

Minutes of the Milton Township Board of Trustees March 19, 2012

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Robert Benjamin at 7:00 PM.

Attendance

Present: Robert Benjamin, Linda, DeBroka, Don Kronewitter, Eric Renken, Sharon Ward

Also present: Zoning Administrator Paul Sniadecki, Planning Commission Chair Kelly Sweeney, and the township attorney.

Public Comment

Public comments were made.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion by Renken to approve the February 21, 2012 minutes with 2 changes, in the community reports change, "country administrator" to "county administrator", and in board member comments change "Ruin" to "Run", second by DeBroka

Motion Passed

Community Reports

Zoning Administrator reported there have been 4 site plans. The contempt case against 5-Star went well for the township and that there is to be no riding until the appeal is completed. He is also reporting that the web site has been updated.

Planning Commission reports that there will be a public hearing on April 2, 2012 at 6:30 PM to amend section 14.14 of the zoning ordinances. At their last meeting they voted 5-2 to send the master plan to the board of trustees for approval.

Old Business

Milton's Fire and Ambulance Coverage

SMACS board voted unanimously to enter formal negotiations with Milton Township regarding ambulance coverage. SMAC has 3 ALS units 2 that run 24 hours and 1 that runs 12 hours. SMACS has agreed to pay for the necessary building renovations that would need to be done for them to move into the community center. The unit posted at the Milton Township Community Center would be a 24 hour unit.

Motion by Renken for Milton Township to enter formal negotiations with SMACS ambulance with the supervisor leading those negotiations, second by Kronewitter

Roll call; Yes: Benjamin, DeBroka, Kronewitter, Renken, Ward; No: None
Motion Passed

Motion by Benjamin to hire attorney Westrate, to assist Milton Township in negotiations with SMACS, Edwardsburg Fire/Ambulance, and Niles Township Fire at a rate not to exceed our hourly rate with John Lohrstorfer for those specified matters for the period of time to conclude same, second by Kronewitter

Roll call; Yes: DeBroka, Kronewitter, Renken, Ward, Benjamin; No: None
Motion Passed

For fire coverage we have 3 options, 1 maintain existing coverage, 2 Edwardsburg for all, and 3 Niles Township for All. Any way we go with this we need to consider a 1 mil tax for the fire department, currently 100% of the our operating mil goes to the fire departments.

DeBroka mentioned she would talk to the Niles Township Supervisor and see about getting less than 1 mil. It was discussed that those talks have already occurred and 1 mil is the lowest. Also if the issue is pushed, then Niles Township may want increases beyond the 1 mil.

Ambulance Fire District/Assessment

The attorney described what is needed to setup an assessment.

Motion by DeBroka to have the special meeting on May 17, 2012 at 7:00 PM for the ambulance assessment district, second by Renken

Roll call; Yes: Kronewitter, Renken, Ward, Benjamin, DeBroka; No: None
Motion Passed

Motion by Benjamin to reestablish a special assessment district for the ambulance service, second by Renken

Roll call; Yes: Renken, Ward, Benjamin, DeBroka, Kronewitter; No: None
Motion Passed

Motion by Benjamin to establish two fire districts for fire services for Milton Township, with public hearing May 17, 2012 at 7:30 PM, second by Kronewitter

Roll call; Yes: Ward, Benjamin, DeBroka, Kronewitter, Renken; No: None
Motion Passed

Salary Commission

Motion by Renken to enact ordinance 2012-01, to establish a compensation commission to determine salaries of elected officials, second by Kronewitter

Roll call; Yes: Benjamin, Kronewitter, Renken; No: DeBroka, Ward
Supervisor declare the Motion Failed

New Business

2012 Mowing Bid Process

Motion by Renken, to accept requests for mowing bids to be received no later than 5:00 PM on April 6, 2012, and to be opened at a public meeting on April 11, 2012 at 7:00 PM, second by Kronewitter
Motion Passed

2012 SMC Scholarship Process

Motion by DeBroka to begin process of awarding the annual SMC scholarship for 2012, second by Kronewitter
Motion Passed

Master Plan

We are expecting the master plan on Monday. Only 2 people from the public have been opposed to the future land use. Each board member is encouraged to reach out to the planning commission members.

Reduction of Split Fees for Certain Parcel Lot Line Adjustments

Motion by Benjamin to remove lot split and lot line adjustment fees for residents wanting to create conforming parcels out of non-conforming lots, second by Kronewitter
Motion Passed

Ward will go to the planning commission and ask them about removing fees for combining plots.

Adoption of Cass County Hazardous Mitigation Plan

Motion by Benjamin, to adopt resolution 2012-06R, approval of Cass County Hazard Mitigation Plan, second by Kronewitter.

Roll call; Yes: DeBroka, Kronewitter, Renken, Ward, Benjamin; No: None
Resolution Passed

Financial Reports

Review of Township Budget

Motion by Renken, to adopt resolution 2012-07R, to move \$770.00 from Smith Chapel (mowing) to Inspectors (building inspector wages), and move \$500.00 from Clerk (deputy clerk wages) to Board of Review (wages), second by Benjamin

Roll call; Yes: Kronewitter, Renken, Ward, Benjamin, DeBroka; No: None
Resolution Passed

Financial Report

Financial reports were accepted as presented

Approval of Checks

Motion by Renken to accept checks as presented, second by DeBroka

Roll call; Yes: Renken, Ward, Benjamin, DeBroka, Kronewitter; No: None
Motion Passed

Board Member Comments

Motion by Kronewitter to adjourn, second by Renken
Motion Passed

Meeting adjourned at 10:43 PM