

# **COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP**

## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL-COUNTY ROAD 571-7:00 P.M.**

**APRIL 14, 2008**

Supervisor Neubecker called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Board members present at roll call were Supervisor Neubecker, Clerk Hodges, Treasurer Lambert, Trustee Bondy and Trustee Corrado. Approx. 6 members of the public were present including County Commissioner Lou Nemeth.

Adoption of the Agenda - Add Oliver Township Fire Agreement as item B under new business. M/Lambert S/Corrado to adopt the agenda with the one addition. All in favor. Motion carried. Added later as item C 1,2 and 3 under new business, approve placing the millage renewals of 1.25 mill for Trash pickup, 1 mill for Fire Protection and .7 mills for Fire Equipment on the August 5<sup>th</sup> ballot. M/Lambert S/Corrado to add the renewal millages to the August 5<sup>th</sup> ballot on the agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

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

Approval of Minutes - M/Bondy S/Lambert to approve the March 10, 2008 Budget Hearing minutes as written. All in favor. Motion carried. M/Lambert S/Bondy to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2008 regular board meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Correspondence was reviewed.

Committee Reports - (A) Planning & Maintenance - Trustee Bondy reported that she had not heard anything yet from the Sheriff's department regarding the work crew for the spring cleanup. Discussion regarding the maintenance for the summer work around the cemetery, township hall and sands park. Bondy will ask Chuck if he feels that he can handle the work by himself. If not we will advertise for the position. M/Neubecker S/Corrado that if Charles is unable to perform the work by himself that we will advertise for the position and applications must be received by 7:00 p.m. May 12, 2008. All in favor. Motion carried. (B) Fireboard - Minutes from the April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 fireboard meeting were presented. Copy on file. (C) Road Commission meeting - Trustee Corrado said that he had nothing to report. He was unable to attend this mornings meeting. Commissioner Nemeth said that he did attend and gave an update on the road commission. He said that they had their legal counsel present to go over the open meetings act and what was correct and not correct regarding recent meetings. He also

said that when the chairman voted for his son-in-law to be the manager it was a legal vote. Neubecker asked if they were going to make that position permanent now. Nemeth said that it was not discussed. Trustee Corrado asked to discuss another issue. He said that in October of 2007 John Rodgers who was in charge of the road commission at that time had made a statement to us at our meeting, which became a part of our minutes, that they, the road commission, should not have destroyed Starvation Lake Road. Corrado said that, with that being said, with an open admission, he feels that we should look at some type of legal action against the road commission in regards to them fixing the road and not us fixing the road. He said that they contributed delinquency and demise of that road without any thought of it at all. And now they want us to pay for most of the repairs. Corrado also asked if the township is in a position to contract out patchwork or roadwork on township roads out to subcontractors. Hodges said that the only thing about that is that if we did that the county possibly would not maintain the roads. Short discussion. Neubecker will contact counsel on both issues. (D) Liquor Enforcement - No reports were received again. Neubecker said that he would contact the Sheriff's department. (E) County Commissioner Nemeth - Nemeth said that they will be having a commissioners meeting tomorrow and they will probably be discussing the fiscal condition of the county. He said that they would probably have to borrow more money. He also gave an update on the retirement court case and Gio's.

Treasurers Report - Treasurer Lambert presented the monthly reconciliation report for the month of March 2008. The report showed that there was \$483,943.01 in the various bank accounts, \$19,464.75 in the Township Improvement MM account, \$3,396.51 in the Tax account and \$100.00 in the petty cash fund. Lambert also presented a report on the CD's that the township has. The report showed that the CD's for the Township Improvement fund total \$206,169.60 and \$37,921.66 in the Building Fund. M/Neubecker S/Bondy to accept the treasurer's report as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business - (A) Salary Survey - Neubecker said that at last months budget meeting we left open the 2008-2009 budget regarding salaries because there was some concern about inequities that was expressed and at the March board meeting the clerk was asked to do a comparison of the townships. Hodges said that she contacted most of the townships and the ones that she couldn't get hold of she had the MTA Compensation Survey. One thing Hodges did find out was that none of the townships pay the treasurer per parcel or figure their salaries by how many parcels they have. In fact no one even ever heard of that. Neubecker said that Clearwater and Coldsprings would be the two most comparable in parcel numbers. Hodges said that the treasurer in Clearwater makes \$12,500 and has 2,636 parcels and Coldsprings township treasurer makes \$12,818 and has 2,418 parcels. Hodges didn't know where this per parcel rate thing came from, other than the county treasurer just wanted it for her own information. Lambert said that there are some townships with less parcels than we have and that their treasurers make more money than she does. Hodges said that every township is different. Some have more

committees than others. It's up to each township board as to how and what they want to pay their board members. There is no pay scale to go by. Discussion followed. Neubecker asked Corrado for some input. Corrado said that he is just reading what is on the paper. He feels that we are fairly competitive and that maybe we could take a look at it again next year. Neubecker told Lambert that he didn't disprove her thoughts on this position and he thought that Corrado was very wise in his choice of words and we'll look at this again next year. M/Neubecker S/Hodges to table this until the February 2009 meeting. All in favor. Motion carried. (B) Ordinance Enforcement Officer - Neubecker said that Trustee Corrado has some information that he has drafted up for the board to look over for an Ordinance Enforcement Officer. Corrado said that what he did was go through MTA and looked at language, and developed a program that seems to be accepted by the MTA and used by their townships with regards to an Ordinance Enforcement Officer and then he incorporated it into our ordinances. The part that he prepared for the board is not only the ordinance itself but it also explains the duties, the authority and how the position would operate as well as the notices of violations all the way through to and including the terms of employment. He feels that it would be an important tool to be used by the board to control violations. Neubecker said that the problem we have run into is that the Sheriff's Department is willing to write the citations but it's getting something done past that. Corrado said that this ordinance would empower the board to authorize that person to work under the control of the board to take that step to the final phase. It would allow that person to follow through from point A to Z, not only the notice of violation but also the court documentation and straight through to an outcome of that particular persons case. He also said that the violation fees comes back directly to the township. He said that his thoughts were that this position would be where they could work like Monday, Wednesday and Friday or Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday maybe 6 hours a day or maybe with a limitation of 24 hours with a responsibility to the board on a monthly basis. Corrado said that he has incorporated all of the ordinances that we have in the township into this position. Discussion followed. Neubecker said that we should look at this a little closer and put it on the agenda again for next month.

New Business - (A) Approve election inspectors for the May 6<sup>th</sup> election - Hodges said that she would like to have approved to work the May 6<sup>th</sup> election, Pat Callan, Darlene Berkshire, Margaret Grockau, Judy Newkirk, Joan Nikischer, Doris Gwisdale and Tess Fell. M/Neubecker S/Corrado to approve the election workers named, for the May 6<sup>th</sup> election. All in favor. Motion carried. (B) Oliver Township Fire Agreement - M/Neubecker S/Hodges to accept the fire contract from Oliver Township for the period of April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009 in the amount of \$4,180.00. Roll call vote. Lambert yes, Bondy yes, Corrado yes, Hodges yes and Neubecker yes. All in favor. Motion carried. (C) 1. Renewal of trash millage - M/Neubecker S/Lambert to place a renewal of our trash millage on the August 5<sup>th</sup> ballot in the amount of 1.25 mill. Roll call vote. Hodges yes, Bondy yes, Corrado yes, Lambert yes and Neubecker yes. All in favor. Motion carried. 2. Renewal of .7 mills for fire equipment - M/Neubecker

S/Bondy to place a .7 mill renewal on the August 5<sup>th</sup> ballot for fire equipment. Roll call vote. Lambert yes, Hodges yes, Corrado yes, Bondy yes and Neubecker yes. All in favor. Motion carried. 3. Renewal of 1 mill for Fire Protection - M/Neubecker S/Bondy to place a 1-mill operational millage renewal on the August 5<sup>th</sup> ballot. Roll call vote. Corrado, Hodges yes, Lambert yes, Bondy yes and Neubecker yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of bills - Hodges said to void check #10862 in the amount of \$50.00 made out to Top Notch Cleaning Service. M/Bondy S/Lambert to approve the bills as presented with the one void. Roll call vote. Neubecker yes, Bondy yes, Hodges yes, Lambert yes and Corrado yes. All in favor. Motion carried. Checks #10840 through 10874 in the amount of \$24,362.68 were issued for payment.

Citizens Comments

M/Corrado S/Bondy to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Mary Hodges  
Coldsprings Township Clerk

