

**HOMESTEAD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
May 5, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Homestead Township Board was called to order at 7:05 p.m., by Chair, Jessica Wooten.

Present by Roll Call: Dan Moore, Jessica Wooten, Mary Geetings, and Andy Loveland. Absent Shelley Rosa.

Also Present: Frank Walterhouse, Jenelle Zirkel, Allan Zirkel, Michael Mead, Cindra Moore, and Dennis Rodzik.

The entire audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE AGENDA:

Motion by Wooten to approve the agenda with additions – Summer Food Program under New Business. Support Geetings with addition. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC IN PUT

Dennis Rodzik - The Village will not be purchasing the Questions Mark Building, it looks like the County will purchase the building, along with Buds, under the Land Bank Authority. This is great news for the Village. The Village does want to purchase a strip of property downtown, and turn it into a park, and expand the current parking lot.

He read a clip from a paper to everyone on how the Village of Beulah, and their Township worked together and shared the cost of the Cold Creek Spill. Township's and Villages should work together.

He also voiced his feelings on how this Township carries a high cash reserve, and feels the Township should give back tax dollars to the residents.

PUBLIC IN PUT - Closed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Wooten to approve the Regular April 7th minutes. Support Moore. All Ayes.
Motion Carried

Special Park Minutes:

Motion by Wooten to approve the Special Park April 7th minutes. Support Loveland. All Ayes.
Motion Carried

Budget Hearing Minutes:

Motion by Moore to accept the Budget Hearing Minutes, from April 7th as presented. Support Loveland. All Ayes. Motion Carried

APPROVAL OF REPORTS

Motion by Wooten to accept the Clerk, Treasurer, and Zoning Administrator's reports, as presented. Support Loveland. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

JPC REPORT – Dan Moore - Fresh Wind presented to the JPC their plans to build a church and a school off of US 31.

Star Light Motel property has been purchased for plans to build a duplex apartment, a house and a garage.

The JPC approved Walt's Smokehouse on his residential property on Goose Road, with stipulations. He will need to plant some trees, no slaughtering, no processing, and have a mobile smoker.

Motion by Wooten to accept the JPC report as given. Support Loveland. All Ayes. Motion Carried

FIRE DEPT REPORT:

Fire Chief, Frank Walterhouse informed the Board with a written letter, that he is resigning as Fire Chief effective, May 31, 2014.

Motion by Wooten to accept Frank Walterhouse's Letter of Resignation with heart felt regrets. Support Loveland. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

A letter from the Fire Dept recommending that A.J. Zirkel be appointed Fire Chief, was presented to the board.

Motion by Wooten to appoint A.J. Zirkel as acting Fire Chief, effective June 1, 2014 until we decide, if we can appoint, or if we need to go to the public. Support Loveland. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

The department wants to put on a retirement party in Frank's honor, and open it up to the public.

BILL CONSENT REPORT: Motion by Wooten to pay the General Fund, Fire, and Park and Rec Bills. Support Moore. Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Inspection of Question Mark Building.

Road Brining: Motion by Geetings to have the dirt roads of Homestead Twp brined with 2 passes made on each road, 2 times this year, and will split the cost with the Road Commission. The township's estimated cost to be \$4,968.98 per time. Support Loveland. Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Clerk's Computer: Motion by Wooten to accept the quote from Accucomp Computers for a new Computer for the Clerk, at a cost of \$1,316.00. With the new changes that have come with the Elections, and the Voter Rregistration, her computer is outdated. Support Loveland. Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Twp Bathroom and Kitchen Drain Repairs: Motion by Wooten to accept the Quote from Moore Mechanical at the cost of \$581.00 to repair the faucets, auger the kitchen drain and re-pipe the compartment sink. Support Moore. Roll Call. Moore – Abstain, Geetings – Yes, Loveland – Yes, and Wooten – Yes. Motion Carried.

Park Expenses: The Clerk will order supplies for the township park, any other expenses will be submitted for payment with receipts.

Foreclosure Property: 4 parcels in Homestead Township are on the foreclosure list mail to the Township from the County. Motion by Wooten to decline to purchase any foreclosure property in Homestead Township. Support Moore. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Letter of Resignation - Andy Loveland submitted a letter of resignation to the Board. He will be stepping down as a Trustee, because of his religious belief. Motion by Wooten to accept the resignation of Andy Loveland with regrets. Support Moore. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Flags Cemetery – Motion by Wooten to purchase 6 flags: 2 for the Cemeteries, 4 for the Parks. Support Moore. Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Fire Dept Secretary: This was deferred to the Officer's of the Fire Dept. Table until June Meeting.

Meeting Time for Board Meetings: Motion by Wooten to change the June Township Regular meeting to 6:00 p.m., and to post the change within 3 days of this meeting. Support Moore. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Designate Web Coordinator: Clerk, Mary Geetings will be the Web Site Coordinator. Cathy Demitroff, Secretary for JPC, will submit the JPC minutes.

Coho Festival: Motion by Wooten to allow the Coho Festival to use the Township Park August 22, 23 and the 24 for such events as a baseball tournament, and fire works display. Support Geetings. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Fire Dept Exams: Every 2 years, it is mandatory for mask testing for our Firemen. They will also have physicals, at the same time. They are splitting the cost between Inland, and Benzonia Township Fire Depts. Motion by Wooten to accept the cost for the mask test, and physicals. The cost will come out of the General Fund Account Line Item / Fire Department. Support Loveland. Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Disposal of Township Material: Motion by Wooten to dispose of Township property by advertising on the Web Site. Items will be advertised for 1 month. No offer, means no value, After 1 month, the material will be disposed of. Support Moore. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

ZBA Members: Zelda Gray, and Mark Wamsley will be the new ZBA members. Dan Moore will occupy Andy Loveland's place until Andy can be replaced.

NEW BUSINESS: Summer Food Program - Motion by Geetings to allow the summer food program to take place at the Twp Hall; Monday's thru Thursdays, starting 2nd week of June until the 3rd week in August, from 11:00 am until 1:30 pm. Support Moore. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Fire Proof Cabinet: Motion by Wooten to purchase a Fire Proof Cabinet for the Fire Dept. The funds should come out of General Fund Line Item / Fire Dept. Support Loveland. Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

BIDS:

Cemetery Bids - 3 bids were submitted.

Motion by Wooten to award the Cemetery Bid to Hospenthal Outdoor Service, LLC for the cost of \$5,000.00 for the year 2014

Concession Bid - 1 bid submitted.

Motion by Wooten to award the Concession Stand Bid to Shannon Purchase for \$100.00. Support Loveland. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Grounds Keeper – 1 bid submitted

Motion by Wooten to award the Ground's Keeper bid to Hospenthal Outdoor Service, LLC for the cost of \$2,000.00, for the year 2014. Support Moore. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Clean up Day - May 17, 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, Benzie County Road Commission.

Fire Department Policy Review: Remember to get your changes to Tim Markey, final review will be June meeting.

PUBLIC IN PUT:

Frank Walterhouse - This Fire Dept started in 1967. There has only been 5 Chief's since it has started, with Frank being the fifth one.

BOARD GO AROUND - Each member of the board thanked both Andy Loveland for his time as a Trustee, and Frank Walterhouse for his many years of dedicated service to the Fire Department and to Homestead Township.

ADJOURN: Motion by Andy Loveland to adjourn. Support Wooten. All Ayes. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Geetings, Clerk

Jessica Wooten, Supervisor