

Lee Township  
Special Meeting Minutes  
June 15, 2015

The Special Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 6:30 pm at the Lee Township Hall, 877 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Pullman, MI 49450

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

The purpose of the Special Meeting/Public Hearing was to discuss dust control, procedure for collection of water bills, township employee wage increase and discuss ordinances.

The first to be discussed was the dust control. Supervisor Owen stated that the dust control to be discussed is in the area of 51<sup>st</sup> Street. For the past several years, this area has not been covered by the township dust control application. The owner of the property has applied calcium chloride and has bared the cost of \$60.00 for 4 bags and applied it herself. The township pays \$80.00 per linear feet for the current application. The dust control truck stops spraying in front of the property and then continues past the property line. Supervisor Owen suggested that the township pay for the cost of the calcium chloride in lieu of paying for the dust treatment that is applied elsewhere. He has received a complaint from another resident about the dust treatment not being applied and he was trying to address the situation.

Questions were raised regarding does the township want to set a standard to apply an alternative for one resident without having to give that option to all? Trustee Galdikas felt that it should be standard across the township. Clerk King felt that this wouldn't be setting a special standard for one, because the resident has special needs and has provided proof to the township from her doctor and was previously given permission by a former supervisor, but they could not decide on the cost. This resident had worked with ADA and the township to get the matter resolved. Clerk King also stated that is as even less of a cost of what we are currently using across the board. Much discussion took place on if the township should make a special provision for one resident and if there was anything legal regarding the matter and if counsel should be contacted. Questions raised on if we are being billed for the current application by the mile or by the amount of applied dust control. Supervisor Owen stated that he would check in to this.

The next topic to be discussed was creating a policy for collection of past due water bills. Clerk King stated that currently there are 5 accounts delinquent, with 4 residents making an effort to pay and only 1 that has not made any payments. Discussion took place on if this is a charge that can be placed on a tax bill and further discussion took place on having a set charge place on the tax bill with only billing quarterly for usage. Supervisor Owen had done some research, but would like to check into the possibilities of having this expense added to the tax bills. He tabled for future meeting after he is able to collect more information on the process of having it added to tax bills.

The board next discussed the wages of several of the township employees. Supervisor Owen asked about the wages of the employee who does the cleaning. It was stated that this employee currently receives \$97.00 per month and cleans the office and hall once or twice during the month. In discussion, it was brought to the attention of the board members that the duties have decreased since this rate was determined. With the fire station in a new location and the cleaning being taken care of by someone else, there is less work involved and the members agreed that this salary should remain the same for now

Motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Black to not increase the salary for the cleaning employee at this time. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

The next position to be considered was the transfer station attendant. This position has been at the same rate for at least 8 to 9 years and is currently at \$10.00. The Parks/Transfer Station Superintendent is currently making \$750.00 per month salary and \$200.00 for fuel allowance. Trustee Galdikas asked about the recycling of scrap. She asked if that was also a financial benefit. Discussion took place about raising the salaries. Since the transfer station attendant position has not had a raise for several years, it was discussed that it should be raised.

Motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Owen to raise the position of transfer station attendant to \$12.50 per hour. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Galdikas, Owen and King. Motion carried.

The position of Parks/Transfer Station Superintendent was discussed. This salary was determined only a few years ago and a raise was given on fuel allowance in the past 18 months.

Motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Black to raise the salary of Parks/Transfer Station Attendant from \$750.00 to \$775.00 per month keeping the fuel allowance at the \$200.00 per month. Roll call vote was taken: Yes- Black, Galdikas, Owen and King. Motion carried.

The position of cemetery attendant received a raise of \$25.00 per month when the Board of Review and Election Inspectors received raise within the past 24 months.

Lastly the board discussed ordinances. Trustee Galdikas stated that in reviewing the ordinances, she noticed that many were out of date and the board should review them to make sure they are up to date and enforceable. Currently with the blight ordinance, 3 certified letters were sent with no response. She asked the board where they want to go with this procedure. In the case where there is no running water or sewer issues the health department has been contacted. There are cases of buildings that are being rented to families that are not safe or healthy. Supervisor Owen complimented Galdikas for all her effort in trying to get blight handled. It was discussed that maybe the cost for cleanup could be put on the resident's tax bills. Currently the blighted properties are being reported by residents with 95% of the complaints not really qualifying for the blight ordinance. We are currently not at a place with our current ordinances for complete enforcement. Trustee Galdikas recommended that we continue on course and keep working with our deputy in efforts to continue with cleanup. Clerk King stated that she will make a copy of all ordinances for each board member for review and future discussions.

**Citizens Comments:** None

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

Meeting adjourned at 9.00 pm.

Minutes Submitted by:  
Jacquelyn King, Clerk