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ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING

REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011, 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: Trustee James “Nipper” Wisniski, Treasurer LaVonne Schafer-Beebe, Clerk Helen Mathieu. Absent: Trustee Roland Clement.

MINUTES: Motion by Wisniski, second by Beebe, to accept the minutes of the October 4, 2011 Regular Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOLS: Motion by Beebe, second by Wisniski to pay township’s share of the Safe Route to Schools bill of \$750. Roll call vote: James Wisniski, yes; Helen Mathieu, yes; LaVonne Schafer-Beebe, yes; David Meister, yes. Roland Clement, absent. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Beebe reported as of October 31, 2011 there is a balance of \$432,782.07 in the General Fund, a balance of \$242,000.23 in the Fire Fund.

AMEND AGENDA: Add Evans/Hayes to Unfinished Business.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

COMMISSIONER KEN HILLIARD: Absent.

COMMISSIONER DUANE ANDERSON: Reported the commissioners’ meeting centered on the Wind Energy Ordinance, which was approved 4-3.

FIRE/RESCUE: Chief Lawrence Hrachovina reported 21 pictures of the new fire truck have been received; he and Rob Johnson will go to Alexis, Il. to inspect the truck before it is painted. For the month of October there were 17 rescue runs, 1 run to Brown Township, a meeting to get everyone set up on the Image Trend computer program. There were 10 fire runs, 1 air pack meeting, 1 regular meeting, 2 fire runs to Brown Township, Truck 101 and 103 passed the ladder inspection, Truck 106 has a recall notice and it will be taken in for the correction. Batteries have been installed on the Argo and pen lights have been ordered for the trucks. Bruce Grosso resigned from the department as he is moving out of town. Scott Roberts has finished his FEMA classes and is taking a first responder class. Consensus of the board to order a defibrillator for the township office. Mary Lou Millard was approved to help the fire department organize and file its records.

ONEKAMA COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMISSION: Chairman Jim Trout addressed the board regarding a letter, supported by the commission members, sent to Consultant John Iacoangeli of Beckett & Raeder, Inc. regarding the proposed zoning ordinance. Information in the document is lacking in many issues and questions are unanswered. The commission is awaiting Iacoangeli's reply. Trout will talk with the DNR and Army Corps and Road Commission regarding the possibility of putting up a wall next to the Turn-Around parking lot to keep it intact and make the area more handicapped accessible. He will report to the board in December.

BOARD OF REVIEW/ASSESSOR: Assessor Ginny Martz reported on tax tribunal issues, PRE denial list received and is being checked; field work for new construction is completed; she and Treasurer Beebe created a spreadsheet for the Invasive Species assessment format that is acceptable to the county treasurer. The Board of Review will be Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 9 a.m. in the township hall. The inflation rate multiplier for 2012 is a 2.7 per cent increase in taxable value.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: No activity.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Beebe read Zoning Administrator's report: 4 Land Use Permits issued, 1 other permit pending.

PARKS & RECREATION: Vice Chairman Mary Lou Millard reported: Chairman Dennis Wickstrom resigned, a new chairman and vice chairman will be elected at the November meeting; the committee will meet as needed during the winter months; after viewing several websites this winter, disc golf will be considered for inclusion at North Point Park. A tree sub-committee has been formed as a subcommittee of the Parks & Recreation Committee. Its members are Jon Phillips, Howard Hughes, Herb Lennon, Mary Reed, Don Oswell, Paul Mueller. The committee's purpose shall be to oversee the planting, maintenance and elimination of all trees dying or dead with the park lands of the village and township. The committee presented three recommendations to the board: approve a name for the wetlands; set a time frame for work to be done at Glen Park; approve a resolution to support pursuit of funding for parks.

--- **Motion** by Wisniski, second by Mathieu to name the wetlands area "Portage Wetlands Park". Case #20090053: The wetlands area was purchased from the DNR in August, 2010, and includes 195 undeveloped lots and Outlot 4 except that part Easterly of E Line of Lot 22, Block 2 ext. S. 21d, 19' 15" W to Portage Lake and except that part lyg S 'ly of S line of Sylvan Way St extended E'ly to shore of Portage Lake, Sections 22 and 27, T23N, R16W. Motion carried. Roland Clement was absent.

---Clerk will contact Jason Sievert and ask that the work be completed in Glen Park by July, 2012.

---Resolution to support parks for funding.

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-08

VILLAGE AND TOWNSHIP

COMMUNITY PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Village and Township Community Parks & Recreation Committee has completed and approved a Recreation Plan for the Onekama community that serves as a guide for recreation goals and objectives, facilities and programs; and

WHEREAS, the parks and access sites within the Portage Lake Watershed are of immense significance to the recreational opportunities in the community; and

WHEREAS, with the support of grant funds from the Michigan Coastal Management Program, preliminary designs and engineering concepts have been developed for six of the parks within the Portage Lake Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the process to develop those designs and engineering concepts included opportunities for public input and were completed with the assistance of the firm Beckett & Raeder;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Onekama Parks & Recreation Committee recommends the Onekama Township Board also support the pursuit of funding for the development of these designs and engineering concepts at these parks and look forward to participating fully in efforts to complete the plans once funding for site development and construction is secured.

Signed this 1st day of November, 2011 by _____,
David Meister, Supervisor.

Motion by Beebe, second by Wisniski to support Resolution No. 2011-08. (Village and Township Parks & Recreation Committee). Roll call vote: James Wisniski, yes; Helen Mathieu, yes; LaVonne Schafer-Beebe, yes; David Meister, yes. Absent: Roland Clement. Motion carried.

GERHARDT RECOGNITION: Clerk Mathieu pointed out the impressive photo and design work Parks & Recreation Committee Secretary Tom Gerhardt did on the report of the parks committee's October meeting, and also the photo work he did on the Portage Lake Resort Corporation members' address book.

MTA-Local: Wisniski reported: Sheriff Dale Kowalski said police services in the area will be reduced due to the State Police moving its facilities to Cadillac; Administrator Tom Kaminski gave information on the Nov. 8 millage election; clarification was given on the commissioners' meeting on the Wind Energy Ordinance. The steering committee from the county contracted with Sarah Archer of Iris Waste Diversion Specialist, Inc. for

county recycling. Mary Pitcher will remain as site monitor. The next meeting will be Jan. 18 at Dickson Township.

PORTAGE LAKE HARBOR COMMISSION: Chairman Jim Mrozinski and Dennis Blue will attend the Harbor Collaborative meeting. They are continuing to encourage assurance to make federal funding available for channel dredging.

INVASIVE SPECIES: Chairman Mary Reed reported the committee has received a report from Lakeshore Manager Jennifer Jones of Lakeshore Environmental on the State of the Lake and 2011 Annual Report. The report is in graphic form and is easier to read. It includes water quality data and recommendations and a management plan for 2012. The plan will be finalized in the Spring. Jones is working with the committee, DEQ and an Indiana company on treatment of the Eurasian Water Milfoil, which has moved into depths of 20 feet, requiring a different method of treatment and an Evaluation Permit. After three years of treatment there should be minimal stands of phragmites to treat next year, but other emergent invasives along the shoreline will need to be treated.

ALLIANCE FOR ECONOMIC SUCCESS: News releases submitted and placed on file.

DISINCORPORATION COMMISSION: Meister appointed Dan Behring, Al Taylor and Rosalind Jaffe as the township members on the Disincorporation Commission, with Steve Szilvagy as the alternate.

DISINCORPORATION LEGAL: Discussion centered on the reasons for hiring an outside lawyer with no local connections as the lawyer for the Disincorporation Commission.

WATERSHED COMMITTEE: No report.

BROOKS STREET: Motion by Wisniski, second by Mathieu that the decision of the board is if the project is not completed this fall, it will be finished in the Spring. Motion carried.

ROAD COMMISSION MEETING: Wisniski reported Avenue E needs guard rails yet; commission is reviewing attorney applications; loader repair will cost \$18,000, discussion is ongoing regarding the retaining wall on Portage Point Drive near Angel Slide. The next commission meeting is Nov. 9 at 9 a.m.

PORTAGE LAKE AVE., SUNNYSIDE, LAKEVIEW: Close to closure.

PORTAGE RIDGE UNIT 21, PROP. # 51-11-440-021-00: Resident Carol Lidtke asked what will the township do with this property. Meister said the owners donated it to the township. When all paperwork is completed the township will put it on a website for bidding and will notify the public when it goes up for auction.

BACK YARD BIDS: Two bids were received for the work in the back yard of the township hall: Swidorski Bros., \$7,500; Rory Harju Construction, \$5,000, which did not include a price for hauling cement blocks from Ludington. **Motion** by Mathieu, second by Wisniski to accept Harju’s bid of \$5,000 and to include a maximum of \$1,000 to haul the cement blocks. Roll call vote: James Wisniski, yes; LaVonne Schafer-Beebe, yes; Helen Mathieu, yes; David Meister, yes. Roland Clement, absent. Motion carried.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT: A letter from the health department has informed the township that its well water is good and passes the tests.

EVANS/HAYES: Court documents received. Meister said since the township has not responded, this means to the court that the board does not object to the request.

LINDA ENGLISH REQUEST: A letter from Linda English was read asking the township board to support re-opening the Onekama Area Health Center and send the support letter to the West Shore Medical Center Board of Trustee. Consensus of the board is to send a letter of support.

ELECTION NOV. 8: Mathieu reminded that the election—with only one item to vote on—is Tuesday, Nov. 8 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

---County Planning Commission	---State of Michigan	---AES
---Par Plan	---Charter	---MTA
---Alexis Fire Equipment	--Tom Kaminski	

ADJOURN: 11:26 a.m.

David Meister, Supervisor

Helen Mathieu, Clerk

Treasurer LaVonne Schafer-Beebe

Absent
Trustee Roland Clement

Trustee James Wisniski