

Lee Township  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
September 8, 2014

The Regular Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 7:32 pm at the Lee Township Hall, 877 56<sup>th</sup> 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 thanked T. Chamberlain and S. Kasinger for their excellent treatment of a situation that took place with one of her guests.

**Citizens Comments:** Citizen E. Maas requested an update on 911 Grove Street. Supervisor Owen reported that the property has been sold on taxes and the new owner has started the cleanup. The township is helping with providing some transfer station tickets for the cleanup.

Citizen C. Pugh thank Scott for all his hard work regarding the resolution of 911 Grove. Trustee Galdikas thanked the community for their patience with the lengthy process.

Citizen E. DeWeerd commented on the property on 4<sup>th</sup> and Highland that is also a severe blight issue. She stated that it appeared a new roof was put on and some of the items appear to have been removed.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from August 11, 2014. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

*A motion was made by Galdikas and 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.*

**Guest Speaker – Judge Baillargeon:** Judge Baillargeon gave his annual update from the 57<sup>th</sup> District Court of Allegan County. He highlighted the specialty courts and how well they are working for the county. He stated that they have Drug Treatment Court which has been in existence for 3 years, the Mental Health court and the new Veteran's Court. The Veteran's Court covers both Allegan and Van Buren County due to both counties being rural. There are currently 7 involved in the program. The VA partners with the court to help with the services in the program to get the veteran back on their feet and on the right path. They are looking for mentors who are veterans themselves to help with the veterans in the program. With the rising number of troops returning, this will be a big asset in helping veterans who have a hard time transitioning back into the community.

**County Commissioners Report:** Commissioner Jessup reported that the 911 Surcharge was passed by the voters as well as the Senior Millage. He commended the director of Senior Services for the excellent job she is doing with services. A request for help with funding on a bike path from Casco Township has been made to the Board of Commissioners and will be brought to a vote in their next meeting. The county jail should be ready to transition over sometime this month. The last issue was CO2 detectors and a provisional permit has been issued until the devices have been manufactured. There will be an increase in Capital Improvements in the 2015 budget. This will be used to purchase new vehicles, parking lot sealing and a new roof at the youth home. The Road Commission has had a bond approved for a new building. There has been discussion on renovating the court house/old jail. It has been estimated that it would take about 15 million to 28 million to complete. This is only in the decision stage and will not go further unless the Commissioners approve.

**Deputy's Report:** The Lee Township deputy handled the complaints as follows: 4 domestic, 1 assaults, 4 juvenile, 1 B&E, 4 loud noises, 1 larceny, 2 runaways and 8 civil.

**Fire Department Report:** During the last month there were 10 calls. This month's training is ladder and hose. Chief Chamberlain has found a truck located in Alabama. This truck was originally 42,000.00 and was reduced down to the current 28,000.00. He had traveled down to look at it and it appears to be a really good

vehicle that would be a real asset to the township. He requested permission to purchase it since the last truck was approved at 25,000.00 and this truck is only \$3,000.00 more and a much better truck. It is nine years newer and is all stainless. It has the upgrades from the previous truck and he tested the truck and everything was in good working order. If approved for purchase, the truck will go through a ladder testing to be sure that everything is working well and no pending repairs will be needed.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to approve the addition \$3000.00 for the 199 Sutphen Ladder truck for the full price of \$28,000.00. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Galdikas, Owen and King. No – Lowery. Motion carried.*

**First Responders:** During the previous month there were 36 calls. The year to date totals is 252 calls in 259 days.

**Ambulance Report:** No report.

**Building Inspector:** During the month there was 1 plumbing permit, 3 mechanical, 1 building permit and no electrical permits issued.

**Community Building:** The new calendar of activities is available on the website and in the flyer box at the Community Center. Some of the events are: Yoga on Tuesdays and Thursdays, a car show, Grossology, which is for younger children from ages 3 to 9 years old, Zumba will be on Monday and Wednesdays at 6 pm and a Flea Market planned on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month.

**Cemetery Report:** A reminder that Fall Cleanup will need to be published.

**Library Report:** No report

**Transfer Station:** Totals for August were as follows: There was \$1092.00 collected and 91 tickets redeemed.

**Lower Scott Lake Board:** The report was given by E. DeWeerd stated that there was a correction to the minutes. The minutes reflected that their meeting was to be scheduled and she stated that it has already take place. Lastly she stated that the weed control has been completed with a total of 3 treatments done this summer.

**Assessors' Report:** Assessor Mitchell stated that there was just general paperwork being done and presented her contract both as a renewable contract and an annual contract for board to review.

**Land Divisions:** *A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Lowery to approve on Armijo, parcel 0312-020-008-20 which was approved by building inspector and assessor. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

*A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Owen to approve the land split for Latchaw, parcel 0312-019-033-80 as approved by the building inspector and assessor. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.*

**Holiday Committee:** The winter social has been scheduled for Friday, December 5, 2014. It will start with caroling and a holiday parade to the community center for presents. Trustee Galdikas requested that Ted mention to the firefighters to see if there are any interested volunteers.

**Pullman Pride:** There has been an offer by April Ferrell and Samantha Forest to co-chair next year's Pullman Pride Day.

**Newsletter Committee:** Trustee Galdikas reminded everyone that the next board meeting will be the deadline for new articles in the next edition of the newsletter.

**Clean Team:** Still in need of volunteers.

**Road Committee:** Committee member C. Pugh reported that the signs have been put up to indicate the work that has been done with year with the millage dollars. Since the millage was first approved, there have been \$350,000.00 spent on improvements. Currently gravel roads are being reviewed for any drainage issues

present and the committee is also working on grading for next year as well. Chuck stated that Committee member Les Rawson will have surgery and asked for everyone to keep him in their thoughts and prayers.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Pullman Branch Drain Resolution:** Supervisor Owen reported that he had sent a FOIA request to the Drain Commissioner and was provided a thick packet. The issue is the culvert in front of the Pizza Plus parking lot. This drain has had issues of sinking and he has requested that moving the drain slightly over should be considered. With the large trucks that make deliveries to the businesses, it is causing the drain to sink and flood. The cost to repair would be divided 13% to the Township, 19% Road Commission, 19% to the Drain Commission and the rest to the residents in its district. The totals submitted by the Drain Commission did not match so this issue will be tabled until a later date.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Assessor's Contract:** The contract for renewal was presented with no changes to the term. A renewal version was also submitted for discussion with the board. Trustee Galdikas preferred the contract to be discussed annually and approve rather than it to just renew automatically. Supervisor Owen and Treasurer Lowery felt that it would be easier and if any changes needed to be made, it could be brought up to the board.

*A motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Owen to sign the perpetual contract for the assessor at the same terms as the previous contract. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Lowery, Owen and King. No-Galdikas. 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. Roll call was taken: Yes –Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.*

**Correspondence:** Supervisor Owen read an email sent by Sharon McNeal regarding 911 Grove Street. She was glad that the house had been purchased and is going to be clean up and wanted to let the community know that her uncle Frank Aseltyne had passed away on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Minutes Submitted by:  
Jacquelyn King, Clerk