

CALL TO ORDER

The regular June 4, 2015 meeting of the Buchanan Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Malinda Cole-Crocker at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Malinda Cole-Crocker, Supervisor; Cathy Ganus, Clerk; Janet Dehring, Treasurer; and Lynn Ferris, Trustee.

Members Absent: Thomas VanAntwerp, Trustee.

Others Present: Deputy Ryan Sullivan, Berrien County Sheriff's Department; one (1) township resident; one (1) staff; and no members of the press.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited by those in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 21, 2015 meeting was approved as presented.

ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

Add under New Business item 3 Township Flag Pole and item 4 Township Hall Roof Update.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS

None.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Deputy Ryan Sullivan from the Berrien County Sheriff's Department presented the Sheriff's Report for April, 2015. During that time, 37 complaints were handled, four (4) tickets were issued, and one (1) arrest was made within Buchanan Township. As of May 31, 2015, the Berrien County Sheriff's Department Narcotics Unit has made 52 arrests within Berrien County for narcotics-related offenses. Deputy Sullivan advised that there has been a rash of break-ins in the Bertrand and Weesaw Township areas and requested that neighbors be vigilant with each other to detect unwanted or unknown visitors.

CORRESPONDENCE

Berrien County Treasurer Foreclosure – Township First Right of Refusal

Berrien County Treasurer Bret Witkowski provided the township with a listing of five (5) properties within Buchanan Township that have been foreclosed upon by Berrien County under PA 123. Those parcels are as follows:

11-06-0025-0014-10-7	Vacant Land, Rivershore Lane	\$8,000 owing
11-06-0036-0016-09-1	16882 Rynearson Road	\$51,600 owing
11-06-0039-0016-10-5	Vacant Land, Rynearson Road	\$13,300 owing
11-06-1180-0201-00-9	Vacant Land, Maple Street	\$4,100 owing
11-06-1180-0232-00-1	16081 Walnut Street	\$35,200 owing

After careful consideration, the general consensus of the Board is to pass on these properties.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Dehring, second by Ganus, to approve General Fund check # 9643 to and including check # 9669 totaling \$45,920.51 as well as Fire Fund check # 5877 to and including check # 5898 totaling \$7,393.45. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (4-0).

REPORTS

Fire Report – Tim Jesswein – on file

Jesswein reported that the Buchanan Township Fire Department will be holding an open house on Saturday, June 27, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Med-Flight helicopter, US Coast Guard, and Berrien County Hazardous Materials team will be present. Hot dogs, chips, and punch will be served. The general public is welcome.

Motion by Ganus, second by Dehring, to change John Bennett and Tyler Ganus from probationary firefighter status to regular firefighter status. Voice vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (4-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Red Bud Recreation Fireworks Application – July 3-4, 2015

Ganus advised that Mad Bomber Fireworks has once again been retained by Red Bud Recreation to put on the fireworks display for the Motocross Nationals. Ganus advised that she has received the proper indemnification agreements from Mad Bomber and Red Bud Recreation and has also received the certificate of insurance from Mad Bomber listing Buchanan Township as an additional insured. Ganus also advised that Jesswein has reviewed the application and has given the approval to move forward.

Motion by Ganus, second by Cole-Crocker, to approve the fireworks application for Red Bud Recreation for the fireworks display to be held on July 3, 2015 and July 4, 2015 as presented. Voice vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (4-0).

Resolution – Riverside Estates MHC LLC (Operation of Drinking Water System)

A resolution request has been received from the manager of the Riverside Estates MHC. This resolution states that Riverside Estates MHC possesses the ability and willingness to continue effective operation and maintenance of their drinking water system and that Buchanan Township recognizes the need for effective and continued operation and maintenance of this system. Buchanan Township also deems it impractical for the Township to own, operate, and administer this particular drinking water supply. The resolution sets forth that Buchanan Township refuses to accept ownership of or operation, maintenance, and administrative responsibilities for this particular drinking water supply and that the Township endorses the application of Riverside Estates to continue these responsibilities under state permit.

Motion by Ganus, second by Ferris, to approve the resolution for the refusal of acceptance of ownership of or operation, maintenance, and administrative responsibilities for the drinking water system within the Riverside Estates MHC and that Buchanan Township endorses the application of Riverside Estates MHC, LLC to continue these responsibilities under state permit as presented. Voice vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (4-0).

NEW BUSINESS (continued)

Township Flag Pole

Jesswein advised that he has removed the flag pole from in front of the Township Hall. This pole has copious amounts of surface rust with peeling paint. He has made contact with Great Lakes Sandblasting who advised that they will sandblast and repaint the pole for a price not to exceed \$200.

Motion by Dehring, second by Ferris, to engage Great Lakes Sandblasting for sandblasting and re-painting of the Township Hall flag pole with costs not to exceed \$200. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (4-0).

Township Hall Roof Update

Cole-Crocker advised that she had made contact with the former roofing company who had installed the new roof in November, 2010 (known previously as Associated Applications, Inc. and known currently as Stony Creek). The roof has a 10-year warranty and has recently begun leaking. They were supposed to come check the roof and according to the deputy clerk they were here and left in short order, stating they had fixed the problem. Due to the high rain levels recently, it was noted that the problem had not been rectified. Cole-Crocker left a message for them once again and this date Ganus observed the gentleman on the roof taking photographs. No contact was made beyond that.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ganus advised that the final audit paperwork for FYE 03.31.2015 are in the Board packets. The audit will be formally presented at the June 18, 2015 meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Palmisano inquired as to whether he would be allowed as a public member to attend a workshop in New Buffalo. Ganus directed him to the bulletin board in the hallway where the flyer was posted.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Cathy A. Ganus
Buchanan Township Clerk