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**Lee Township**  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
August 9, 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:**

Clerk King stated that the August 3<sup>rd</sup> Primary election went well with a 13% turnout. She thanked everyone who came out to vote.

Supervisor Miller had BCI do a free estimate on what the renovations would be for the township building. The estimate came in at \$230,000. He felt that the renovations would be too costly if you include the estimate of \$6000.00 to \$9000.00 for a new septic.

**Citizen Comments:**

Committee member, Hope Curley asked Supervisor Miller if he knew where the incorrect information came from that was printed in the paper. It should have read that there was over \$1500.00 made, which would be used for 3 scholarships for Lee Township students.

Citizen E. Maas made a request for a garbage barrel to be placed at the end of Grove Street. She also asked for an update on the cleanup project at Grove Street.

Paul Klein, candidate for Circuit Court Judge, passed out a brochure listing his qualifications for judge. Paul has practiced law for 24 years in Allegan. He is a lifelong resident of Allegan County and has handled all types of cases as both a prosecutor and defense attorney.

Citizen L. Galdikas commented on the destruction of trees down 109<sup>th</sup>. She felt that it was very unsightly.

Citizen S. Lacy commented on if it would be possible to open the time capsule? It would be nice to have a ceremony for the opening and maybe have more items put in to be opened in the next 10 years.

Supervisor Miller added the Opening of the Time Capsule to the agenda.

*A motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Black to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting dated July 12 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 August 5<sup>th</sup> as presented. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

*A motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Miller to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting dated July 28<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.*

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**Committee Reports:**

**County Commissioner's Report:** No report

**Deputies' Report:** During the month of July there were a total of 181 complaints. Of these complaints there were 10 simple assaults, 6 breaking & entering, 7 larceny, 7 malicious destruction, 3 embezzling, 3 auto accidents and 13 harassment calls. Deputy Rematal answered a question regarding the number of noise complaints for the month, of which there were 7.

**Fire Department Report:** During the month, there were 12 fire calls. Chief DeWeerd stated that the plans have been tentatively taken to the engineer after they were revised by the fire department. No work will be done until the Audit report is received. Chief also stated that the DNR grant, which was applied for, had been approved. The fire department received a check in the amount of \$2633.38.

**First Responders' Report:** During the month of July there were 20 medical calls and 2 personal injury accidents.

**Ambulance Report:** No report

**Building Inspector's Report:** During the month of July there were 5 building permits, 3 electrical, 5 mechanical, and 4 plumbing permits issued for a total of \$117,700.00 in property improvements.

**Cemetery Report:** No report.

**Library Report:** No report

**Transfer Station:** During the month of July there was \$520.00 collected and 83 tickets redeemed. The board members asked if the tools and magnet have been found. The tire problem was also discussed. Treasurer Lowery will get a quote on the cost of removal of these tires. H. Melson reported that there were more than 200 tires to be removed.

**Lake Board Report:** Committee member E. DeWeerd reported that they are still dredging, but it will be slowing down shortly.

**Newsletter Report:** Committee member L. Galdikas requested anyone that has information for the newsletter to please contact her. She also stated that if anyone has historical information to share to also contact her.

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

**Holiday Committee:** Committee member L. Galdikas asked the board if they had decided on the request from last month meeting of new "Welcome Banners"? Supervisor Miller stated that he would put it on next month's agenda.

**Pullman Pride Committee:** Committee member P. Rawson thanked everyone who donated their time and money. There was over \$700 donated in cash, auction items as well as time spent to help out. The total money made this year was \$1783.00 dollars! Pam will be looking into get the inflatable toys for the children back next year.

**Clean Team Report:** No report. The next clean up date is set for August 14<sup>th</sup>

**Marge Baker- Running for Circuit Judge:** Marge asked for everyone to think about what was important to them in a circuit court judge. She stated that she felt that qualifications were very important and stated that she has been an attorney for over 30 years and has tried 100's of cases. She felt that management skills were also important, which she is in charge of her office. Thirdly, she felt that it was important to care about Allegan County. She has been very involved in the community and serves on many committees and boards for the betterment of the county. She works with Hospice, Safe Harbor Children, ARK, Disabilities Network and Sylvia's Place. She states that she has been tough on crime in her career and believes that those that commit crimes should be accountable for their actions.

**Road Committee Report :** Committee member, C. Pugh spoke of the crews working on 56<sup>th</sup> Street around railroad. The drains in that area is scheduled to be clean, which should eliminate the water over the road after heavy rains. Road millage will be discussed. Up to now, the general fund has taken care of the roads, but the cost is too much for the fund to be able to cover the expenses.

**Church/Activity Center Committee:** Lists of ideas for a vision were presented to the board for review. People Helping People has given a quote for the cost of materials to repair the building. The repairs should cost less than 1000.00. There is a group of volunteers set up to do the work on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September and it was requested that the materials be secured by this time. These were rough estimates, and there is a good possibility that they will be less. It was discussed by the board to put the topic on the agenda for next month, but Clerk King thought that the board might want to consider discussing at the current meeting to see if a decision could be made. People Helping People has indicated that they might be able to come up with some funds to cover some of the cost.

*A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Black to supplement up to 1000.00 for the repairs for the new building/ activity center. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.*

#### **Unfinished Business:**

**Library -** In the past few years, the library has received a payment of \$3500.00 in place of a millage for our portion of library usage. With this payment, it was required by the library that each the residents from Lee would have to pay \$25.00 for the first library card and \$10.00 each card thereafter. This year they are asking for an additional 1500.00 and would eliminate the charge for library cards for residents. Trustee Ferguson had looked into the matter regarding the MICHcard that is good all over in Michigan and that is what our residents would have.

*Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to pay the requested \$5,000.00 which is the portion determined by the library are being Lee Township share of library coverage. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Ferguson, Miller and King. No- Lowery. Motion carried.*

#### **New Business**

**Road Millage -** A resolution was passed out to the board members by committee member C. Pugh, which had been drafted by Attorney Shuitmaker. Clerk King requested discussion on the matter, since the resolution with ballot language was not discussed or approved for drafting by the attorney. Clerk King stated that she was in favor of looking into putting a road millage on the ballot at some point. The Road Committee had done a very thorough job of checking out each road in the township and reporting the amount of work that would need to be done. The amount of work that is needed will cost more than what the township can afford from general funds and a request for millage should be considered. Clerk King also stated that she had a very large issue with why Attorney Schuitmaker was drafting township documents without the request of the board as well as drafted other documents, such as ordinances that were not needed or requested by the board. This

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has been a problem. She stated that she had called the attorney's office last month and made it clear that the board would make request on letterhead, after it had been officially approved. This resolution was done after that request was made. She recommended that the board consider different legal services.

*A motion was made by King and seconded by Lowery to no longer use the legal services of Schuitmaker for legal counsel with information to be presented at the next board meeting for the board's approval for new counsel. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

*Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Black to adopt the resolution with the typing corrections to place a road millage question on the November ballot. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

*Motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Ferguson to authorize the Cemetery Sexton to have the freeze pump repaired at the cemetery for approximately \$200.00. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

Supervisor received a quote from Pat Knapp's Excavating for gravel and repair of the back road at the cemetery. The quote was for \$1200.00 which included gravel, grading and trimming.

*Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to have the work done to repair the back road of the cemetery by Pat Knapp's Excavating in the amount of the quoted \$1200.00. All voted "Aye" Motion carried.*

**Discussion took place regarding changing the transfer station hours back to including Wednesdays:** It was decided that this would be best to do this in spring. It was tabled until a future meeting closer to Spring.

**Sign for the Front of the Fire Station** – Trustee Black gave the board members a proposal that listed the type of sign that would be the most economical and have a 5 year warranty. The quote was for \$3000.00, but did not include installation. He will get quotes on installation and bring the information to the next regular board meeting.

Treasurer Lowery requested that the board authorize her to file a petition with Circuit Court to have the delinquent real property bills taken off the rolls. After 9 years the tax can be removed after all methods of collection have been attempted. This would be a loss of \$11,059.00, but has been uncollectable for many years. This total does include interest and some amounts have been re-assessed.

*Motion was made by Black and seconded by Ferguson to authorize the Treasurer to file the petition with Circuit Court to have the uncollectable personal property tax be removed from the rolls. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

*Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Black to schedule a ceremony to open the 10 year old time capsule and reseal with new materials for the next 10 years. This will be planned by the committee which included S. Lacy, E. Maas others who were originally involved. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

**Land Division:** *Motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Miller to approve the land division that has been reviewed and approved by both Inspector Shamblin and Assessor Brousseau. 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 \$45,148.21. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.*

*Motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Miller to authorize the clerk to pay the election inspectors for the August 3<sup>rd</sup> election. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.*

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Correspondence: None

S. Anderson made an announcement that on August 21<sup>st</sup> the VFW would have a motorcycle event for Allegan County for the homeless. Ride begins at noon and will go through Fennville and be over 100 miles long. Last years ride raised \$2900.00.

Resident L. Rawson wanted to state that he felt that the millages currently in place should be lowered to help with the road millage.

*Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ferguson to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm. All voted "Aye" Motion carried.*

Minutes submitted by  
Jacquelyn Ann King, Clerk

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