

**HOMESTEAD TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR MEETING  
September 2, 2014**

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

The entire audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also Present: AJ Zirkel, Fire Chief, Jeff McCray - Burnham and Flower, residents: Trisha Morse, Ryan King, Tim and Bonnie King.

**PUBLIC IN PUT – None**

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Wooten to approve the agenda as presented with the following additions to be made: Speaker, Bill Keniss, Benzie Bus. New Business – Service Park Equipment, and Drain Pipes in the Park Bathroom. Support Holbrook. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**SPEAKER – Bill Keniss** – Introduced himself to the board. He spoke of the volume of people who use the Benzie Bus. On Wednesday Sept 24, the Benzie Bus will be holding a Consulting Transit Summit, which he invited everyone to attend. The purpose it to build the Benzie Bus system for the next 7 years.

**CONSENT GROUPING – Approval of August 7th minutes, and Bill Consent Reports.**

Motion by Wooten to approve Consent Grouping. Support Rosa. Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**JPC Report** - Dan Moore reported that a Farmers Market has been approved at the Eagles on US 31. Reviewed packet from Cindra Moore regarding insecticides being spread across the road from her property. The board has decided that Walt's Smokehouse has to go before the Board of Appeals. Mark Wamsley was appointed Vice Chair, replacing Dale Jeske who has moved down state.

**FIRE DEPT REPORT** – AJ Zirkel - 2 structure fire, 2 fire, and 4 car accidents. One fire man is currently training in Manistee.

**PARK and REC REPORT** - Frank Walterhouse - Good Summer, games are winding down, working on small repairs. Currently we are working on getting diamond dust, that has been donated onto the lower JR High Field. Any that is left over, will be placed on the top field. Frank is working with Chip Johnson to get bids to haul the diamond dust and spread.

**CLERK REPORT** - There is a short fall in the Park and Rec Contracted Service line item. Motion by Geetings to move \$1,000 from Capital Outlay into Contracted Service. Support Wooten. Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**REPORTS** - Motion by Wooten to accept all reports as submitted. Support Holbrook. Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**JEFF MCCRAY** - Burnham and Flower Agency - Reviewed the renewal policy presented to the board. Encouraged the board to seek grant monies that are available, and spoke of the Citizen Planning Course available to 1 person per year, fully reimbursed upon completion.

Motion by Wooten to renew the present policy presented to the board, and to remove the batting cages and equipment off of the Policy. Support Holbrook. Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Jeff, also reviewed Provident Insurance, a supplemental benefit program offered to Fire Fighters, MFR and their families, in the event of a serious injury, accidental death, or dismemberment. The Board was asked to review the policy, as well as AJ was going to review with his Firemen.

**FIRE / MUTUAL AID – CHARGES BENZONIA TWP.**

Jess and AJ attended a meeting at Benzonia Township, which has been faced with a dilemma, since they lost revenue from Blaine Township, who has now contracted Fire Services with Frankfort. Discussion took place on Mutual Aide, verse charging for Fire Services. The Board has been encouraged to attend the next meeting on Sept 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. at Benzonia Twp.

**PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT** - Honor Excavating submitted a bid of \$8,500 to complete, install all 4 pieces of the new Play Ground Park Equipment. This includes the preparation of the ground, and the cementing of the equipment. Motion by Holbrook to accept Honor Excavating Proposal of \$8,500 to install, assemble and maintain the ground as needed for the new Play Ground Equipment at the Township Park. Support Moore. Roll Call. Rosa – Abstain, Geetings – Yes, Moore – Yes, Wooten – Yes, and Holbrook – Yes. Motion Carried.

**SNOW REMOVAL** - Motion by Wooten to place and ad in the paper for Snow removal and Shoveling, and to place and ad in the paper for snow removal, with loader, time on site. Bids will be opened at the October meeting. Support Moore. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**PARK EQUIPMENT** - The mower, for the park, the Skagg, is 13 years old. Suggested that when it is taken to Ferguson for an upkeep, they give us their opinion on its working conditions, and its value, before they do any work on it.

**PARK RESTROOMS** - Moore Mechanical will turn the water off in the bathrooms, and Crystal Water Works will drain the sprinkler system.

**BRINE** - Motion by Geetings to not have a second Brine for 2014. Support Holbrook. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

## **OLB BUSINESS**

**Playground Equipment Status** - Jess will speak with Brian and Sarah Ross, local engineers regarding the playground specks and regulations.

**School Lease** - The resolution regarding the tennis and basketball court at Platte River School, and the Township has been forwarded to us from the attorney. The Board will review, and discussion will take place at next month's meeting.

**Cemetery Ordinance** - Motion by Rosa to amend the Cemetery Ordinance in include the clause, "only 1 (one) flower arrangement / decoration per burial site." Support Holbrook. Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Fire Dept Policy Review** - Table until next month's meeting.

**OPEN PUBLIC FORUM** - Motion by Wooten to include an open forum on the agenda. Support Holbrook. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Ryan King** – Currently residing in Benzonia, has been researching the cost of a Zamboni to help clear, water and smooth out the ice skating rink. He would be interested in helping the township out this winter.

Also, Ryan is interested in using the Township Park, for a LaCross baseball tournament. He will discuss both of these with Jess at a later date.

**Tim and Bonnie King** - We were very concerned about the amount of 4 wheelers, and dirt bikes that were running around the park during the Coho Festival, along with the lack of security during the Festival, if there were any. We called the sheriff's department; they took one quick drive in the park, and then left.

The Park Policy will be reviewed, and the Coho Festival must have security, if they are going to use the park next year.

**Trish Morris – Ryan Road** - She was told to come to the township regarding the upkeep of her road. She is concerned with the sand pits that cars get stuck in. She wants a better understanding on what and how certain roads were chosen to receive improvements. There is a meeting with the Road Commission in December, they reviewed and discuss the future of the roads. The date will be posted on the web.

Commissioner Walterhouse - The County is currently reviewing the ORV ordinance. They also are taking bids to tear down the Question Mark building, and Buds.

AJOURN - The meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Respectfully Submitted

Mary Geetings, Clerk

Jessica Wooten, Supervisor