

Minutes of the Clay Township Regular Board Meeting Held Monday August 17, 2009 in the Clay Township Meeting Hall, 4710 Pointe Tremble Road, Clay Township, Michigan

Supervisor Jay DeBoyer opened the Board meeting at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: None

Citizens: 25

BILLS PAYABLE

Motion by Turner, supported by Krueger, to pay the bills in the amount of \$166,930.43

Makuch: Mainland Fire Department last two items and Water Department vendor Fifth Third?

White: Things purchased on Credit Card

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Makuch, supported by Krueger, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the reading of the communications

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Clerk White read the letter from the Council on Aging thanking Clay Township for their donation to the Cherry Beach Senior Center

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Health Insurance Coordinator

DeBoyer: At the last meeting this was discussed and moved to the next meeting.

Krueger: Last meeting asked if Robbins Group would do an actuary computation and other things Burnham & Flowers will do for us. Connie told me they responded with a list.

White: This is a short list of what they are able to do for the annual admin fees. Actuary not there.

Krueger: They are charging us \$2592.00 to do what's on the list. Based on that I say Burnham & Flower is the best deal. Do like the Robbins Group self-insurance program they have but can't get past the \$11,000.00 swing in fees.

DeBoyer: That is total savings, there are no fees. They are not \$11,000.00 more, it is \$2,592.00 difference

Krueger: No, GADSBY 45 is going to require us to an actuarial computation and that will come out our pocket with Robbins.

DeBoyer: Likely, we did discuss if we decide to go with them we would go to them and ask if they would do this, this and this rather than asking before.

Krueger: Some of the things being provided will probably not come to pass such as the PA106, Union negotiations those are opportunity costs. Believe the administration of the Section 125 including probably the filing and the GADSBY is a definite cost and \$1,000.00 for COBRA conservation, Robbins is charging us and Burnham & Flower is not so there is quite a swing.

Motion by Krueger, supported by Makuch, that the Board appoint Burnham & Flower as the Health Insurance Coordinator for Clay Township

Krueger: We're worried about the fact we can't build up any experience history, even though with HIPA laws you can't get that information even the insurance company can't. I believe we can get the total cost.

DeBoyer: Can't get the history per individual, can get the total group history.

Krueger: Can collect the data by just asking the employees. I thing if at some time we decide to go to Robbins Group those numbers will be available.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT RELATING TO ANY NEW BUSINESS

None

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DeBoyer: Would like to amend the agenda to add #9 under New Business, MTA Conference
Motion by Shirkey, supported by Horvath, to amend the agenda adding #9, MTA Conference,
TGA Weekender

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution #2 – Aquatic Management Special Assessment Resolution to Proceed

DeBoyer: As well as Resolution #3

Makuch: Have treated our canal for 15 years, there are very strict regulations. Chemicals used
are basically same as what you put on your lawn. Wouldn't let them use Navigate with the
extended restrictions. We are here just to facilitate.

Motion by Makuch, supported by Shirkey, to approve resolution #2 the Aquatic Management
Special Assessment Resolution to proceed, and Resolution #3 to set the Public Hearing for
September 8 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

2. City of Algonac Invoice for Library

Motion by Turner, supported by Krueger, to make a \$5,000.00 contribution to the Algonac/Clay
Library.

Horvath: Is this our annual contribution?

DeBoyer: Yes it is, this is one of the best Libraries in the system

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

3. Resolution to Set Police Special Assessment for 2009

Motion by Turner, supported by Makuch, to set the resolution for Clay Township Police for
2009 at 4.35 mills and the estimated taxable amount is \$2,139,547.43 and it is the same as last
year.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

4. Resolution to Set Fire District Assessment for 2009

Motion by Turner, supported by Shirkey, to set the resolution for the Clay Township Fire
District for 2009 at 1.125 mils and the estimated taxable amount is \$553,331.00

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

5. Resolution to Set Garbage Special Assessment for 2009

Motion by Makuch, supported by Krueger, to approve the resolution for special assessment for
garbage and refuse removal not to exceed \$109.00 per year

DeBoyer: This is unchanged from last year

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

6. Building Administrator Request for SEMBOIA Reimbursement

Motion by Turner, supported by Krueger, to reimburse Mike Kras \$60.00 for the SEMBOIA membership

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

7. America's Town Meeting

Motion by Shirkey, supported by Makuch, to approve the Supervisor to attend the America's Town Meeting in Washington, D.C. for a total amount of \$1,340.00 including transportation, lodging and the conference

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

8. Discussion of Russell Island Roads

DeBoyer: Had opportunity to spend talking with Russell Island Homeowners Association president, Bill Moosekian and something we haven't done as a Board is participate in any of their expense on the maintenance of their roads. We know there are no vehicles on Russell Island but they do have golf carts. Have spoken with Chief Drake and the Fire Chief and we do go over there when an emergency. They pay roughly \$4,000.00 to the General operating fund of the Township, which is the portion of the budget that we pull our money out of that we contribute to road matches, etc. They contribute quite a bit to road maintenance there, thousands, and asked if any chance the Board would contribute, even if it was just \$1,000.00. They could contribute their funds back to us that they spend and could go to the County if there was match dollars. Could turn \$4,000.00 or \$5,000.00 into maybe \$10,000.00. County will sell gravel at their cost.

Horvath: Can do this modestly to begin with?

Krueger: How much do they spend on their roads?

DeBoyer: This year they are going to spend about \$6,000.00, have spent as much as \$20,000.00

Horvath: If we make a donation its strictly a donation, doesn't give us any other rights other than the fire truck occasionally use it.

DeBoyer: Won't really be a donation, it will be match funds, could earmark \$1,000.00 out of this budget that would be contributed from General, as we do to contribute to all the roads on the mainland and Harsens Island. They do contribute to the General Fund

Shirkey: They deserve something.

Motion by Horvath, supported by Makuch, to put the \$1,000.00 there.

Horvath: Want to see how this is going to work, don't want it cast in iron where they say last year you gave \$1,000.00; maybe next year maybe it will be \$200.00

DeBoyer: Would like to see it as a budget item and we would address it at a budget workshop annually and see if it is being maintained properly.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

9. TGA Weekender Conference

Shirkey: In order to get in for the early bird registration; it's a couple classes, I would like to attend the one that's called "Meeting Township Needs", it's for funding options, etc. and a Planning Commissioner expressed a desire to go to the next class, the Land Use class, asking that the Board approve this so we can get in. It would be \$125.00 for each class, one for her and one for me or any other board members that so desire to go. **That's my motion.** Supported by Makuch.

DeBoyer: That's ZBA, Planning or any board members

Horvath: Is there a deadline

Shirkey: Early bird has to be received by September 4th.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

P. Holcomb, N. River Road: Comments of Fire Department pay and policy

N. Templeton, 2590 South Channel: Complaints on Building Administrator

L. Paquette, 49380 Bay Lane, Chesterfield Twp: Complaint on Building Administrator and Attorney

N. Sarzynski, Venice: Comments on court cases

N. Rhodes 3206 South Channel: Comments on Building Administrator and Attorney

H. Mikolowski, 5472 Middle Channel: Comments on court actions and employee action

J. Decaussin, 2928 Fruit St: Comments on Fire Department actions

H. Decaussin, 2928 Fruit St: Comments on Fire Department personnel

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Makuch: Frustrated by people's ability to say whatever they want

Shirkey: Questioned meetings on Harsens Island, anything looked into?

DeBoyer: Not yet. Maybe one every quarter

Shirkey: Can we get anyone to video them?

DeBoyer: Lisa will look into it. Would have to amend the resolution setting the meeting location

Horvath: Can we put it on the agenda?

Makuch: When are we going to look at budgets?

DeBoyer: October, between the end of the first quarter and the end of the second quarter, they are completing the audit now.

Krueger: We're going to have to review it; because everything says tax collections are going down at the State level, which is going to impact what we get. Don't know if legislation that is out there that would affect the taxable values could also impact us. Good thing, maybe after the first of the year.

DeBoyer: We should know by October what the Michigan State budget will be when it comes to revenue sharing dollars.

Krueger: We listened to everyone tonight and we will do something but, like to remind everyone that whatever you do at the Township level, whenever you're in some position of authority, the Police Chief, the Fire Chief, the Assessor, the Building Inspector, all of us up here, we know all the decisions we make aren't going to be agreeable to everybody. But we don't act just through innuendo, we get the facts, we make the decisions as do all the people I mentioned, so please give us time to respond to everything presented tonight. If there is a problem I assure you we are going to address it.

Horvath: All of a sudden it seems we are the salvation. This is the first time I have heard any complaints. All of a sudden we get all of the comments. We will look into it.

DeBoyer: Obviously we take the shots most of the time, that's why we're here. I have a lot of discussions with Mike and how we want to change how we do enforcements in this Township, the things that are a big deal and the things that are not a big deal. It is an ever-changing thing, will always have complaints. Rest assured we will look into it.

Have given the Board a handout on the public hearings; have been doing them out of what the State requires. The public hearings are to be in the body of the meeting so that is what we will be doing. That way if you didn't know about the public hearing and you come to the Board Meeting you don't show up as we're closing a public hearing.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Horvath, supported by Makuch, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Lisa M. White
Clay Township Clerk

Prepared by
Dorothy DeBoyer
Deputy Clerk