

HOMESTEAD TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 1, 2016

APPROVED 3/7/2016

The regular meeting of the Homestead Township Board was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Supervisor Jessica Wooten.

The entire audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also Present: Tim Markey, Fire Chief

**PUBLIC INPUT:** NONE Closed public input at 6:02 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA :** Motion by Wooten to approve the agenda as presented, supported by Moore. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**CONSENT GROUPING:**

**Minutes:** Motion by Rosa to accept minutes as written, supported by Wooten . All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Bill Paying:** Motion by Wooten to pay all bills, support by Geetings. Roll Call: Moore – Yes, Rosa – Yes, Wooten – Yes, Geetings – Yes, Holbrook – Yes. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Reports – Treasurer, Clerk, Zoning Administrator -**

All reports presented as written. Motion by Wooten to accept written reports, support by Holbrook. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**JPC – Dan Moore** – \*The JPC had election of officers. At this time there is no chairperson. Vice Chair is Fred Poynor, Secretary is Doug Durkee. \*Board did their proposal for budget which we have been given a copy. \*JPC changed their meetings from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting is February 15<sup>th</sup> at Homestead at 7:00 p.m. \*There were three public hearings: # 1 Rezoning of 40 acres across from the Inland Township hall which was approved unanimously # 2 Adjusting the zoning line because half of the 5 acres was commercial and half residential, the owner requested it all be commercial. This is the B & B on US 31. This was approved. # 3 Adoption of the amendment of the medical marijuana ordinance. A bit of discussion but kept it as written and approved by a 5 to 2 vote. It will be sent to the county for a 30 day review and come back to the board.

**Fire Department – Tim Markey** \*2016 is starting like 2015, busy. There were 25 runs, 20 were medical. \*Training with the National Park Service which was very good. There will be ice water training with the Coast Guard and an active shooter training at the Government Center in May.

**Page 2**

**Homestead Township Regular Meeting  
February 1, 2016**

**Rec. Park – Closed.**

Motion by Wooten to accept JPC, Fire Department reports as written and presented, supported by Rosa. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**COMMISSIONER:** \*Frank Walterhouse stated that the Board had election of officers and Roger Griner is the Chair and he, Frank Walterhouse, is Vice Chair. They also had committee appointments which he gave our Board copies of the committee assignments. \*The Maples opening target date is April 1, 2016. \*The county received 7 grants from the Grand Traverse Band 2% money. The tribe has been very good to Benzie County.

**Correspondence** – The local road commission meeting is tomorrow at 1:00 at the road commission. Jessica will be attending.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**Appoint website coordinator:** Geetings made a motion to make the website coordinator part of the Supervisor position, supported by Wooten. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Appoint FOIA coordinator:** Wooten made a motion to make the FOIA coordinator part of the Clerk position, supported by Moore. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Appoint Jeannie McPherson to JPC board as alternate:** This is a one year term for Homestead's additional JPC board member. Wooten made the motion to accept Jeannie McPherson as our JPC board Homestead Township alternate for this year, supported by Rosa. All Ayes. Motion carried.

### **New Year Business – motions:**

1. Motion to have The Honor Bank and Central State Bank as our depositors for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, but to have the option to negotiate with other banks, if so desire.
  2. Motion to conduct the Homestead Township meeting by "Robert's Rule".
  3. Motion to conduct our Homestead Township regular meeting on the first Monday of every month for the fiscal year 2016-2017 with a 6:00 p.m. start time. If the first Monday falls on a Holiday, the regular meeting for that month will be on the Tuesday following the first Monday.
  4. Motion that the Homestead Township Board will levy the maximum millage allowed following the guidelines set by the State of Michigan for 2016.
- Motion made by Wooten, supported by Holbrook. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Page 3**  
**Homestead Township Regular Meeting**  
**February 1, 2016**

**Platte Township Fire Protection Agreement:** See Agreement as attached. Wooten made a resolution for the agreement to enter in with Platte Township for their emergency fire protection. Roll call: Geetings – Yes, Rosa – Yes, Moore – Yes, Wooten – Yes, Holbrook – Yes. All Ayes. Motion/resolution carried.

### **Budget Workshop Review:**

1. Joint Planning Commission: referring to their preliminary budget. There is still a question on the wages. Dan will get the actual costs from last year. Our proposed

budget for next year is \$32,970 and their proposed budget is \$35,303. We would like to see the detail of the Income along with the expenditures. Our books are not matching.

2. Fire Millage: will work on next month

3. Road Improvement Fund: The Road Improvement Fund was originally set up to have match dollars when working with the county on our roads. After discussion it was decided to move road funds into the Road Improvement Fund account and pull all projects from this account to have a clear track of any road expenditures. The Valley Road project may cost up to \$15,000 and road brine is around \$10,000 per year. Brine has come directly from the general fund. Our Road Improvement Fund has a balance of 30,844.36. Wooten made a motion to transfer the budgeted \$50,000 from the general fund to the Road Improvement Fund and additional \$25,000 for capital outlay projects, supported by Holbrook. Roll call: Rosa – Yes, Geetings – Yes, Wooten – Yes, Moore – Yes, Holbrook – Yes. All Ayes. Motion carried. After further discussion, Geetings stated that the general fund roads account does not have \$50,000 left to transfer and asked where the money should be pulled from. Since we do not have this money to pull the motion fails. Geetings made a motion to transfer the remaining money in the 2015 General Fund Roads of \$39,481.86 into the Road Improvement Fund account, supported by Holbrook. Roll call: Rosa – Yes, Geetings – Yes, Wooten – Yes, Moore – Yes, Holbrook – Yes. All Ayes. Motion carried. This gives us a balance of \$70, 326.22 in the Road Improvement Fund. Next year we will budget \$50,000 for the Road Improvement Fund.

4. Recreation Park: After discussion regarding any new projects such as adding power to the pavilion, it was decided to hold off on any projects this next year. We need to fix the wash out drive before any other project. No additional budgeting.

5. Wages: Tim Markey stated he will not have a Fire Captain, Fire Truck Engineer or Maintenance person which saves \$3000. Board talked about having different rate wages for firefighters according to longevity and training. This will be a future consideration. Rosa made a motion to increase the Fire Chief Salary to \$5790 per year and increase the Fire training sessions to \$40 per person per month, supported by Wooten. Roll call: Geetings – Yes, Wooten – Yes, Moore – Yes, Rosa – Yes, Holbrook – Yes. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**Page 4**  
**Homestead Township Regular Meeting**  
**February 1, 2016**

Our March meeting will be the budget hearing at 6:00 followed by a regular meeting.

We will talk about the cost recovery fire department ordinance at the March or April meeting. Dan Moore has taken the information we have been given and put together an ordinance and examples for the board to review. He has also reworked our existing junk ordinance and added blight into a comprehensive ordinance. We will also review this.

**NEW BUSINESS - None**

**OLD BUSINESS - None**

**Open Forum:**

Keith Riemersma: Informed the public of a building explosion that happened by his downstate home from people extracting THC from medical marijuana using benzene

or butane and medical grade propane (has no scent added). Because of no scent, you can't tell if you have a leak while doing the process. These people were doing an illegal act under the guise of the law. He is concerned for our firefighters and is bringing this to our attention. Our township needs to know when the land use permits are given for medical marijuana purpose so we can be aware of potential dangers.

Holbrook made a motion to establish a resolution to have the township officers salary at the same rate in 2016 as in 2015 (Supervisor \$17,187.75, Treasurer \$21,231.10, Clerk 18,200.04, per year and Trustee \$125 per meeting), support by Moore. Roll call: Wooten – Yes, Geetings – Yes, Rosa – Yes, Moore – Yes, Holbrook – Yes. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Wooten to Adjourn, supported by Moore – Adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Beverly J. Holbrook  
Recording Secretary

Jessica Wooten  
Supervisor

Next monthly meeting March 7, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.