

**WEST TRAVERSE TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2009**

Supervisor Sandford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Baker, Bartlett, Sandford, Hollingsworth, Fisher.

Visitors: Alford LaCount, Jerry Lauer, Sandra Lauer, Eve Lauer, Larry Boerman,  
Gary Rentrop, Joel Wurster, Tim Grimm, Sue Matsko.

Additional Items for Agenda: None.

Public Comments: None.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: **Bartlett made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2008 meeting as presented. Hollingsworth seconded the motion.**

**Vote: All yes.**

**Bartlett made a motion to approve the minutes of the Closed Meeting of December 9, 2008 as presented. Hollingsworth seconded the motion.**

**Vote: All yes.**

Correspondence: Correspondence was reviewed.

Assessor Report: Tim Grimm, Township Assessor, gave a review of the current status of the 2009 assessments for the Township.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Request for Ordinance Enforcement Regarding Helicopter Landings: **Bartlett made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented by the Supervisor dated January 13, 2009 to address a request for ordinance enforcement concerning helicopter landings. Baker seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Bartlett – yes, Baker – yes, Hollingsworth – yes, Fisher – yes, Sandford – yes.**

False Fire Alarm Charges: There was discussion regarding a proposed ordinance for false fire alarm cost recovery.

**Fisher made a motion that the West Traverse Township Board table the False Alarm Cost Recovery Ordinance #2009-01 until the February meeting. Baker seconded the motion.**

**Vote: All yes.**

Proposed: January 13, 2009

Approved: February 10, 2009

Master Plan Review & Action: The Master Plan was approved by the Planning Commission after further review and discussion and have now sent it to the Board for their review.

**Bartlett made a motion that the Township Board approves the Master Plan as submitted by the Planning Commission at its last Planning Commission meeting.**

**Fisher seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Hollingsworth – yes, Fisher – yes, Baker – yes, Sandford – yes, Bartlett – yes.**

REPORTS & UPDATES:

Clerk's Report: The Board of Review dates have been set for March.

Treasurer's Report: Less than half of the winter taxes have been collected so far. Board of Review adjustments have been processed. Revenue sharing was received in the amount of \$18,260. Summer tax collection fee was received from the schools in the amount of \$10,930. The 425 agreement payment was received in the amount of \$28,019.08.

Planning Commission Report: The Planning Commission is currently working on ordinances that concern the commercial and light industrial districts and also wind turbine energy.

Recreation Authority: The Recreation Authority met last month with multiple municipalities represented at the meeting. The way the Recreation Authority Act is written, all of the municipalities have to be involved in any project that might be undertaken. At this time, there will be no Recreation Authority formed under the Act.

Roads Update: Supervisor Sandford gave a review of the 2008 expenditures for roads. The Board reviewed the Road Commission's recommendations for projected road repairs for 2009.

**Baker made a motion to approve the Resolution to re-direct the Township's primary road allocation for 2009 to the Emmet County Road Commission. Fisher seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Hollingsworth – yes, Fisher – yes, Sandford – yes, Bartlett – yes, Baker – yes.**

Proposed: January 13, 2009

Approved: February 10, 2009

Water System Update: The Water System Project came in slightly under budget. **Hollingsworth made a motion that the Township Board accept MDC's proposal dated December 16, 2008 in the amount of \$12,506 for the remaining work and also authorizing the Supervisor to sign the proposal. Fisher seconded the motion.**  
**Roll Call Vote: Baker – yes, Bartlett – no, Sandford – yes, Hollingsworth – yes, Fisher – yes.**

Budget – Third Quarter, 2008/9: Supervisor Sandford presented the current budgets and how the Township stands financially at this time. **Bartlett made a motion that be it resolved that the Township's 2008/2009 operating budget is hereby amended by providing the additional appropriations listed below from the fund balance of the Water Fund to include seasonal meter charges and water regulatory charges. Baker seconded the motion.**  
**Roll Call Vote: Baker – yes, Bartlett – yes, Fisher – yes, Hollingsworth – yes, Sandford – yes.**

NEW BUSINESS:

Auditor Approval: **Hollingsworth made a motion that be it further resolved that the West Traverse Township board authorizes Supervisor Sandford to sign the appropriate engagement agreement with Richard E. Mahlmeister and designate Supervisor Sandford to be the primary contact with Richard E. Mahlmeister and to be responsible on a timely basis for: (1) reviewing misstatements discovered during the audit; (2) discussing control deficiencies and whether they arise to the level of significant deficiency or material weakness; and (3) approving the draft financial statements and notes. The cost will not exceed \$5,300. Bartlett seconded the motion.**  
**Roll Call Vote: Bartlett – yes, Hollingsworth – yes, Fisher – yes, Sandford – yes, Baker – yes.**

2009/10 Potential Non-Routine Budget Items: Supervisor Sandford presented a list of items for the Board to review as potential budget items for the next fiscal year.

Resolution of Support for MNRTF: **Fisher made a motion to approve the resolution to support the Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund. Be advised, that by this Resolution, West Traverse Township, Emmet County, Michigan, hereby states its objections to any attempt to alter, amend, or otherwise eliminate the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Act (MNRTF) for any purposes other than those**

**established by the MNRTF Act, for all the reasons cited in the attached resolution adopted by the Emmet County Board of Commissioners on December 18, 2008. And be it further resolved, that the West Traverse Township Board of Trustees adopts by reference the resolution expressing similar concerns for the future of the MNRTF, as adopted by the Emmet County Board of Commissioners on December 18, 2008. Hollingsworth seconded the motion.**  
**Roll Call Vote: Hollingsworth – yes, Fisher – yes, Sandford – yes, Bartlett – yes, Baker – yes.**

MTA Board of Review Training: **Bartlett made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$311.50 plus mileage for four Board of Review members to attend a training seminar on February 9, 2009 in Gaylord. Baker seconded the motion.**  
**Vote: All yes.**

ECTA Meeting – January 21, 2009: There will be an Emmet County Township Association meeting on January 21, 2009 at the Littlefield Township fire hall.

Approval of Payables & Payroll: **Hollingsworth made a motion to approve payables as presented. Baker seconded the motion.**  
**Vote: All yes.**

Public Comments: Alford LaCount had some questions regarding a fund equity and the current sewer balance.

Board Comments: None.

Adjournment: **Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bartlett seconded the motion.**

**Vote: All yes.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be February 10, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Cynthia Fisher, Clerk

Transcribed by:  
Susan Matsko  
Township Secretary

Proposed: January 13, 2009  
Approved: February 10, 2009