

COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL-COUNTY ROAD 571

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2009

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 Bondy and Trustee Corrado. County Commissioner Lou Nemeth and approx 11 members of the public were also present.

Adoption of the Agenda - Neubecker asked that two items be added to the agenda under New Business - Item (B) Board of Commissioners regarding the Septage Ordinance and Item (C) Broadband. M/Corrado S/Bondy to adopt the agenda as amended. All in favor. Motion carried.

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

Approval of the Minutes - M/Bondy S/Lambert to approve the minutes from the September 14, 2009 regular board meeting as written. All in favor. Motion carried.

Lee Sandy from Kalkaska Public Schools was present to give a presentation and answer questions about the Bond Proposal request that will appear on the November 3, 2009 ballot.

Correspondence was reviewed.

Committee Reports:

(A) Planning & Maintenance - Trustee Bondy said that someone took all of the sticks and brush that Chuck had piled up so they did not have to end up burning them.

(B) Fire Board - Minutes from the October 7, 2009 fireboard meeting were presented. Copy of the minutes is on file.

(C) Road Commission meeting - Trustee Corrado said that he was unable to attend the road commission meeting this month but that he did want to bring up that in regards to our pre-trial, that it has been moved to November 4th. Corrado said that besides the \$46,000.00 that they tried to get from the township, that they were not entitled to, he also found out that they actually charged the township a fee to push the button on their two-

way radio in their truck. Corrado said that the road commission was going to use part of the stimulus money that they received to pave 612 from Darke Road to Rogers Road, but that does not look like that is going to happen this year. He said that that part of 612 is literally falling apart and he doesn't know what will be left of the road by next year. He said that the patch job that they did on the curve by the water is already starting to come up.

(D) Ordinance Enforcement Officer - Wendy updated the board on the junk ordinance violations. She said that at present she has 12 open cases and 11 closed. She said that she has been contacted by the DEQ to assist them with a case that they have going on Rogers Road. Wendy said that she had quite a conversation with the person from the DEQ and said that he was quite impressed with what the township has put in place by having someone actually going out to try and resolve some of these situations and hopes that eventually some of the other townships will follow suit.

(E) Liquor Enforcement - We received a good report for Kiootee's Bar & Grill for the month of September. We also received the crime report and it showed that there were 29 incidents for the month of September, which brings the total to 190 year to date.

(F) County Commissioner Lou Nemeth - Nemeth passed out various handouts regarding the Grand Vision, Michigan Scorecard, Northwest Michigan Council of Governments and Michigan's Future. He said that septage has been an issue for the past year and that Todd Savage was on the agenda for the next commissioner's meeting to speak. Neubecker asked Nemeth to keep in the back of his mind that Coldsprings Township has noted on more than one occasion that that we are not in favor of a septage facility. Nemeth gave a lengthy presentation about Broadband. He said that Kalkaska is considered an under served, low income county and the government says that Kalkaska would qualify as part of Michigan's Recovery & Reinvestment Act. He said that Kalkaska has only until the end of November to make application. He said that it came up before the board of commissioners last month that for the \$40,000.00 project the initial payment to Cherry Capital Connection, an Internet company, would be \$16,500.00. He said that they did reduce it to \$10,000.00 and that would be at the commissioner's level, but then there would still be a balance of \$30,000.00. Nemeth said that he has spoke with the hospital and said that they are willing to contribute also. He also said that he has spoke with people from five different townships and asked them to talk to their boards about making a contribution. Nemeth said that the commissioners are supposed to vote on the \$10,000.00 at their meeting tomorrow. More discussion. M/Neubecker S/Bondy to open up a new fund, Information Technology, and transfer \$5,000.00 into that fund out of the General Fund, to put into the proposed development of a Broadband system, provided the county commissioners do approve \$10,000.00 for the same thing at their board meeting on October 13, 2009. Roll call vote. Hodges yes, Corrado yes, Neubecker yes, Bondy yes and Lambert absent. Motion carried.

Treasurer Lambert had to leave the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Treasurers Report - Since Treasurer Lambert had to leave; Clerk Hodges presented the treasurers report. The report showed that there was \$341,723.68 in the various bank accounts, \$19,053.87 in the Township Improvement MM account, \$1,204,029.55 in the Tax Account, and \$100.00 in the Petty Cash fund. Hodges said that the report is through the end of September and that the treasurer did do a big payout from the tax account since the first of October and that the actual balance in the tax account is now much lower. M/Neubecker S/Bondy to accept the treasurer's report as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business:

(A) Open Trash Bids - Two trash bids were received. One from Area Waste and one from American Waste. Area Waste bid was \$83,400.00 for January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. He also included a bid of \$85,000.00 for the option year to renew for 2011. American Waste presented a bid for \$88,800.00 for the year January 2010 through December 31, 2010. Neubecker disqualified himself from any discussion or voting on the bids because he said that he does have a conflict of interest with American Waste. The reason was because he has a family member working for American Waste and he feels that that may be a conflict of interest. Neubecker turned the discussion over to Trustee Corrado. Corrado asked Mark from American Waste, if we presently have a contract with American Waste for \$91,200.00, Mark said that is correct. Corrado said now you're proposing \$88,800.00 across the board for one year and a second year option. Mark said that is correct. Corrado asked Mark if he could give us an idea of where he came up with these numbers. Mark said that they are based on their past experience with the township. He said that they did a physical count for three different months this summer, that we had requested, and that they looked at it and decided they could lower it by \$200.00 a month. Corrado said that we had requested an audit of the service that you provide us and wondered why we did not get one. Mark said he could not answer that question. Mark said that we had requested a count of how many stops for the last week of April, June & July. He said that the information he was provided was for the last week of April they had 547 stops, the first week of June they had 703 stops and he did not have a count for the second week of July. Hodges said that if there were 703 stops for the first week of June then the count must really drop during the winter months. Corrado asked Mark if he could still provide the count for July. Mark said yes, that it is actually physically done. Corrado said that he would like to see what it is for a 12-month period, because there seems to be a great fluctuation there in the count. Mark agreed. Mark said that the amount of garbage that they pick up does fluctuate on a weekly basis. He said they have one and half trucks designated for May, June, July, August and September then after that the various months are not quite so heavy. Hodges said that in our contract we have it at an average of 700 households per week, but if April is only 547 and June is 703, then January, February and March must be practically nothing. Mark said that some

households will put out 8 or 9 bags, some will only put out 3 or 4 but they pick up everything. Hodges said yes, that they have served us well. Corrado then asked Scott from Area Waste to tell the board about his program. Scott said that he based the \$83,400.00 on the 700 stops that we have in the contract but he used 600 and that he would come in with two 20 yard packers and he doubted that he would fill the second packer. He also said that on Mondays he has three packers available. Corrado mentioned about tabling the issue until next month. Hodges couldn't see why we should wait until next month. Corrado said maybe we could find out more about where our money is going. He thought that we had asked for a 12-month audit but Mark said that it was a three-month audit. Bondy said she feels that it is something that we should take care of this month. She said that both bids were good. She said that American Waste has been very good and that she didn't know anything about Area Waste but she wouldn't mind giving them a chance. Hodges agreed, although she said that she has seen their trucks around. Bondy said that she has not been disappointed with American Waste but maybe it's time to give someone else a try. Corrado said that he would recommend to the board to go with the lowest bidder. M/Corrado S/Bondy to accept the bid from Area Waste for \$83,400.00. Roll call vote. Bondy yes, Hodges yes, Corrado yes, Brenda absent and Neubecker abstained. Motion carried. Neubecker said that he wanted to say that we really appreciate the services that American Waste has provided to this township. Neubecker said that he would like Scott to keep track of the stops over the next twelve months. Scott asked if we would like a monthly report. The answer was yes.

(B) Open Snow Bids - Three bids were received. \$3,500.00 from Pops & Sons, \$3,220.00 from McCullen Excavating and \$2,800 from Michael Deater, LLC. M/Neubecker S/Bondy to remove Pops & Sons from consideration due to high bid. All in favor. Motion carried. Neubecker said he would like to have someone here representing Deater Services so that we could ask them about their services and references, etc. Hodges said that he used to do our plowing quite a few years ago and we never had a problem but then that was quite a few years ago. Short discussion. M/Corrado S/Bondy to accept the bid from McCullen Excavating for snow plowing at \$3,220.00. All in favor. Motion carried.

(C) Restrooms at Sands Park - Discussion as to what to do about the restrooms at Sands Park. Bondy said that they are getting pretty bad. She said that the bricks are getting really bad, but the floor is still ok. She said that if we are going to tear the bathrooms down, we also have to remove the tanks, according to Dick Corson. She thought that if we are going to tear them down, we should at least wait until they have to be pumped again, because we'll have to remove the floor to get to the tanks to remove them and we'll save ourselves \$500.00. She said that every year they're destroyed a little more and that it's not the residents that do the damage it's the visitors that cause a lot of the damage and it's costing the township money. Corrado said that we should try to preserve the restrooms. He suggested that we try and make the park more of a focal point and maybe have like craft shows there and more of a gathering place for the residents.

Neubecker said that it's not necessarily the restrooms that we have a problem with he thinks that it is the design of the building. He thinks that if we tear the building down and build two separate restrooms like they have at some rest areas people won't go in and cause the damage that they do with what we have at the park now. He also suggested putting up a pavillion. Someone spoke about all the activities that they have in Springfield Township at their park. However, Hodges said that our situation is a little different because our park is in more of a residential area where Springfield's park is out in the middle of the woods with no one around them. Neubecker said that we also have a parking problem at the park. Hodges thought that tearing down the present restrooms and putting up two separate restrooms like they have at some rest areas and putting up a pavillion would be a good idea. Discussion followed. M/Neubecker S/Corrado that the current restrooms be removed in total this coming spring of 2010 and we go out for bids at that time to not only have that restroom destroyed and hauled away but to put in two separate restrooms of minimal size. All in favor. Motion carried. M/Corrado S/Neubecker to also go out for bids and get some specs for a pavillion that would serve the population of the township. All in favor. Motion carried.

New Business:

(A) Appoint Election Inspectors for the November 3, 2009 election. Hodges said that she would like to appoint Pat Callan, Darlene Berkshire, Margaret Grockau and Rose Rodgers to work the November 3rd election. M/Neubecker S/Bondy to approve the workers that the clerk has requested for the November 3rd election. All in favor. Motion carried.

(B) And (C) Septage and Broadband was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Approval of Bills - Neubecker said to hold check #11375 to Cunningham Electric for \$60.00 because the light is still not working. M/Neubecker S/Corrado to approve checks #11372 through #11393 with the exception of the check to Cunningham Electric and that check be held until successful completion of the electrical problem. Roll call vote. Bondy yes, Hodges yes, Corrado yes and Neubecker yes. Lambert absent. Motion carried. Checks in the amount of \$15,306.18 were issued for payment. Check #11375 to be held.

Citizens Comments

Upon proper motion the meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Mary Hodges
Coldsprings Township Clerk

