



# Milton Township

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**Minutes for Milton Township Board of Trustees  
Regular Board Meeting  
Milton Township Hall - 32097 Bertrand St., Niles, MI  
Tuesday, July 21, 2015, 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and the pledge was recited.

Board Members Present: Supervisor Benjamin, Treasurer Susan Flowers, Clerk Steve Sante, Trustee Eric Renken

Board Members Absent: Trustee Kelly Sweeney

## **Community Reports:**

### **Planning Commission Ex Officio Member:**

Renken reported that feedback regarding the new zoning ordinance was due to Paul Sniadecki by July 17<sup>th</sup> and a final version of the ordinance is anticipated on the 24<sup>th</sup>. The Township Attorney reported that she worked with Sniadecki on the ordinance and expects no issues. A public hearing is anticipated on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Robert Ziliak-Cass County Commissioner-District 5:**

Mr. Ziliak was not present for the meeting but wanted to let the public know that the county administrator is out with health issues. Mr. Ziliak wants the public to know that he will assist with any issues that arise as a result of the administrator's absence.

## **Public Comment:**

Brandon Bourgeois questioned the township board regarding the Stateline location issue. Mr. Bourgeois wants to know if the board is monitoring the situation. Benjamin indicated it would be best to contact Mr. Ziliak.

## **Board Member Comments:**

Renken indicated that Gumwood just south of the Stateline will be closing July 30<sup>th</sup> and wants the public to be aware of this.

Benjamin indicated there will be a blood drive on July 29<sup>th</sup> from 12:00pm to 5:00pm. It is sponsored by the American Red Cross. Also, paving of 21<sup>st</sup> street is anticipated to begin by the end of the month as well as seal coating on Gumwood and Leet Roads.

Flowers indicated COA will be hosting another bingo event on August 17<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am to 1pm.

Benjamin reported that the Michigan Township Association is interested in using the great hall for training sessions.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Addition of item #4: Assessor

Changes were approved by the board

**Approval of Previous Minutes**

Motion: Renken made a motion to approve the May 19<sup>th</sup> minutes as amended

Second: Flowers

Discussion: None

Motion Passed Unanimously

Motion: Renken made a motion to approve the May 27<sup>th</sup> minutes as presented

Second: Sante

Discussion: None

Motion Passed Unanimously

Motion: Renken made a motion to approve the June 1<sup>st</sup> minutes as presented

Second: Flowers

Discussion: None

Motion Passed Unanimously

Motion: Renken made a motion to approve the June 16<sup>th</sup> minutes as presented

Second: Flowers

Discussion: None

Motion Passed Unanimously

**New Business:**

**Law Enforcement Coverage for Milton Township**

Cass County Sheriff Joseph Underwood presented the estimated costs to have law enforcement coverage in Milton Township for forty hours per week. The costs are estimated at \$101,231. Mr. Underwood indicated the contractual terms could be flexible with the Sheriff's office. More or less coverage could be offered and there is flexibility with regard to times of day. The board question Mr. Underwood for an extensive amount of time. Benjamin indicated he would like to see the public vote on a millage to fund this cost. He also indicated he would like to see any contract approved by the township run for four years so it is in line with the millage renewal. Public comment was sought and Louis Stennis questioned if the car would remain in the township.

## **Building Issues-**

Benjamin listed the outstanding building issues. They are as follows:

- Smell in building
- Water leak in basement
- Acoustics
- Parking lot upgrades

Benjamin asked Flowers to E-mail the board regarding these issues.

The acoustics issue was discussed by the board. The results of the engineering study were reviewed as well as the costs to install the panels. Benjamin agreed to put together a bid packet so that the township can receive quotes on having the work done. The bidding process will be done according to township policy.

## **New Business:**

### **American Red Cross Blood Drives**

Benjamin indicated that the township hall has been used by both the American Red Cross and the COA. The township has been doing advertising for them, primarily by posting signs in the township hall. The township attorney indicated there should not be any issues with this, as they both provide benefit to the community. The attorney indicated a policy is suggested and that a letter of understanding releasing the township from liability is recommended.

### **Township Newsletter**

The newsletter is on hold until the zoning ordinance is completed.

### **Employee Management**

A lengthy discussion regarding employee management occurred with no motions being made.

### **Assessor Training**

The assessor submitted a letter requesting that the township pay an additional \$500 this fiscal year for training classes this year and \$500 less for the next fiscal year. The request was made as the township is growing and there may be need for an assessor with a higher level of licensure in the near future.

Motion: Benjamin made budget resolution 2015-13R to increase the budget by \$500 for assessor training which will be offset by the general fund

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Renken Y, Flowers Y, Sante Y, Benjamin Y

Motion Passed Unanimously

### **Budget Review**

Motion: Benjamin made a budget resolution 2015-14R to increase the following budget items:

Spring Cleaning     +\$111.10

Insurance           +\$682.00

These items are to be offset by the general fund.

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Renken Y, Flowers Y, Sante Y, Benjamin Y

Motion Passed Unanimously

Flowers reports the following

Total in checking, savings, cash boxes, & CD's \$530,584.71

Total in Fire Fund \$31,612.75

**Approval of Checks**

Motion: Sante made a motion to approve the checks as written with the addition of a check in the Amount of \$480 to be paid to Kerry Collins for web hosting.

Second: Benjamin

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Renken Y, Flowers Y, Sante Y, Benjamin Y

Motion Passed Unanimously

**Adjournment:**

Motion: Flowers made a motion to adjourn at 8:32PM

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

Motion Carried

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