

BLAIR TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Meeting

July 10, 2007

Approved Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Blair Township Board of Trustees was held at 2:00 pm on July 10, 2007 at the Township Hall and called to order by the Supervisor Fleis.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL: Members: Clous, Lowe, Rademaker (excused), DeKuiper, Fleis, Zeits, and Tharp were present. There were 15 guests in attendance along with the Zoning Administrator Sara Kopriva, Carl Bearinger Maintenance Coordinator, Jim Carroll Fire Chief, Daryl Case Medical Director and Lori McGee Deputy Clerk.

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

Anthony Blossingham 3060 Crimson Ranch Lane spoke about the Crimson Ranch development and cannot build a retaining wall due to all the restrictions and would like the township to be a strong advocate against the Storm Water Run-off Ordinance. He spoke of the drainage ditch on his property, which limits the use of the property.

Motion by Tharp supported by DeKuiper to table item (I), and add item (P) discuss Insurance stipends; and to accept the amended agenda as presented. All in favor 6 yeas, 0 nays, motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS/SPECIAL REPORTS:

County Commissioner Report: Commissioner Thomas talked about the property owners on the Boardman River backwater draw down. They have filed a lawsuit against the County to stop the draw down. Commissioner Thomas stated the County was told by the DEQ to do the backwater draw down. He also mentioned the City of Traverse and the County want to televise all Commission Meetings. He is in favor of this if all viewers could receive it. Right now only cable company viewers can receive it. It is not fair to spend money where there are so many residents that aren't eligible to receive the channel.

Commissioner Fleis mentioned that the Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners will be holding their monthly meeting July 25th, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Blair Township Hall. He stated the County Commissioners travel to area townships to go to the residents and more can attend the meetings in their own area. Otherwise the county residents would have to travel into the county to attend the meetings. He commented that attendance is low and would really like more to attend. He also commented on House Bill #4780 removing township duties to the county level. The County passed a Resolution opposing HB 4780 and it was sent to the State.

Commissioner Fleis spoke of the Courthouse Security Contract. He stated the County Commission supported a motion inviting all Judges to a Ways and Means Meeting to discuss having security in the Courts. Many local county level courts do not provide security.

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

Announcements / Correspondence: Treasurer Brenda DeKuiper reported that the last weekend in July we will be installing the new playground equipment for the 5-12 year olds. Volunteers are still needed. She mentioned that the 2nd Annual Family Fun Day in the Park will be held on August 18th.

Supervisor Marilyn Fleis reported that the Blair Library Committee is having a summer library in the Blair Park Pavilion this summer. There will be programs for the young in the daytime and for adults in the evenings. Also mentioned that TADL will be holding a meeting on August 9, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. at the Blair Township Hall. The Supervisor announced that Blair Township Fire Department received a Certificate of Appreciation from the House of Hope.

CONSENT CALENDAR: **Motion by Clous supported by Tharp** to accept the Consent Calendar. To approve the following: to pay the Township General Fund Vouchers #24317-24396, the Ambulance Fund Vouchers #9961-10029, the Fire & Police Fund Vouchers #6109-6122, and the Trust and Agency Fund Vouchers #1255-1261 for a grand total of \$154,927.63. To approve the Sewer Bill Fund Vouchers #1055-1056, the Water Assessment Fund Vouchers #1160, and the Water Bill Fund Vouchers #2294-2306 for a grand total of \$18,707.28. To accept the Assessing, Zoning, EMS, Fire, Water, Supervisor and Treasurer Reports' for the month of June 2007. To approve the regular meeting Minutes of June 12, 2007. Roll Call Vote: Lowe yeas, DeKuiper yeas, Fleis yeas, Zeits yeas, Tharp yeas, Clous yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: **Motion by Tharp supported by Fleis** to deny the request on the proposed amended Storm Water Run Off Ordinance presented by the Grand Traverse County Drain

Commission. Roll Call Vote: DeKuiper yeas, Fleis yeas, Zeits yeas, Tharp yeas, Clous yeas, Lowe yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion was held on possibly changing Township Office Hours. It was mentioned that all factors need to be considered before such changes take place. Factors such as consistency, staff changes, and hours currently held. Busier times for some offices gives offices extra time to catch up on needed work during slower hours of 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. It also was mentioned that the current office hours have been in place since 1996. No Action Taken.

Motion by DeKuiper supported by Zeits to approve the purchase and installation of emergency lights, siren and radio for the new echo unit totaling \$4,477.60 from Grand Traverse Mobile Communications. Roll Call Vote: Tharp yeas, Clous yeas, Fleis yeas, Zeits yeas, Lowe yeas, DeKuiper yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Lowe supported by Clous to approve the contribution to the Traverse City Senior Center in the amount of \$2,565.00. Roll Call Vote: DeKuiper yeas, Lowe yeas, Zeits yeas, Fleis yeas, Clous yeas, Tharp yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Lowe to approve Resolution # 2007-14 supporting the Grand Traverse County Geographic Information System (GIS) Internet Map Application. Roll Call Vote: Zeits yeas, DeKuiper yeas, Clous yeas, Fleis yeas, Lowe yeas, Tharp yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Clous to approve retaining Tobin & Co. to do the annual audit in the amount of \$8,350.00 and to prepare the State Form F-65 for \$250.00 in addition to the audit fee. Roll Call Vote: Tharp yeas, Fleis yeas, Clous yeas, DeKuiper yeas, Lowe yeas, Zeits yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by DeKuiper to approve a request for payment from the DPW in the amount of \$251,512.00 for the sanitary pumping station #6 that we use out of the Bond payment to Garfield Township. Roll Call Vote: Clous yeas, Tharp yeas, DeKuiper yeas, Fleis yeas, Lowe yeas, Zeits yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Clous to approve the request for a Bond payment to Gourdie-Fraser for a Sewer close out review in the amount of \$2,832.50. Roll Call Vote: Zeits yeas, Lowe yeas, Fleis yeas, DeKuiper yeas, Tharp yeas, Clous yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Clous to approve the request for payment from the DPW for Capitalized Interest of \$150,000.00 and (2) years of Operation and Maintenance cost of \$144,000.00 out of Sewer Bond money. Roll Call Vote: Fleis yeas, Tharp yeas, Clous yeas, Lowe yeas, Zeits yeas, DeKuiper yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Zeits supported by DeKuiper to re-appoint Duane Sanford to the Zoning Board of Appeals to a 3-year term ending 7-13-2010. All in favor, 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Discussion on when the Board of Trustees are going to meet to hold a workshop on updating all the Personnel Policies. It was agreed that July 18th, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.

Motion by Tharp supported by Clous to change Article (V) page 2 of the Junkyard Ordinance to read as: Upon approval of application the Planning Commission shall authorize the **Zoning Administrator** to issue a license for one year. Roll Call Vote: Lowe yeas, Zeits yeas, DeKuiper yeas, Fleis yeas, Clous yeas, Tharp yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Fleis supported by Tharp to recommend to the Planning Commission to approve Zoning Ordinance Amendment #104-05-06-14 Section 20.06 Changeable Letter Signs 2) Electronic changeable letter sign display shall change a maximum of 1 time per minute or longer; time and temperature a maximum of 1 time per 15 seconds. Roll Call Vote: Fleis yeas, Zeits yeas, DeKuiper yeas, Lowe yeas, Tharp yeas, Clous yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by DeKuiper to adopt Zoning Ordinance Amendment #104-05-06-15 Section 20.02 General Provisions **4.) Any sign containing lewd, indecent or obscene words or symbols is prohibited;** as recommended by Grand Traverse County Planning Commission and the Blair Township Planning Commission. Roll Call Vote: Zeits yeas, DeKuiper yeas, Lowe yeas, Tharp yeas, Clous yeas, Fleis yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by DeKuiper supported by Zeits to adopt Zoning Ordinance Amendment #104-05-06-19 Section 20.06 Signs in Commercial Manufacturing Districts **5.) Pole cover shall not exceed 25 % of sign width;** as recommended by Grand Traverse County Planning Commission and the Blair Township Planning Commission. Roll Call Vote: DeKuiper yeas, Zeits yeas, Fleis yeas, Tharp yeas, Lowe yeas, Clous yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Clous to amend the budget and approve the request for lending \$13,000.00 to the Playground Fund for surfacing out of Fund Balance to help pay for the playground equipment until the money is raised to be put back in. Roll Call Vote: Lowe yeas, Clous yeas, Zeits yeas, DeKuiper yeas, Tharp yeas, Fleis yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Supervisor Marilyn Fleis asked the Board to rescind her pay raise from last month's meeting. After some discussion it was brought to the attention that at the Annual Public Hearing on the Budget it might not be legal to withdraw a salary increase of an Elected Official after the Budget Hearing. No Action Taken.

Motion by DeKuiper supported by Clous to change the date on stipend pay for employees beginning on July 1st, 2007 instead of August 1st, 2007 set previously in which the stipend money will be paid to those employees eligible on a monthly or bi-monthly basis depending on when they are paid. Roll Call Vote: Tharp yeas, Lowe yeas, Fleis yeas, Clous yeas, DeKuiper yeas, Zeits yeas. 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.

Public Input: Roseannah Keith 1711 County Rd 633 thanked the Board for being able to hear everyone with the way the microphones are set up.

Adjournment: Motion by Fleis supported by Lowe to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Lori L. McGee, Deputy Clerk

Marilyn Fleis, Supervisor