

CALL TO ORDER

February 10, 2014 a special meeting of the Buchanan Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Jane Mitchell at 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jane Mitchell, Supervisor; Janet Dehring,, Treasurer; Lynn Ferris and Thomas VanAntwerp, Trustees.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cathy Ganus, Clerk.

OTHERS PRESENT: Twenty one (21) township residents; three staff and the Township Attorney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review of the Crescentview Subdivision Park Assessment by Township Attorney Scott Dienes

Attorney Dienes explained that he was at the meeting only to clarify the taxation issue. He stated that the Crescentview Park was a private park and that property rights were vested with the plat at that time. In relation to the assessment issue the Township only controls taxation. The parcel was not assessed from 1965 – 2010. In 2013 a quit claim deed was filed subject to rights of owner. The Township doesn't decide ownership of the Park.

Attorney Dienes stated that the value of the residents' property is affected by the lake and he recommended that a nominal amount be placed on each property.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Lori Pawielski stressed that she and her husband are not restricting residents of the Crescentview subdivision from accessing the property and that nothing has changed except the ownership since 1965. She also stated that if anyone wished to challenge the ownership of the property they would have to challenge the title company.

Several residents felt since they were being taxed they were the owners. Attorney Dienes explained that this was a separate legal matter and it wasn't up to the Township to make a decision on ownership.

Some residents felt everyone in the subdivision should take part in the Parks upkeep.

Some people thought an association should be formed where everyone could have some input.

Several residents felt the neighborhood could use some healing.

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Other residents were upset about nonresidents being in the Park at all hours without permission and trash being strewn about.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Laurea McBain
Buchanan Township Deputy Clerk