

Minutes of the Clay Township Board Meeting held on Monday, October 20, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the Clay Township Board Room, 4710 Pte. Tremble Road, Clay Township, Michigan 48001.

PRESENT: Supervisor Joseph McKoan IV, Clerk Michael Pellerito, Treasurer Connie Turner, Trustee Pat Sharrow, Trustee Cindy Kirkpatrick, Trustee Beth Engel, Trustee Dr. L. Kasperowicz.

ABSENT: None.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

Moved by Turner, supported by Kirkpatrick, **MOTION CARRIED**, to amend the agenda under New Business, Item #9. Labor Cost to tile the Mausoleum. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

**APPROVE THE OCTOBER 6, 2003 MINUTES AND SYNOPSIS:**

Moved by Turner, supported by Kirkpatrick, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the Township board Minutes and Synopsis for October 6, 2003 as submitted. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

**BILLS PAYABLE:**

Moved by Turner, supported by Kirkpatrick, to approve the Bills Payable in the amount of \$36,309.31.

Discussion: Trustee Dr. Kasperowicz questioned Attorney Daniel Dalton's retainer fee. Trustee Sharrow: Atty. Dalton taking care of zoning issues, perhaps he could reduce his retainer fee, Supervisor McKoan IV to discuss this with him.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**PETITIONS:** None.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

County Drain Commissioner Fred Fuller – Notice of Day of Review of Apportionments for Drain Maintenance Special Assessment held on 10/22/03 to review special drain assessments for maintenance, inspection and repair of the Marine City Branch No. 1 Drain.

St. Clair County Council on Aging, Supervisor Debbie Heraty thanking the Township Board for their \$1,000.00 donation.

Article in newspaper relating to Officer Deborah Humprey's D.A.R.E. Fundraiser.

Halloween "Trick & Treating" Hours will be Friday, 10-31-03 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., drive carefully that night.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Contract Update by Clerk Pellerito:

Front Office Contract: Fine tuning some of the language, no obstacles.

Command Contract: Command requesting one more Actuary done for the cost of \$450.00, polled the Trustees, consensus was offered the original actuarial cost splitting at the time of negotiations and will not split the cost now, nothing else holding up the contract, actuary to determine how much the pension will cost.

Trustee Dr. Kasperowicz: Reminder to the negotiating teams, consideration must be made there are only 8,000 parcels of taxpayers that have to pay for this funding.

**CLAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2003**

Page 2

Network Connections proposal to rewire the front office:

Clerk Pellerito: Recommend a decision postponed until have meet with the other company to review the wiring system.

Moved by Pellerito, supported by Engel, **MOTION CARRIED**, to postpone the decision regarding Network Connections proposal of rewiring the front office pending the research by Clerk Pellerito with another company to exam the system in place and bring back a cost. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Comcast letter from Ben Smith, Corporate Affairs Manager re: Franchise Fee Adjustments Detail, Supervisor McKoan summarized the letter, stated the letter is available for the public review.

Trustee Dr. Kasperowicz: Want to know how much money Comcast is pulling out of Clay Township with their franchising and how much money are we really getting from them.

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

Secured Party: #6 on the agenda re: request to waive Brown's Field permit fees, Board policy has been to waive permit fees for other programs, request this be waived.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Moved by Pellerito, supported by Sharrow, **MOTION CARRIED**, to hire Robert Obidzinski as a Part-Time Dispatcher in the Police Department. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Moved by Sharrow, supported by Dr. Kasperowicz, **MOTION CARRIED**, to adopt Resolution No. 4, Bruckner's Island, Harsens Island, Private Road, Road And Bridge Replacement/Maintenance Special Assessment District confirming the roll being Bruckner's Island Road and Bridge Replacement/Maintenance, total cost to be \$103,750, cost of \$20,750.00 to be spread each year over a five- (5) year period for a cost per property owner of \$2,075 with a per year cost of approximately \$415.00. Dollar amount will be placed on the December tax bill without interest.

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

Moved by Kirkpatrick, supported by Engel, **MOTION CARRIED**, to accept and file the Department September Report for Assessing, Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement, Building, Police Monthly Activity Reports for July, August & September, DRC Reports, St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission 10/15/03 Agenda and the Board of County Road Commissioners of St. Clair County 9/16/03 Minutes.

AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Trustee Dr. Kasperowicz: Questioned Police Report as why there are so many break-ins. Deputy Police Chief Don Drake: Could be one individual doing the break-ins, check fingerprints, Police Department making every attempt to find the persons doing the break-ins.

Moved by Kirkpatrick, supported by Turner, **MOTION CARRIED**, to allow any of the Planning Commission members wanting to attend The 2003 Fall Workshop Seminar sponsored by St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission on Wednesday, October 29, 2003. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Dedication Township Meeting Hall and Renovation Plaques: Board reviewed the design with some suggestions: emblem same as in the Board Room, Board of Trustees followed by all seven names, DDA recognition. Consensus is work out a new design and bring back to the Township Board.

**CLAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2003**

Page 3

Motion by Kirkpatrick, supported by Sharrow, **MOTION CARRIED**, to waive the permit fees for sign permit #PPS2003-0013 for the Harsens Island Lions Club Sign to be erected at 1840 Columbine (Brown's Field). AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Moved by Kirkpatrick, supported by Dr. Kasperowicz, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the request from the ML Fire Chief Rick Edler to bring two new trainees on the department: Tony Sarao Jr. and Richard A. Fougie. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Moved by Turner, supported by Kirkpatrick, **MOTION CARRIED**, to accept the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grant awarded to the Mainland Fire Department for the match money of \$4,245.00 to purchase structural and wild land fire fighting gear  
AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Moved by Sharrow, supported by Kirkpatrick, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the cost of \$2,250.00 quoted by Sunset Tile for the labor to install the tile in the Cemetery Mausoleum. AYES: All. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Clerk Pellerito: Explained the situation with the Sign Ordinance, sign needs simple maintenance i.e. painting, repair to broken glass, etc. , sign ordinance does not address this issue, Planning Commission should review the Sign Ordinance re: nonconforming signs, if a sign needs to be painted or simple maintenance done on an existing sign.

Trustee Sharrow: Agree with your thinking, Planning Commission would have to hold a public hearing to amend the Sign Ordinance.

Clerk Pellerito: In the meantime, we can instruct the Building and Zoning Departments if these occurrences are happening should work with the businesses for performing simple maintenance.

Trustee Sharrow: Terms on Boards are expiring 11-15-03, letters sent to these members asking for their response.

Questioned donations made to the St. Clair County Council On Aging, money requests are suppose to come before the Township Board, have never sent out money not approved by this Board.

Water Advisory meeting, Clay did not have any representation there; think we should try to have a representative at these meetings.

Trustee Dr. Kasperowicz: Any update regarding the swale south of Phelps Road?

Supervisor Joseph H. McKoan IV: Not the Township's responsibility to do, County Drain Commissioner.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Paul Bridgman, 7985 Colony Drive: Glad to see all the government students present, like to see them attend the ZBA meetings, hear about those variances and the hardship stories the citizens give.

“Secured Party”: Status on the FEMA flood level.

Clerk Pellerito: Still the same.

“Secured Party”: Champions Auto Ferry update.

Supervisor McKoan IV: Litigation at this point of time, no lawsuit, communication from our lawyer and Champion's representative.

**CLAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2003**

Page 4

Trustee Sharrow: Planning Commission reviewed the site plan for Champion's Ferry four years ago, required fuel storage conditions, not complied with, staging area never presented.

Don LaCombe, 8760 Morrow Road: Questioned Morrow Road paving, who will pay for it, 12 houses on the street between Swartout and Holland, when will cable become available?

Clerk Pellerito: Letter sent to Comcast and requested the General Manager to re-evaluate this situation. Paving on Morrow Road probably next year.

Keith Bockman: The DEQ has awarded to Clay Township a Clean Michigan Initiative Waterfront Redevelopment Grant for Michigan Lighthouses in the amount of \$450,000. Thank you to the Township Board on being a conduit in the SOS efforts to obtain the grant through DEQ, it will become a reality. Thank you one and all for all your help.

John Horvath, Golf Course Road: Lengthy discussion regarding building permit, inspection, Court, why a building permit cannot be issued, records paid for it, etc.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by Kirkpatrick, supported by Turner, **MOTION CARRIED**, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. AYES: all. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Michael P. Pellerito  
Clay Township Clerk

