

**BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MINUTES OF MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2015**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Bridgewater Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Smith at 7:04 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag at Bridgewater Township Hall, 10990 Clinton Road, Manchester, MI.

Present: Supervisor Ronald Smith, Clerk Laurie Fromhart, Treasurer Michelle McQueer and Trustees David Faust and Geoffrey Oliver.

Attendance: 3

II. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Lou Kidder member of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners Roads Funding Subcommittee reported the subcommittee is working a 10 year plan for improvements to primary roads and presented the Township Board with a memorandum asking for the Township's input and advice to aid in preparation of the plan. Kidder asked the Board to consider their priority for scheduling work on the Township's primary roads; if there are any primary roads that the Township would like upgraded to pavement and any special circumstances that the Township would like the subcommittee to consider.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Smith moved to approve the December 4, 2014 meeting minutes. Oliver seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA

Fromhart moved to approve the agenda as amended adding Rustic Glen Golf Club Michigan Tax Tribunal Appeal and Manchester District Library Appointment under Priority Business. Faust seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

Public Safety Report

The Sheriff's Department submitted a written report to the Board on the law enforcement activities for the month of November 2014.

V. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDANCE

A. Treasurer's Report

McQueer submitted a written report to the Board.

B. Clerk's Report

Fromhart reported a state-wide election is scheduled for May 5th for voters to consider an increase in the sales tax for road improvements. Fromhart also reported she completed the Township's insurance renewal application; received and distributed Holy Ascension Monastery's site plan application to the Township planner and planning commissioners; registered Board of Review members for advanced training; attended the Manchester District Library Board meeting with the Supervisor and Treasurer regarding the contract with Clinton Township Library, and made various updates to the Township's website including posting updated forms on the assessor's webpage. Fromhart also noted she will be preparing a list of all approved special land uses and is holding office hours on Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

C. Supervisor's Report

Smith reported on the status of the WWTP and that he and Tetra Tech has have given up on trying to make it operate as designed and noted the plant operator Dan Geyer is running the plant the way he used to. Smith also reported the plant had a rough month with approximately 20 permit failures.

D. Trustees' Report

Oliver reported he attended the WWCA meeting on December 17th and noted the authority is doing well financially with a current surplus of \$54,000. Oliver also reported the WWCA will be issuing soil erosion and sediment control permits for the proposed natural gas pipeline. Faust reported Derek Niethammer who owns property in the sewer special assessment district wants to build a house and connect to the sewer system.

E. Written Reports

Board packets included reports from the Assessor, Zoning Administrator, and Planning Commission.

VI. PRIORITY BUSINESS

A. Raisin River Watershed Council Membership Dues

Smith moved to approve the River Raisin Watershed Council 2015 membership dues in the amount of \$167. Oliver seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Faust yes, Fromhart yes, McQueer yes, Oliver yes, Smith yes. Motion passed.

B. General Fund Budget Amendment

Fromhart moved to approve the budget amendment to adjust other income-fund balances and road improvements line items in the amount of \$10,306 dated January 8, 2015. McQueer seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Faust yes, Fromhart yes, McQueer yes, Oliver yes, Smith yes. Motion passed.

C. Financials, Approve Disbursements from December 5, 2014 – January 8, 2015

Smith moved to pay the monthly bills from the general and sewer funds in the total amount of \$41,805.27. Faust seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Faust yes, Fromhart yes, McQueer yes, Oliver yes, Smith yes. Motion passed.

D. Discussion Bridgewater Township Government, Zoning Administrator

Smith reported he requested a proposal from the Township's planner Rodney Nanney for the Board to consider for zoning administration services. The Board briefly reviewed and discussed Nanney's proposal for contracted services. Oliver reported Dale Behnke is also interested in the position. The Board discussed their options and the pros and cons of contracting versus hiring someone as an employee. The consensus of the Board was that they were open to both options but that the position should be posted in the local newspaper of record. McQueer moved to post the position for Zoning Administrator in the Manchester Enterprise/Washtenaw Now and to allow the Supervisor to serve as interim Zoning Administrator. Fromhart seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

E. Resolution: Meeting Dates 2015-2016

Fromhart moved to approve Resolution 01-08-15 to adopt the regular Board of Trustees meeting dates for fiscal year 2015 through 2016. McQueer seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Faust yes, Fromhart yes, McQueer yes, Oliver yes, Smith yes. Motion passed.

F. Resolution: Poverty/Hardship Exemptions

Fromhart moved to approve Resolution 01-08-15A approving the 2015 Board of Review Guidelines for Poverty/Hardship Exemptions. Oliver seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Faust yes, Fromhart yes, McQueer yes, Oliver yes, Smith yes. Motion passed.

G. Budget Review 2015-2016

Smith asked if Board members had any special request for the 2015-2016 fiscal year budget. Fromhart requested that \$2000 be budget for election expense for the May 5th election and the probable presidential primary election in February. Smith reported he would like the Board to consider a budget to convert the Township's street lights to LED.

H. Rustic Glen Golf Club Michigan Tax Tribunal Appeal

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed settlement offered by Rustic Glen Golf Club. **McQueer moved to reject the stipulation offered by Rustic Glen Golf Course. Oliver seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

I. MDL Appointment

Fromhart moved to appoint Gerianna Cooley-Howard to the Manchester District Library Board for a 4 year term ending December 31, 2018. Smith seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

VII. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

There were no public comments.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

McQueer moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Fromhart
Bridgewater Township Clerk