

**HOMESTEAD TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR MEETING  
July 7, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Homestead Township Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m., by Chair, Jessica Wooten.

Present by Roll Call: Dan Moore, Jessica Wooten, Mary Geetings, and Shelley Rosa, and Beverly Holbrook.

Also Present: AJ Zirkel, Frank Walterhouse, Frank Post, Karen Mallon, Recording Secretary.  
Residents attending: Sherry Taylor, Beulah and Dennis Rodzick, Honor

The entire audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVE AGENDA:**

Motion by Rosa to approve the agenda as presented. Support Wooten. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC IN PUT – None**

**APPROVAL MINUTES**

**Regular Minutes** - Motion by Rosa to accept the Regular June 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes as presented. Support Wooten. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Special Minutes** - Motion by Rosa to accept the Special Meeting Minutes with corrections as presented by Geetings “Special Meeting Minutes/Second Page”. Support Wooten. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**APPROVAL OF REPORTS**

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

**TREASURER’S REPORT** – \$28,000 grant for Fire Department went to General Fund because it could not go into any millage account. Will consult with Auditor in August on appropriate transfer to bring funds to Fire Department. The \$37,000 Fire Department deficit is an auditing situation and not a real overdraft.

Cascade equipment went into 2013-2014 budget and not the 2014-2015 budget. This will also be addressed with the auditor.

**CLERK’S REPORT** - Coincided with Treasurer’s Report.

**JPC REPORT** – Dan Moore – Fresh Wind Church bought the veterinary barn . Work will be done for slated completion Fall 2015. MDOT, roads, health and soil erosion were addressed. Plan for 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade Christian school

Local parcel on Ryan Road was purchased with a split to be made to build rental cabins at the site. The split will allow for four cabins to be built.

Smoke House – Building department had plumbing issues. Roger to relook at it.

**FIRE REPORT** – All physicals are done. Invoices are in. Hep B shots in the county are not easily done. Moore recommended looking at Honor Pharmacy as a source. Geetings to assist if needed at Health Department with letter from Township.

Cascade System is set up and wired. Pump testing is to be done county wide with Homestead slated for upcoming week. Ladders will be checked. Annual inspection is \$3500.

5 fire runs, 15 medical runs and a few assists on house fire. Geetings stated that payroll will be done this week.

Motion by Wooten to accept the JPC and Fire Department reports as presented. Support Dan. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

### **BILL CONSENT REPORT**

Motion by Rosa to pay the Fire, General Fund, and the Park and Rec bills. Support Wooten Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter from Benzie Central Schools – Lake Ann Elementary: Letter of appreciation to Fire Department and success of Dan Beechcraft Memorial Tug of War. Letter from George Saylor thanking the Township for allowing him to speak at the meeting along with congratulatory words to the Board on working well together.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Purchase Projector and Screen** – Wooten reported that the grant in the amount of \$2000.00 to fund the purchase of the projector and screen was denied. Wooten requested the Board to consider having the township purchase the projector and screen outright. The Board will consider the request and address the matter at a future meeting.

Wooten advised the Board that the return of the grant was placed in the copy room for review.

**Cemetery Policy Review/Update** - Geetings presented discussion to the Board regarding Homestead Cemetery regarding the unkempt look due to lack of adherence to cemetery guidelines. Geetings stated that the rules are vague and the Board should adopt an ordinance that outlines what is allowed at gravesites pertaining to decorations, plantings and benches. Wooten requested Geetings to prepare an Ordinance and Rules for the Board to review. Once approved, Geetings suggested that a mailing of the Ordinance and Rules should go out with tax notices and Clean Up notices.

**Black Dirt and Brush Pile** - Discussion was held regarding removal of brush and shrubs. Geetings suggested the Fire Department look into what it would take to have a controlled burn to remove brush and shrub debris. Fire Chief will consider the request and update the Board at the August meeting. Cindra Moore has requested to be present at the removal of the shrubs to ensure they are properly removed and/or pruned.

In addition, a family has requested that the Township provide topsoil at a gravesite to amend the soil so that grass can grow. Discussion was held and requests for bids will go out to determine the cost in doing so and further discussion will be held to decide what involvement the Township will have and what requirements will be made upon the family. Geetings will stake out the area to be considered for topsoil prior to bidding.

**Resolution for Public Inspection of Records – (FOIA) Resolution to Adopt Public Inspection of Records Policy (FOIA).** Motion by Wooten to adopt resolution, Roll Call: Wooten, aye, Rosa aye, Holbrook aye, Moore, aye, Geetings aye. All Ayes: motion for resolution carries.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Playground Equipment** - July 17<sup>th</sup> equipment will be delivered. Need for a forklift to unload truck. Walterhouse offered garage for use of storage until the equipment can be put in place. Construction should begin within 10 days of delivery. Wooten asked Zirkel to be available to assist in unloading.

Discussion was held regarding the site preparation. Insurance states that the sand in place is up to par as far as insurance is concerned. Wooten suggest that the sand is “dirty” and would like to place “clean/beach” sand around the equipment. Wooten would like bids from licensed contractors to place sand and prepare the site. Work to be completed by September 30. Geetings to prepare request for proposal/bid. Geetings would like clarification as to where and how much sand and before or after site preparation.

Wooten disclosed that she made decision to have monkey bars removed and given to scrapper.

**Road Meeting** – Wooten to attend meeting and give update to Board. Request to find out information on brining in Homestead Township.

## **PUBLIC IN- PUT**

Sherry Taylor, 11084 Cinder Road, Beulah, offered input as to how to possible handle the auditing situation with a line item transfer.

Karen Mallon , 957 Sugarbush, Beulah, addressed concerns about the Township paying to amend the soil at Homestead Cemetery at the request of one family member.

Dennis Rodzick, Honor, informed the Board that Benzie Central High School students along with a muralist will be painting a 2-stage mural in Honor. He informed the Board that there is storage available for floats if need be for the Coho Festival. Brief discussion was offered on the ? Building with update for late Fall.

Public Input Closed.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD**

**PARKS** – Walterhouse gave a recreation update stating that this is a good summer for softball at the park. Nearly 200 participants, men, women and children, are enjoying the summer playing ball. Concession stand working well. Geetings to order supplies for the park as needed, and Walterhouse to submit receipts of purchase for reimbursement. Skate park is graffiti free, and the lights continue to work intermittently.

**FIRE** - Fire Chief presented discussion on Fire Department’s need to possibly eliminate an officer position due to budget concerns. Looking at the Secretary position, recommends in lieu of position paying for reports generated (\$5.00 per medical report and \$10.00 per fire run / not an hourly wage). Discussion on ensuring that all Fire related certifications are current.

Discussion on the Cascade system. Michigan Air and Gas will not take it. Township will determine Value and attempt to sell on Craig's List. If no takers, then it will be scrapped.

**TOWNSHIP MATTERS** – Wooten offered rolltop desk and other furniture once owned by the Village of Honor back to the Village. Will ensure transfer of materials to the Village be done legally.

Tom Grier e-mail: work within agreement with the school to do park improvements for equipment on their property.

Old Rugs – The Board agreed that there was no value to old rugs within the Hall and that these rugs would be given to the Township Carol Pelky. Motion by Wooten to give rugs to Carol Pelky, Support by Rosa, all ayes, motion carried.

**LOCAL DISASTER MEMAC** - Frank Post made a presentation to the Board regarding MEMAC and Local Disaster financial reimbursement. This is a free offer from the State of Michigan that allows recovery of funds from resources of local fire personnel and equipment in the event of a local disaster. Money from the state would help cover the cost incurred. This pertains to a large scale local event and would make the township eligible for reimbursement for assistance given. This would pertain only to Fire as there is no Township law enforcement or medical.

Wooten requested that Board review the policy and present questions to Frank Post via e-mail [fpost@benzieco.net](mailto:fpost@benzieco.net) with copies to the Board. Request made that Frank Post present answers or further discussion to the Board at the August Board meeting.

No other business presented to the Board.

Adjourn: Motion to Adjourn 7:40  
Respectfully submitted

Karen Mallon, Recording Secretary

Mary Geetings, Clerk

Jessica Wooten, Supervisor