

**WEST TRAVERSE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JUNE 14, 2011**

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

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

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

Visitors: John Riggs, Sam DeCamp, Jerry Lauer, Alford LaCount, Scott Kennard,
Larry Boerman, Brent Shank.

Approve Agenda & Additional Items: Approved as presented.

Public Comments; Items Not on Agenda: Sam DeCamp requested that the Board look at Robert Vallee's request for a shooting range. He felt that the Special Use Permit in regards to a recreational facility is very subjective and that Mr. Vallee is being eliminated from having this shooting range for something that Mr. DeCamp feels is a standard use of the property.

Public Comments; Franklin Street Re-surfacing Project: Scott Kennard is concerned regarding drainage on Franklin Street as well as wash outs along the sides of the road. Brett Shank, from the Emmet County Road Commission, related the steps that would be taken to stabilize the shoulders to help prevent the wash outs. Kennard suggested the possibility of creating multiple retention areas to help absorb the drainage issues. Alford LaCount pointed out that there was a drainage ditch by KRG that was supposed to be used for all the water that drained down from above. Some of the driveway culverts have become plugged which interferes with drainage. LaCount wondered if the established lawns that go right up to the asphalt could be contributing to the drainage problem. Sandford received an email from Julie Wieman thanking the Township for addressing the road problems in Franklin Park. Brett Shank stated that the Road Commission will look at the drainage issue and see what solutions might be possible.

Approve Meeting Minutes: **Hollingsworth made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 16, 2011 with one correction; On Page 1, under Public Comments in the first line of the motion, delete *the penalty for*. Bartlett seconded the motion. Vote: All yes.**

Correspondence: None.

Clerk's Report: Fisher reported that the postage machine rental will be increasing in September.

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Treasurer's Report: Hollingsworth received the Metro Act payment in the amount of \$5,749.40. Sewer billings went out today. Hollingsworth reviewed the receipt process with the Auditor and it was decided to have Thorne Swift begin issuing receipts for donations received. It was also suggested that the Investment Policies be reviewed each year.

Planning Commission: The Planning Commission reviewed a Special Use Permit for Mr. Vallee in regards to building a shooting range on his property. The Planning Commission moved up their July meeting to July 6 at 7:00 p.m.

Sandford made a motion that the Township obtains the on-demand version of the Writing, Adopting and Enforcing Ordinances Workshop put together by MTA.

Fisher seconded the motion.

Vote: All yes.

Recreation/Thorne Swift Committee: Baker met with John Riggs and they reviewed trails, marking of trails, opening them up and possible erosion.

Thorne Swift Nature Preserve: John Riggs says that the number of visitors is improving with the number of Township residents increasing. All maintenance has been completed.

Supervisor's Report: Sandford reviewed the water system.

Baker made a motion to get a bid from Pinecrest Wood Floors to re-finish the Township hall floors on the upper level. If it seems a reasonable bid to the Supervisor, he has the Board's permission to proceed. Bartlett seconded the motion.

Vote: All yes.

Rental House: The rental house has been rented effective July 1, 2011. Updates are being done to the house before occupancy.

Baker made a motion to approve spending \$249.00 for a dehumidifier for the rental house at 5550 W. Lake St. Bartlett seconded the motion.

Vote: All yes.

Fisher made a motion to authorize the Supervisor to implement the repairs for time and material by David Cantrell that are listed on the sheet, dated 6-10-11, for the rental house at 5550 W. Lake St. Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

Vote: All yes.

Bartlett made a motion to approve the lease agreement for 5550 W. Lake St. as submitted and for Supervisor Sandford to sign it for the Township. Baker seconded the motion.

Vote: All yes.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2011 Road Projects: The road projects were reviewed and the committed projects will proceed as planned.

Assessment Management: **Bartlett made a motion to approve the Assessor and Assistant Assessor contracts and to authorize Supervisor Sandford to sign them. Hollingsworth seconded the motion.**

Vote: All yes.

Hollingsworth made a motion to approve the West Traverse Township Policy for Public Inspection of Assessment Records as presented. Baker seconded the motion.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Sewer System Evaluation: **Bartlett made a motion to accept H2O in Motion's proposal for the sewer system evaluation and for Supervisor Sandford to sign it. Baker seconded the motion.**

Vote: All yes.

Update of Township Policies: It was decided that it is time to review the Township Policies since that has not been done since 2007. A revised edition will be presented at a future meeting when it is ready.

Approve Payables & Payroll: **Baker made a motion to approve payables and payroll as presented. Hollingsworth seconded the motion.**

Vote: All yes.

Public Comments: Larry Boerman had a suggestion for a possible solution to the drainage problem in Franklin Park. Boerman had some questions regarding the rental house. Alford LaCount felt that it was about time that the road in Franklin Park was fixed.

Board Comments: Fisher wished Sandford, Baker and Bartlett a Happy Birthday. Hollingsworth thanked DeCamp for coming and speaking out regarding the proposed shooting range.

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The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be July 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Cynthia Fisher, Clerk

Transcribed by:
Susan Matsko
Township Secretary

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