

Minutes of the Clay Township Board Meeting held on Monday, September 17, 2001 at 7:30 p.m. in the Clay Township Board Room, 4710 Pte. Tremble Road, Clay Township, Michigan 48001.

Supervisor Joseph H. McKoan IV called for a moment of silence for the victims of the terrorists attacks on the United States September 11, 2001.

PRESENT: Supervisor Joseph McKoan IV, Clerk Michael Pellerito, Treasurer Connie Turner, Trustee Pat Sharrow, Trustee Cindy Kirkpatrick, Trustee Dr. L. Kasperowicz, Trustee Beth Engel. ABSENT: None.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES AND SYNOPSIS:

Moved by Turner, supported by Kirkpatrick, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the Minutes and Synopsis and the Public Hearing Minutes held on September 4, 2001 as submitted. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

BILLS PAYABLE:

Moved by Turner, supported by Kirkpatrick, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the Bills Payable in the amount of \$107,081.93. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

PETITIONS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

MTA Executive Director Larry Merrill emailed MTA members following the terrible tragedy of today.

OLD BUSINESS:

Contract negotiation update: Police Chiefs Contract: Township Board members presented an outline of the Police Chief's contract, no action at this time, Board to review synopsis.

Tetra-Tech Request for Additional Compensation on the Sewer Lift Station and the Algonac Water Filtration Plant: Kenneth E. Kingsley, Senior Vice President spoke to the Township Board explaining the background.

Trustee Dr. Kasperowicz: Asked several questions of Mr. Kingsley re: job cost in excess of initial bid.

Mr. Kingsley: Explained why Tetra-Tech had to step in and oversee the contractor per the direction from St. Clair County.

Discussed Lift Station cost for Ira, Clay and City of Algonac; Water Station share for Clay and Ira.

Motion by Dr. Kasperowicz not to pay the additional compensation requested from Tetra Tech for the Water Station rebuild and the Water Filtration Plant to upgrade.

MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF SUPPORT.

Motion by Sharrow, supported by Turner, to pay to Tetra Tech the amount of \$9,996.00 for the additional engineer incurred from the Sewer Lift Station reconstructed on M-29 in Clay Township. R/C VOTE: AYES: Sharrow, Turner, Engel, McKoan IV. NAYS: Kirkpatrick, Dr. Kasperowicz, Pellerito.

MOTION CARRIED.

Moved by Dr. Kasperowicz, supported by Kirkpatrick, not to pay the additional engineering costs to Tetra Tech for the upgrading of the Algonac Water Plant Filtration. R/C VOTE: AYES: Kirkpatrick, Dr. Kasperowicz, Pellerito. NAYS: Turner, Engel, Sharrow, McKoan IV. ABSENT: None.

MOTION DIED.

Motion by Turner, supported by Engel, to pay the additional engineering costs to Tetra Tech in the amount of \$28,062.50 for the upgrading of the Algonac Water Plant Filtration.

Discussion followed:

Trustee Sharrow: Dislike paying bills like this, cost of attorney and court fees incurred could be just as high, no savings.

Trustee Kirkpatrick: How come there were no engineering change orders?

Mr. Kingsley: Not our responsibility, information went to the County level, communication procedures are improved.

Supervisor McKoan IV: Assured the Board satisfied with Mr. Kingsley's explanation and discussion we've had concerning the extra costs required in the projects.

Clerk Pellerito: Dissatisfied with the lift stations and what happened there; the added compensation for the Water Plant is justified.

Trustee Sharrow: Expenses incurred are costing only the water/sewer customers, not all taxpayers in the Township.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: AYES: Sharrow, Kirkpatrick, Turner, Pellerito, Engel, McKoan IV. NAYS: Dr. Kasperowicz. ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Moved by Turner, supported by Dr. Kasperowicz, MOTION CARRIED, to hire Parkes Mann as a full time DPW employee. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Relating to any New Business on the Agenda.

Richard Baker, Stone Road: Questioned establishing a Police Commission. Supervisor Joseph McKoan IV: Discussion only, no vote tonight concerning the formation of a police board; Trustee Dr. Kasperowicz requested this be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Plante Moran Presentation - 2000-2001 Township Audit Report by Joe Heffernan and Brent Smith.

Moved by Turner, supported by Dr. Kasperowicz, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the Harsens Island Fire Department purchase of five (5) sets of turn-out gear from Public Safety Publications for the amount of \$6,470.95. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT None.

Moved by Kirkpatrick, supported by Dr. Kasperowicz, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the Harsens Island Fire Department purchase of a Nobles 20" Auto Floor Scrubber in the amount of \$800.00 from Cleanall Janitorial Supply Inc. AYES: None. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Moved by Turner, supported by Dr. Kasperowicz, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the Medical First Responder training course for Harsens Island Fire Fighters Bill Tackonis, Pete Nalezty and Kevin Allen in the amount of \$115.00 each and Daryl DuPage to attend the Continuing Education class for the cost of \$50.00. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Discussion of Township Building Expansion: Supervisor McKoan IV's concerns: storage problem & handicap accessibility hindered; open it up to the Board for comments.

Comments: New location, new building entirely, attach the Police Department to the Main building, parking problem.

Trustee Sharrow: Ditch filled and parking expanded, boardroom converted to 3-4 offices, extend the building outward towards M-29 for a new boardroom; roof work voided a warranty, future office for a Planning & Zoning Department, possible Charter Township would create some changes.

Supervisor Joseph McKoan IV: Contact some architects and get some ideas what can be done with this site.

Moved by Kirkpatrick, supported by Sharrow, **MOTION CARRIED**, to direct the Supervisor to contact architectural engineers for professional ideas concerning the expansion of the Township Hall and to explore parcels of land available to the Algonac-Clay Historical Society for future expansion. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Moved by Sharrow, supported by Kirkpatrick, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve Lot Split 2001-10 for Blue Water Habitat For Humanity vacant lot on Sheldon Avenue

providing there is water and sewer supplied. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Moved by Sharrow, supported by Kirkpatrick, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve Lot Split 2001-11 for vacant lot on Morrow Road owned by Bette Jean Ahee. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Moved by Sharrow, supported by Turner, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the cost of \$1,200 for driveway repair at 7213 Audubon due to water main break. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Moved by Turner, supported by Kirkpatrick, **MOTION CARRIED**, to adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Township to assign its rights and interests in the Engineering Agreement to the DPW for the construction and acquisition of the St. Clair County Water Supply System No. II-A, System 2000 Project on Harsens Island.

R/C VOTE: AYES: Sharrow, Kirkpatrick, Turner, Pellerito, Engel, Dr. Kasperowicz, McKoan IV. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Moved by Sharrow, supported by Engel, **MOTION CARRIED**, to postpone a decision to replace the Township Building roof until Supervisor McKoan IV has obtained information from architects regarding building expansion. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Police Board Discussion: Per Trustee Dr. Kasperowicz would be an added feature for the people to be able to talk to the Chief to see what is going on, budget is 1.2 million, more direct access to see what is going on; once before had a Police Commission. Trustee Beth Engel: Ability now to go to the Chief. Supervisor Joseph McKoan IV: Open door policy at this time, personal opinion not necessary at this point of time to have an advisory board.

Clerk Pellerito: Fire Department is comprised of volunteers, Township Board Members are appointed to serve in a liaison capacity, difference between volunteers and hired employees.

Trustee Sharrow: Sometimes less government is better than more; no problems.

Trustee Cindy Kirkpatrick: People have told me not happy with the way they are handled when trying to get answers from the Police Department; union concerns if such a Board would be not stepping on toes; don't want to drop the idea completely.

Supervisor Joseph McKoan IV: Public is free to come to any Board Member and it will be addressed, will take the appropriate action.

Clerk Pellerito: Suggest we get some examples of other entities having a Police Commission.

Moved by Pellerito, supported by Kirkpatrick, **MOTION CARRIED**, to postpone a decision to replace the Township Offices Air Conditioner/Furnace until information is received from Supervisor McKoan IV concerning future Township Building expansion. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Moved by Sharrow, supported by Kirkpatrick, **MOTION CARRIED**, to accept the Assessing, Building and Zoning, Water, Police, Algonac/Clay Library Report August Department Reports and the August 21, 2001 regular meeting minutes of the Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of St. Clair as submitted. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Supervisor Joseph McKoan IV: \$33,000 to extend the Stone Road bike path; requesting assistance with the cost in the project from the County Parks & Recreation.

Boldt, McLeod & Johnson sewer/water cost Fruit and Stone Road.

Meeting on September 21st with the County re: future Central Dispatch System, report back how could change Clay Dispatch.

Township Attorney filed Colony Drive Suit on behalf of Colony Drive.

Harsens Island Water Project Section III has started digging, complaint form is available to use, customers are not to call the contractor, will be handled in an orderly fashion through the Township process.

Trustee Sharrow: Perhaps should consider advertising for possible Planning Commission, ZBA and DDA members.

Supervisor Joseph McKoan IV: Will be meeting with some likely prospects shortly that may be interested.

Treasurer Turner Update regarding future Mausoleum in Oaklawn Cemetery, 2-3 weeks should have something from the John Jones Monument Co.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Richard Baker, Stone Road: Harsens Island Transportation Authority had asked previously for a report.

Supervisor Joseph McKoan IV: Have not had any contact with the HITA lately, can contact the Chairman and request a report.

Richard Baker, Stone Road: Public transportation use to travel through Algonac, would like to know why Algonac does not have a bus, find out that information.

Supervisor Joseph McKoan IV: The Blue Water Transportation Authority would be the source for that info.

Richard Baker: Like another transportation authority to form with people from Harsens Island, Mainland and Russell Island.

Trustee Sharrow: Explained 20 years ago there was bus travel available through SETA; St. Clair subsidizes their bus communication with taxes, contact County Representative for their support; SEMCOG aware there is a necessity for public transportation.

Paul Bridgman, Colony Drive: Referred to letter submitted to the Board violation of the law regarding auxiliary buildings on Colony Drive.

Supervisor Joseph McKoan IV: Can have an opinion drafted as to those issues and submit it to you, are you referring to deed restrictions or the Zoning Ordinance?

Paul Bridgman: Don't enforce deed restrictions, would like you to put it in writing, if you don't set the tone, they are going to ignore it.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Kirkpatrick, supported by Dr. Kasperowicz, **MOTION CARRIED**, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Michael P. Pellerito
Clay Township Clerk