

COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL-COUNTY ROAD 571

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2010, 7:00 P.M.

Supervisor Neubecker called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Board members present at roll call were Supervisor Neubecker, Clerk Hodges, Treasurer Lambert and Trustee Corrado. Trustee Bondy was absent. County Commissioner Nemeth and 12 members of the public were also present.

Adoption of the Agenda - Trustee Corrado asked to have 4 items added to the agenda under new business. Item C - Violations Bureau, Item D - Dangerous Building Ordinance, Item E - Grants and Item F - Logging. M/Hodges S/Lambert to adopt the agenda as amended. All in favor. Motion carried.

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

Approval of Minutes:

(A) May 10, 2010 - M/Corrado S/Neubecker to approve the minutes from the May 10, 2010 regular board meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

(B) May 15, 2010 Special Meeting at Sands Park - M/Lambert S/Corrado to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2010 Special Meeting at Sands Park. All in favor. Motion carried.

Scott Matley from Area Waste was present to give a report to the board regarding the past month's trash pickup service.

Darwin Booher was present to introduce himself as a candidate running for the State Senate in the 35th District, in the August Primary.

Nate Elkins from Gosling Czubak Engineering was present to answer some questions for the board as to how to get started and what to do in regards to the Sands Park project especially since the board would like to get a grant for the project. Nate gave a short presentation then said that he would like to sit down with the Parks & Recreation committee when it gets put together and go over a number of things with them that they can take back to the township board and then they can decide whether they want to move forward or not. Neubecker said that we do need some guidance since this will be a new experience for all of us.

Correspondence was reviewed.

Committee Reports:

(A) Planning & Maintenance - Although Trustee Bondy was not present she did leave a report to be read. The report showed that the community work crew finished up at the park and got all of the leaves blown and the weed whacking done. They got a late start this year and then the weather did not cooperate. The work crew may not be available next year since the county laid off their maintenance people and the community workers have to do most of the public owned property now. The report read that between the cemetery, park and township hall the work crew put in 87 man-hours. Bondy will send a thank you note to the Sheriff on behalf of the township. The report also showed that McCullen had the building at the park torn down and the septic tanks have been removed. The Port-a-Jons were in place before Memorial Day weekend. The park was extremely busy over the holiday weekend. They only have one member left on the dive team now but that the buoys will be put in the water either the 11th or 21st of June. Bondy also left some pictures that she took of the activity at the park over the holiday week-end and also pictures of restrooms that are on a snowmobile trail near Gaylord, since the board is looking for ideas for restrooms to put up at the park.

(B) Fireboard - Minutes from the June 2, 2010 fireboard meeting were presented. Copy of the minutes is on file.

(C) Road Commission Meeting - Trustee Corrado reported on the Road Commission meeting that was held this morning. He said that they were going to go into closed session to discuss the lawsuit between Coldsprings and the Road Commission. Corrado said that several townships had representation at the meeting. He said that the point of discussion was the inconsistency with the road commission as far as the townships are concerned and also the lack of response to the concerns of the people in regards to the roads within their communities. Corrado said that he asked the road commission who decided what part of County Road 612 they would repair, because he questioned their reasoning, and they said that it was their decision. Corrado said that the road commission spent \$359,000.00 of the stimulus money to put that road down. No one can understand why they did not start at County Road 571 instead of where they did. He said that everyone at the meeting was expressing their disappointment with what was going on with the road commission. More discussion followed.

(D) Ordinance Enforcement Officer - Wendy gave an update of the various cases that she is working on, which some of them are Rogers Road, Twin Lake Rd at Covert Rd., 571 at State Rd., Tower Rd., and Starvation Lake Rd. She also has received 2 more new complaints, one regarding property on Cabin Lane off of Camp Tanuga Rd and one on Partridge Lane off of Starvation Lake Rd. A copy of her complete report is on file.

(E) Liquor Enforcement - A good report was received on Kiootee's. The crime report for the month of April was also received. It showed that there were 17 incidents for the month, which brings it to 52 year to date.

(F) County Commissioner Lou Nemeth - Nemeth said that the Planning Commission is looking into having a Recycling Residential Business as part of the County Zoning and making it a legal entity with some restrictions and rules. Nemeth also said that the county's income is down 8% from taxes and that they are into their rainy day fund. He said that they are going to take care of the driveway going into the Recycling Center.

Treasurers Report

Treasurer Lambert presented the monthly reconciliation report for the month of May. The report showed that there was \$434,852.97 in the various bank accounts, \$19,118.94 in the Township Improvement MM account, \$110.03 in the Tax account and \$100.00 in the Petty Cash fund. She also reported that we have a CD that matures today and the best rate that she can get is 1.75%. She will be renewing the CD tomorrow at that rate. M/Neubecker S/Hodges to accept the treasurers report as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business:

(A) Dock - Neubecker said that he placed an order for a dock, which will be put in place at Sands Park at Manistee Lake by this weekend or at the latest, a week from this Thursday. It is a 40 foot Brock Dock. Neubecker said that it is a very high quality dock and the cost was \$4,663.00 He said that he got George D Shumar to pick it up, put it together and put it in the water and that cost is \$220.00 and then he gave us a flat rate to put it in and take it out on a regular basis.

(B) Parks & Recreation Committee appointments - Neubecker said that we had a meeting at Sands Park on May 15th, which we did discuss at our May 10th regular board meeting, and the meeting was posted. There were a couple of community members that did show up. We discussed how we were going to look at grant applications, establishing a park plan, establishing a park & recreation committee, etc. At that time Brenda Lambert, Wendy Corona and Chuck Vernon did volunteer to be on the park & recreation committee and Neubecker did support them and appoint them at that time as the initial members of the new park & recreation committee. Three more people have volunteered and they are Dee Bondy, Marge Bagnell and Ruth Langkawel. M/Neubecker S/Corrado to appoint the three, as additional members of the park & recreation committee. All in favor. Motion carried. Hodges said that we now have a 6-member committee and wondered if it shouldn't be an uneven number. Neubecker said yes but we are still appointing. Question as to what the next step should be. Lambert said that they should have a meeting of the members of the Park & Recreation Committee. Neubecker said that there are some basic things that we have to do with this and first of all we have to establish a Park & Recreation Committee overview responsibilities. Discussion followed.

New Business:

(A) Create specs and get bids for the new restrooms - Corrado said that we have to wait until the P&R committee comes up with something. Neubecker said no, that we should try and get something in place before the summer is over. Discussion followed. Neubecker is going to check out the DNRE for specs for restrooms.

(B) Create a new email address - Hodges said that we received a notice from Charter that they launched a new email and website hosting platform and will begin migrating everyone who currently has a generic Charter email address (which we do) to a customized domain address, so we have to come up with a new email address. Short discussion followed. Hodges will contact Charter.

(C) Violation Bureau - Corrado said that MTA has a guideline for a plan that he would like to present to the board for consideration and the plan is called Municipal Civil Infraction Ordinance Bureau. He said that what it does is establishes a bureau within the township to retain 100% of the revenue that we would enforce within the township. For example, Corrado said that as it is now if we have a two or three step phase where we have to take someone to the county, the county keeps one third of all the money that goes into the coffer for any civil infractions. He said that under the MTA guidelines and the creation of a Municipal Infraction Bureau, 100% of that money would come into the township. The plan would cover all of the ordinances that the township has and what the board could do is look at putting a fine against certain violations and the fines would be paid at the township building. Short discussion. Neubecker asked Corrado to make copies of the MTA guidelines for each of the board members and put it on the agenda for next month.

(D) Dangerous Building Ordinance - Corrado said that having a Dangerous Building Ordinance, it would eliminate a lot of the hassle in regards to the demolition of some of these buildings when it comes to the Prosecuting Attorney. He said that it would get the community involved as to how we enforce it. Neubecker said that the township has the right to adopt any ordinance that we so desire through the public hearing process as long as it is equal to or greater than what is currently in county zoning. He said that if we set specific ordinance stipulations in our township, that the county does not have, our ordinance would take precedence over the county zoning. Nemeth said that at the present time the county does not have a Dangerous Building Ordinance. Discussion followed. Neubecker asked to table the ordinance until the July meeting.

(E) Grants - Corrado said that there are certain counties that provide grant writing at a nominal fee and they have had great success in putting fire equipment in the hands of townships. He said that he has the name and phone number of who to contact. Lambert said that they have discussed grant writing at the fireboard meetings. Corrado said that with where the township is going, grant writing could be a very positive thing for the township on a future level. Short discussion followed.

(F) Logging - Corrado wanted to know if the township has any authority to put some regulations on the logging companies to clean up after they are done logging, plus what they are doing to our roads. Neubecker said that the only way we could control anything

that is happening on our roads would be if the township owned the roads but the roads are owned by either the county or MDOT. Corrado asked about the logging itself. Neubecker said that if the property is privately owned there is really nothing that the township can do about it, that, that is between the property owner and whoever is doing the logging. Discussion followed.

Approval of Bills - Bills were reviewed. M/Corrado S/Lambert to pay the bills as presented. Roll call vote. Corrado yes, Neubecker yes, Hodges yes and Lambert yes. Bondy absent. Motion carried. Checks #11592 through #11629 in the amount of \$47,249.84 were approved for payment.

Public Comments - Began at 9:35p.m. Don Smith asked if there was anything new about getting a tower. Neubecker said there was not. Nemeth talked about the \$3.00 meal certificates that can be used at LaLone's and G's. You can purchase the certificates at the COA. Nemeth also mentioned that Kate Mosher, Director of the Library has retired but he does not know who will be the new director. Other comments were heard. Comments ended at 9:45 p.m.

Upon proper motion the meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Mary Hodges
Coldsprings Township Clerk

