

# **COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP**

## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

### **COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL-COUNTY ROAD 571**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2011, 7:00 P.M.**

Supervisor Neubecker called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Board members present at roll call were Supervisor Neubecker, Clerk Hodges, Treasurer Lambert, Trustee Corrado and Trustee Bagnell. County Commissioner Stuart McKinnon and approx. 21 members of the public were present.

Adoption of the Agenda - M/Lambert S/Corrado to adopt the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Establish any conflict of interest of items that are on the agenda. None were presented.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

(A) P&J Special Assessment Public Hearing - M/Lambert S/Bagnell to approve the minutes from the August 8, 2011 P&J Special Assessment Public Hearing as written. All in favor. Motion carried.

(B) August 8, 2011 Regular Board Meeting - M/Corrado S/Lambert to approve the minutes from the August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011 regular board meeting as written. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Correspondence was reviewed.**

#### **Committee Reports:**

(A) Planning & Maintenance - Trustee Bagnell said that the buoy and dock will be taken out this month and he'll also call to have the Porta-Johns removed. He also said that the cemetery clean up will take place in October. Hodges will put the notice in the paper about the cemetery clean up. Bagnell said, that the Ordinance Committee appointed last month by Neubecker, met and they went over the Road Ordinance and the Ordinance for Sands Park. Bagnell said that the Ordinance Committee felt that the Road Ordinance should be left the way it is. As far as the Sands Park Ordinance, he said that the committee came up with a few recommendations for the board to consider in regards to four wheelers, glass containers in the park, pets being allowed in the park or designated areas only, no livestock allowed in the park and campfires. Discussion followed. Neubecker asked that the Park Ordinance be placed on the agenda for October. As it stands right now, Neubecker said that the Ordinance Committee has no

desire to make any changes to the Road Ordinance.

(B) Fireboard - Minutes from the September 7, 2011 Fireboard meeting were presented. The minutes showed that there were 5 fire runs and 14 rescue runs for the month of August. (Copy is on file).

(C) Road Commission Meeting - Trustee Corrado said that the road commission's initial plans are, is to bring back some of the employees that have been laid off, due to an influx of cash that the road commission has received. He said that they signed the contract with the steel workers. He also said that they changed their benefits package from Aflac to All State, but only for one year and after one year they'll go back and take a look at it again. Corrado said that he asked them again about Starvation Lake Road and it doesn't look like the road commission will get to Starvation Lake Rd for another three or four years. He said that the road commission has some grant money but they have allocated that for some roads down in the south end of the county.

(D) Ordinance Enforcement Officer - Wendy reported to the board on the various complaints that she has received and is working on within the township. She said that she had received a letter from the Road Commission regarding some issues that we have with Pike Street. (Copy is on file). She said the letter stated that Pike Street does not belong to the County, that it was dedicated to the public in 1946 as part of the Maple Crest Sub-division. They told her that they would possibly look into taking on the street as part of the county. She said that first the road commission would have to do a survey to make sure that no one else owns the property where the road is. They gave her a cost estimate of \$60,000, to bring the road up to county specifications. They said that they would send out letters to the residents letting them know and that it would have to be made into a special assessment district to pay for the work. She said that it would be up to the residents then. (Copy of the report is on file).

(E) Park & Recreation Committee - Brenda presented the unapproved minutes from the September 6, 2011 P&R committee meeting. (Copy of the minutes is on file). Brenda reported that they sent out several letters of support to various area businesses and organizations and if they get them back they can send them to the DNR to show support of our five year park plan and she said that they can also use them to send with future grant applications. She said that the ad went in the paper for the tree removal. Brenda also said that they received the soil erosion waiver and the DEQ permit so if we get a bid that we accept for tree removal, then we'll be all set to go with the tree removal. She said that they received the evaluation letter for the MDNRTF application and that we received 330 points out of a possible 520 and now the committee is looking at ways to increase their points. She said that they have until October 3<sup>rd</sup> to submit any changes that will improve their points. Brenda said that some of the ways to increase their points is from letters of support, collaboration with other area organizations and increasing fund amounts. She also asked if we could get more trash barrels closer to the beach area and the boat launch. Short discussion. We'll have them placed next year.

(F) County Commissioner - Commissioner Stuart McKinnon updated the board on the

last four County Commissioners meetings.

M/Neubecker to take a break at 8:28 p.m. and convene at 8:45 p.m.

Meeting convened at 8:47 p.m. with all board members present.

**Treasurers Report:**

Treasurer Lambert presented the monthly reconciliation report for the month of August. The report showed that there was \$364,725.51 in the various bank accounts, \$10.07 in the Forest Area Credit Union, \$10,582.33 in the MCU Building Fund account, \$18,418.94 in the MCU Township Improvement account, \$502,491.75 in the Tax account and \$100.00 in the Petty Cash account. M/Neubecker S/Corrado to accept the treasurer's report as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

(A) Cunningham Road Property - Short discussion regarding the advertising of the property on Cunningham Road. M/Neubecker S/Corrado to advertise the property on Cunningham Road with a minimum bid, through a closed bid process of \$1,000.00 with the caveat that the property must be cleaned up within 120 days. All in favor. Motion carried. Neubecker would like Hodges to check with Attorney Mike Edwards and see if there is any type of legal wording that we need to put in the advertisement.

(B) Open Bids for Tree Removal - Two Bids were received. One from Northwoods Tree Service and one from Dan Hesel's Tree Service. After reviewing both bids, Neubecker said that the bid from Northwoods Tree Service was not in compliance with our bid request and should not be considered and that leaves us with the one bid from Dan Hesel's for the amount of \$6,700. Discussion. M/Neubecker S/Corrado to accept the bid from Hesel's, as a proper bid, at their stated price of \$6,700.00. Roll call vote. Bagnell yes, Lambert yes, Hodges yes, Corrado yes and Neubecker yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

(A) Review NWMCOG & Consumers Energy Grant Applications for possible approval - Pam Stuckman, Grant Consultant and Grant Writer presented the applications to the board. Pam said that NWMCOG had a grant application that came out but had very little time to respond. She said that it did require matching funding. She said that the P&R Committee did approve the application and submitted it based on fact that if the township board did approve the application and approved setting aside the \$10,000.00 matching funds that were necessary and that if we were awarded the grant, we would accept it and if the board decided not to approve the application, then they could withdraw the application. She said that this particular grant was strictly for trails and pathways through the park and a bike rack.

Pam said that the second grant application that the P&R Committee has presented is a Consumers Energy Grant for play equipment. She said that application has not been submitted yet. She said that this is a grant that they (Consumers Energy) offer funding up to \$10,000.00 for public places and public parks. It also requires matching funds of \$10,000.00. The resolution does not need to be submitted with this particular application it just needs to have the application signed. The deadline for this application is September 30<sup>th</sup>. Discussion. Neubecker explained that with these matching funds applications, it is still below what we originally budgeted for the park. More discussion.

(B) Resolution for MNRTF - Resolution #7 for 2011 for MDNRFT was read. (Copy on file) Resolution #7 for 2011 for MNRTF was offered by Neubecker supported by Lambert. Roll call vote. Bagnell yes, Corrado yes, Hodges yes, Lambert yes and Neubecker yes. Supervisor Neubecker declared the resolution adopted.

(C) Resolution for NWMCOG - Resolution #8 for 2011 for NWMCOG was read. (Copy on file) Resolution #8 for 2011 for NWMCOG was offered by Neubecker supported by Hodges. Roll call vote. Lambert yes, Bagnell yes, Corrado yes, Hodges yes and Neubecker yes. Supervisor Neubecker declared the resolution adopted.

(D) Resolution for Consumers Energy is replaced by approval of grant application at this time. Resolution will be adopted at a later date. M/Neubecker S/Lambert to approve the submission of the grant application for Consumers Energy. All in favor. Motion carried.

(E) - Punch & Judy Special Assessment Petition - Neubecker said that he would accept the petition as a valid petition. Neubecker asked that Hodges contact legal counsel regarding the parameter that we can establish a special assessment district. Neubecker said that if we can establish a SAD including all of the property owners even though it is not for all of the roads within the district then we could move forward.

(F) Advertise for Trash Bids - Discussion regarding using our third year option to renew without advertising for bids. M/Neubecker S/Corrado to take our third year option to renew at the same cost with Area Waste. All in favor. Motion carried.

(G) Advertise for snow plowing - Short discussion. Hodges will put bid notice in paper.

(H) Need for a larger safe deposit box - Short discussion. Hodges will get a larger safe deposit box.

(I) Approval of clerk to attend MTA workshop in Cadillac. Cost \$199.00. M/Corrado S/Bagnell to approve the clerk to attend the MTA workshop at a cost of \$199.00. All in favor. Motion carried.

(J) Rapid River Fire Contract - Discussion. M/Neubecker S/Lambert to approve the contract for reimbursement in the amount of \$8,000.00 for one year beginning July 1,

2011. All in favor. Motion carried.

(K) Oliver Township Fire Contract - Discussion. M/Neubecker S/Bagnell to approve the Oliver Township Fire Contract for one year. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Approval of Bills:**

Bills were reviewed. One (1) bill was added - Great Lakes Energy in the amount of \$984.70 for security lights. M/Lambert S/Neubecker to approve the bills with the one addition in the amount of \$19,898.30. Roll call vote. Corrado yes, Bagnell yes, Hodges yes, Lambert yes and Neubecker yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Public Comments:**

Began at 9:44 p.m.

Neubecker pointed out that Sheriff Israel and Under Sheriff DeVol were both present in the audience.

Marsha Cole was present and had a complaint regarding individuals trespassing on her property. Neubecker explained that the township is not a law enforcement agency and that any complaints that she may have regarding trespassing, that she needs to go into the Sheriff's Department and file a written complaint. Neubecker also told her that this is not the venue to discuss the issues that she is having.

Public comments ended at 9:54 p.m.

M/Corrado S/Lambert to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

Mary Hodges  
Coldsprings Township Clerk