

Lee Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2013

The Regular Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 7:31pm 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: Treasurer Lowery announced the passing of Inez Mann. There will be a memorial on September 20, 2013 from 2 to 4 pm at the Love Inc tent. Inez was a very instrumental leader in the community.

Citizens Comments:

Citizen C. DeYoung inquired on if a blight ticket had been issued to the resident on the corner of Highland Avenue and Fourth Street. It was noted that no one has seen the resident in several weeks and it was not sure if he was still staying there. Supervisor Owen gave an update on 911 Grove. The owner has offered to work with the township in donating the property to the township or letting it be obtain for taxes by the township. Owen has talked with State Representative B. Geneski regarding clean up grants and it was discovered that there could be funds available to take the property and turn it into something beneficial to the public, such as parking for the boat launch. It was stated by Owen the estimated clean up could be around \$30,000.00. Citizen C. Pugh cautioned the township to proceed slowing with the process.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to approve the Fire District Meeting minutes from July 8, 2013. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Lowery to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from July 8, 2013. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Black and seconded by Galdikas 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 passed out his monthly report which highlighted the stabilization of the County's budget and the increased services in the Human Services departments. The County continues to received the Community Development Block Grant, the Legal Assistance Center has created help for Allegan County residents to obtain access to legal information for civil proceedings, the Drug Treatment Court which is being used to those who qualify in help with rehabilitation and recovery. Lastly he highlighted Senior & Veteran Services combining departments in a order to serve many of the same clients.

Deputy's Report: No Report

Fire Department Report: During the month of July there were 9 calls. The month prior the department responded to 16 calls many due to the storm and downed power lines. Chief DeWeered had sent a request for payment to Consumers for the time spent responding to the storm damage and downed power lines with a denial from Consumers reimbursing the township for services spent. The Chief passed out paperwork to the board members for the Fire Insurance packet with a recommendation to fill out and submit to the State. During the month Engine 12 had a repair done to the pump, which cost \$3,038.00 which was a result from the water over the road from the previous storm. Next to be tested will be the pump on Tanker 41. The department also tested the hoses this month and a new light was installed to replace the broken fixture at Station 2. Lastly Nelvin announced that he will retire on September 13th with 50 years of service. He passed out his resignation to the board member. A gathering will be planned for his retirement.

First Responders: During the month there were 37 calls of which 36 were medical, 1 personal injury and 1 fire assist. Todate there has been 216 calls responded to this year. The First Responders are planning another yard sale has been planned for September 14th and 15th and interested parties can contact Pam or Hope for

donations. Lastly, thank you notes were received from the American Cancer Society for the donation to Relay for Life from the previous yard sale that took place on Memorial Day weekend.

Ambulance Report: No report.

Building Inspector: During the month there were 3 building permits and 2 plumbing permits issued.

Community Building: The dry wall has been completed and the ceiling is 95% done. The team from PHP is currently working in the kitchen. Donated carpeting has been received and the cost of labor to install will be the only expense for the flooring to the township. Trustee Galdikas stated that a meeting to discuss the usage should happen soon.

Library Report: Clerk King read the library report. The library committee participated in the Pullman Pride last month with a Candy Carnival for small children. Previous scholarship recipients, Raven Morrison and Nayalie Sanchez volunteered to serve food and run the carnival. The Michigan Council of the Humanities has again provided a grant of books to the library and Lee will be participating in the Great Michigan Read again. The work days for painting and small repairs will be planned still this summer and anyone interested can call Deb at 236-6206 or 236-5590. Lastly, Al Lubowitz, one of the founding members has expressed interest in providing library kiosks throughout Lee Township. Interested parties can learn more about the program through LitteFreeLibrary.org

Transfer Station: During the month \$665.00 was collected and 91 tickets redeemed. It was discussed on the average number of dumpsters used during the summer and winter. The average for the winter would be 2 and 4 for the summer months.

Lower Scott Lake Board: Committee member, Eleanor DeWeerd stated that there has been 3 treatments for weed control this month. The next meeting of the Lake Board will be held on August 16th at 6:30 pm. There will be a new opening for a member to replace Clare DeYoung who has served previously on the board for quite some time. Eleanor would also like to retire soon. Eleanor has been the Treasurer for the past 6 years. Discussion took place on the members of the board and who might be interested serving.

Assessors' Report: Heather reported that next month the board would need to renew her contract. The only update to the contract would be the change in office hours. She reported that July's Board of Review meeting was over with notice of refunds already out in the mail. She will be starting next year's assessments shortly.

Holiday Committee: No report.

Pullman Pride: Trustee Galdikas stated that they are still taking donations for anyone who wanted to donate to the scholarship fund. She also thanked the person that was so prompt in handing the banner.

Newsletter Committee: No report.

Clean Team: Still in need of volunteers.

Road Committee: Committee member, C. Pugh thank all those who came out to vote. He also reported that Nadeau Drive has been completed. A question was presented to the Supervisor regarding the success of the change in the dust control. A comment from a citizen stated that he felt the new application was not as effective. Supervisor Owen stated that it might need to be an increased concentration. .

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Body Shop Quotes: In a previous meeting it was approved for the refitting of the new patrol vehicle and the removal of equipment from the previous vehicles. The quote was over by \$476.80 for a different light bar than what was originally on the quote. Motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to approve the difference. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.

It was announced by Supervisor Owen that Wishbone would be doing a free spay and neuter clinic on September 7th. Electrician Josh Hallgren has offered to donate his time for the hook up that will be needed.

NEW BUSINESS

DNR Acquisition: Supervisor Owen stated that August 24th land that has been through tax sale would be up for bid and the DNR has sent a request to the township to get our approval on their bidding for the properties. Much discussion took place regarding this topic. With the current fracking issues in nearby communities it was a concern that the land could be purchased and leased to one of the fracking companies for use. If the DNR purchase, there can be no building added, but they could not guarantee that fracking would never happen. Casco Township has decided to keep their properties in hopes of selling them to neighboring lots to be added to previous owned lots by residents. Then the lots could be purchased by residents and properties would be back on the tax rolls. A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to give the DNR permission to bid on the properties currently held by the township. Roll call vote was taken: Black, Lowery – Yes, Galdikas, Owen and King, - No. Motion failed.

Cemetery Trees: Supervisor Owen received an estimate for the damage at the cemetery from the previous storm from Dave's Tree Service. The estimate was for \$450.00. Motion was made by Owen and seconded by Lowery to accept the bid from Dave's Tree Service in the amount of \$450.00. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.

Payment of the Bills:

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

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to authorize the clerk to pay the election staff from the August Election in the amount of \$705.00. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Supervisor Owen read the letter from Deb Laraway giving special thanks to Lisa Galdikas and Tim Kotas for all their hard work in making Pullman Pride a great success.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm.

Minutes Submitted by:
Jacquelyn King, Clerk