

Lee Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2014

The Regular Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 7:30 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 Black commented on a wire laying up against a tree on east 50th Street. Clerk King gave an update on the November election. There were 511 voters. The election went smoothly, and the ladies did an excellent job. Trustee Galdikas wanted to thank Shirley Kay for all her hard work with the Community Center. She has made a big difference during her one year commitment.

Citizens Comments: Citizen E. Maas wanted to pass on a compliment from Judge Ballargion regarding how well attended our meetings are. Citizen S. Lacy made a comment for S. Anderson of the VFW. They will be starting Bingo on the 12th at 7:00 pm. There will be refreshments and 26 games will be played. The VFW will have a Veteran's Day presentation at the Pullman Elementary at 1:30 pm. She also passed out a FOIA request to the board requesting the water bill statement for the owner of Scoops, now Noorthwoods. She was helping the business owner in sorting out what her outstanding balance is. She encourages the board to enact a policy for collection of outstanding bills.

Bob Geneski gave an update to what has been happening in Lansing. He stated that prior to the election not much as been taking place, but some of the issues that are being discussed include The People vs Cunningham where the Michigan Supreme Court examined when the trial courts may impose court costs on criminal defendants. It was decided that there was a gap in the law that needed to be amended. A bill was passed allowing it to be added with fee schedule covering the last 2 years. The Michigan Business tax was amended to go retroactive to fix another loop hole in the law in businesses outside of Michigan. Lastly he gave an update on the wolf hunt. Signatures were collected by July allowing the issues to be placed on November's ballot. A question was presented concerning Michigan no fault insurance and if it will be reformed.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from October 13, 2014. 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 No report

Deputy's Report: Total number of complaints for the month were 60 of which 30 were handled by our township deputy. The breakdown of complaints were as follows: 2 domestic, 1 assault, 1 larceny, 6 civil, 5 juvenile, 1 suicidal, 2 B&E's, 1 personal injury, 2 DUI, 3 alarm, 2 harassment and other miscellaneous. Ryan thanked our veterans for the service and wished a "Happy Birthday" to the Marine Corp.

Fire Department Report: During the last month there were 8 calls. The training this month was done with Columbia at our station. The new tanker truck was picked up in Lansing and will be used for forest fires. It holds 1500 gallons and will help save wear and tear on our other vehicles. The Fire Academy has been completed with our office shift personnel. Lastly, Fire Prevention education was completed with Pullman Elementary students.

First Responders: During the previous month there were 25 calls. The year to date totals is 318 calls in 314 days.

Ambulance Report: A meeting was held to restructure the By-laws. The next regular meeting will be scheduled in December.

Building Inspector: During the month there were 6 mechanical and 8 electrical, 4 building and 1 plumbing permit issued. Total improvements of \$166,000.00.

Community Building: No report. The new contact person will be Melinda Jones. Anyone interested in the events happening at the Community Center can get a schedule in the box at the front of the center or locate events on the leetwp.org website.

Cemetery Report: No report

Library Report: Clerk King read the library report. The library volunteers are grateful to Richard Forsman and his family along with Doug Bale for planning and installing the new shelving in the library. The volunteers are reorganizing the books and computers.

Transfer Station: Totals for October were as follows: There was \$593.00 collected and 50 tickets redeemed.

Lower Scott Lake Board: The Lake Board had a meeting. There was a short discussion on the contract on clean-up of the berm. There will be no assessment for dredging for 2015.

Assessors' Report: There will be a cost of living increase in assessments of 1.6% in 2015. The Board of Review will meeting on December 9th at 1:00 pm.

Holiday Committee: Trustee Galdikas reminded everyone that the winter holiday social will be on December 5th at 6:30 pm. Volunteers are needed to bake cookies and help Santa by handing out gifts. The Holiday banners have been displayed and the lighting will go up shortly.

Pullman Pride: No report.

Newsletter Committee: Trustee Galdikas stated that the newsletter had been mailed the end of October. There are extra copies available at the office and is available on the township website.

Clean Team: No report

Road Committee: Information has been received by Allegan County Road Commission with upcoming work to be done. They will be focusing on grading and resurfacing along with snow and ice removal. During the past year \$293,995.95 was paid by the Road Commission and \$55,459.88 was the Township contribution.

OLD BUSINESS

Single Family Ordinance: Discussion took place regarding the changes with the Single Family Ordinance. *A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to authorize the clerk to publish the ordinance in paper. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

NEW BUSINESS

Hardship Exemption: The new hardship exemption was presented to the board for adoption.

A motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Black to accept the recommendation to remain at \$15,000.00 for asset level test for the Hardship Exemption. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Proposed Resolution for Variance:

A proposal was presented by Keith Volgman in regards to property known as 810 – 53rd Street, Pullman also known as parcel #03-12-010-061-00. Volgman requested a variance permitting a zero set back to replace the mobile home with a new home. He also owns 813 – 53rd Street which is situated across 53rd Street and holds a deed with 10' easement. There is also a 10' easement on adjacent property which is part of Flamingo Gardens.

Due to the two adjacent easements no one can build in the 20' wide area directly south of the property without a variance. The board reviewed the provided documentation of warranty deeds, title insurance and survey.

Motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to approve the grant zero set back variance for the purpose of K. Volgman, sole owner and manager to proceed with plans for building new structure at 810 53rd Street. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Tax Newsletter/Brochure:

Motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Black to authorize the Treasurer to print the newsletter/brochure to be place in all tax bills. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Publishing Request for Snowplowing bids:

Motion was made by Owen and seconded Galdikas to authorize the clerk to publish a request for bids for snowplowing. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Payment of the Bills:

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

A motion was made by King and seconded by Lowery to pay the election workers for the November 2014 election. Roll call vote was taken: Yes- Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.

Correspondence: None

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Minutes Submitted by:
Jacquelyn King, Clerk