravel. A quote is needed on what the cost for more gravel would be.

Library Report: No report

Transfer Station: During the month of June, \$692.00 was collected and 26 coupons redeemed. Heather reported that the clean up tools were found. The board had many questions regarding the whereabouts of magnet and air conditions. These things has disappeared from the transfer station and are of considerable value. Heather also reported that they have accepted around 300 tires and Treasurer Lowery will get information on the cost for the removal.

Lake Board Report: Committee member, E. DeWeerd reported that there was no meeting this month. The dredging has been going slow this week due to the holiday and the weather. The Lake Association picnic is scheduled for July 24th and is open to all. The fee is \$15.00 per person and is considered a donation.

Newsletter Report: The newsletter should have been received by residents. The post office reported that there were many returned letters due to undeliverable addresses. Clerk King stated that Lake Michigan Mailers Cass certifies the list and we will be able to correct many of the addresses.

Ordinance – Committee member L. Galdikas stated that the minutes from the June 30th meeting, reflected the recommendation the committee decided on their July 6th meeting.

Assessor's Report: Assessor Brousseau will have 2 land divisions in the near future. He will have them ready for the next regular board meeting.

Holiday Committee: Committee member, L. Galdikas submitted a proposal to the board with a request to consider purchasing some general 'Welcome' banners for the center of town. They would still use the winter holiday banners, but these would be used the rest of the year. The proposal was for \$55 to \$60 per banner. She also suggested that the township should coordinate and work together with Love Inc and the VFW to present a holiday event.

Pullman Pride Committee: Committee member P. Rawson reported that there were more than 20 vendors signed up for Pullman Pride. There will be a breakfast provided by the Lee Township fire department and lunch provided by the Ray of Light church. Breakfast begins at 8:00 am.

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Road Committee Report – Committee member C. Pugh reported that the culvert project is in the process with work to be down hopefully in September. There has been lots of rain and the gravel roads could use some gravel and grading done. Chuck reminded everyone that a road millage will need to be considered to keep up with the repairs that are needed on our paved roads.

Church/Activity Center Committee: Committee member, S. Anderson reported that the July 14th meeting has been canceled and rescheduled for the 26th of July at 2:00 pm. The Director of Senior Services, Sherry Torres will be in attendance. She will explain the Senior millage. A sign will be placed on the door to announce the date change.

Unfinished Business: NONE

New Business

District library fund payment – A report was given by Bob Vandvusses, Director of the Fennville library regarding their request for Lee to contract with the library for a annual payment of \$5,000.00. This would allow the residents of Lee to obtain a free library card in place of the current charge of \$25.00 per card. He reported that the Library of Michigan has established new rules on levels of library funding; Township, Village and Cities should pay a minim of 3/10th of a mill for library service. You get credit the penal fines that are distributed by the county. Based on the taxable value that was in a report printed by the county, Lee Township would have to pay 25,638.00 minus the fines of \$21,666.30 which would leave a balance due by the township of around \$4,000.00. Discussion took place on the differences in library cards i.e. Michcard and the lending policy for participating libraries.

Treasurer Lowery wondered how many new cards were issued last year. It was reported that around 100 were issued. Director Vandvusses felt that was down, due to the charge for the library card.

Much discussion from the audience took place regarding the need to support the Fennville Library.

This issue was tabled until the August meeting.

CDBG Agreement: Supervisor Miller presented an agreement drafted between Lee Township and Wightman's in regards to the culvert project. The township agrees to pay their portion which is \$24,000.00 and receive the grant in the amount of 186,000.00

Motion was made by Miller and seconded Ferguson to sign the CDBG agreement as presented between Wightman Jones, the state of Michigan and Lee Township. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Payment of the Bills:

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Lowery to authorize the clerk to pay the bills in the amount of \$83,449.77. Roll call voted was taken: Yes – Trustee Ferguson, Treasurer Lowery, Supervisor Miller and Clerk King. Motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Treasurer Lowery suggested that the budget adjustments be on the agenda for the August meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:26 pm.

Minutes submitted by Jacquelyn Ann King, Clerk

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