

**Corrected**

**COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL-COUNTY ROAD 571**

**MONDAY, JULY 11, 2011**

Supervisor Neubecker called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Board members present at roll call were Supervisor Neubecker, Clerk Hodges, Treasurer Lambert, Trustee Corrado and Trustee Bagnell. County Commissioner McKinnon and approx. 20 members of the public were also present.

Adoption of the Agenda - Trustee Corrado asked that Ordinances be added under New Business. M/Lambert S/Corrado to adopt the agenda with the one addition. All in favor. Motion carried.

Establish any conflict of interest of items that are on the agenda. None were presented.

Approval of Minutes - M/Lambert S/Corrado to approve the minutes from the June 13, 2011 regular board meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Correspondence was reviewed.

**Committee Reports:**

(A) Planning & Maintenance - Trustee Bagnell reported that two of the buoys have been put in the lake at Sands Park. He also said that the stakes that were sticking out of the ground have been pounded down into the ground. He said that they did try to remove them but that they couldn't so they dug down around them and were able to pound them down further into the ground so that they are now below ground level. Bagnell said that he went over to the park over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July week-end and said that there were 3 cars with boat trailers on them and that they were taking up 15 parking spots in the parking lot. Short discussion. M/Neubecker S/Bagnell to post two signs saying, "No Boat Trailers allowed in parking lot". Another problem Bagnell spoke about was with dogs being in the park even though the sign at the entrance of the park states no animals. Discussion followed. The Park Ordinance needs to be modified in order for the Ordinance Enforcement Officer to write a violation notice. Neubecker asked that the Park Ordinance be placed on the agenda for August.

(B) Fireboard - Minutes for the July 6, 2011 Fireboard meeting were presented. The minutes showed that there were 7 Fire and 30 Rescue runs for the month of June. Copy

of the minutes is on file.

(C) Road Commissioners Meeting - Corrado said that with the lay off of the 8 employees, it is a savings of \$30,000 a month and that they were still \$10,000 short of what they need in funds. They took \$80,000.00 from the Forestry Fund to make the payroll, which now they have to put back. In regards to the Retirees Health Care, the Road Commission cut \$80,000.00 out of that, which is a savings of 9 to 10 thousand dollar savings per month. Corrado said that the road commission stated that as to snowplowing this winter, their main concern will only be the primary roads and they will get to the other roads when they can.

(D) Ordinance Enforcement Officer - Wendy updated the board on the various violations that she is working on. As to the property on Cunningham Road, that the township inherited from the State, she said that the fire department cannot burn it down because it is too close to electrical wires. Copy of the report is on file.

(E) Park & Recreation Committee - Brenda presented the board with the unapproved minutes from their July 5<sup>th</sup> Park & Recreation Committee meeting. She also reported that she met with Christie Baez, Bayus grants coordinator for the DNRE, to show her the park and the planned improvements. She also said that she contacted two tree removal service companies and that she will be meeting with them, regarding the removal of some of the trees at Sands Park and possibly get estimates, then the board can decide as to whether we go ahead now and have them removed or wait and see if we get a grant. Brenda said that a committee from the Manistee Lake Association attended the Park meeting and voiced some concerns about the Park Plan. Corrado had a question as to the donation box at the boat ramp and said that there is a liability factor as to the retention of the money. He said that if the box belongs to the township, then the board and not the P & R committee is responsible. Short discussion. Neubecker said that since Brenda is on the board and is bonded, she and someone else should collect the money.

(F) County Commissioner - County Commissioner McKinnon said that he really had nothing to report since the commissioners have not met since our last board meeting and will not be meeting until Wednesday. He did say that they need a new caretaker for Log Lake, if anyone knows of anyone that might be interested.

### **Treasurers Report:**

Treasurer Lambert presented the monthly reconciliation report for the month of June. The report showed that there was \$383,298.11 in the various bank accounts, \$10.07 in the Forest Area Federal Savings account, \$10,582.33 in the MCU Building Fund MM account, \$18,418.94 in the MCU Township Improvement MM account, \$100.00 in the Tax account and \$100.00 in the Petty Cash account. She also presented the quarterly CD report. It showed that there was \$53,744.48 in the Building Fund CD and \$313,147.59 in the Township Improvement Fund CD's. M/Neubecker S/Bagnell to accept the treasurer's report as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

### **Old Business:**

(A) Punch & Judy Special Assessment - Hodges said that we have the petition signed by more than 51% of the property owners, a cost for snow plowing from Tim McCullen and the cost per parcel per year from the assessor. She said that all we have to do now is set a date and time for the 1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing for the Special Assessment. Short discussion. M/Neubecker S/Lambert to hold the 1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing for the Punch & Judy Special Assessment on Monday, August 8, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. here at the Coldsprings township Hall. All in favor. Motion carried. Neubecker will send out the letters to the property owners and Hodges will put the notice in the paper.

(B) Cunningham Road Property - Neubecker said that as we have already found out is that we cannot burn it down and he thinks that the first thing we should do is have the property surveyed. Discussion followed. Hodges will contact Farrier.

### **New Business:**

(A) Increase mileage reimbursement - Neubecker said that the Federal Government has increased mileage reimbursement from .50 to .55 per mile effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. M/Neubecker S/Corrado to increase mileage reimbursement for the township for official business from .50 to .55 per mile effective the date of this meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

(B) Manistee Lake Association Committee - Bill Korth was present to represent the Manistee Lake Association regarding concerns they have with the Park Plan for Sands Park. One concern they had was about dogs being allowed in the park, however he said that the board had already discussed that issue and said that dogs were not allowed in the park. Another concern they had was regarding the restrooms that the township plans on putting in the park. Korth said that they understand that the township is going to put 3 restrooms at the park plus a Porta-John down at the boat ramp. Neubecker said that putting a Porta-John down at the boat ramp has never been discussed. Korth said that what he would like to know is if the township is going to put 3 restrooms in the park, the township pretty much needs to know in the planning of the expansion of the park, capacity wise, before the township can even think about putting johns in there, and also asked if anyone knew how many people use the park in a year, month or week. Neubecker said that we do know that we have enough use over at the park that we do need to get at least one set of restrooms back in. He said that that is our initial plan. Neubecker said that we want to replace the old restrooms with approved modern containment systems that are leak proof that are approved by the DNR, so that there is no chance of contamination to enter the lake from the restroom area. He also said that we are only looking at one set of restrooms right now and putting them just about the same place where we removed the other restrooms. Neubecker said that if other restrooms were put in, it would be over a span of years basically based on what is happening in the park as far as usage is determined. He said that if we put playground equipment in at the park does that mean that people from around the lake would bring their children or grandchildren over to the park. Neubecker said that there are 3 things that we are

looking at right now and one is restrooms, another is putting a well in with on demand water and a pavilion. Someone asked Neubecker if he was aware that over the holiday there were three tents pitched over at the park near the fence. Neubecker asked if anyone called it in and the answer was no. Neubecker said that the recording on the answering machine at the hall has all of the board members phone numbers and also the newsletter that goes out has all of the board members numbers listed, but if no one calls then no one knows about it. The other concern that Korth spoke about was about monitoring the boat ramp. Neubecker said that we have discussed that but we have not come up with any conclusions yet. He said that that was something that was identified early on by the park committee. Neubecker said that we know if we expand the parking area for more boats we are going to have more traffic and based on that we know that we will have to have some kind of control. Discussion followed. Gordon McAllister was present and also presented some concerns about the park. He feels that we should charge to use the boat ramp and have a security officer or someone down there to monitor it. He said that he knows that the Cove charges to launch a boat at their ramp. Gerry Gancer said that he has noticed an increase of bottles, cans and paper in the lake. Discussion followed.

(C) Ordinances - Corrado asked that we look over all of our ordinances because there are some things that are happening that we cannot enforce. He also asked that the board entertain giving him additional duties. He asked that the board entertain making a motion that he be able to work in conjunction with the ordinance officer. Neubecker said that he would take that under advisement. Neubecker asked Hodges, prior to the next board meeting, to go through the Ordinance files and send a copy of all of the ordinances within the township, to each of the board members. Neubecker also said that at the August meeting, he would like to ask for a couple of volunteers from the community, to create a board, to also look at the ordinances from the community stand point.

#### **Approval of Bills:**

All bills were reviewed. One bill for Great Lakes Energy for \$56.84 was added. M/Corrado S/Lambert to approve the bills as presented in the amount of \$20,421.66, with the one addition. Roll call vote. Bagnell yes, Neubecker yes, Hodges yes, Lambert yes and Corrado yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Public Comments:** Began at 8:53 p.m. Dan Cole thanked the board for the security light at N Twin Lake Rd and Twin Lake Rd. He also said that the Dry Hydrant on Big Twin Lake is broken. Neubecker said that he was sure that the Fire Chief checked it out and said that it was ok. Neubecker will check with Tim McCullen again on it. Rich Schroeder complained about a parking violation ticket he received. Public comments ended at 8:58 p.m.

M/Bagnell S/Lambert to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Mary Hodges  
Coldsprings Township Clerk