

Minutes of the Clay Township Regular Board Meeting Held Monday January 5, 2009 in the Clay Township Meeting Hall, 4710 Pointe Tremble Road, Clay Township, Michigan

Supervisor Jay DeBoyer called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Supervisor Jay DeBoyer, Clerk Lisa White, Treasurer Connie Turner, Trustee Thomas Krueger, Trustee John Makuch, Trustee John M. Horvath, Trustee Joanne Shirkey

ABSENT: None

Citizens: 15

BILLS PAYABLE

Motion by Turner, supported by Krueger, to pay the bills in the amount of \$26,803.43

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Shirkey, DeBoyer, Turner, Horvath, Makuch, Krueger, White

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Makuch, supported by Shirkey, to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

1. Harsens Island fire Department Snow Plowing

DeBoyer: Spoke with Water Department Supervisor about this. Expressed that he believes best to stay with someone on the Island, in the event of an ice jam or something that they can't get over there immediately. Dollar for dollar didn't seem much difference.

Motion by Makuch, supported by Turner, to award the bid to DSL Maintenance

Krueger: Do we get insurance certificates?

Motion amended by Makuch, supported by Turner, to require the appropriate insurance certificates

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATING TO ANY NEW BUSINESS

K. Allen, 6080 Middle Channel Dr: Relating to #5. Breakdown between Fire Chief and myself. Been before Board for one year; have submitted bill for work done, not been paid.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Harsens Island Fire Department Budget Amendment

Turner: Amended the budget, \$1,500 from Gas/Oil to Education & Training

Motion by Makuch, supported by Shirkey, to approve amending the Harsens Island Fire Department budget moving \$1,500 from Gas/Oil to Education & Training

DeBoyer: This is just a shift of dollars; it doesn't change the bottom line budget.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

2. Representative to the Algonac/Clay Community Foundation Board

DeBoyer: I would be interested in that position if the Board wishes. Part of the Charter is that we have a Board Rep on that Board so we can have a say on how the dollars are distributed.

Motion by Makuch, supported by Krueger, to appoint Supervisor Jay DeBoyer to the Algonac/Clay Community Foundation Board

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

3. Mainland Fire Department Request for EMT Classes

Motion by Turner, supported by Makuch, to approve David Decaussin and Eric Vanbelle to attend Basic EMT course at a cost of \$900 each at Ira Township Fire Department.

Krueger: Has been a policy in the past that if they do not stay for two (2) years they have to reimburse us.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

4. Water Department Request for Inserta Valves

Water Department Superintendent: Had to shut the water off to Harsens Island again over the Christmas Break. I am proposing putting a couple valves in to eliminate the problem for any breaks that occur between Nook Road and the City limits. If we get a break in that section it shuts off the feed to Harsens Island, I contacted a couple companies and CPI is the company I recommend, he is local and only a couple who do this in the state and his price is good. He actually cuts the water main under pressure, inserts the valves, eliminates shut down, and the requirements to open the pipe up and chlorinate the pipe. He will probably do everything that has to be done in a 6 to 8 hour day and eliminate that problem in the future.

DeBoyer: This was discussed by the past Board and have had two breaks in the past two years. Think it is worth the \$8,700.

Shirkey: This estimate is dated 11/01/2007, is it still good?

Jon DeBoyer: It is still good. We talked about this to the previous Board but it never proceeded to this point. Talked to company and they sent out a new quote that is the same price, different date.

Horvath: This is for both valves?

Jon: Yes, I talked to him today and verified that.

Shirkey: When will this take place?

Jon: As soon as possible.

Horvath: How long?

Jon: In a day

Krueger: Two questions; one, is there any downside to this? Do the valves weaken the line and what is the life span?

Jon: It will not weaken the line and typically they last several decades.

Krueger: Do we have it in the budget?

Jon: Talked to Connie, there are a couple line items we can pull this out of so, yes we can pay this.

Krueger: Why wasn't it done before?

Jon: Think originally an oversight, the Islands been on line seven years and we have had a couple breaks and had to shut down the Island and is now something we have paid attention to, there was some discussion with the previous administration but it never proceeded, partially my fault probably.

Motion by Turner, supported by Makuch, to approve the \$8,700 and allow CPI Contracting to install these two valves.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

5. Discussion of Harsens Island Fire Department

DeBoyer: You are all in receipt of what I sent to Chief DuPage. We have \$3,200 in invoices. I have check previous Board minutes; there was no request or approval of these invoices.

Krueger: Haven't had opportunity to talk to Chief. Three blocks of items; one, payment for equipment and I think we have asked to find the equipment and return it.

DeBoyer: I asked, is this indeed loaned to the department and if that is true then should return it. As of right now I don't have a definite answer. Don't want to speak on Chief's behalf, there is a structure fire on Harsens Island and he can't be here.

Makuch: We have a letter dated November 5th requesting payment for a number of items, that total amount is \$7,348 and then we have another issue regarding status. I feel those are two separate issues.

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Motion by Makuch, supported by Horvath, to deny payment of the requests of Kevin Allen in the letter dated November 5, 2008.

Krueger: Do we know Chief DuPage's position?

DeBoyer: My conversation with him, I wish he was here, he indicated these were not anticipated bills. We have a policy that says expenditures exceeding a specific amount must be approved. These were not requested for approval or approved and think we would be setting a very bad precedent by allowing an invoice to be submitted, one, that we would even entertain, that was not requested or approved and two, approving them.

Krueger: Agree 100% but on the other side of the coin, if you are sure that the Chief said these bills were not anticipated and they were not approved and this should not be paid then it shouldn't even be here.

DeBoyer: Without the Chief being here to clarify this, we did not approve these expenditures.

Horvath: I'm new at this but this has not been before this Board. Don't seem there is much validity to this only because of procedure; it wasn't done as should be done.

DeBoyer: Don't think done properly and based on my conversations with the Chief don't know that it was ever expected to be invoiced.

White: Don't want to speak for the Chief either, but don't think it was ever agreed to as a job to be paid. I was there; Kevin volunteered all the time to do stuff. It was a shock when we saw the bills.

Makuch: Will say as Fire Commissioner during that time Kevin has done a lot of work for the department but it was made very clear that payment for work done on the DNR truck is a volunteer position and not to be paid and it was made very clear.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Makuch, White, DeBoyer, Turner, Horvath, Shirkey

NAYES: Krueger

MOTION CARRIED

6. Request for Board of Review Training

Motion by Turner, supported by Makuch, to allow the three Board of Review members to attend the training and purchase the current book for a total cost of \$241.50

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

C. Miller, 5178 Green Dr: Comments about the water main break and the First Alert System

DeBoyer: Was at the break, there was not infiltration, able to keep it throttled up and in fact it never appeared to be any infiltration, boil water was precautionary. Talked to Jeff Friedland who's the Emergency Manager around noon.

Chief Drake: Talked to Jeff and they are coming down Thursday to give us a class at one o'clock. Then my Dispatchers will be able to put out the information themselves. Being told that they are going to do away with, but not sure on this, that are going to do away with Select Work. I will find that out. Also the reverse 911; we're in the mix for that. There are some programs the County is trying to put together. No one in the County has reverse 911. If they do get it we will be on board and we will be able to sector off and dial.

Makuch: Asked Mr. Miller how contacted through County

Miller: On my cell phone and by email.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Shirkey: Information in Capital Currents saying should contact our Senator about the stimulus package. Think it would be to our advantage to do that.

DeBoyer: Spoke with our engineer Jeff Horner and he took upon himself to look at infrastructures issues in the Township so we can be ready for that. We can actually be submitting to them and be first in line.

Shirkey: It also says to encourage our Senators to reinstate the General Revenue Sharing Program, which brings money back to us. Can we do something as a Board?

Makuch: Lot of programs we have to be shovel ready.

Shirkey: That could be as long as three years.

Turner: Explained the Banks investments and asked for direction from the Board. CD has matured; bank has a promotional CD that pays 4.32%. If go with SARS account would get 2.25% for 55 months. If we have to withdraw from the CD there is no penalty. The bank administers it for us and we get a monthly statement.
General discussion by the Board of the pros and cons. General consensus is to keep Township money safe.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Makuch, supported by Krueger, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Lisa M. White
Clay Township Clerk

Prepared by:
Dorothy DeBoyer
Deputy Clerk