

Lee Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2013

The Regular Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 7:35 pm at the Lee Township Hall, 877 56th Street, Pullman, MI 49450

Members Present: Trustee Black, Trustee Galdikas, Treasurer Lowery, Supervisor Owen and Clerk King.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Comments:

Trustee Galdikas introduced Pullman Pride scholarship recipients: Brian Larabel, Lauren Curley, Fernando Silva. She gave an update on the crane that was hanging over 109th Avenue She announced that she would like to take care of putting new information in the display cabinet by the door of the township hall. She also announced that she has resigned from her position as Lee Township Representative on the Al-Van Humane Society and Tim Kotas will take her place. Lastly she announced that through the support of local businesses there was \$327.00 collected in donations for Al-Van in 2012. She thanked all that donated to the worthy cause.

Supervisor Owen thanked Freddie, the owner of the crane for the festive Christmas decorations. Owen also announced that contact has been made with the responsible party of the property at 911 Grove Street.

Treasurer Lowery commended Supervisor Owen for all the hours he is putting in the office. She stated that he is doing a very good job with his new position. She also commended Trustee Galdikas for her hard work in the cleanup with the back storage.

Clerk King commended both new board members for the job they are doing. Supervisor Owen is doing a lot of research in getting the details for the new patrol car and many other projects. He is doing well in keep the other members updated. Trustee Galdikas has been very involved in working towards getting the storage cleaned up as well helping out with other projects.

Citizens Comments:

A motion was made by Black and seconded by Lowery to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from December 10, 2012 All voted "Aye". Motion carries.

A motion was made by King seconded by Black to receive the Treasurer's Report as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. All voted Yes - Motion carried.

County Commissioners Report: Commissioner Jessup reported that the Board of Commissioners will be meeting twice a month instead of once a month as previously done. A health and wellness program has been implemented to help cut cost with health insurance with county employees. Jessup reported the most current update on the jail in regards to some additional expenses. There is some reconfiguration of the jail cell doors to correct a manufacture error. This will be covered by the manufacturer. The quote that was given for flooring did not include the steps to the second floor. An error the in control gates left the inability to operate them from within the jail. Lastly the sales tax was not included in quote as well as code enforcement which will cost an estimate of \$700,000.00. Commissioner Jessup also announced that he is now on the board for Commission on Aging and hopes to help with some of the transportation issues.

Deputy's Report: The monthly report was not given due to Deputy Brown not on duty. Lt. Frank Banker was in attendance to talk about the new vehicles purchased by the Sheriff's Department in order

to help answer questions regarding the township's upcoming purchase. Baker also announced that the Sheriff's Department and the efforts to bring information available on a more live system, with email reports that give more details on complaints.

Fire Department Report: In Chief DeWeerd's absence, Sam Kasinger gave the monthly report. During the month there were 10 calls. There were 2 quotes presented for cleaning and waxing the floor. The lower quote was from D. Lockery in the amount of \$450.00 was recommended versus the \$700.00 quote from Absolute Clean.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to accept the quote from D. Lockery in the amount of \$450.00 for the cleaning and waxing of the new fire station floor. Roll call vote was taken: Yes - Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried

First Responders: Total calls for the year were 26 personal injury, 284 medicals, 3 assist, 20 fire. They are planning on sponsoring a class for certification. The instructor is from the Van Buren Intermediate School District at the cost of \$5,200.00 for instruction and an additional \$2,000.00 for training materials. Their goal is to get as many people in the township to take part, but to open up to neighboring communities to make sure there is a full class. The class is scheduled to be held at the new fire station.

A motion was made by King and seconded by Black to authorize the MFP Certification training to be conducted by VBISD in the amount of \$5,200.00 for instruction and \$2,000.00 for training materials sponsored by the First Responders and located at the new fire station. Roll call vote was taken: Yes - Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.

Ambulance Report: Trustee Black read the minutes from the last Ambulance Meeting held on December 13th at 7 pm at the Fennville Area Emergency Services. He reported the results from a study that was done on response time from 2006 to 2012 and found that the response time was adequate.

Building Inspector: During the month of December there was 1 plumbing and 2 electric permits issued with no property value improvement noted. On a personal note Peggy's surgery went extremely well and he thanked everyone for their support and prayers.

Donated Building: Ken Drisma from PHP gave the monthly report. Ken reported the progress with the electrical and that the two furnaces are working well. Ken reported that there will be a new women's and men's bathroom as well as a unisex bathroom. They are working on the insulation and drywall with a target date of Easter for completion. The building will be used for all types of activities, but will not have a kitchen that can be used commercially. A question was presented on the pews? Ken reported the pews are still there. It was stated by a citizen that are priceless memories attached to the pews and the purchase should be offered to the community first before auctioning off. It was mentioned that perhaps a pew could be displayed at the next pancake breakfast.

Cemetery Report: No report.

Library Report: No Report.

Transfer Station: During the month, there was a total of \$563.00 collected and 30 tickets redeemed.

Lower Scott Lake Board: No report

Assessor' Report: Assessor Mitchell reported that the assessment will be out in February with Board of Review scheduled the 2nd week of March.

Holiday Committee: Lisa thanked all the community members who helped with the removal of the Christmas decorations.

Pullman Pride: No report was given but if anyone is interested in participating they need to contact Pam Rawson or Lisa Galdikas.

Newsletter Committee: Next month will be the deadline, and anyone with information of interest, please contact committee member.

Clean Team: No report was given but a request for volunteers was made.

Road Committee: The annual Allegan County Road Commission meeting is scheduled next month and will be attended by Supervisor Owen and Road Committee member Ray Russell.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Patrol Car: The grant process was started in the summer. We are now at a point where we can start considering types of vehicles. Supervisor Owen presented the board with many quotes are different choices of vehicles. He brought in Frank Baker from the Sheriff's Department to give input and answer questions. Baker stated that the Sheriff's Department found that the Crown Vic's converted well to the utility vehicles. They have purchased 2 and found that there gas consumption was not much more for the utility vehicle than the car but has more versatility with the 4 wheel drive.

A question was presented regarding conversion expenses for sedans and utilities. Baker will get those figures and send to Supervisor Owen. It was estimated somewhere around \$3,000.00

A motion was made to submit the bid for the utility vehicle and bring back the invoices to the next meeting. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.

Fracking Presentation: Discussion took place on the opinions of the board members regarding holding an education presentation on the issue of fracking. Galdikas was not in favor because she felt that it was only presenting one side and did not feel the township should promote an opinion on the issue. King felt that providing education was the townships responsibility, but only if both sides have an opportunity to present information. It was discussed that the presenter was an author of a book against Fracking and it was felt that the information would only present it from a one-sided view. It was discussed that other communities are providing information as well as MSU Extension provided education for those interested in learning more about the topic.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to pay the \$75.00 for a presentation on Fracking by MaryAnn Lesert. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – King, Owen and Black. No- Lowery and Galdikas. Motion carried.

Storage Shelves: A couple of options were presented to the board for the shelving units for the township storage. To build the shelves would be about \$125.00 for materials compared to the completed shelves from Sam's Club at \$60.00 per unit which was much better than the quoted \$150.00 for the wire shelving. The approval had already been given in last month's meeting, so the shelves could be purchased at the best deal.

USDA grant for new police car: The grant paperwork had been started earlier in the summer to request grant funds to purchase a new police car. The paperwork has been signed and the next step can be taken.

A motion was made by King and seconded by Lowery to proceed with the finalization of the grant. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Land Division: *A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to approve the land division located at 56th and 107th Avenue as approved by the assessor and building inspector. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

Vacancy on Board of Review: A letter was read from Edward Brock. Mr. Brock wrote that although he has enjoyed working on the Board of Review and serving the community, he was resigning from his position on the Board of Review.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Lowery to appoint Bruce Ferguson to fill Ed Brocks appointment for Board of Review. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lowery and seconded b Black to authorize the Board of Review Training for Mr. Ferguson as well as the Supervisor. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Black to pay the bills in the amount of \$51,473.56 as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.

Correspondence: A letter was received from Donna and Gene Allgaier-Lamberti stating that they can no longer attend meeting, but will still stay involved in the issues. They expressed continued concern over blight related issues and strongly urged the board to take a more active stance on such issues and enforcement.

Supervisor Owen also reported that contact has been made with the owner of 911 Grove Street. The owner is trying and feels that there has been some dumping from outsiders on to the property. She had paid someone to help clean up and he pillaged the property for things he could sell and left a larger mess than what was originally there. She indicated that she wants to work toward compliance.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to adjourn the meeting. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 pm.

Minutes Submitted by:
Jacquelyn King, Clerk