

COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL-COUNTY ROAD 571

JANUARY 10, 2005

7:00 P.M.

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 Casto, Trustee Bondy and Trustee Paladino. Approx. 5 guests were also present.

Adoption of the Agenda - M/Bondy S/Paladino 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 - M/Casto S/Bondy to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2004 regular board meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Janet Goulet, President of the Manistee Lake Association was present to speak briefly about some of the problems that they have at Manistee Lake and a way to address those problems would be the formation of a Manistee Lake Board and then to follow up with an idea that they could bring some people up from Houghton Lake who have had the same problems at their lake, that they have at Manistee Lake and who have formed a Lake Board, and have them outline how they went about forming a Lake Board and addressing their problems. Mrs. Goulet said that the big problem at Manistee Lake is that it is a very shallow lake and the sun filters right through. She said that they did have a problem with Milfoil weeds but that problem has been taken care of, but now their problem is the native weeds that have taken over and is causing problems. She said that the people concerned with lakes said that it is nutrient rich, meaning that there is a lot of fertilizer in the lake and that there are several sources that lead up to that. One of the sources is the runoff from the Manistee River watershed, which Manistee Lake is a part of, and another is from the weeds decaying at the bottom of the lake because they grow, they seed, they die, and fall to the bottom of the lake, also from the fertilizers that people use on their lawns and runs into the lake and then she also said that there could be some septic leakage because they have a lot of old cottages that have old septic systems. Mrs. Goulet said that those are some of the problems that they need to deal with. She said that what the experts that deal with inland lakes have suggested is that there has to be a way for a group to oversee the lake, to harvest the weeds or do whatever needs to be done, and a way to do that is to form a Lake Improvement Board. She said that according to law that the way that that could be done is to have the township boards, which in this case would be Coldsprings & Excelsior townships, create a Lake Improvement Board by resolution.

She went on to explain who would be members of the Lake Improvement Board and what the duties of the Lake Improvement Board would be. Lengthy discussion followed. No action was taken at this time.

Correspondence was reviewed.

Committee Reports - Planning & Maintenance - Trustee Bondy talked about picnic tables for the park and said that she would like to ask the man that fixed the cemetery fence about making some metal picnic tables and then spray painting them rather than ordering the ones from the catalog and paying the freight. Short discussion followed. No action was taken. Bondy said that the fishermen are really using Dean St. Fire Board - Minutes from the January 5, 2004 fireboard meeting were presented. Copy on file. Liquor Enforcement - Nothing to report.

Treasurers Report - Treasurer Casto presented the monthly reconciliation report as of December 31, 2004. The report showed that there was \$341,592.03 in the various bank accounts. Casto had not yet received the statements from the bank for the tax account so was unable to present a reconciliation report for the tax account. She did report that better than half of the taxes levied on the township have been paid which she said is very good considering that it is only the first part of January. Copy of the report is on file. M/Neubecker S/Hodges to accept the treasurer's report as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business - Hodges asked Neubecker if he had heard anything about the \$3,000.00 from the Cole road ending case. He said that he had not, but that he would give Attorney Carey (Cole's attorney) a call regarding it. Neubecker made a motion to have Road Commission report added to the agenda. Supported by Paladino. All in favor. Motion carried. Trustee Paladino said that he had attended the December 15th road commission meeting. Paladino said that he asked them about the salary resolution that they had at the November meeting and they said that the road commission approved it and from there it was sent to the county commissioners for final approval. Paladino said that he mentioned to the road commissioners about the signs for Priest Rd and Twin Lake Rd and Rogers Rd and Sunset Trail and said that at one time there were signs already at those roads but evidently had been knocked down somehow, possibly from the snow plows, and that it was the understanding of the township that the township pays for the first sign and if they have to be replaced that it would be the road commission's responsibility, but they really did not have an answer for him at that time. Neubecker said that he had sent a follow-up letter to Mike Slater regarding the same but that he also had not heard anything. Paladino also mentioned the sign on Starvation Lake Rd where the pavement ends and told the road commissioners that the township would like a bigger sign saying "Pavement Ends" and that the township would pay for it. He told them that the sign they have there now is too small. They showed him a sign that would be 30X30. The township board thought that that would be better than what is up there now. The commissioners said that as long as the township is going to pay for the sign then they'd put the larger sign up. Paladino also said that the township should have it clarified just exactly how they are going to do the shoulder work on Sunset Trail when they do the 2nd layer of asphalt because the

commissioners said that they were going to do the overlay and then go back and do the shoulders. Neubecker said that in the letter he received from Mike Slater, it said that they were going to fix the shoulders first and then do the overlay. Neubecker said that he would get the letter back out. Paladino also said that the road commission is proposing putting lights and a gate at the railroad tracks on Twin Lake Rd between 571 & 131 especially after the liability they had last year at that spot. The road commission said that it should meet the criteria to be able to do it with grant money. Neubecker asked to have road commission added to the agenda on a monthly basis.

New Business (A) New typewriter for the clerk - Hodges said that when she asked for a new typewriter two years ago she couldn't find one with a wide carriage, within reason, so she took hers in to see about getting it repaired. She said that they couldn't fix it but that Tech Office Supply did replace it with a used one. However that one is no longer dependable and she would like a new one. The cost of a new one would be \$500.00. M/Paladino S/Bondy to allow the clerk to purchase a new typewriter at a cost not to exceed \$500.00. All in favor. Motion carried. (B) New back-up system for the assessor and clerk. Short discussion. M/Neubecker S/Paladino to authorize the assessor and the clerk to each purchase a CD-RW back up system for their computers at a cost not to exceed \$200.00. All in favor. Motion carried. (C) Website - Neubecker spoke about the township having it's own web site. He said that we would be able to put all of the township ordinances, minutes from the board meetings, resolutions and various other items on it and that it would allow the property owners, especially the ones that live outside of the community access as to what is going on within the township. He said that Mark Wolschon who is very knowledgeable in regards to web sites could set up a web site for the township at a cost of \$100.00. After that any time we needed him to put something on the web site for us he would charge \$10.00 per hour which probably wouldn't be more than once a month after the initial setup. Short discussion followed. M/Bondy S/Hodges to accept Mark Wolschon's bid of \$100.00 for initial setup and \$10.00 per hour per month. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills - Void check #9623. M/Paladino S/Casto to pay the bills as presented with the one void. Roll call vote. Neubecker yes, Casto yes, Bondy yes, Casto yes and Paladino yes. All in favor. Motion carried. Checks #9600 through #9624 with check #9623 being a void in the amount of \$42,475.00 were issued for payment.

Citizens Comments - More discussion regarding the formation of a Manistee Lake Board. It was decided to have some members of the Houghton Lake Board attend the March 14th township board meeting to explain just what needs to be done to form a Manistee Lake Board.

Upon proper motion the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Mary Hodges
Coldsprings Township Clerk