

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP</b>  <b><u>BOARD OF TRUSTEES</u></b>  <b><u>Special Meeting</u></b>  <b><u>Saturday, May 5, 2018</u></b>  <b>9:00 a.m.</b>  <b>Yankee Springs Township Hall</b>  <b>284 N. Briggs Rd., Middleville, Michigan 49333</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MINUTES</b></p>	<p><b>FINAL MINUTES</b>  Page 1 of 5  YST Bd Trustees  5.5.18  Board Approval  June 14, 2018</p>
<p>Meeting called to order at 9:05 AM by Supervisor Mark Englerth.</p> <p><b><u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Roll Call:</u></b> Jansma, J. Lippert, Englerth, M. Boysen, VandenBerg.</p> <p><b><u>Staff Present:</u></b> Greg Purcell, Cathy Strickland</p> <p><b><u>Visitors:</u></b> 1 – Bill Medendorp</p>	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p> <p><b>PLEDGE</b> <b>ROLL CALL</b></p>
<p><b><u>PURPOSE OF MEETING-</u></b></p> <p>To Set Agenda for Thursday’s meeting of May 10, 2018 as directed from Board meeting of April 30, 2018.</p>	<p><b>Purpose of Meeting</b> (Agenda)</p>
<p><b><u>MOTION TO DISMISS MEETING AT 10 AM:</u></b></p> <p>Motion by Jansma with support Lippert to dismiss meeting at 10 a.m. Roll Call: Englerth: Yes, Lippert: Yes, Jansma: Yes, VandenBerg: No, Boysen: No. Yes: 3, No: 2. Motion Carried.</p>	<p><b>MOTION to dismiss meeting at 10:00 a.m.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Miscellaneous Items:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boysen commented that he will not be at Thursday’s meeting (5/10/18). (<i>Absent with notice</i>).</li> <li>• Report received from Alice Jansma (<b><u>Treasurer’s Report</u></b>) will be in the packet on Monday.</li> <li>• Lippert noted next Thursday (May 10) will begin with a <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Public Hearing <b>Special Assessment District #47 – Willson/Turner Lake Road Improvement.</b></li> <li>• M. Englerth commented on having the information for Thursday’s meeting earlier to be able to review before the meeting, instead of getting the info at the meeting.</li> <li>• J. Lippert reviewed items of the Consent Agenda – March/April EFT mentioned.</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>REGARDING GLASWA ARTICLES OF INCORPORTATION:</u></b> S. VandenBerg commented on wanting to discuss GLASWA Articles of Incorporation that say that you cannot work for GLASWA and be a representative on the board. VandenBerg commented that some things should be voted on as a board, but since Boysen will be not be at the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, it will have to be discussed at a later time. J. Lippert and A. Jansma commented that there should be an opinion on this from the attorney. VandenBerg commented that it had to be voted on. (Jansma reminded that we are setting the agenda.)</p>	

M. Englerth commented on talking about items at regular meetings and adding to the laundry list.

**Add to future meeting agenda:** Articles of Incorporation for GLASWA – (Gun Lake Sewer & Water Authority is a separate entity. – J. Lippert commented for the record.)

M. Englerth commented that when “WE” have an attorney’s opinion, “everyone has to have it.”

**NEWSPAPER COVERAGE:**

S. VandenBerg commented that the Board needs to talk to Mr. Yonkers regarding items mentioned in the paper. M. Boysen suggested that Shane VandenBerg go to Mr. Yonkers directly as not to possibly create an adversarial position. VandenBerg commented on dropping that portion and asking the board if they feel they agree with him being “charged”. “I respect all of you, but we are getting to the bottom of this. I’m not looking for back up,” noted VandenBerg.

Boysen reiterated that he didn’t want to create an adversarial situation with the press.

S. VandenBerg commented that he would ask everyone on the board individually (at a future board meeting) regarding any information about him getting recalled.

J. Lippert commented that the issue with the newspaper was discussed at the 4/30/18 meeting.

M. Boysen commented that he has read minutes (prior to his appointment). “Based on minutes, based on conversation, I see absolutely no reason for this (recall). Especially the wording that’s in the recall petition. It makes no sense to me. It’s personal. It’s purely personal.”

S. VandenBerg addressed Alice Jansma regarding her position on the recall.

Jansma commented that she hasn’t read the recall position.

Englerth commented, “Do you want to speak, Jan?...to Mr. VandenBerg’s question?”

J. Lippert commented “No Comment. We shouldn’t be discussing the recall petition.”

M. Englerth commented that he did not have the recall position in front of him, and “nor do I have the newspaper article in front of me, but I think the word, ‘charged’ was circling – an overreach.....it was certainly a sensationalism you put on the front page to attract peoples’ attention. That’s what I got. Was it factual? No.”

**WATER COMMITTEE/WATER ADVISORY BOARD:**

M. Englerth commented that he got 3 months of minutes in his packet, after requesting them. The water committee has been in existence since August.

Englerth asked for a meeting to sit down with this committee and to see what their goals were.

Jansma commented that she calls it a committee, it's a "Water Advisory Board." In the board minutes, A. Jansma commented that it was adopted as a Water Advisory Board.

Englerth commented that he will get with Greg Purcell and schedule a meeting.

Boysen commented that there will have to be a change regarding the wordage of the title.

Englerth commented that they'll have a meeting first and get on the same page.

**FIRE STATION:** Englerth commented that he would like Mr. Joe Miller (Fire Chief) to come in to a regular meeting perhaps every quarter for an update on the Fire Station.

**BOARD NOTEPADS:** Englerth commented on notepads (electronic) for the board to avoid violating the Open Meetings Act. An individual met with Vandenberg and Boysen regarding notepads. Boysen commented that it would definitely improve communications and would be separate from personal information. There would be a record (of communication). "I'm a fan of keeping things clear and honest," commented Boysen. The individual would come in and talk to the board. He is from the Sprint store in Hastings. It was noted by Englerth that it would be a \$250 per month charge for the use of devices. Discussion took place regarding having the Sprint representative come to the meeting on Thursday.

**Sprint representative will be on the agenda for Thursday.**

RFP has to be done per Jansma. (Request For Proposal). (For Notepads).

**SOCIAL MEDIA and the TOWNSHIP:** M. Boysen commented on Social Media that came up at the MTA Conference. The session was about keeping in touch with constituents via Twitter, and Facebook. Boysen commented, "It's the way it's going to be. We get on, or we don't and we are going to get left behind. It will take monitoring. It's on kiosks – "We're on Facebook, now". Most feedback can be negative. Twitter is the primary way to spread the word. All the news services use Twitter." M. Boysen is not advocating one way or another, "but we need to talk about it".

**OTHER ITEMS NOTED:**

- **Code Enforcement Officer is getting close to 90 days of employment.** Consent was given by board for continuation. Englerth commented on checking on the wage schedule.
- **Contract of PCI will be approved and signed under OTHER BUSINESS.** (J. Lippert noted that she'll have a copy of the contract for the board members for the meeting).
- **Board Appointments – Planning Commission.** It will be on the agenda. If M. Boysen can make the May 10th meeting, it will be voted on. Otherwise appointments will be in June.

**PLANNER ATTENDANCE:**

**Englerth** commented on when the Planner is called and when the planner is not – to be at a meeting. “This open door to bringing a planner in, it is not necessary. When Larry (Knowles) was there, we had a gatekeeper, we don’t have that now.”

**Boysen** commented that he found R. Harvey to be “exceedingly helpful”. It (having the planner present) brought him up to speed. “I can just go in and take classes or I can just dive in and learn. It seems to be a good spend. We seem to have no trouble spending thousands on legal fees,” added Boysen.

**VandenBerg** commented on having R. Harvey come in to the regular Board (of Trustees) and give the board oversight as to how the board is doing.

Discussion took place. Englerth commented, “Is it a policy we put in place? Or do we want to discuss it further?”

*Brief discussion occurred on keeping M. Boysen on ZBA. Boysen will probably not make the ZBA meeting of Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>.*

**Add to agenda: NEW date for Joint Meeting.**

A. Jansma asked to review **BOARD ACTION items** on draft of agenda:

**Written opinion of attorney regarding Closed Session minutes** has been provided.

**Discussion took place regarding Water Contract Change** – VandenBerg and Englerth commented on going “month by month” on the contract. A. Jansma asked about the specs. VandenBerg commented that Boysen “has to be here.” Specs were postponed to next month. Boysen felt the Water Advisory Board should be doing this (reading specs) and if there’s a problem with the Water Advisory Board, that has to be dealt with. Further discussion took place.

VandenBerg commented he would like the township engineer to come in and “give us Board to engineer explanations and those are the things I understand.”

Englerth commented that he has information from GLASWA for packets in his truck.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** *(A motion to adjourn was being made, but there was still Public Comment).*

**Medendorp** commented, “Why doesn’t he use the phone, like everybody else does?” (Medendorp was referring to Boysen who will be absent from the meeting of May 10th). (Boysen commented that he will see what condition he is in.)

**Purcell** commented, “Thank you for getting the Joint meeting on agenda.” **In regards to a Water Report** – Purcell commented that he wanted to bring the water report to the Water Advisory Board prior to submitting it to the township board so that they are comfortable with it. At the last water advisory board meeting significant discussion took place on nitrates. They talked about sending out flyers to all the township residents encouraging them to get their water tested. “I’ve done some homework on that with the Board of Health and Prein &

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Newhof... but the board would have to approve the cost of sending the flyers out,” noted Purcell. Purcell commented that **the approval may be something the board wants to put on its agenda for May 10<sup>th</sup>**. Regarding the flyers, G. Purcell commented to the board, “I’ve said that I would help. Alice said she would help...It’s your choice, I’m not say you need to do this. I’m willing to help...”

**A. Jansma** commented to Englerth (regarding Englerth mentioning that when he (Englerth) brought up the nitrate issue is was pushed aside), that a resident didn’t want to have it (nitrate issue) published in the paper because of land values and he was trying to sell his house at the time.

**Purcell** added that information regarding this issue could have negative impact on property values and it has to be approached very carefully. Purcell added that systematic testing of water is probably not a bad idea. Purcell noted there are expenses to the testing.

**Report for Planning Commission** (on Agenda): Purcell noted that he would like to request action on: Attendance approval of the June 7<sup>th</sup> – Citizens Planner Seminar. (The information is in G. Purcell’s report).

**Boysen** commented he thinks the board should move on with water testing. Boysen also commented, “If you build a house and you drill a hole in the ground for water, you got to get it tested anyway.... it’s not like it’s some sort of secret information.”

**Englerth** commented that he couldn’t agree more (with Boysen). Englerth commented that Kraai found a much easier vehicle which normally the private sector cannot ...”

**Purcell** interjected, “I’ve got a whole box of those testing kits out in my car...”

At this point, the meeting started to informally draw to a close. Alice Jansma left meeting at 10:11 a.m. and Jan Lippert left at 10:12 a.m.

**Formal adjournment** followed:

Motion by Englerth with support from Boysen to adjourn at **10:13** a.m. Approved by all. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted:  
Deb Mousseau  
Recording Secretary 5.5.18

Date: June 14, 2018

Approved : \_\_\_\_\_  
Janice C. Lippert, Township Clerk

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**Formal  
Adjournment**