

# **COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP**

## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

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

**JULY 10, 2006**

**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. 4 guests were also present.

Adoption of the Agenda - Trustee Paladino asked that ceilings & baseboard be added to the agenda under old business. M/Casto S/Bondy to adopt the agenda with the one addition. All in favor. Motion carried.

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

Approval of minutes - Neubecker said that the word get should be added to the sentence on page three third line from the bottom. M/Casto S/Paladino to approve the minutes from the June 12, 2006 regular board meeting with the one correction. All in favor. Motion carried.

Correspondence was reviewed.

Committee Reports - (A) Planning & Maintenance - Trustee Bondy reported that she had called the sign company and told them that they could start on the sign when they received our check. They told her that it would take about four weeks to complete the sign and that they would call when they are ready to install it. She also said that she had sent a thank you letter to the Sheriff's Department thanking them for the work that they did for the township. Bondy said that there was an ant problem around the bathrooms at the park and that the maintenance people sprayed the area. Also discussed were the trees at Sands Park and a couple of trees in the cemetery. Hodges said that there were two trees at the middle entrance of the cemetery just as you drive in and that Chuck (the maintenance man) asked if they could be cut down. It causes problems when he's cutting & trimming the grass plus they have some very sharp thorns that fall off the tree in fact they actually punctured the tire on the tractor. Short discussion followed. The board was not sure whether someone planted the trees or what, but if someone did plant them we shouldn't cut them down, however Chuck could trim them up. Hodges also said that a big limb from a tree that is on township property at Sands Park had fallen on the property

right next to the park and caused some damage to the peoples deck. The property owners had also given her some pictures to show. Hodges said that she called Northwoods Tree Service and asked them to check the tree out and see if anymore of the limbs should be taken down. After checking it out they said that the whole tree should come down and the cost would be \$1,000.00. Short discussion. M/Neubecker S/Casto to have Northwoods remove the tree for the quoted price and remove all wood. All in favor. Motion carried. Bondy said that there are a lot of trees at the park that have a lot of dead limbs on them and should be taken care of. She said that there are a lot around the bathhouses that a regular person wouldn't want to tangle with because of the wires near them. Short discussion. Neubecker asked Hodges to have Northwoods give us an estimate on what it would be to clean up the dead wood in the park. He also asked Bondy to call a couple of places and ask them to go through the park and give us an estimate as well. (B) Fire Board - Minutes from the July 5<sup>th</sup> Fireboard meeting were presented. Copy on file. (C) Trustee Paladino reported on some concerns that had come up at the June township board meeting, that he brought up at the last road commission meeting that he attended. He said that he told the road commission about the concerns that some people had that live on Woodland at Tower Rd. about the water being up so high when it rains. Paladino said that Woodham & Tim Dorman were going out to look at it. He said that he hasn't heard whether they've been out there yet or not but assumes that they will follow up on what they said. He also asked the road commission about having weight restrictions on some of the township roads such as Sunset Trail. He said that he mentioned about the weight restriction sign with the flags on it that is on the old M-72 cutoff. He said that he does not know how they got that sign up there because the road commission told him that they couldn't do that for any specific township but they would upon request ask the weigh master to come in the township more frequently. Neubecker asked Paladino that at the next road commission meeting that he attends, to tell them that the township is willing to pay for the sign placement. Neubecker said that they might be worried about the fact that with the funding situation at the road commission that they don't want to spend anything anywhere. Neubecker said that it's a serious enough issue that the township would be willing to pay for the signs to get them up because we have a lot of investment in Sunset Trail. Discussion followed. Paladino also said that at June's meeting a fellow that lives on Covert Rd complained about how the brine trucks from Antrim County go down Covert Rd. to get brine and how dusty it was. He said that he brought it to the attention of the road commission and asked if those brine trucks couldn't open up their valves on their way back from getting the brine and spread it on the road. Rogers from the road commission said that that was a good idea and said that he knew who to call on that. Casto said that they are putting the brine down, in fact from side to side. She said that they're doing a better job than the road commission does. Paladino also told the road commission again about the culvert at Ford Rd & E Shore Drive and told them that it keeps plugging up. They said that they would go out and see what they have to do. Bondy said that it was still plugged up the last time she looked. Paladino said that he would mention it to them again at the next meeting. (D) Liquor Enforcement - Reports for the month of May were received on Kiootee's and Manistee Lake Stop &

Shop. Both were good. Also the crime report for the month of May was received. It showed that there were 39 incidents for the month.

Treasurers Report - Treasurer Casto presented the reconciliation report for the month of June. The report showed that there was \$357,769.78 in the various bank accounts, \$304.82 in the tax account and \$100.00 in the petty cash account. M/Neubecker S/Paladino to accept the treasurer's report as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business - (A) Punch & Judy - Hodges said that she has been trying to get hold of the attorney for the past month about the Special Assessment. She said that she has called him several times and he finally returned her call just last Friday. She said that maybe we should have gone with Young, Graham & Elsenheimer with this one because they have all the records from the last assessment. Discussion followed. Hodges will call Young, Graham & Elsenheimer. (B) Ceiling & floor - Hodges said that the baseboard and the new ceiling tiles will be replaced before the August election and that the quote of \$700.00 did include the front entryway. We're still waiting to hear on the roof.

New Business - (A) Approve Policy & Fee Schedule for copying of township documents & tax records - Neubecker said that at the present time we do not have a written policy in effect for the copying of township documents and tax records, which is required by the Michigan Department of Treasury. Our assessor sent us a letter that stated that it is a requirement by law for townships that do not have regular scheduled work hours for someone to be at the hall 40 hours a week, to have a written policy in place. He also sent us a sample copy of a written policy. The letter also stated it has come to light that some townships that have gone through a 14-point review of assessment records do not have policies in place and should the township ever be inspected or a complaint is made you will need to have a document such as he has provided or face a penalty. Hodges said that we've basically had a policy for copying of documents as far as fees go. Neubecker said that this is more of a guideline that will help meet the FOIA requirements, and it is something that we can modify from time to time. Discussion followed. M/Neubecker S/Casto to adopt the policy and procedure for the public inspection and copying of public records as presented. All in favor. Motion carried. Copy of the policy is on file. Neubecker said that we should also appoint a FOIA coordinator as stated in the policy guideline and he thinks that it should be the clerk. M/Neubecker S/Casto that the township clerk position be designated as the FOIA coordinator for the township. All in favor. Motion carried. (B) Reseal & re-stripe the parking lot - cost \$1,056.00. No action was taken. For one thing it was done only three years ago plus there was quite a discrepancy in the amount of footage compared to three years ago in the quote that we received from Kalkaska Asphalt Seal Coating Service.

Approval of bills - M/Paladino S/Bondy to pay the bills as presented. Roll call vote. Casto yes, Hodges yes, Neubecker yes, Bondy yes and Paladino yes. All in favor. Motion carried. Checks #10159 through #10184 in the amount of \$25,620.20 were

issued for payment.

Citizens Comments - Trash contract, Junk, Cell Phone Tower, White car on E shore Drive, and propane tanks on the right away, however they are in Bear Lake Township, were all briefly discussed.

M/Paladino S/Casto to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Mary Hodges  
Coldsprings Township Clerk

**APPROVED AUGUST 14, 2006**