

Routing 10/11/12

YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Regular Meeting

Thursday, October 11, 2012  
Yankee Springs Township Hall  
284 North Briggs Road, Middleville, Michigan 49333

MINUTES

DRAFT N  
Bd -  
PC -  
ZBA -  
Lippert -  
Trotter -  
Tracy -  
Hansen -  
TTES -  
Bridges -  
Webb -

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Al McCrumb.  
  
Roll Call: All Present: Jerkatis, J. Lippert, McCrumb, M. Cook, Schwennesen  
  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
  
Staff Present: Deputy Supervisor Alice Jansma, Constable Jim Orr, Zoning Administrator Robert Lippert, Frank Fiala.  
  
Visitors: 15 (not including staff present).

CALL TO ORDER  
  
ROLL CALL  
  
PLEDGE

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:  
  
• Add to Old Business: Report on the Barry County MTA meeting held last month. Report by Mary Cook.  
• Add to Old Business: Park Report- Receipt of funds (Alice Jansma).  
• Add to Acknowledgement of Visitors: Paul Heystek (FEMA/LOMA's) (after C. Stolsonburg)  
• Strike/Remove Special Meeting Sept. 5, 2012 - minutes are still in progress.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:  
  
Motion by M. Cook with support from J. Lippert to accept the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustee Meeting of September 12, 2012 as submitted. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
  
Motion to accept minutes of the Regular Board of Trustee meeting of September 12, 2012. Motion Carried.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS:  
  
Nick Barlow of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. Volunteer Energy Services is a natural gas supplier. References for this supplier are: Castleton Township, Middleville, Barry County, Caledonia, and Mike Powers of BayPointe. This service is available to both residential and commercial consumers. Discussion took place on gas prices per 1000 cubic feet (MCF). Currently, Consumers is \$5.40 MCF and Volunteer is \$3.99 MCF. Nick Barlow said that municipalities receive a better discount than residential or commercial. N. Barlow said that municipalities are currently seeing a savings of 27%. Barlow said the only actual change one would see on a gas bill is the price of the gas. Discussion occurred regarding discontinuation of service, fees for returning to service to Consumer's (or lack of fees), and termination at-will (with a verbal and written notice).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS  
  
Nick Barlow, Representative of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc.  
  
Page 1 of 6  
YST Bd Trustees  
10-11-12

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS: Cont'd**

Motion by J. Lippert with support from M. Cook to enter into a six month contract with Volunteer Energy Services for natural gas at the YS Township building and the YS Fire Station. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

**TTES- Dave Middleton** reported that the average calls per month this year were 117. 92 calls were received in September. (This was the lowest all year). D. Middleton felt that the additional ambulance coverage on summer weekends worked well. The additional coverage cut response time by at least ten minutes. Jerkatis, Treasurer, asked what type of emergencies were addressed. D. Middleton responded that most of the accidents were boating or automobile related. Other calls involved heart attacks and general illnesses. It was confirmed that there were no issues on the bike trails so far.

In July, 164 calls were received. July has characteristically been the busiest month for TTES. Several grass fires occurred in July due to the dryness and excessive heat.

Things are going well at the Fire Station. Vehicles are holding up well. Weekly checks are being done on them.

**BARRY COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Craig Stolsonburg**

C. Stolsonburg announced that the 2013 balanced budget has been proposed. This budget is with no lay-offs.

An October 23<sup>rd</sup> public hearing is scheduled for the above-mentioned budget.

C. Stolsonburg said that there are lots of openings on various county-wide committees right now. If anyone is interested in getting involved, check The Banner or The Reminder and contact the administrator for an application.

**Paul Heystek, YS Resident, regarding LOMA's (Letter of Map Amendments) and FEMA-**

P. Heystek was recently contacted last month by the engineering firm, Fishbeck & Thompson regarding the creating of the map of the Gun Lake "Flood Plain" area. After the map is officially completed, 312 acres, (affecting 835 parcels) will be removed from the flood plain area in YS Township. Added to the flood plain will be 104 acres, affecting 75 properties.

The map has not yet been approved; therefore the information has not gone on to FEMA. M. Cook asked about cash refunds for residents affected. P. Heystek commented that was "Phase II" (down the road). It was mentioned that the possibility of FEMA accepting this map will probably be 95% without any difficulty. The map has been paid for by the YS Township.

P. Heystek suggested putting this map (PDF Form) on the YS Township website. Residents would be able to view their property. J. Jerkatis thanked Paul Heystek for all of his work on this issue, strictly on a volunteer basis. G. Purcell, Planning Commission member, added that residents should be aware of the map so they could get relief on insurance.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS: Cont'd**

Motion to enter into a six month contract with Volunteer Energy Services MOTION CARRIED.

**TTES REPORT: David Middleton**

**BARRY COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: C. Stolsonburg**

Possibly this could be highlighted in the township newsletter or other local media. M. Cunningham, also of the PC, asked if this map work was just for Gun Lake and would FEMA use two foot data.

**R. Lippert, Zoning Administrator** replied that if FEMA accepts the map, it will acknowledge better data is available. Barry County has the data. Aerocon (an aerial mapping company) has covered the whole county. R. Lippert commented that the township has the additional data (for other YS areas besides Gun Lake) and the backup information- without paying for it.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: (Limit to 3 minutes)**

**Frank Fiala, Road Commissioner, Planning Commission Chair-** referred to Brad Lamberg, of the Barry County Road Commission, commented that road work has been completed on Theris Drive and the work for Manitou Lane/Hill/Shaw Lake special assessment district should be completed as of the end of next week.

**Bill Baughman, of S. Patterson Rd.,** noticed the YS public hearing notice in The Sun & News and inquired as to the Public Hearing procedure on setbacks. Clerk Lippert confirmed that the notice is a normal procedure and after the public hearing it is brought to the Board of Trustees. B. Baughman mentioned that he may send the township clerk a registered letter which then may require another public hearing.

**Scott Haven, of YS Township,** inquired about lawn sprinkling in the future (at the YS Township Hall). The new township hall parking lot has changed the lawn size and adjustments will be needed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** by John Jerkatis

Motion by M. Cook, with support by Schwennesen to accept the financial report as presented. Approved by all. MOTION CARRIED.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:** Al McCrumb

**September Water Report**

**Other Item:** A fracking meeting was recently held in Orangeville Township. The attendance of YS legal counsel was discussed. The lawyer's attendance was not authorized by the YS Board beforehand.

Motion by A. McCrumb with support from M. Cook to approve payment to Bauckham, Sparks, Lohrstorfer, Thall for the amount of \$756.90. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Cathy Strickland asked for additional discussion commenting that this motion sets a dangerous precedent for professional consultants to "assume". McCrumb commented the Township attorney has had a long standing relationship with the township and it may have been a possible assumption on his part, but he didn't think it would set precedent.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS: Cont'd**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**  
**(Limit to 3 minutes)**

**Frank Fiala, Road Commissioner, Planning Commission Chair**

**Bill Baughman, S. Patterson Rd.,**

**Scott Haven, of YS Township**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Treasurer's Report approved**

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:**  
**Al McCrumb**

**Motion to support payment to Bauckham, Sparks, Lohrstorfer, Thall for the amount of \$756.90. MOTION CARRIED.**

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Al McCrumb cont'd**

**Copy of Sale/Purchase of land for gas rights** will be available for public view at the township office.

**New Construction/Twp. Hall Parking lot** – Most of the work should be done prior to the election.

Motion by J. Lippert with support from M. Cook to approve Payment #1 Application to Michigan Dirtworks in the amount of \$34,756.20 for work on the YS Twp. Hall parking lot. ROLL CALL: Jerkatis: yes, J. Lippert: yes, McCrumb: yes, M. Cook: yes, Schwennesen: yes. All yes. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by M. Cook with support from Al Schwennesen to approve Payment #1 Application to Mugen Construction in the amount of \$15,304.50 for work on the YS Twp. Hall. ROLL CALL: Jerkatis: yes, J. Lippert: yes, McCrumb: yes, M. Cook: yes, Schwennesen: yes. All yes. MOTION CARRIED.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: by Robert Lippert**

**September SPR's: (4)**

**Planning Commission:** SEU permit was granted for used car lot in addition to the established business of Estelle's.

Also, a way to arrive at a skewed average setback was voted on.

Maximum size for accessory buildings was increased to 1,600 square feet.

**ZBA:** The ZBA met last month. Minutes presented in packet. Herbert Welz's request for the roadfront

**Complaints: (3)**

1. Port-a-john on Barlow Lake. Attorney advised contacting Health Department. The Health Department doesn't have anything on this. Letter was sent to owner with violations of ordinance cited.
2. PWC's moored at Gun Lake. Renters of property may have riparian rights.
3. Car towing complaint from a residence on Park Drive.

**McKenna Billing-**

Motion by J. Lippert with support from A.Schwennesen to approve the September McKenna billing of \$495.00 and to be passed onto the Planning Commission. ROLL CALL: Jerkatis: no, J. Lippert: yes, McCrumb: yes, M. Cook: yes, Schwennesen: yes. Yes: 4, No: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

**FEMA** - The current total of Letter of Map Amendments is:  
276 LOMA's of 465.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:  
Al McCrumb cont'd**

Motion to approve Payment #1 Application to Michigan Dirtworks in the amount of \$34,756.20 for work on the YS Twp. Hall parking lot. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion to approve Payment #1 Application to Mugen Construction in the amount of \$15,304.50 for work on the YS Twp. Hall . MOTION CARRIED.

**ZONING  
ADMINISTRATOR'S  
REPORT: by Robert  
Lippert**

Motion to approve the September McKenna billing of \$495.00 and to be passed onto the Planning Commission. MOTION CARRIED.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: by Robert Lippert continued**

Motion by M. Cook with support from J. Lippert to approve (after Oct. 15-to permit time for additional individual approval) the progression of supplying mapping information to FEMA. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

R. Lippert mentioned that the map (Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber) is in **draft form**. Once approved, the official map should go on the YS Twp. website. Jerkatis added that the township should get the approval from Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, because of copyright laws.

**CLERK'S REPORT: by J. Lippert**

Motion by M. Cook with support from Schwennesen to approve **September accounts payable** checks #911739-911770 for the total amount of \$42,236.61. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by M. Cook with support from Jerkatis to approve **payroll checks** #4699-4723 for the amount of \$14,330.40. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED. (The amount of 14,330.40 includes the EFT to the IRS.)

**Audit:** The audit was conducted during the first week of October during construction. All went well.

**CPR Class:** was held during September. Sixteen people participated. One of the participants was from the YS Township staff. Sandy Marcukaitis felt that now 16 more people have knowledge to potentially save a life.

**PCI Report:** Construction value for the period of July, August, and September increased \$868,230.00.

**DEQ:** No permits this month.

**Receiving Boards:** YS Election Commission will meet after adjournment of tonight's meeting. (As of Aug. 15, 2012, Receiving Boards are required by Michigan Election law, MCL 168.679(a) - Resolution).

**OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Bill Baughman** commented that the Drain Commissioner said the Cuddy Drain project was shelved.

**OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:**

**Mary Cook** attended the Barry County Chapter of the MTA meeting at Hastings Township. The program was on Mute swan control. The speaker spoke of the Mute swan being an invasive species somewhat like the Asian carp. The Trumpeter swan is the natural species of habitat.

Motion to approve the progression of supplying mapping information to FEMA. MOTION CARRIED.

**CLERK'S REPORT: by J. Lippert**

Accounts Payroll & Payables approved.

**OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT**

**OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS**

**OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS: Continued**

Several laws have been changed recently to take action through the DEQ. The swans (Mute) are eradicated in order to get rid of them. Middle Lake has a real issue with them. They have close to 100 Mute swans. Markings of the Mute Swan and young Trumpeter swans can be very similar.

The next meeting of the Barry County MTA Chapter will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in December at the Commission on Aging Building for a Christmas Potluck.

**Alice Jansma** commented that the 2<sup>nd</sup> payment was made on the grant for the YS Twp. Park. This is a \$50,000 grant. Everything but \$13.53 should be used of this grant. She was informed that a lot of grant money is still available. A possible use for additional grant money could be a disc golf park or the purchase of additional land. The Village of Middleville is putting in a disc golf park.

**Jan Lippert** commented that Risk Management came out today and did a walk-thru the fire station, twp. hall parking lot and YS Park. The Risk Management representative informed Jan that a \$5,000 grant could be applied for – for the handicapped restroom. J. Lippert will apply for this. Informed the representative that there were no lawsuits in zoning in the past three years.

**Frank Fiala** mentioned an Ad hoc meeting that recently took place regarding the future of signage at the Panyrek property. Some of the attendees were: Heather Smith of the BC Road Commission, Jim Panyrek, Mike Powers of BayPointe, and Valerie Barnes. The hour long meeting covered what should be done in order to be proactive about the gateway signage area. McCrumb added that he hopes the next administration will continue on pushing towards a gateway into Yankee Springs. Valerie Barnes indicated that there might be grant money available from the Thornapple Foundation. Further discussion occurred regarding the possibility of hiring a consultant, a “brand”, “logo”, needed (whether it be a sailboat or stagecoach), clarification/confirmation on the township not buying advertising for local business, the possibility of additional grant money mentioned at a MTA meeting (with the requirement of property purchased or “easements”), and way- sign usage.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by M. Cook with support from Jerkatis to adjourn at 9:04 PM. Approved by all.

Respectfully submitted:  
D. Mousseau  
Recording Secretary 10-15-12

Approved Date: October 18, 2012  
Janice C. Lippert, Township Clerk

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Page 6 of 6**  
**YST Bd Trustees**  
**10-11-12**