

**BLAIR TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**November 14, 2006**  
**Approved Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Regular meeting of the Blair Township Board of Trustees was held at 6:00 pm on November 14, 2006 at the Township Hall.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ROLL CALL:** Members: Lowe, Clous, Rademaker, Fleis, and Tharp were present. There were 35 guests in attendance along with the Medical Director Daryl Case, Fire Chief Jim Carroll, and Deputy Clerk Lori McGee.

**Motion by Fleis supported by Rademaker** to appoint Betty Tharp as Chairperson for the meeting. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**LIMITED PUBLIC INPUT:** Roseannah Keith of 1711 Co. Rd 633 thanked Pat Pahl and Sara Peters for taking care of a trash problem in Grawn.

Jim Pascoe of 358 Sierra Dr. urged the board to utilize the Township Auditor for monthly reporting of Treasurer reports.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** **Motion by Rademaker supported by Lowe** to accept the agenda with changes. Add Letters (N) Creating a Manager's position, (O) Discussion on Supervisor's position, (P) Treasurer's Office Audit, (Q) Discretion of Township Clerk to utilize employees for the extra workload, (R) Switching offices between clerk and treasurer for more space. RCV: Lowe, Tharp, Clous, Fleis, Rademaker 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**PRESENTATIONS/SPECIAL REPORTS:**

**County Commissioner Report:** Dick Thomas and Virginia Olds were present. Dick Thomas spoke of the dedication ceremony which took place the other day of the new court building downtown. Mr. Thomas also stated he would like to see Blair Township pass the Curbside Recycling plan already presented.

**Sheriff's Report:** No report available.

**Commercial Sewer Update:** Clyde Johnson reported on the Sewer project. He said lines are now in. Next week they will do a final walk through with Elmer's. They expect next week that all will be turned on.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE:** Larry Fleis wished to thank Kingsley and Blair Township Fire and EMS Departments for all that they did in the accident recently he was in.

Correspondence letter received from Anne Joyner 4810 Lake Shore Dr, Grawn thanking the EMT's who provided services for her husband. A Plaque was also read and given.

A thank you letter was received from Virginia Olds thanking Blair Township for bidding her farewell.

A thank you letter was received from Nancy Fitzpatrick regarding the Tharp property (Jack Erickson) at the corner of Hoch and Keystone Roads on how it was handled.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** **Motion by Clous supported by Fleis** to accept the Consent Calendar with change: to pull the Minutes of October 10, 2006 and the Treasurer's Report. To approve the following: to pay the Township General fund vouchers # 23605-23692, the Ambulance fund vouchers # 9285-9413, the Fire fund vouchers # 5904-5947, for a grand total of \$156,229.34. To approve the Sewer Working Account Voucher # 1026-1029, the Sewer fund voucher # 1003, the Water fund assessment account vouchers # 1144-1146 and the Water fund working account vouchers # 2199-2211, for a grand total of \$620,796.09. To accept the EMS, Fire, Assessing, Zoning and Supervisor's report for the month of October. Correct Voucher numbers on December 2005 report with Board Minutes, Hiring of four new paid on call members, Employee resignations, Surplus 1994 GMC Jimmy. Roll Call Vote: Lowe, Fleis, Tharp, Rademaker, Clous 5 yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Rademaker supported by Lowe** to approve the minutes of October 10, 2006 with corrections. 5 Yeas, Motion carried. The Treasurer's Report will not be accepted due to the fact she is out of office and there is no Treasurer at this time.

**OLD BUSINESS: Motion by Rademaker supported by Fleis** to table the Curbside Recycling plan until a later date. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Fleis supported by Clous** to have the Treasurer's Office research the correct amount on Sewer Assessments that were paid in full and refund any delinquent fees and interest that was charged to Rodney Harrand or any other businesses if they had the same. RCV: Fleis, Rademaker, Tharp, Lowe, Clous 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS: Motion by Fleis supported by Rademaker** to reimburse Andrew McHugh \$350.00 which is half of his tuition under the Blair township Tuition Reimbursement program per the policy. RCV: Rademaker, Clous, Lowe, Tharp, Fleis. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Tharp supported by Fleis** to table the Elmer's pay draw on Sewer work because nothing has been received. RCV: Tharp, Fleis, Clous, Rademaker, Lowe. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Rademaker supported by Tharp** to approve the pay draw for Gosling Czubak on Sewer work on Invoice # 54052 in the amount of \$9,353.13. RCV: Tharp, Fleis, Clous, Rademaker, Lowe. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Rademaker supported by Tharp** to declare as surplus equipment due to being non-operational H.P. Computer Monitor, Epson Printer, H.P. Printer, Pioneer bag cell phone, Misc. computer speakers, Brother 1820 c Fax Machine and to allow Carl to solicit the playground equipment for bids. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Fleis supported by Clous** to grant the request for payment for the bond issue on the Wastewater Treatment Plant to the county in the amount of \$11,573.42. RCV: Clous, Rademaker, Fleis, Lowe, Tharp. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Tharp supported by Fleis** to table amending the Agreement for the Municipal Retirement System Inc. until December. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Rademaker supported by Fleis** to approve the Letter of Understanding with the Road Commission and that Blair Township is aware of the Northern Estates Condominium development and Blair Township will administer in the future, requests for special assessment districts for road improvements within, adjacent to, or serving said development the same as they would for any other requests for special assessment districts for road improvements. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

Mr. Ron Gallop, Plant Manager Cherry Growers, Inc. spoke to the board that they do not have a reliable source of water in case of an emergency. They are in located Green Lake Township and would like to extend the water main from Blair to Green Lake Township where his facility is located. Mr. Gallop stated they would only use the water if there were an emergency. Cherry Growers will incur any costs that the township has due to researching this project. **Motion by Fleis supported by Rademaker** to table this issue with Cherry Growers with the understanding should Blair Township incur any costs researching this project that Cherry Growers will reimburse the Township. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Rademaker supported by Fleis** to table approving Contract with Wade Trim Operations for Water System until Township can have discussion meeting with legal counsel. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Fleis supported by Rademaker** to approve the delinquent Water & Sewer Special Assessments and Water Bills and roll over onto the Winter 2006 Tax bills. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Fleis supported by Lowe** to table the water amendment changes and expanded water district. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Tharp supported by Fleis** to table the contract for the copy machine. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

**Motion by Fleis supported by Rademaker** to grant the request of the Medical Director to use the meeting room to conduct Emergency Medical Technician Classes from January 2007 and

continue through June 2007 providing the scheduling does not interfere with Township meetings. RCV: Clous, Lowe, Tharp, Rademaker, Fleis 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

Discussion was proposed by Fleis for the Township Board to consider creating a Manager's position with the township. He believes it would be very beneficial to the township in several different capacities. He would like to have the board to consider hiring a full-time Township Manager who can assume many tasks of the supervisor. He also proposed that the supervisor's duties be reduced only to statutory duties of office in which that would put that person on a part-time basis. The Manager's position would be solely controlled by the Township Board. He believes the township would be better suited as fast as we are growing. The township would be in a much better position to handle any political changes or secure the day-to-day functions in case of any future recalls. **Motion by Fleis supported by Rademaker** to table items (N) and (O) and give the board time to think about this and set up a meeting in 3 to 4 days. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

Discussion was held on having a Treasurer's Office Audit. Mr. Lowe was in favor of having a Latent Audit, which would go into detail. Mr. Lowe feels public perception vs. the truth is very strong and he is in favor of such audit however costs would be expensive. At this time **NO ACTION TAKEN** as board members would rather wait and see when the annual fiscal audit has been completed.

**Motion by Fleis supported by Clous** to authorize the clerk to use employees as necessary due to the additional workload. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

The clerk asked the board to allow the clerk's office to switch offices with the treasurer's office because there is more space and room for records to be kept. **NO ACTION TAKEN** the board feels it can be done later after the Township Audit is completed and no board decision would be needed.

**LIMITED PUBLIC INPUT:** Duane Sanford 621 Autumnview Lane spoke on how nice it was to see the Fire Truck in his subdivision passing out glow necklaces on Halloween night for the kids. He would like to be informed on the process the township takes in hiring a Manager and would like to see it posted. He stated the Manager's and Supervisor's duties must be clear on the divisions of positions.

Don Weathers feels the township is just doing a grab for power. He is against the idea of a Township Manager.

Carrie Bautzmann, Assessing Secretary would like to work 3 (ten) hour days. The board feels they need to speak with the Assessor since he was not available. The board will get back to her at the next Special Meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** **Motion by Fleis supported by Rademaker** to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. 5 Yeas, Motion carried.

Lori L. McGee  
Deputy Clerk

Betty A. Tharp  
Clerk / Acting Chairperson