

CALL TO ORDER

The regular September 20, 2012 meeting of the Buchanan Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Jane Mitchell at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Jane Mitchell, Supervisor; Cathy Ganus, Clerk; Janet Dehring, Treasurer; Lynn Ferris and Thomas VanAntwerp, Trustees.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: No residents; no 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 September 6, 2012 regular meeting were approved as presented.

ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

New Business item five (5) – Hildebrand Special Use Permit was removed from the agenda; item three (3) Master Plan Question under unfinished business was added to the agenda.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

Michigan Townships Association “Hot Issues” seminar – pass this time

TREASURER’S REPORT

Motion by Dehring, second by Mitchell, to approve General Fund check # 8340 to and including check # 8348 totaling \$11,257.05 as well as Fire Fund check # 5066 to and including check # 5070 totaling \$21,309.93. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

REPORTS

SMCAS Report – Lynn Ferris – on file

Ferris reported that SMCAS voted to service the Milton Township area beginning April 1, 2013. The contract is an eight (8) year contract. SMCAS will lease the building for \$1 per year and SMCAS will improve the building at SMCAS cost.

SEBCL Report – Jane Mitchell – on file

Fall Regional Meeting Update – Jane Mitchell

Mitchell provided the board with a handout from the Michigan Townships Association’s (MTA) Fall Regional meeting regarding unassigned and unrestricted fund balances – GASB requirements.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Capital improvement List Compilation

A listing of potential capital improvements were provided by Ferris, Ganus, and VanAntwerp. Dehring added the installation of a security mirror. Mitchell suggested a drop box for taxes. Mitchell and VanAntwerp to set a meeting to prioritize the listing and will report back to the Board.

Berrien County Road Commission – Chloride Application History

Ganus provided a six-year history for chloride application by the Berrien County Road Commission. Discussion ensued regarding the application of same as well as payment history.

Master Plan Question

At the September 6, 2012 meeting, Ferris posed the question regarding the absence of a recreational district on the future land use map within the draft version of the Buchanan Township Master Plan. Mitchell contacted Jay Kilpatrick from Williams & Works who advised that a future land use designation is intended to reflect the long-term plan for those lands. A classification like 'recreational' or 'conservation' is best used for land that is somehow in the public trust where there is some certainty that it will remain in perpetuity in that category. The Planning Commission was tasked with refreshing and updating the old master plan and future land use map and a recreation designation was not included in that document.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution # 2012-11 – In Opposition of Relocating South Berrien County Services

Ganus advised that Berrien County is researching the possibility of closing the South County Courthouse. South County municipalities are banding together and proposing a resolution of opposition of closing the South County Courthouse to send to the Berrien County Commissioners.

Motion by Dehring, second by Ganus, to adopt Resolution # 2012-11 – A resolution in opposition of moving South Berrien County Services as presented. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

Resolution # 2012-12 – ING Group Pension Plan Amendment

Motion by Mitchell, second by VanAntwerp, to adopt Resolution # 2012-12 – Buchanan Township ING Group Pension Plan Amendment as presented. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

Berrien County Road Commission – Tree Removal Invoice

The Board approved \$750 for the removal of a tree on Madron Lake Road / Elm Valley Road on 05.03.2012; however, the actual invoice was \$840.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Ganus, to approve an additional \$90 for tree removal on Madron Lake Road / Elm Valley Road. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

NEW BUSINESS (continued)

Mud Lake Bog Scrapping Complaint

Ganus updated the Board on the complaint regarding scrapping of metal from the Mud Lake Bog area. A complaint has been filed with the Berrien County Sheriff's Department and additional patrols have been requested.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS - NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Cathy A. Ganus
Buchanan Township Clerk