

Bridgewater Township
Regular Board Meeting
November 1, 2007

Present: Carver, Faust, Mull, Pike and Riley

DRAFT MINUTES

Attendance: 11

Supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

All board members, with 11 people attending.

Agenda was reviewed.

MOTION: Moved by Mull, seconded by Riley to approve the minutes of October 4, 2007 after changing Chris Brown's appointment as member not alternate to the MCJPC. Passed
Treasurer's report was given by Pike. There is \$403,019 in the Checking and J as of September 30, 2007 with \$88,495 in income and \$145,947 in expenses that leaves a loss of \$56,947. This usually becomes a positive number after our tax revenues are received with the December tax bills. Treasurer presented the updated Sewer Financials, simplifying it to merge the former multiple accounts.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

A resident thanked the Board for supporting Hospice in memory of his wife.

A resident asked that the Board clearly refer to the Ervin Property as a preserve and not a park.

A resident stated that Board members' opinions should not be part of the minutes.

PRIORITY BUSINESS

MOTION: Moved by Mull, seconded by Faust to close the regular meeting. Passed

MOTION: Moved by Mull, seconded by Carver to open the Public Hearing on the Ervin Preserve. Passed

Tom Freeman from the County gave a short presentation on the property.

Public Comments

A resident commented that in the last two years, the County has not been protecting the property very well. He is concerned about the trespassers of both individuals and County personnel.

A resident is concerned about the lack of signage in the last two years that the County has owned the property.

A resident would like some of the Tax money from the millage to go to Bridgewater Township. The residents have said they want the community to stay rural.

A resident commented that they see little sense in looking at this land as future tax revenue, and the Board should not be concerned with taking the land off the tax rolls.

A resident explained the details of his involvement in the beginning of this Preserve. It is very clear that this was a preserve, but there are no guaranties that it will stay a Preserve--that is why they tried to put more "teeth" in the Ordinance. For example, it could still become a golf course as we now see the State selling land up north after they told residents that they would never sell it. Nothing is protected forever.

A comment was made that there are good protections in place, and we are not losing a lot of tax value.

Supervisor summarized the Board's concerns on why the final decision has been delayed and the issues the new Board has analyzed to reach this point.

A resident asked about another preserve on Hogan and Allen; Tom Freeman says the County has

purchased another piece of property, and they will ask for a rezoning in the future. A resident is concerned on the intention of the County toward access. He received a copy of the county's application to the DNR for building a new boardwalk, when the County told the Township that there would be only natural paths for the Preserve.

MOTION: Moved by Carver, seconded by Mull to close the Public Hearing on the Ervin Preserve. Passed

MOTION: Moved by Mull, seconded by Carver to reopen the regular meeting. Passed

1. Ervin Preserve-Supervisor clarified some of the Board materials and summarized correspondence received. The board agreed that the distinction has been made between the terms "preserve" and "park" but that the confusion comes from the fact that preserves are under the umbrella of the county "parks" department.

MOTION: Moved by Pike, seconded by Riley, to rezone the Ervin Preserve from Agricultural District to a Conservation District as set forth in the application from Washtenaw County. Roll call Carver Y, Faust Y, Mull Y, Pike Y and Riley Y. Passed
Sergeant Archer, the new deputy assigned to the area, gave the Police Services report.

2. Appointments

MOTION: Moved by Mull, second by Riley to appoint Mark Iwanicki as an alternate to Manchester Area Joint Planning Commission. Passed

MOTION: Moved by Mull, seconded Riley to accept with regret the resignation of Randy Klager from the Mineral License Board and the Planning Commission. Passed

MOTION: Moved by Pike, seconded by Riley to appoint Amy Riley to the Western Washtenaw Recycle Authority. Passed

3. Police-Services Contract for 2008-Board discussed the Police Services options.

Supervisor is to follow up with the possibilities of including Lodi Township in our Police Services area.

4. Millage Resolution

REPORTS-Board received written reports from Zoning Administrator, PC, SWWCOG, and MCJPC.

River Raisin Watershed gave a presentation on the Raisin River.

Approval of Bills

MOTION: Moved by Carver, seconded by Riley to approve Budget Amendment #5 for the General Fund.

Roll Call vote Carver Y, Faust Y, Mull Y, Pike Y and Riley absent. Passed

MOTION: Moved by Pike, seconded by Riley to pay General Account bills # 7685-7709 for \$17,796.52 and Sewer Account bills #1082-1085 for \$7,166.90.

Roll Call vote Carver Y, Faust Y, Mull Y, Riley Y and Pike Y. Passed

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Clean up day is Nov 3, 2007

2. Township Hall Staff-Board discuss having some support staff at the Hall for six hours a week to help with the increased number of elections in 2008. We are expecting reimbursement for the Presidential Primary, so we will be able to test the program first. Primary is now scheduled for January 15th, 2008 with most of the work will need to be done during the holidays. Clerk to ask the deputy clerk or deputy treasurer.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

A resident recommends that the Township watch the County because they are already changing

the original promises that they have made on the Ervin Preserve.
Supervisor left to retrieve some information from home at 10:50 p.m.
Supervisor returned 11:00 p.m.

MOTION: Moved by Riley, seconded by Faust to accept Resolution 11-01-07 leaving current millage rates the same as last year for the General Fund and Road Fund and reflecting he increase for Police.

Roll call Carver Y, Faust Y, Mull Y, Pike Y and Riley Y. Passed

Being no further business to come before the Board, moved by Faust, seconded by Riley to adjourn, Board approved, meeting was adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Cynthia J. Carver

Bridgewater Township Clerk