

**MINUTES OF THE CLAY TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD JULY 18, 2005 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE CLAY TOWNSHIP MEETING HALL, 4710 POINTE TREMBLE ROAD, CLAY TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN 48001.**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Jon Manos, Clerk Michael Pellerito, Treasurer Connie Turner, Trustee Patricia Sharrow, Trustee John Makuch, Trustee Jay DeBoyer, Trustee David Dare.

**ABSENT:** None

**CITIZENS PRESENT:** Approximately 12

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:** None

**APPROVAL OF CLAY TOWNSHIP JULY 5, 2005 MINUTES AND SYNOPSIS:**

**Motion** by Turner, supported by Makuch, to approve the July 5, 2005 Board Meeting minutes and synopsis.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE:**

**Motion** by Turner, supported by Dare, to approve the 2004/2005 bills payable in the amount of \$30,176.24 and the 2005/2006 bills payable in the amount of \$86,318.35 for a total of \$116,494.59.

Sharrow: For ML Fire Department, "I Design" in the amount of \$435.00?

Pellerito: Lettering on the Fireboat.

Sharrow: Police, "Auburn Hills Campus", \$975.00?

Pellerito: Dispatch training, covered by Grant.

Sharrow: Harsens Island Fire Department, "W.S. Darley", \$158.90?

Pellerito: Carbide Chain.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

**AYES:** Sharrow, Makuch, Turner, Pellerito, DeBoyer, Dare, Manos

**NAYES:** None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PETITIONS:** None

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

June 30, 2005, thank you to Michael Pellerito for participating in Flag Day ceremony, Algonac/Clay Historical Society.

Manos: Received a fax from Senator Gilbert, Soil & Sedimentation bill passed, there are some changes in the law. Will post for citizens to read. Thank you to Senator Gilbert.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Letterhead Logo:

**Motion** by Pellerito, supported by Sharrow, to use the same logo as on the wall on our letterhead.

Sharrow: Received no calls from public.

**AYES:** All

**NAYES:** None

**MOTION CARRIED**

2. Assessor's Request to attend BS&A Classes:

**Motion** by Pellerito, supported by Makuch to deny Assessor class request.

Makuch: If this is not in the scheduled training can come back for approval.

Pellerito: Asking for Level IV class, our Assessor is a level III.

**AYES:** All

**NAYES:** None

**MOTION CARRIED**

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

Norman Rhodes, 3206 South Channel, Harsens Island: Comment on #4, what are the current franchise fees collected? Not in favor of Franchise fees for school, School Board has their own resources without the Township doing their bidding.

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### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Water Warriors Proclamation:

**Motion** by Makuch, supported by Sharrow, to approve proclamation declaring July 25<sup>th</sup> through July 29, 2005 as "Water Warriors Week".

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

2. Clerk Grant application Resolution:

**Motion** by Sharrow, supported by Dare, to approve the resolution authorizing the Clerk to apply for this Grant to purchase optical scan voting machines and related Election Management System software to comply with HAVA.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Makuch, Turner, Pellerito, DeBoyer, Dare, Sharrow, Manos

MOTION CARRIED

3. BS&A proposals:

Turner: If purchase all the software for all of our applications, cost of \$50,155.00, can be paid over two years. For General Ledger, Accounts Payable, Cash Receipting, and Payroll, with a 10% discount, cost is \$37,700.00, including \$18,000.00 for training.

Sharrow: On Payroll, does that mean no longer use a company?

Turner: Yes

Sharrow: What about the water bills?

Pellerito: Everything, intention is to become self-sufficient.

Turner: Don't need printer.

Sharrow: Only named four items, will have Utility Billing and Cemetery?

Turner: If we purchase all of it. BS&A suggested those four items if we didn't want to purchase all of it now.

Sharrow: How much did we budget for it this year?

Turner: \$30,000.00. Will charge \$1,000.00 to transfer fund accounting system over into the new software.

Sharrow: What about delinquent personal property and special assessments?

Turner: All included in the \$50,155.00.

Sharrow: Think if you're going to do it, do it all and pay it over two years.

Pellerito: More to it, printers, additional data transfer charges from Port Huron

Turner: BS&A don't need Port Huron for the General Ledger.

Pellerito: History?

Turner: Will pick cut off date, have from old system up to a certain date and the new system from that point on.

Pellerito: Three years from cutoff date, where stored?

Turner: Will have hard copies. To have it put on system is expensive.

Sharrow: Any chance we could have these people here to answer our questions? What would the cost be for three years of history?

Turner: Didn't ask.

DeBoyer: Can we get these people here to a meeting?

Manos: Have the auditing firm who give us comparable back years. Can split it for two years, have road fund didn't use for Genaw.

Makuch: Purpose is to break away from Port Huron, what do we have to do to do that?

Sharrow: Hate to see the money for Genaw Road not used for roads.

Manos: Need to make a decision now as to whether we want to approve this amount and then deal with the printers, etc.

Sharrow: Postpone and come back with figures for printer, etc; and either get BS&A here to answer questions or Connie get a price for three years history, the most expensive scenario including everything.

**Motion** by Sharrow, supported by Dare, to postpone the decision and bring it back with figures for everything.

Pellerito: Network has to be changed too.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

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4. Algonac High School letter regarding Franchise Committee:

Makuch: Agree with Mr. Rhodes; don't add to franchise fee for the school. If we want to use money now collected okay, but no additional.

Sharrow: Agree, Comcast would just charge it back to the customers. Do think should meet with School representative to discuss and see what can be done.

**Motion** by Sharrow, supported by DeBoyer, definitely not in favor of raising any fee to our residents, would meet with school representative and city.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Manos: Been contacted by citizens in regard to Senior Citizen rate on Basic as some other communities do. When we meet with Comcast to negotiate will bring that up.

5. June 2005 reports:

**Motion** by Makuch, supported by Turner, to receive and file the June 2005 reports for:

Algonac/Clay Library, Building Dept. DRC, ML Fire Dept, Planning & Zoning, Planning Commission, Police Dept, Township Road & Bridges Advisory Committee and Water Dept.

Makuch: Read in the DRC report, #3 that C. Michel questioned Director about programs and money, said sent by Township and City officials. Who authorized C. Michel to go and represent this Board? Request Mr. Manos to write to Mr. Michel telling him he is not to represent me as a Township Official and copy it to Mr. McNamee.

DeBoyer: Agree, the Director summed it up properly, have an open relationship with us to come to us if there is an issue. I will contact some of the people at the City and ask if they asked Mr. Michel to contact her.

Manos: There are always two sides and Mr. Michel is not here.

DeBoyer: DRC Director does not answer to him, answers to this Board.

Manos: Will inform him.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

6. MTA Fall District Meeting:

Manos: Meeting will be in St. Clair County on September 20, 2005

**Motion** by Pellerito, supported by DeBoyer, to allow any Board Member who wishes to attend the MTA Fall District Meeting.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

7. Water Dept request to order part:

**Motion** by Pellerito, supported by Sharrow, to allow the Water Department Superintendent to purchase a cutter valve assembly from Jack Doheney, Inc. in the amount of \$1,465.00 out of General Fund because this is used for Road Maintenance.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

8. Demolition of Abandoned Building of Tax-Reverted Properties Resolution:

**Motion** by Pellerito, supported by Makuch, to adopt the Resolution for the Demolition of Abandoned Buildings or Structures of Tax-Reverted Properties under the jurisdiction of the Department of Natural Resources, being Parcel number 74-14-847-0420-000.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Turner, Pellerito, DeBoyer, Dare, Sharrow, Makuch, Manos

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

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### 9. FEMA:

Manos: Meeting in Port Huron on Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 4 p.m. in the County Commissioners meeting hall to discuss their new program of digital mapping and elevations will come into play. Representative Miller and Senator Gilbert were not notified by FEMA, we did not notify them. We do not want to see any changes in the flood elevation. We will find out what their next step will be.

### BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Pellerito: DRC Director's contract has a clause that says there will be a \$500.00 contribution made to a Public Employee deferred compensation program, formerly Pepsco now Nationwide Retirement Solutions. In last two contracts the City of Algonac, who was handling the payroll up until approximately 18 months ago, have made no deposits into such deferred accounts. We handle the Blue Cross, Life Insurance and accounting. Asking Supervisor to send a letter to Chris Wilson, Algonac City Manager, requesting that they immediately make whole on the last five years.

Turner: Councilman Wisdom was in Friday, wanted to see proof in writing, gave a copy of the contract. If have to pay back portion will, would like to see a change because shouldn't be City of Algonac's responsibility to pay her retirement

Pellerito: Don't think it is the City's responsibility, I think it is a mutual responsibility, paid by both communities. Reason contract said City would pay; they did the payroll. Don't understand what happened when all her predecessors had it.

Turner: Received a call from Kerry Gray of the Emerald Ash Borer Restoration, will meet on the 28<sup>th</sup> to fill out Grant application. Also talked to Tracy Jubinville who said they would be cutting more trees from September to December, these are trapped trees that they purposely stressed to see what's going on with them. Said we do qualify for the whole grant. This is a grant to replace trees. Would like to have citizens form a committee.

Pellerito: Get it to Channel 6 requesting any citizens that were affected by the Emerald Ash Borer cutting apply.

Turner: They can take charge of it; get with the nursery that keeps the inventory.

Makuch: How much is the Grant?

Turner: \$20,000.00 and we match \$20,000.00.

Sharrow: Ron Pinson asked to come before the Board and ask for support to build a fort in the State Park back near the dredge cut. Need permission from the State. He and a group of re-inactors would like to build a replica of Fort Sinclair that was on the Pine River in St. Clair. Would take about 150 X 150 feet. Re-inactors would come from all over country and do programs. Would want a letter of support.

Turner: Believe he's applying for a grant.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Rocco Prinzivali, 9938 N. River Rd: Challenged Sharrow comment about 2,000 leaving Harsens Island to go south each year. Comments on speedboats on DDA banners. Questioned Makuch on issue of typo in insurance letter. Questioned DeBoyer on "apples to apples" in regard to insurance proposals. Comments on cable fees. Questioned City of Algonac letter notice of pulling out of DRC. Taxes sent to Township.

Manos: Not going to get into back and forth stuff. Township does not get all the tax money, operates on 6/10 of a mill, the County and school get most. You are welcome to make a comment but don't want to get into personal attacks, Board members don't have to answer questions, they listen to your comments, it is not public debate. MTA says the Board has the right to set time limits so one person doesn't take up all the time. Always welcome to make comments, not engage Board members.

Norman Rhodes, 3206 South Channel Drive, Harsens Island: All letterhead, business cards, etc. now printed in full color with logo? The FEMA meeting this Wednesday, is it a public meeting?

Manos: Yes, meeting is in Commissioners room.

Rhodes: Tomorrow night there is a Harsens Island Transportation Authority Meeting at the Lions Club at 7:00 p.m. to talk about the bridge.

Whitey Simon, 4722 Green Drive, Harsens Island: Harsens Island St. Clair Flats Association will have Field Day August 6<sup>th</sup>, 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. when concession and liquid refreshment stands close. Everyone invited. Getting phone calls about high weeds, rumors Township allowed noxious weed ordinance to lapse.

Pellerito: No, still in place, have to define noxious weeds.

Manos: Have an ordinance regarding obstructing the view of traffic.

Dare: Agree need to do something about weeds around here, creates mosquito problems.

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Cindy Babisz, DRC Director: We have the Michigander Bike Tour coming Friday; will finish in Algonac, expecting 550 riders.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Makuch, supported by DeBoyer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Michael P. Pellerito  
Clay Township Clerk