

Approved
Unapproved

Lee Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 13, 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 Black, Trustee Ferguson, Treasurer Lowery, Supervisor Miller and Clerk King.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Comments:

No comments

Citizen Comments:

Citizen from Casco Township commented on the negative effects on their neighborhood as a result from the Peacefeast at the Willow Ranch in Lacota. Loud music is playing until 5 am in the morning, there are all types of drugs used there and no security to keep things in order. There has been episodes where drug crazed individuals have terrorized the neighbor smashing windows leaving blood everywhere. Even when law enforcement arrived a taser wasn't effective. Most neighbors are afraid for their safety.

Another citizen from Casco commented on the time spent visiting with the neighbors around the area, and there is no support for this activity and everyone is fearful for their safety and have concerns about the values of their properties decreasing because of the numerous incidents and damaged property.

Supervisor Miller stated that this problem has come to his attention and it has been turned over to the police.

Deputy Lytle spoke regarding the fact that there are calls coming in, Most of the time the individual causing a problem are taken to the gate where they can be arrested.

Citizen recited the noise ordinance and wanted to know why this wasn't being enforced. Supervisor Miller stated that a complaint needs to be called in to start this processes. Deputy Lytle stated that when a call comes in for an ordinance violation, it is placed in order of priority. If there is a violent crime or a domestic situation dispatched, the officer will respond to the more serious call first.

Supervisor Miller suggested keeping a log of the activity to forward on to law enforcement.

Citizen commented on that fact that there are no permits in place to hold such events.

Inspector Shamblin commented on checking with the Health Department and working with proper agencies to investigate if permit violations are taking place.

B. Willow stated that he was aware of the problem and that out of the 1,000 that attend, 995 comply with the rules and it is a shame that the ranch would be close down. He vowed to go unplugged after a certain hour, use decibel meters, hire professional security as well as work with communicating with the board to help resolve the issues.

A neighboring township citizen stated that he had a 3 hour wait to get an officer to their door. He stated that the neighbors are considering arming themselves. Deputy Lytle will report these concerns to the Sheriff.

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Minutes- August 9, 2010

A motion was made by Black and seconded by Ferguson to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting dated Aug 9th as presented. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Black and seconded by Miller to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting dated August 31^h 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 went over the up coming jail millage for the November ballot. The millage failed in August, but has been re-placed on the ballot for November. The commissioners felt that the public didn't understand the language on the ballot, and many were just not willing to take any increase on their taxes due to economical reasons. The commissioners did decide to reduce the millage rate, and with placing the issue on a general election the county saved \$60,000.00 by not holding a special election. He also discussed the \$2.4 million needed to cut in order to balance the counties 2011 budget. Steps have already been taken with different savings plans put into place and a retirement package put together for those ready to retire. There were 13 employees how opted to take early retirement, but more layoffs will need to be done.

Deputies' Report: During the month of August there were 129 complaints. 3 were from the Willow Ranch and 9 were loud music. Blight Enforcement is being complied to be presented to the board.

Fire Department Report: During the month of August there were 14 calls. Chief DeWeerd stated that the Valley contract has been finalized and will begin effective September 1st and is for the period of two years. Chief DeWeerd stated that the radios in the trucks are to be updated by January 1st. The cost will hopefully will be covered by Central Dispatch, but if not, there will be a \$5,000.00 cost to the township. The Chief requested consideration from the board on the purchase of educational materials for Fire Prevention week at the schools. Last year the department spent \$700.00 and was able to supply the kids with learning materials.

First Responders' Report: During the month of August there were 26 calls, which 21 were medical, 4 accidents and 1 fire assistance. Albert stated that the department would be doing their Continuing Education in 2011.

Ambulance Report: Waiting for copy of the report.

Building Inspector's Report: During the month of August, 1 building permit, 5 electrical, 5 mechanical and 1 plumbing permits issued with an improvement total of \$30,000.00.

Cemetery Report: Eva reminded that it was time to publish the fall cleanup for October 1st. She also wondered when the graveling job would be done at the cemetery. Supervisor Miller stated that it has been approved, and he would call Pat Knapp.

Library Report: No library.

Transfer Station: During the month of August there was \$788.00 collected and 95 tickets redeemed at the transfer station.

Lake Board Report: The dredging has finished fro the season.

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Newsletter Report: The deadline for any articles or information to be submitted for the November edition will be at the October meeting. The committee will meet on Wednesday October 13th at 6:00 pm.

Assessor's Report: The yearly 5% check has been done for the year and you will see it reflected on the 2011 tax rolls. A lot line adjustment for Stoike was presented to the board for approval. This adjustment had been review and approved by the building inspector and the assessor, requiring only the approval of the board.

Holiday Committee: Holiday Committee has been coordinating with the VFW, PHP and township. The date has been set for Saturday, December 11 from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. The event will be held at the Pullman Elementary and there will be a musical preformed by the school, visit from Santa, gifts, manger scene and light dinner served. There will be crafts for the kids to participate in and the annual tree lighting will take place by the school. The committee is still in need of lots of volunteers and donations of “giveaway” items to promote the local businesses. Donations are also been sought for gifts, there will need to be over 500 gifts for this event. All suggestions, please call Lisa Galdikas or Sandy Anderson.

Pullman Pride Committee: No report

Clean Team Report: No report

Road Committee Report: Chuck reported that the project on 102nd should be finished by Oct 1st. He also stated that there would be an upcoming article for the newsletter regarding the road millage proposal.

Church/Activity Center Committee: The scheduled repairs to the facility will be done on Wednesday and it will be ready for use.

Unfinished Business:

Time Capsule: - Will be tabled to schedule the ceremony.

Banners – Holiday committee: The board had looked over the materials provided by Lisa and discussed her recommendation of purchasing the new banners to add with the existing “spring” banners. It was decided that the personalized banners would look better and with 4 purchased they could be placed in the 4 main areas in the center of town.

A motion was made by Ferguson and seconded by Lowery to authorize the Holiday committee to purchase 4 new personalized banners and hardware not to exceed \$400.00. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Lowery to authorize the fire department to spend up to \$ 700.00 for the purposed fire prevention materials. A roll call vote was taken: Yes- Black, Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.

New Business

Hiring a New Attorney: The board will be taking quotes from local attorneys to hire legal counsel for ordinance work and small issues. Clerk King is still receiving quotes and will bring the information to the next meeting.

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102nd Culvert (Grant) Project: M. Bittner from Wightman and Assoc. reported the status of the 102nd culvert project. The Contractor started the day after Labor Day and is expected to finish sometime late this week.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Black to pay Ron Meyer Construction in the amount of \$13,333.55 for the work that has been done on 102nd Avenue to be reimbursement by the State. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Ferguson to approve the lot line adjustment for Stoike -5090 Lake Drive, which has been approved by the assessor and building inspector as presented. All voted “Aye”. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Black to authorize the clerk to publish the Cemetery Clean Up for October 1st. All voted “Aye”. Motion carries.

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Black to approve the weed control invoice for the township’s portion of the Osterhout Lake swimming beach. Roll call vote: Yes – Black, Ferguson, Lowery, Miller and King. Motion carried.

Payment of the Bills:

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

Correspondence: None

Candidate Andy Mark requested a couple moments to address the residents about his upcoming campaign for District Court judge. He spoke to the audience regarding his qualifications and asked for support in the upcoming November election.

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Black to adjourn the meeting. All voted “Aye”. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:16 pm.

Minutes submitted by
Jacquelyn Ann King, Clerk