

BLAIR TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Meeting

May 15, 2007

Approved Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Blair Township Board of Trustees was held at 6:00 pm on May 15, 2007 at the Township Hall and called to order by the Supervisor Marilyn Fleis.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL: Members: Zeits, Tharp, Clous, Lowe excused, Rademaker, DeKuiper, and Fleis were present. There were 25 guests in attendance along with the Assessor Aaron Plowman, Zoning Administrator Sara Kopriva-Peters, Deputy Treasurer Lynette Ferman, and Deputy Clerk Lori McGee.

LIMITED PUBLIC INPUT: Public Input was heard from the following:

Eunice Groesser asked the board to support renaming Malachi Way to Bagnel Road in honor of her parents. The family has owned the property for over 100 years.

Walter Bogucki 565 South Creek Ct – spoke on the current zoning ordinance. He referred to a Paradise Township meeting where it was said that if it weren't good for Blair Township why would it be good for Paradise Township. He spoke about last month's meeting regarding Mr. Clous and Mr. Bruski regarding Storm Water Runoff. He invited the Zoning Administrator to check out South Creek on the run off problem. He urged the board to support the Storm Water Run Off Ordinance.

Dorothy Biegler 4303 County Rd 633 spoke of the Summer Library Program sponsored by the Blair Library Committee. It will be located next to the children's play area in the park. The program will go for 6 weeks on Thursdays from July 19th thru August 26th. She stated all children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. She would like to bring the children into the meeting room if there is a thunderstorm.

Jim Pascoe 358 Sierra Drive likes the Treasurer's Report. He complimented the Treasurer's Report. He asked if she could add how much is cash and how much is invested by adding a line or two for next months meeting.

Barbara Radtke 2948 W Ironwood Drive was upset over the whole lawsuit with Mr. Radtke and especially when he had to go a week without pay. She was upset that Board Members made comments to degrade Mr. Radtke at a Paradise Township meeting. She was not happy that 2 board members attended a public meeting at Paradise Township where Mr. Radtke is working and obviously they have not put the lawsuit behind them.

Brenda DeKuiper the Treasurer spoke of work that is in progress on investments and she will have a report every quarter.

Marilyn Fleis the Supervisor stated she attended a meeting at Paradise Township recently. Her husband Larry Fleis is County Commissioner and she likes to attend meetings with him. She said Betty was at the meeting also. She stated Larry and her have property that butts up to Paradise Township and they have an interest in that township. She stated that neither she nor Betty made any comments to degrade Mr. Radtke. If comments were made it was made by other people in the audience. She also commented on Mr. Bogucki's comments regarding Storm Water and commented that he might be interested in attending a meeting at the county on Thursday night on the Storm Water Run Off Ordinance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion Tharp supported by Rademaker to accept the agenda as presented. All in favor 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion Carried.

PRESENTATIONS/SPECIAL REPORTS:

County Commissioner Report: Commissioner Thomas and Fleis not available due to a conflict with another meeting.

Sheriff's Report: Community Police Officer Report not available.

Report by Treasurer: Brenda DeKuiper, Treasurer spoke of Mr. Bogucki's report he handed out at last months meeting. This report was done by MTA. The report was not accurate because the years varied on all the townships and each township is unique in its own way. It's important to compare apples to apples and not apples to oranges. She and her Deputy Treasurer did their own investigation on information and compiled it on a comparison sheet. Brenda said that anyone is

welcome to come in and shadow the offices and find out what all we do. She said Blair is unique because we are the fastest growing township in the county and we have our own fulltime EMS and Fire Department along with our own Water and Sewer. She also spoke of the positive things that have happened such as the paved walkway, and the playground.

Presentation of Land Division Ordinance: A presentation was given by the Assessor Aaron Plowman and Zoning Administrator Sara Peters. The Land Division Ordinance would link the State Land Division Act and the Zoning Ordinance, as well as, any other ordinance that are in effect for a land division. The ordinance was created after review of several other townships land division ordinances and a MTA model. A proposed part of the Land Division Ordinance is a Land Divisions Committee consisting of the Township Supervisor, Zoning Administrator, Assessor, and Water Coordinator. The committee will meet once a week as needed. The committee allows the applicant to present their proposed division and receive feedback and guidance on how to proceed before the applicant invests too much money into the land division. Aaron and Sara were asking that the Township Board refer the ordinance to the attorney as soon as possible so the ordinance can be adopted in the near future.

Motion by Roger supported by Tharp to send the proposed Land Division Ordinance to the attorney for approval. All in favor 6 yeas, 0 nays, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Fleis mentioned there is a handout for dates and times of the Cemetery Services for Memorial Day, which will take place at both cemeteries on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, 2007.

Treasurer DeKuiper said the handicap assessable Playground made the news on TV 7 & 4. They interviewed a family with a handicap child. They did a spot on the playground and it was mentioned where donations could be sent.

CONSENT CALENDAR: **Motion by Clous supported by Tharp** to accept the Consent Calendar and to pull the April 10, 2007 Minutes. To approve the following: to pay the Township General Fund vouchers # 24135-24233, the Ambulance Fund vouchers # 9792-9899, the Fire Fund vouchers # 6052-6098, and the Trust & Agency vouchers # 1250-1252 for a grand total of \$266,867.21. To approve the Sewer Fund working account vouchers # 1047-1052, the Sewer Fund Assessment account vouchers # 1017-1018, the Water Fund Assessment account vouchers # 1154-1157 and the Water Fund working account vouchers # 2273-2288, for a grand total of \$327,499.61. To accept the Assessing, EMS, Fire, Supervisor's, Zoning, Treasurer's, Water Reports for the month of 2007, and the Agreement for collection for 2007 Summer Property Taxes for Schools. To approve the Minutes of March 21 & 28th, 2007 Budget Workshops, April 11, 18, 25, 2007 Budget Workshops, and May 2, 2007 Budget Workshops. Roll Call Vote: Tharp yea, Clous yea, Rademaker yea, DeKuiper yea, Fleis yea, Zeits yea. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Walter Bogucki questioned the word "turmoil" used by the attorney on page 2 of the April 10, 2007 Minutes on seizure of computers and he would like the Treasurer's comments on the last page regarding comparing "apples to apples" to read "dollars to dollars" as he sees it.

Lynette Ferman, Deputy Treasurer stated she did up a report on comparisons on Townships in the area. She stated she is a new employee of Blair Township but after speaking to other area townships she feels officials, deputies, or employees are not overpaid in comparison to other area townships. All the information she compiled is on a spreadsheet in her report.

Motion by Rademaker supported by Clous to table the April 10, 2007 Minutes and have the attorney clarify the word "turmoil" on what he meant before the Minutes are approved. All in favor 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing on a Special Use for "Wilderness Crossings Recreational Facility" SU/SPR #07-05-01 was announced by the supervisor. The Clerk stated that the Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Traverse City Record Eagle on April 30, 2007 and 300' mailings were mailed out on April 26, 2007. The Clerk stated that there were no letters or phone calls in support of or against the Special Use. The Supervisor opened the Public Hearing at 7:45 p.m.

Alex Yockey, from SRW Contracting made a brief presentation of the proposed project. The building will have a 16-lane bowling alley, bar/restaurant/sports bar, arcade, billiards, and game area. Mr. Yockey stated the Planning Commission approved the special use with conditions through the Zoning Board of Appeals on the variances. The ZBA granted the variances. The

County Planning Commission also approved the project. The driveway for the project will come from Curtis Road.

Hearing no other comments in support of or against the project the Supervisor closed the Public Hearing at 7:58 p.m.

Motion by Tharp supported by DeKuiper to grant the Special Use Request SU/SPR #07-05-01, Parcel #007-007-10 Wilderness Crossings Recreation Facility as it meets the standards for approval in Section 22.04 items A-G. Roll Call Vote: Rademaker yea, DeKuiper yea, Fleis yea, Zeits yea, Tharp yea, Clous yea. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried. The board also welcomed this new facility and considers it a real asset for our community.

Motion by Rademaker supported by Tharp to declare a RCA 5-Disc Radio and Xerox Flat Screen LCD Monitor as junk. All in favor, 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Clous supported by Fleis to pay \$24,114.00 for the last half of playground equipment, (phase II), pending \$2,000.00 check from the Youth Advisory Council. Roll Call Vote: Rademaker yea, DeKuiper yea, Fleis yea, Zeits yea, Tharp yea, Clous yea. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Clous to go with Garfield Township on managing water Milfoil, paying for ½ of the cost and to go with the multi-year Treatment Program to save on costs and have the Supervisor handle this with the Garfield Township Supervisor. Roll Call Vote: DeKuiper yea, Fleis yea, Zeits yea, Tharp yea, Clous yea, Rademaker yea. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Zeits to decline to participate in being responsible for operating and maintaining the proposed Super Storage II. Roll Call Vote: Zeits yea, DeKuiper yea, Fleis yea, Tharp yea, Clous yea. Rademaker abstained from the vote due to a conflict of interest. 5 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by DeKuiper supported by Tharp to table the contribution to the Senior Center until we get further information. All in favor 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Fleis supported by Tharp to accept naming a new private road “Bowman Point Trail” in Gov. Lot 2, Section 5 of Blair Township off Brakel Point Road. All in favor, 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Zeits to accept naming a new private road “Lucky Trail” in Section 19 of Blair Township off W. Blair Townhall Road. All in favor, 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Clous supported by Tharp to approve the contract with Gosling Czubak and not to exceed \$3,800.00 to do a study on the Water System. Roll Call Vote: Tharp yea, Clous yea, Rademaker yea, DeKuiper yea, Fleis yea, Zeits yea. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Discussion on a request for consideration to extend the Water Main south from Heartland Drive to adjacent Brakel Point Drive submitted by Rick Egelus. The board feels the township has not paid for this in the past and with the study in place soon with Gosling Czubak the need to determine what items need to be addressed on the water system will yet be determined. No action was taken.

Motion by Fleis supported by Rademaker to table item J. from the agenda. All in favor, 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Fleis supported by Rademaker to give Mr. Rich Sogge of Belanger Excavating 18 months to put in his Water Suppression System. All in favor, 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Rademaker to hire Marvel Mallory for part-time work for the Assessor at 20 hours per week at \$10.00 per hour from May through October 2007. All in favor, 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Rademaker supported by DeKuiper to grant permission for Sara and Lisa to attend a Forum about the Storm Water run off. All in favor, 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Fleis to amend the Investment Policy and omit the part that says the Township does not invest in Repurchase Agreements. Roll Call Vote: Clous yea, Rademaker yea, DeKuiper yea, Fleis yea, Zeits yea, Tharp yea. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Fleis to accept the agreement dated May 15, 2007 between the Township of Blair also known as the Township and the International Association of Fire Fighters

also known as Blair Township Fire and EMS Union Local 4355 (Union). Roll Call Vote: Rademaker yea, DeKuiper yea, Fleis yea, Zeits yea, Tharp yea, Clous yea. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

LIMITED PUBLIC INPUT: Limited Public Input was heard from the following:

Sue Pahl 3048 Blair Townhall Road does not think the April 10th Minutes should be changed on Brenda's statement of "apples to apples" as indicated by Mr. Bogucki earlier because that is what she said. She stated that Mrs. Groesser's request again to change the naming of Malachi Way to Bagnel Road was left in the County Road Commission hands, which was addressed in the past with the previous board. There are statements from people and residents who want it left that way. If the board opens this up again it would open up a can of worms.

Kelley Steinbach, granddaughter of Eunice Groesser only wants the board to recommend to the Road Commission to support a name change. She said things are different now with the neighbors and the House of Hope has their own access road.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Rademaker supported by Tharp to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. All in favor 6 Yeas, 0 Nays, Motion carried.

Lori L. McGee, Deputy Clerk

Marilyn Fleis, Supervisor