

**ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2015, 9 A.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by Supervisor David Meister.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members present: James Wisniski, Robert Blackmore, LaVonne Beebe, Helen Mathieu.

**MINUTES: Motion** by Wisniski, second by Beebe to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2015 Regular Meeting with the following correction: Under Barth-Ascom Phones add to roll call vote: "Wisniski, yes". Motion carried. **Motion** by Wisniski, second by Blackmore to approve the minutes of the May 11 Special Meeting with the following corrections to: 1. Millage Renewal Proposition; 2. Beckett & Raeder; 3. Jeff Jocks. Motion carried.

1. **PUBLIC ROAD CONSTRUCTION,  
REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE  
MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSITION**

Shall the tax limitation on general ad valorem taxes within Onekama Township imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution be increased for said Township by one mill (\$1.00 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for the period of 2016 through 2020, inclusive for the purpose of constructing, improving, maintaining and repairing certain gravel and paved public roads within Onekama Township, and shall the Township levy such increase in millage for said purpose, thereby, raising in the first year an estimated \$149,750.00?

2. Beckett & Raeder: To sentence ending "for amount of \$43,300 as a fixed fee", add "in regard to project engineering for the Langland Park Project as part of the Explore the Shores".
3. Jeff Jocks: Add "west" before the words "sand dune".

**CLERK'S REPORT:** Clerk presented the 2015 Tax Rate Request. Meister signed the Form L 4029 document for Millage Requested to be levied Dec. 1 as follows: Operating-1.4959; Fire Department-0.9973; Roads-0.9973. She requested and received approval to run an ad seeking a deputy clerk.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Beebe reported the General Fund balance as of May, 2015 is \$401,161.25; balance in the Fire Fund as of May, 2015 is \$231,630.19

**AMEND AGENDA:** Add South Pier and Dumpsters under New Business.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**COMMISSIONER JEFF DONTZ:** Manistee County Commissioner Dontz reported the Manistee County audit received was unmodified, which he said is good. William Bell was added to the Airport Authority. District 10 Health Department is the third health department in the state to be accredited. The Summit Meeting is Sept. 17 in Wellston.

**COMMISSIONER KEN HILLIARD:** The commissioners have asked the Library Board for more information on the library project.

**PAR PLAN-ADAM GANDOLFI:** Gandolfi, Regional Risk Manager of the Municipal Underwriters of Michigan, (PAR PLAN), presented and reviewed the township plan and coverage. He pointed out Par Plan has a grant program available for continued township participation.

**ROADS/MARK SOHLDEN:** County Road Commission Manager Mark Sohlden presented a summary with three options for construction cost estimates for Erdman Road Resurfacing. After discussion the board chose Option #1 of resurfacing three intermittent locations from Onekama Village Limits to 11 Mile Road (1.696 mile total length). **Motion** by Beebe, second by Blackmore to accept Erdman Road Option # 1, at a total cost of \$532,000, recognizing that both estimated matching amounts may change. Roll call vote: Helen Mathieu, yes; LaVonne Beebe, yes; James Wisniski, yes; Robert Blackmore, yes; David Meister, yes. Motion carried.

Meister received a letter from Township Attorney Tom Grier regarding road millage. Grier said it is not permissible for the Township to convey its road millage revenue to the Village under the current arrangement. Comments on the issue were received from Onekama Village Councilman Rudy Milasich.

Wisniski reported that the county road workers are now on four- 10 hour days through the summer months.

**FIRE/RESCUE:** Capt. Clinton Osborn reported 7 fire runs, 4 JAWS runs, 18 rescues and 2 meetings for the month of May. There was a good turnout for the North Flight Helicopter Landing Zone training at Onekama High School practice field. The township did not receive any grants from the Revenue Sharing Board. Deadline for Cycle 2 is Sept. 4. Osborn will fill out a grant application for a DNR-VFA 50/50 grant. Deadline is June 20.

Bryson Waller passed his Fire Fighter I and II practical exams.

Apollo Fire presented a JAWS demonstration which included trying out the newest Hurst JAWS tools.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** Planning Commission Chairman Jim Trout reported on the public hearing on a "No Wake Zone" proposal. He said the DNR does not have a "No Wake Zone". It has a "Safety Zone", which means that any boat or any boat towing a person has to be 100 feet from the shore or a dock. Planning Commission Trout said input from the public at the hearing was to deal with the 100 foot rule in place now, and leave it at that. Trout said final action will be taken at the commission's July meeting.

**BOARD OF REVIEW:** Assessor Ginny Martz reported the database with the latest principle residence exemption updates will be submitted electronically to Equalization today (June 2). Qualifying affidavits received after June 2 will be acted on during the July 21 Board of Review. All deeds, transfer affidavits and PRE and rescind affidavits have been processed.

There was a slight increase in county multipliers. Residential ranges increased from .72 % to 1.48%. Commercial ranges increased from .75 % to 2.19%.

Martz received an exemption appeal for the Michigan Tax Tribunal to which she will respond this week.

Field inspections have started; pictures have been attached. Cards have not been updated in the computer.

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:** Chairman Tom Gerhardt reported no activity.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Mary Lou Millard reported for Zoning Administrator Kris Philpot: Two Land Use Permits and a Renewal of a Land Use Permit were issued for the month of May.

**PARKS & RECREATION:** Vice Chairman Mary Lou Millard reported: Twenty-eight people attended the Arbor Day Celebration at North Point Park on May 9, 2015, organized by the Tree Subcommittee of Parks and Recreation. Josh Shields, Outreach Forester of the Manistee Conservation District, presented a demonstration on tree planting. Other information on invasive plants, tree diseases and exhibits was provided by the Portage Lake Watershed Forever. Shields will join the group and Jason Sievert Monday, June 15 at 10 a.m. to inspect Glen Park to establish goals and projects.

The Pierhead Light Dedication is Sunday, July 5 at 10 p.m. at the DNR site.

Parks Appreciation Day is Saturday, Aug. 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Shields will lead a nature walk through Glen Park that day at 10 a.m. "Sharks in the Parks" will also be held that day from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Baskets with trinkets will be placed along trails or on park lands. There will be eight parks to visit, with refreshments at North Point Park. Other activities planned that day include Wiffleball, Pickleball and possibly a shuffleboard contest at Portage Point Inn.

Mary Reed reported the County-Wide Parks and Recreation Committee has scheduled several public meetings this summer in six different areas to receive input on a County-Wide Parks and Recreation Trail Plan. Schedules are posted throughout the community.

**MTA:** Wisniski reported 74 people attended the annual MTA Manistee County Chapter Dinner at Bear Lake United Methodist Church. MTA Executive Larry Merrill gave an overview on Michigan township issues. Doug Mansfield, District 8 Liaison for MTA, addressed local government. Fourteen townships were represented.

**PORTAGE LAKE HARBOR COMMISSION:** Minutes of April 30, 2015 meeting were received. The minutes indicated Doug Callaway provided elevation drawings for a proposed fish cleaning station at the Andy's Point DNR launch site, which are subject to review and approval by the Township Board, and then approval by the DNR. Chuck May attended the Stakeholders meeting with the Army Corps for the Small Harbors. The next Harbor Commission meeting is Thursday, June 25.

**INVASIVE SPECIES:** Chairman Mary Reed reported Bre Grabil of Professional Lake Management will be pulling plants from Portage Lake for the Grant Study with Michigan Tech. Only 15 lakes are being sampled and Portage Lake is one of them. Tentative dates for lake surveys, water quality testing and treatments of Eurasian Water Milfoil have been sent to all lakeshore residents. The committee plans to meet after the first survey, which is tentatively scheduled for June 15. The PLM Newsletter is posted on the Portage Lake Watershed website, found under the Invasive Species section.

**ALLIANCE FOR ECONOMIC SUCCESS:** Meister said the AES will be a sponsor for the M-22 Heritage Trail. The AES is also assisting with the Langland Park project.

**PLA:** President Al Taylor reported the group's fund-raiser is June 27; petunias have been planted; summer concerts are scheduled.

Meister left the meeting at 12:03 p.m. Blackmore conducted the meeting.

Meister returned at 12:07 p.m.

**WATERSHED:** Chairman Mary Reed said the group partnered with others and provided publicity for Manistee Conservation District for a May Day Cleanup, Onekama Village and Township Parks and Recreation Committee for Arbor Day Celebration, Storm Drain Labeling Project. The public will be invited to an “Only Rain Down the Drain” program by Rob Carson on Thursday, July 9. The group received permission from the Village and MDOT to put storm drain markers on various village drains to caution against putting anything but water down the storm drains. Reed and others from the committee attended several Watershed meetings including Manistee Conservation District Board, Greater Bear Watershed, Benzie County Watershed Coalition, Arcadia Watershed Kiosk Dedication. She also met with PLWF student Braden Hagen to discuss student involvement with the watershed.

**OLD FACEFUL:** Meister talked with the property owner, who told Meister that he has no intention of chasing anyone away from the fountain or forbidding anyone to use it.

**ANTICIPATED SEWER PROJECT:** Meister said he will have figures back by the end of June or first part of July and will then have public meetings.

**CEMETERY/ Trees:** Helen asked the board to look at the trees at Bertelson for a decision on trimming, cutting, etc.

**BUILDING/Progress Report:** Blackmore reported the floor tile is in, cabinets should be in Wednesday, project for kitchenette should be done by the end of the month. **Motion** by Mathieu, second by Wisniski to tile the hallway and bathrooms. Motion carried.

**TRASH DAY:** Trash Day is Saturday, June 13 from 9 a.m. to noon. Wisniski reported he has two workers to help at Trash Day.

**SOUTH PIER SIDEWALK:** Consensus of the board to allow Chester Gauthier to drive his lawn equipment and trailer on the sidewalk.

**DUMPSTERS:** The board approved for use June through September: one Porta Potty each for Glen Park, North Point Park and Langland Park (Turn-Around). Also approved was one 90 gallon container each at Northpoint Park and at intersection of Lakeside and Lake Isle; one small dumpster for Langland Park. The board also approved one 90 gallon container each for the township hall and for the fire department, for a year-round weekly pick up.

**BILLS:** **Motion** by Wisniski, second by Blackmore to pay all regular and incoming bills. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

---Manistee Revenue Sharing Board

---DEQ

---County Planning Dept.

---Manistee Conservation District

---Consumers Energy

**ADJOURN:** 12:50 p.m.

Helen Mathieu, Clerk

