

COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL-COUNTY ROAD 571

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2013, 7:00 P.M.

Supervisor Neubecker called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Board members present at roll call were Supervisor Neubecker, Clerk Hodges, Treasurer Lambert, Trustee Bagnell and Trustee Hoffman. County Commissioner Stu McKinnon, Road Commissioner Corrado and approx... 13 members of the public were also present. Road Commission Manager, John Rogers, came later.

Adoption of the Agenda:

Motion by Hoffman supported by Lambert 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: **Motion** by Lambert supported by Bagnell to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2013 regular board meeting as written. All in favor. Motion carried.

Correspondence was reviewed.

Committee Reports:

- (A) Planning & Maintenance: Trustee Bagnell reported that he had a call into George Shumar about getting the dock taken out and also asked about a date for the cemetery cleanup. Hodges said we could have the cleanup the first week of November and that she would put a notice in the paper about it. Flags will remain on the veteran's graves until after Veterans Day. Bagnell said that we need to get a new deadbolt lock for the door inside the pavilion room.
- (B) Fireboard - Trustee Hoffman presented the minutes from the October 2, 2013 Fireboard meeting. The minutes showed that there were 5 Fire runs and 19 Rescue runs for the month of September. A complete copy of the minutes is on file with the clerk.
- (C) Road Commissioner - Commissioner Corrado said that since John Rogers, the new Road Commission Manager, will be here he can fill the board in on the projections

they have for the road commission.

- (D) Ordinance Enforcement Officer - OEO Denny said that he had 3 major garbage complaints and 4 property complaints. He has open cases on Sands Park and Northwood Lane. He also has two closed cases. He said there is still an issue with the road ending at 612 and E Shore Dr. and that it is too late to do anything with it now so he'll address next year. He also said that he has had complaints about speeding on Twin Lake Rd.

- (E) Park & Recreation Committee – Brenda presented the minutes from the October 1, 2013 meeting. She said that there were no new updates on the encroachment. She said that all of the paperwork has been completed for the 2011 MNRTF Grant and sent to the MDNR and we are now waiting for re-imburement. As for the new 2013 MNRTF and the 2013 MDNR Passport Grants, we were 1 of 142 applications received for the Trust Fund Grant and we received a total of 265 points out of a possible 530 and we were 1 of 87 applications received for the Passport Grant and we received 155 points out of a possible 200. Now we are waiting to see if we get either grant. The committee discussed applying for the 2014 MNRTF & Passport Grants and they could use those grants for fencing, stairs, etc. down by the water. They discussed different materials they could use for the fencing, etc. and after much discussion it was recommended to stay with the split rail fence. A special meeting was held at the Township Hall on October 9th to receive the \$5,000.00 Grant from the Township Participating Plan for the Camera system. A complete copy of the minutes is on file with the clerk

- (F) County Commissioner Stu McKinnon - McKinnon said that since their meeting is not until tomorrow there was not a lot to report. He did say that they have a \$112,000.00 shortfall in their budget and that they have an increase in Health Care costs of 31 ½%. He did talk about the new Health Care program and the effects it had on the county.

Treasurers Report:

Treasurer Lambert presented the monthly reconciliation report for the month of September, 2013 and the quarterly report for the CD's. The report showed that there was \$282,223.51 in the various Bank accounts, \$10.07 in the Forest Area Federal CU, \$10,664.17 in the Building Fund at Members Credit Union, \$1,363,173.30 in the Tax account and \$100.00 in the Petty Cash Fund. The CD report showed that there was \$55,939.70 in the Building Fund CD and \$313,357.23 in the Township Improvement Fund CD. **Motion** by Neubecker supported by Hodges to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Ordinance Enforcement Vehicle Expenses – Neubecker said that he had a conversation with the Ordinance Enforcement Officer, Denny Corrado, and Neubecker said that he had

some thoughts about a township vehicle for use for the OEO. He said that Denny had an opportunity that came up to purchase a vehicle and he (Neubecker) gave Denny the go ahead with the understanding that it would have to go through the Board eventually on purchasing a vehicle but he would have it put on the agenda to have his expenses for retrieving the vehicle reimbursed to him. The expenses to pick up the car in Ohio, for food, lodging and fuel came to \$300.78. Neubecker said that he would like to put forth, that that amount be approved and paid out as a good faith gesture that was extended by the Township Supervisor and if the board is not willing to do that, the Township Supervisor will pay the expenses out of his own pocket. Hodges said that the vehicle purchase should have been brought before the board before any expenses were paid. Neubecker said that we are not talking about the car now as far as the purchase of the car. Hodges said that we wouldn't have these expenses if it weren't for the car. Neubecker did agree on that point. Hodges said that no one on the board knew anything about buying or even considering buying a car for the township. Neubecker said that we currently are paying the OEO mileage for the use of his private vehicle but with some of the locations that the OEO goes into or tries to go into it is not conducive to it and when Denny mentioned that the car was available he (Neubecker) thought that it was a fantastic idea and it reinforces the fact that we do have someone working in the township. He said that the car is a black Crown-Vic and was a former sheriff's car and it is very recognizable as a law enforcement vehicle. Hodges said that it only takes 18 hours to call a special meeting. She said Neubecker could have called a special meeting and let the board discuss it. Neubecker said he knows that, however, that time has passed us now. Lambert asked if the car is for the township or is it a personal vehicle. Neubecker said that Denny purchased the car because he did not have the authority from the board to purchase a vehicle. Neubecker said the idea was that the township would then take the vehicle and pay Denny for it. Lambert asked if the vehicle would then be titled to the township and who would insure it. Neubecker said that the vehicle would be titled and licensed to the township and insurance would go through our regular township insurance. Lambert asked if the vehicle would be used specifically for the use of the OEO or could he use it for his/her own personal use. Neubecker said that it would be used strictly for OEO use. Lambert said that last year the OEO had a total of 300 miles and she put on 5,000 miles for the treasurer's job. She said that she would never have considered purchasing a vehicle for the township for the treasurer to use. She asked why the township would pay those kinds of expenses for someone to use for those few miles. Neubecker said because it is a perception of an extension of our ordinance enforcement and from the monthly reports over the last couple of years, has gotten a lot of interest and now with what we have done for the park we have more park complaints. Hodges said that the job description for the OEO is to work 10 hours a week 40 hours a month. She can't see why the township should purchase a vehicle for someone to use who works only 40 hours a month and that's only during the summer months. Last month he worked 19 ¾ hours. Lengthy discussion followed. **Motion** by Neubecker supported by Bagnell to reimburse Denny Corrado \$300.78 for expenses to travel to purchase a vehicle based on previous approval of the Township Supervisor. Roll call vote. Hodges No, Lambert No, Bagnell Yes, Hoffman Yes and Neubecker Yes. Motion carried. \$300.78 will be added to the expenses

New Business:

- (A) Official name for a current platted access – Property owner asked that she be able to give her property #005-007-025-70 a road name of Serenity Drive. **Motion** by Neubecker supported by Lambert to name the access Serenity Drive. All in favor. Motion carried.
- (B) John Rogers, Road Commissioner Manager – Rogers gave a lengthy presentation of the road commission’s revenues and expenses and also took questions from the public.
- (C) Amend the Budget – The clerk had 4 amendments to the budget. 1 for revenues and 3 for the expenses. **Motion** by Neubecker supported by Lambert that the projected changes to the budget described by the clerk be approved. Roll call vote. Bagnell yes, Hoffman yes, Hodges yes, Lambert yes, Neubecker yes. All in favor. Motion carried.
- (D) Road ending on Little Twin Lake – Neubecker said that on Little Twin Lake, on the portion that is on Twin Lake Road, there is a designated road ending. He said that historically a property owner that has property near the road ending has let the people on Little Twin Lake launch their boats there, however they will no longer be able to do that and they have asked that we open up the road ending. Short discussion. Neubecker said that we won’t do anything on it until spring other than have it surveyed so that come spring we will know exactly where the property is. **Motion** by Neubecker supported by Hoffman to contract with Farrier to survey the property. All in favor. Motion carried.
- (E) Purchase of vehicle for township/OEO) use – Neubecker said he would like to advocate for the purchase of a vehicle for OEO use. He said that he had explained the situation behind it and yes we are going to have expenses with it. He claims that some of the places that the OEO has to go into, the use of his private vehicle is not an adequate situation. Neubecker said that Denny made a good faith purchase based on the fact that he sold him (Neubecker) on why we should purchase a vehicle for the Ordinance Enforcement Officer, which he said he had been thinking about sometime himself. Neubecker said that for the initial cost he feels that it would be a good investment for the township. Hodges said that she does not feel that the township warrants purchasing a car for the OEO whose responsibilities is to work 10 hours a week or as necessary, but then in the winter time there is nothing. Lambert said her concerns go back to the expenses because you have insurance, liability and who is going to be able to drive the vehicle, where is the car going to be kept. Neubecker said that it is not being purchased as a general township vehicle, it would only be used for ordinance enforcement and not for the OEO’s personal use. The township would pay for the upkeep, fuel and maintenance. Lambert said that there are just too many issues concerning the purchase. Denny said that sometimes he answers calls at 10:00 at night if there is a party going on at one of the road endings. Hoffman suggested he call the Sheriff and let them handle it. You don’t want to put yourself in a position where you should not be. Lambert said

that she uses her car for township business but Neubecker said that you can't compare what she uses her car for with what the OEO uses his car for. Neubecker said the treasurer drives paved roads that are maintained by the county where the OEO might have to drive down some gravel roads and roads that are not maintained by the county. Neubecker said that since we have made the improvements to the park his call out requirements have probably increased 60-70% enforcing the ordinance in the park. Lambert said that maybe we should look at the ordinance. Lambert said that there are so many things going on here that obviously we can't agree. She feels that we should be able to contact the insurance company and see if we can do this and is it in the best interest of the township. We should also look at the OEO's job description and see if the OEO has to patrol the park weekly, daily, etc. We definitely do not have enough details here to make a decision. Short discussion. **Motion** by Neubecker supported by Bagnell to table the issue and put it on next month's agenda at such time more information will be provided to the board prior to that meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills:

Bills were reviewed. Check #12967 in the amount of \$50.00 made out to Top Notch Cleaning was voided and one bill was added in the amount of \$300.78 for OEO expenses to pick up a vehicle in Ohio. **Motion** by Hoffman supported by Lambert to pay the bills as amended. Roll call vote. Bagnell yes, Hodges yes, Lambert yes, Neubecker yes and Hoffman yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

Public Comments began at 9:43 p.m. Ordinances and fines were discussed. Public comments ended at 9:57 p.m.

Motion by Hoffman supported by Lambert to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Mary Hodges
Coldsprings Township Clerk

