

Buchanan Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
May 6, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The regular May 6, 2010 meeting of the Buchanan Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Jane Mitchell at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Jane Mitchell, Supervisor; Norma Ruggless, Clerk; Janet Dehring, Treasurer; Lynn Ferris, Trustee and Brian Dinneen, Trustee.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Six residents and the Township Fire Chief.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular April 15, 2010 meeting were approved as presented.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Bark! Stop, Drop and Roll
2. 10th Annual Indiana-Michigan St Joseph River Basin Symposium
3. Michigan Department of Transportation Training Wheels Workshop
4. MTA Effective Policies & Procedures for Managing Your Township

Motion by Mitchell, second by Dinneen, to approve the Township Board member to attend the MTA Effective Policies & Procedures for Managing Your Township training at rate of \$89.00 per person to include mileage reimbursement. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (4-0).

5. Office of the Berrien County Drain Commissioner – on file
6. Berrien County Board of County Road Commissioners – on file

Dehring arrives 7:05 pm

TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Dehring, second by Ruggless, to approve check #7072 to and including check #7109 totaling \$ 18,176.86 from the General Fund as well as check #4333 to and including check #4341 totaling \$10,122.01 from the Fire Fund. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

REPORTS

Sheriff

The Sheriff Report was presented by Deputy Davis. Mitchell commented that there has been complaints of excessive parking by the Wheat Berry restaurant on Red Bud Trail. Dehring indicated that there are now No Parking signs posted. Deputy Davis mentioned that scraper activity was picking back-up.

Fire

Chief Jesswein presented the fire report. Chief Jesswein reported that Brent Ruff had turned in his equipment and asked for leave status and that Brian Florey had requested to return to active member status with the department.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Dehring, to accept Brent Ruff's request for leave status from the Buchanan Township Fire Department. Voice vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

Motion by Mitchell, second by Ferris, to approve Brian Florey's request for return to active status to the Buchanan Township Fire Department. Voice vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution 2010-05

Dehring presented the resolution for Buchanan District Library Receipt of Penal Fines. Mitchell felt that the verbiage approval for the resolution needed to come from Bret Witkowski. Dehring indicated that Brett had approved the verbiage. Mitchell will contact Brett to obtain the final verbiage. There was further discussion about whether this would be an annual process. The resolution was tabled for further confirmation of the verbiage used in the resolution.

Berrien County Road Commission-West Clear Lake Rd.

Mitchell brought to the board the new estimate for the repairs to be completed on West Clear Lake Road. The original estimate which was approved by the board was lower than the new estimate Mitchell received.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Ferris, to approve payment for the amount listed on the letter of authorization from the Berrien County Road Commission for repairs on West Clear Lake Road at an estimated cost of \$27,200.00. Roll Call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

NEW BUSINESS

Gould/M Kyles discussion

Mitchell shared with the board the discussion with the township attorney regarding special use permits for the Gould/ M. Kyles day care. At this point the township attorney indicated that a State law supersedes the local requirement for a day care.

A local resident expressed concern regarding the traffic volume and speed in and out of the area. Mitchell indicated that the Sheriff could help support the speeding problem.

A motion was made and then retracted regarding refunding the application fee to M. Kyles. This matter was tabled until further investigation could be conducted.

Township Hall Sign

Mitchell discussed the option of accepting a proposal from a local vendor for repair/replacement of the Township sign. Ruggless suggested putting the repair/replacement out for bid to determine if there were other local vendors who could also complete the work at a reasonable rate.

Motion by Dehring, second by Dinneen, to request bids for a new Township Hall sign. Roll call vote showed four (4) in favor, one (1) opposed, motion carried (4-1).

Polling Place Accessibility Requirements

Ruggless shared with the Board the e-mail received from Louise Stine regarding polling place accessibility requirements. Representatives from the Michigan Protection & Advocacy Service (MPAS) will be visiting

Buchanan Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
May 6, 2010

polling places located throughout the state to assess the accessibility of the sites. If deficiencies are identified a course of action will be determined to address the deficiencies. There are grant monies available to help recover the costs incurred in making polling places accessible.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mitchell shared her experience after attending the Supervisors meeting. She felt the meeting provided beneficial information and would share more of the information she obtained with the board members.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Resident Gil Bell asked about the progress on a Special Use Permit for the health facility he will be establishing in the old ski lodge.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm.

Norma M. Ruggless
Buchanan Township Clerk