

Regular Meeting
April 15, 2015

Minutes approved 5/20/2015

The regular meeting of the Clearwater Township Board was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Supervisor Niederstadt who opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call of board members present: Crambell, Seaman, Beland and Niederstadt. Vance was absent. Deputy Clerk, Gray recorded minutes in the absence of Vance. Also present were 12 guests.

Moved by Seaman, seconded by Beland to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 18, 2015. All in favor-motion passed.

Moved by Crambell, seconded by Seaman to approve the minutes of the budget meeting of March 18, 2015. All in favor-motion passed.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: Crambell-none; Seaman-none; Beland-none; Niederstadt-none.

Public Comment: Ryan Moore, principal of the Cherry Street Elementary school presented information on the Technology Bond for the Kalkaska Public Schools that will be on the May 5, 2015 special election. The millage request is 0.58 and the amount is \$1.75 million for the duration of six years. He expressed the serious need for updated additional computers in the Kalkaska school system.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Niederstadt, seconded by Seaman to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor-motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: General Fund, all accounts, \$257,812.24; Public Improvement Fund, \$13,135.01; Road Improvement Fund, \$100,381.97; Fire Fund, all accounts, \$158,126.19; Fire Equipment Fund, \$81,700.75; Tax Fund, \$526.42. Moved by Crambell, seconded by Beland to accept the agreement between Elk Rapids Schools and Clearwater Township to collect taxes for 2015, with a fee of \$3.76 per parcel. Roll call vote: Seaman-yes; Beland-yes; Niederstadt-yes; Crambell-yes. Motion passed.

Clerk's Report: Moved by Crambell seconded by Niederstadt to approve paying bills from the General Fund as presented: Voucher #21272 through 21335. Roll call vote: Beland-yes; Seaman-yes; Crambell-yes; Niederstadt-yes. Motion passed.

Three additional bills were added to the Fire Fund checking. Voucher #7432 to DTE Energy for \$279.70; #7433 to Ace Hardware for \$48.96; and #7434 to Schaefer's Auto Repair for \$950.94. Moved by Crambell, seconded by Beland to approve paying bills from the Fire Fund, voucher #7408 through 7434. Roll call vote: Seaman-yes; Beland-yes; Niederstadt-yes; Crambell-yes. Motion passed.

Accountability Statement: The treasurer balanced with the bank and the clerk balanced with the treasurer.

Hospital Report: None

Parks and Recreation: Gray reported that the Heritage Festival Committee is purchasing a piece of playground equipment for Freedom Park East. After that is received and paid for, our committee will have no more funds. At that time we intend to dissolve the committee. The sign at the entrance to the cemetery is being replaced. A donation from the businessmen in Rapid City to the Juniper Garden Club will pay for the majority of that cost. There was discussion on using the Public Improvement Fund for something in the community. It has been sitting untouched for several years now, and it could be put to a good use. One suggestion was fencing for the tennis court and another was additional bleachers for seating at Heritage Park. Other ideas are welcome.

Sheriff Report: Deputy Foerster gave his report and answered questions.

Fire Department Report: West reported they had a successful Easter Egg Hunt, and would like to consider holding the event at Heritage Park next year. He presented a proposed new pay structure for the department and asked the board to look it over. He also reported that one of their department members, Gale Young, had passed away last week while he was in California.

Planning Commission: No Report

Zoning Administrator's Report: Niederstadt read Guy Molby's report. Beland commented that she would like to see a little more detail on the report.

Assessor's Report:- None

OLD BUSINESS:

Committee Meeting on Building Improvements: Niederstadt stated he would be scheduling a meeting within the next week.

Rapid River Fire Contract (Update): Niederstadt met with the supervisor of Rapid River Twp., Terry Williams. The latest land value figures for Rapid River Twp. in the areas Clearwater covers are being obtained from the Equalization office as the basis for payment for fire services. Rapid River acknowledges they owe for the past two years of fire coverage from our township and as soon as the figures are available and agreed upon, they will reimburse us. They would like a clause added to their contract stating that Clearwater Twp. will be using Accumed to bill insurance companies for fire and emergency runs.

Personnel Policy: Beland will contact Vance about this.

Clerk's Position Applications: Three applications have been received. A special meeting of the board was set for April 29, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center to interview and select a clerk.

Road Patrol Contract: Sheriff Abe Devol presented the new contract to the board members. This is the same contract that four other townships have accepted. Even though the contract reads that we will have 9.4 hours of coverage per week, Devol stated we will still continue to receive 14 hrs. a week coverage. Moved by Crambell and seconded by Seaman to accept the Agreement for Law Enforcement Services between Kalkaska County and Clearwater

Township. Roll call vote: Beland-yes; Seaman-yes; Crambell-yes; Niederstadt-yes. Motion passed.

There was discussion regarding the upcoming 4th of July holiday and what can be done about pedestrian traffic and parking near the Sand Bar. Beland will attend a planning meeting when the various agencies meet to make plans for the event.

Newsletter: The annual newsletter to residents has been printed and will be mailed this week.

Additional Floor Covering Bids: Niederstadt is waiting to receive two more quotes.

New Copier: The new copier was delivered this week. The old copier will go to the fire dept.

Information on new potential cemetery property: Beland is waiting for pricing from a forester on the potential value of the timber on the property under consideration.

Morrison Road: Bids have not yet been received from the county road commission.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mowing Bids: Moved by Niederstadt, seconded by Crambell to advertise for mowing bids for the cemetery property. All in favor – motion passed.

Bid on a Leaf Blower: Moved by Niederstadt, seconded by Crambell to purchase a Little Wonder Leaf Blower for \$1274.95 from Dupies Small Engine. Roll call vote: Seaman-yes; Beland-no; Crambell-yes; Niederstadt-yes. Motion approved.

Aarwood Bridge Property Update: Approximately a dozen trees have been cleared from the property. There is potential parking for about six cars. The DEQ has been contacted regarding any necessary permits for improvements near the water.

New Computer for Treasurer: The new BS&A software from the county is requiring additional computer capabilities for the township. Moved by Beland, seconded by Crambell to approve up to \$1200.00 for the purchase of a new computer for the treasurer. Roll call vote: Seaman-yes; Niederstadt-yes; Beland-yes; Crambell-yes. Motion approved.

Discussion regarding some other type of garbage pick up for the township versus the annual clean-up day. Beland will follow up on suggestions with a committee.

Public Comment: None

Moved to adjourn meeting at 9:18.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Gray, Deputy Clerk