

**Lake Township Board Minutes  
June 17th, 2013**

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Those in attendance: Valerie McCallum, Dale Hartsell, Clay Kelterborn, Dorothy Fischer and Dede Russell. Approximately 20 guests also attended. Pledge of allegiance recited, and roll taken.

**Agenda:** Motion by Clay seconded by Hartsell to approve with addition of correspondence received today: one from DTE, and 3 emails, one of which is from Mr. Shuttleworth, discussing lighting at his residence and two from his neighbors. All ayes. Motion carried

**Minutes approved:** May 20<sup>th</sup> minutes corrected on pg. 2-instead of "member" it should have been "manner". Motion by Kelterborn, seconded by Hartsell, all aye. Motion carried.

Re: May 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes, motion to approve made by Hartsell, seconded by Kelterborn, all ayes. Motion carried.

May 31<sup>st</sup> minutes, noted correction of new Clerk's spelling of first name, changed from Didi to Dede. Motion by Kelterborn, seconded by Fischer to approve with correction. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Reports from Board Officer**

Supervisor states BSA will conduct training July 1-2 for building program. The computer technician will be working here on June 28<sup>th</sup> to update the program. Questioned Dorothy Fischer if the conversion is working on her computer since work has been done in the office. She was not sure, and will call technician support tomorrow to check with them. Per Valerie, the office computers are working well. Also noted that Karen Seinkiewicz has been very helpful during the training of the new secretary and helping with the office.

Treasurer report reviewed. Clay Kelterborn asked the length of time on the CD's. Fischer said they are all 1 year. Clay asked when they expire? And are they all General Fund money? Yes, they are General Fund, and Dorothy will check with the financial institutions to see when they are up for renewal.

Clerk had nothing to report.

Trustee, Dale Hartsell stated that the Sheriff Department coverage for the holiday of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July through the 7<sup>th</sup> of July (Sunday) is in order. Our Township office needs to sign the contract. Per Hartsell, will have the County send a copy tomorrow. The Township will need to swear in officer(s), give a key to the officer for access to the Township Hall, and copies of the Township ordinances referring to fireworks and noise. Sgt. Todd Sember will be here from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. to enforce the law during this holiday time.

Trustee Clay Kelterborn stated that the road bids were out. The lower bid for hauling was Buchholz. The type of stone will be 23 or 22A stone, but there was a shortage at the quarry. Will have to wait until July to haul the stone (probably 22A) as should be available by then. There was question about cutting brush that was in the ditches, and trees that were possible dangers due to hanging over the roads. JP Tree Service was in attendance and answered questions. He (Jeff Powell) and his crew are able to cut the trees on the right-of-way side of the ditches. A question came up about when we would do the brining? It was explained that Rooney Trucking will be laying the stone on the roads when it is available from the quarry, and will want to have the brining done then as it settles the dust and the stone.

### **Correspondence:**

We reviewed the memo from Mark Treder regarding his attendance of the May 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting with the Corp. of Engineers Detroit Division held in the Caseville Township Hall. One note was that our boat hoist registration has resulted in a 95% compliance rate for the USACE required permits. Our registration ordinance that requires residents register their hoists has helped them in their permit process.

Note from Dave Ferris states that trash is being mixed in with the brush at the transfer sight. Kelterborn asked if we could move that subject to a later time in this meeting. Agreed.

Gerry Simmons letter was reviewed thanking the Board and the Sheriff's office for responding to her concerns for safety in her subdivision. A committee of residents were appointed to communicate with the Sheriff and the discussion and consequential contract with the Sheriff Department made her and her committee of residents feel their voice was heard.

A letter from DTE Energy was received stating that there are no health problems detected in the application of the new advanced utility meters, but for those residents who do not feel safe, they may opt out and have the non-transmitting digital meters. The special initial cost to install them would be \$67.20 and then there would be a \$9.80 extra charge per month added to the bill. Val suggested we put the letter from DTE on the website.

Three other emails relevant to each other have been received today and we will discuss them at the time of public comment tonight. Agreed.

### **Public comments:**

Tom Pierce asked how the Chasney-Yates hearing is coming. No date has been set yet.

Question raised as to what the health risk is that DTE is eluding to? After a little discussion it was suggested to check the DTE website.

Questioned the State Fireworks law pending and what that had to do with us? Basically it would give local government more ability to regulate the fireworks. It has gone to the governor to sign. It does discuss times to use fireworks such as the day of the holiday, the day before and the day after. Question came up as to what about the other days of the year? We don't know. Also, we believe it covers persons under the influence of alcohol or drugs being unable to do fireworks per the law. It was asked if we could change our ordinance to only allow fireworks on certain dates. Our recent ordinance hasn't been published long enough to make it legal and we can only amend it when it has been enforced as of July 6<sup>th</sup>. Then, if amended, we would need to

republish. Question who enforces fireworks ordinance? Per Dale, call central dispatch. An officer can come and check, but cannot write a ticket if he is not sworn in by our township for that particular time so it would be a matter of just breaking up the violators.

CAFPA tabled to July meeting so board members can review amended inter-local agreement. Motion by Kelterborn, seconded by Hartsell. All in favor-aye, opposed-none. Motion carried.

Regarding the brush, it was asked of the Road Commission representative Mike Power, if they trim trees on the main roads? Yes, if they are in the right of way. Dead trees? Sometimes it is the property owners, and sometimes the county. Also the EPA protects some areas due to swamp area. Also the DEQ. Asked JP Tree Service- Jeff Powell, what is the cost for brush and tree removal? \$150/ hour for 3 man crew including equipment. Wood will be cut and left for owner upon request or hauled away. In discussion about brush spraying, Val mentioned she hates to see the chemical spraying but understands that is the only way to control much of the overgrowth area. The spraying will be done "in house" as there were problems with the other company. Some areas haven't been sprayed in 3 or 4 years. Clay agreed to work with Polega in determining what areas should be sprayed in the Township. It will probably take an increase in the budget for the spraying. Motion by Kelterborn, seconded by Hartsell that the Township would match the \$700 Huron County budget for brush spraying at this time. Motion carried. Clay will check with the County in August to see how that is covering the need. Question raised about cutting brush and trees- Should allocate money for that. Jeff Powell said could start cutting in 2 or 3 weeks-should be done within 10 hours of work. Budget adjusted to \$1500 for brush cutting, Motion made by Kelterborn, seconded by Hartsell for cutting the ditches. All in favor-aye. Motion carried.

Bob Bolger presented proposal to establish a boat launch at Oak Beach. Had discussed it with Lake Township more than 10 years ago, but was never able to secure funding. He would like to establish a committee made up of a representative from Road Commission, and others from the community to develop a plan. It was noted that it could work out as an emergency port as there aren't any ports within 9 miles either way of this area. Per Mike Power of the Road Commission, there is currently something about this under advisement. It is "resubmitted" per Mike with consulting from DNR and DEQ. We need grant funding. We will look into publishing a notice on the Lake Township website for further public input, and ask if there are any interested parties for the possible committee if one is created.

The Planning Commission is meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. to discuss Philips Park which is in need of a port-a-john or some sort of facilities. A major concern is vandalism. Mike Power of the Road Commission will try to make it to that meeting.

ZBA needs to appoint another member. Asked if anyone here was interested in being appointed. No response. We have 2 alternates now...Jeannie Henry and Arnold Russell. Motion by Hartsell, seconded by Kelterborn to appoint Jeannie Henry as a regular member of the ZBA. All aye. Motion by Hartsell, seconded by Kelterborn to appoint Dick McIlhargie to the open alternate position. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion about the Tall Weed Ordinance opened. In order to bill responsible party for mowing of long grass, we need an ordinance. Suggested that the length be changed from 7 inches to 10 inches. Paragraph B third line to add after ..." it is located..." "and was at one time a maintained

parcel or lot and is now visibly neglected” ; change Paragraph C by adding to the last line “or parcels or lots that are purposely left in their natural state.”; paragraph E after “Township upon complaint...”to add “...or upon personal awareness...” to allow Zoning Administrator to pursue violators; changed last page reference to pay fines to Lake Township, not to Supervisor. Motion to pass Ordinance with corrections made by Kelterborn, Seconded by Hartsell. Roll call vote: Hartsell-aye, Russell-aye, McCallum-aye, Kelterborn-aye, Fischer-aye. Motion carried.

### **2013-2014 Budget review**

Valerie requested on pg. 1, Deputy Supervisor budget to transfer \$500 from education to salary as Karen Sienkiewicz is working in the office cleaning out files and helping new Secretary. It will increase salary availability to \$700. On page 3, ZBA publication budget needs another \$500 from contingency as we are over budget in publications. Also noted page 2 is over budget for assessor supplies. Per Val, previous assessor submitted postage bill late, should be corrected to previous quarter by auditor. Page 2 legal services higher than budgeted. Transfer \$3000 from contingency to legal service budget. Also, page 3, Drain at large is short and we need to transfer \$500 from contingency. Budget adjusted with motion from Dorothy Fischer, seconded by Dale Hartsell. Ayes-all. Motion carried.

### **Notary:**

Question presented if secretary, Kim Simpson, may be notarized for Township business? Motion by Kelterborn, seconded by Hartsell, to have Kim Simpson apply to be a Notary. All in favor, aye. Those opposed-none. Motion carried.

### **Township Newsletter:**

Board members reviewed newsletter articles. Only change was to add Treasurer’s new mailing address.

### **Suri MTT Appeal:**

Regarding Mr. Suri’s tax appeal, hearing date is not set yet. Clay suggested the Township needs to hire a consultant who has expertise in these matters. It would be costly but with a property of this magnitude the monetary tax loss is great, too. Val will get more information about this and bring to the next meeting. Motion to table this by McCallum and Hartsell seconded it. All in favor-aye. Motion carried.

### **Special Assessment Districts:**

Special assessments for the Foster and Sand Road Districts will be paid off as of 2013. We have to hold the money for two years. Kelterborn questioned whether monies could be used for needed repairs, such as crack seal on roads in these districts. Motion made by Kelterborn to look into ability to use funds for road repair and seconded by Hartsell. All in favor-aye. Motion carried. Will report at next regular meeting.

**Township Picnic:**

Regarding a Township picnic, it was offered that we resume the annual tradition at Oak Beach Park, after Cheeseburger Festival. August 21<sup>st</sup> (Wednesday) was agreed on , and the Township citizens and employees are asked to attend. It would be a dish to pass, and bring your own table setting. Agreed to publish it in the Newsletter. Starting time will be 4 p.m.

**Transfer Station:**

Someone had questioned if Fathers' Day would be a paid holiday for working Sunday. Resounding "No", unanimously.

A correspondence from Dave Ferris states some people are dropping off garbage within their brush and leaves. After discussion it was decided there was no way to really monitor that unless Dave happened to have someone helping him that day. A reminder in the Newsletter will be posted in hopes that it will help.

**Public Comments:**

Has the Township considered mosquito control? Per Val, it must be County wide control since trying to regulate one township among several is uncontrollable.

Per resident Gerry Simpson, she has a 1946 map stating her property is not part of the Quarry Shore subdivision, yet her tax bills comes saying it is in Quarry Shores. Old Sand Rd. is not in it at all per the maps. Supervisor McCallum said she will look into it.

Resident Tom Pierce noted a County posting that Pt. Crescent has a high ecoli count (13.9)...6 times higher than a mile away on either side, and wonders why that would be. Who should he talk to about that? He was referred to Charlie Bauer of the DEQ.

**New correspondence :**

Regarding the emails about lighting , short discussion suggesting we refer this to the Planning Committee. Motion by Hartsell, seconded by Russell to refer emails on lighting to Planning Commission. Discussion about today's 3 emails continued by Mr Shuttleworth, one of the correspondents, requesting to explain his lighting situation which is being challenged by neighbors who are complaining about the intrusive brightness on their properties. He considered it protection at night from violaters and trespassers. The other two emails were from 2 of the said neighbors asking for some sort of law enforcement to make him change his lighting since it infringes on their homes and property. Agreed to refer this problem to the Planning Commission on June 26<sup>th</sup> here at the Township Hall. Mr. Shuttleworth agreed to come then.

**Payment of Bills:**

Motion made to pay the bills as presented. Motioned by Hartsell, seconded by Kelterborn. Ayes- unanimous. Motion carried.

**Next meetings:**

Announced that the Planning Committee will be meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m., and the Zoning Board of Appeals will be meeting on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Next regular Board meeting will be July 15, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Motioned by Dale Hartsell to adjourn. Seconded by McCallum. All in favor-Aye, those opposed-none. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dede Russell, Lake Township Clerk