

BLAIR TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
November 13, 2007
Approved

CALL TO ORDER: The Regular meeting of the Blair Township Board of Trustees was held at 6:00 pm on November 13, 2007 at the Township Hall.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL: Members Present: Fleis, Tharp, Clous, Lowe, Dekuiper, Rademaker, Zeits was excused. There were 5 guests in attendance along with the Assessor-Aaron Plowman, Zoning Administrator-Sara Kopriva, Medical Director-Daryl Case, Fire Chief-Jim Carroll, Maintenance-Carl Bearinger, Martin Hisem-Water Department and Clyde Johnson from Gosling Czubak.

LIMITED PUBLIC INPUT: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Tharp supported by Clous to approve the Agenda with change. Add letter (n) Water assessment interest rate, letter (o) Resolution to set water fees, and letter (p) Specification for water and Sewer. 6 years, Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS/SPECIAL REPORTS:

County Commissioner Report: Dick Thomas and Larry Fleis updated the Board on the happenings of the County. Dean Bott brought back information on making revenues in recycling old shoes and clothing. The County passed its estimated budget of 148 million dollars. It is up in the air on whether the County Rd Commission being changed from an appointed board to an elected board.

Sheriff's Report: Deputy Opper was on a call. Blair Township had 359 calls, 2nd highest in the County for the month of October 2007.

Mary Gillis from the Grand Traverse County Road Commission made a presentation on matching funds for local road improvement projects. The ongoing increase in the cost of oil in the products makes the projects more expensive.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE: None

CONSENT CALENDAR: Motion by Clous supported by Tharp to accept the Consent Calendar. To approve the following: to pay the Township General fund vouchers # 24645-24756, the Ambulance fund vouchers # 10297-10436, the Fire fund vouchers # 6202-6240, the Trust & Agency Fund vouchers # 1287-1292 for a grand total of

\$267,289.59. To approve the Sewer Working Account Voucher # 1063-1068, the Water fund assessment account voucher # 1166-1168 and the Water fund working account vouchers # 2350-2367 for a grand total of \$658,866.03. To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for October 9, 2007 and the Special Meeting Minutes of November 1, 2007. To accept the EMS, Fire, Assessing, Zoning, Water, Treasurer and Supervisor's report for the month of October 2007. Roll Call Vote: Rademaker yea, Fleis yea, Lowe yea, Tharp yea, Clous yea, Dekuiper yea, 6 yeas, Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Closing of the offices on Election Day. Mr. Fleis asked the board to explain the reasons for closing of the offices on Election Day. The clerk read the excerpt from the Michigan Election Law stating the rules on a polling place and how it is kept separate from the rest of the room and only the persons in the actual process of voting are allowed to be in the voting area. With the new offices located in the same room presents a problem if the offices would be kept opened on Election Day. Mr. Fleis would like the board to take a re look at closing of the offices; for he feels that the offices should be open for the residents.

Motion by Tharp supported by Rademaker to reappoint Roger Zeits to the Zoning Board of Appeals from 11-20-07 to 11-20-2010. 6 yeas, Motion carried.

Public Hearing on SU/SPR #07-10-01 CJ Auto Body and Restoration located at 4046 Irish Hills, Traverse City, MI. 49684. The Supervisor explained the rules for speaking at a Public Hearing. The Clerk announced the Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the Traverse City Record Eagle on October 23, 2007 and mailings were mailed out on October 19, 2007. The Supervisor opened the Public Hearing at 7:48 p.m. Mr. Charles Peck and Jamie Cramer made a presentation on their intent to open a state of the art body shop. There were no comments for or against the hearing. The supervisor closed the Public Hearing at 7:58 p.m. **Motion by Tharp supported by Lowe** to grant the SU/SPR request for CJ's Auto Body and Restoration located at 4046 Irish Hills Traverse City, MI 49684 for it meets the standard of approval in Section 22.04 from the Blair Township Zoning Ordinance A thru g and to add the Staff recommendations per Section 18.05 1 thru 7. Roll Call Vote: Rademaker yea, Dekuiper yea, Lowe yea, Clous yea, Fleis yea, Tharp yea, 6 yeas, Motion carried.

Motion by Dekuiper supported by Lowe to amend Section 20.06 Signs in Commercial Manufacturing Districts. Zoning Ordinance Amendment # 104-05-06-14. letter (I) Changeable Letter Signs. (1) Changeable letter signs, which are either mechanical or electronic shall be permitted, provided that they are either a wall, pole or monument type of sign. (2) Electronic changeable letter sign display shall change a maximum of 1 time per 5 seconds. Roll Call Vote: Clous yea, Lowe yea, Fleis yea, Rademaker yea, Tharp yea, Dekuiper yea, 6 yeas, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Clous to amend Section 16.04 Fences. Zoning Amendment 104-05-07-01 (1) a thru l and (2). Roll Call Vote: Lowe yea, Dekuiper yea, Fleis yea, Clous yea, Rademaker yea, Tharp yea, 6 yeas, Motion carried.

Motion by Clous supported by Dekuiper to amend Section 18.43 Cluster Development. Zoning Amendment #104-05-07-02 Section C. Change the Public to Central and remove Section D in entirety. Roll Call Vote: Fleis yea, Rademaker yea, Tharp yea, Clous yea, Dekuiper yea, Lowe yea, 6 yeas, Motion carried.

Motion by Clous supported by Dekuiper to approve the Winter 2007 Newsletter with the corrections. The Newsletter has a lot of information about the history of Blair and was well put together. 6 yeas, Motion carried.

Motion by Dekuiper supported by Clous to end the contract with Northern Office Equipment effective 30 days from November 14, 2007 and to contract with Output Business Solutions. Dekuiper yea, Clous yea, Fleis yea, Rademaker yea, Tharp yea, Lowe yea, 6 yeas, Motion carried.

Motion by Rademaker supported by Dekuiper to deny the request to waive a late fee on a water bill account # 560-033-00. 5 yeas, 1 nay- Clous, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Clous to request from the Grand Traverse County DPW the final payment No. Thirteen to Elmer's Crane & Dozer for the Blair Township Sanitary Sewer System. Roll Call Vote: Tharp yea, Clous yea, Lowe yea, Rademaker yea, Dekuiper yea, Fleis yea, 6 yeas, Motion carried.

Public Hearing on the Blair Township Water Ordinance. The Supervisor explained the rules for speaking at a Public Hearing. The Clerk announced the notice of the Public Hearing was in the Traverse City Record Eagle on November 6, 2007. The Supervisor opened the Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m. There were no comments for or against. The Supervisor closed the Public Hearing at 7:26 p.m. The water and sewer committee presented to the board the reasons for adopting a new ordinance instead of amending the original one. **Motion by Tharp supported by Clous** to adopt a new Water Ordinance number 128-07 to administer, regulate and provide for connection to use the Blair Water System, Installation of service Connections, Rates and Charges for Water Services, Cross Connection Control, and Penalties for Violation thereof in the Township of Blair, County of Grand Traverse, Michigan with the changes made by the Committee. Roll Call Vote: Rademaker yea, Fleis yea, Lowe yea, Dekuiper yea, Clous yea, Tharp yea, 6 yeas, Motion carried.

Motion by Dekuiper supported by Fleis to amend Ordinance # 126-06 Sewage Disposal System Operation/Maintenance to change Section 6: to read All premises to which services of the System shall be available shall connect to the System within thirty six (36) months from the date sewer service was available for connection to premise, the Township shall notify the premise a minimum of Eighteen (18) months prior to the expiration of the thirty six (36) month of the mandatory connection date.

To remove restaurants-food only from the REU table (Table 1) of the Sewer Ordinance. Roll Call Vote: Lowe yea, Fleis yea, Clous yea, Rademaker yea, Tharp yea, Dekuiper yea, 6 yeas, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Dekuiper to adopt Resolution # 2007-16 regarding amendment to the Defined Contribution Plan Adoption Agreement for Pension as recommended by the Township Legal Council. Roll Call Vote: Rademaker yea, Dekuiper yea, Clous yea, Lowe yea, Fleis yea, Tharp yea, 6 yeas Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Rademaker to have Jim White the original bonding attorney of the water system to calculate a blended rate on the water assessment interest rate on the refinancing. Roll Call Vote: Rademaker yea, Lowe yea, Dekuiper yea, Fleis yea, Tharp yea, Clous yea, 6 yeas, Motion carried.

Motion by Clous supported by Lowe to pass Resolution # 2007-17, Resolution To Set Water Fees. Roll Call Vote: Fleis yea, Clous yea, Lowe yea, Dekuiper yea, Tharp yea, Rademaker yea, 6 yeas, Motion carried.

Motion by Tharp supported by Clous to authorize changes to be made to the Blair Township Technical Specifications 2007 and be mailed to the DEQ for approval. Roll Call Vote: Clous yea, Rademaker yea, Tharp yea, Lowe yea, Dekuiper yea, Fleis yea, 6 yeas, Motion carried.

LIMITED PUBLIC INPUT: Schazard Khan from Cynergy asked the board if he could give a bid for the Township Phone System.

ADJOURNMENT: **Motion by Tharp supported by Clous** to adjourn at 8:36 P.M. 6, yeas, Motion carried.

Betty A. Tharp
Township Clerk

Marilyn Fleis
Township Supervisor