

Milton Township

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MILTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING July 2, 2013

Special Meeting of the Milton Township Board was called to order July 2, 2013 at 7:00pm, at the township hall with Supervisor Robert Benjamin serving as Chairman. Pledge of Allegiance Recited.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT -Supervisor - R. Benjamin, Clerk - S. Kronewitter, Treasurer - S. Flowers, Trustee - E. Renken, Trustee - K. Sweeney

OTHERS PRESENT - Members of Smith Chapel Cemetery Board: C. Gard, I. Rosselit, C. Rosselit, R. Gerbeth, B. Frantz. Members of the Smith Chapel Historical Commission: A. Brown, H. Brown, K. Shirk.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: The Clerk commented the Michigan Department of Treasury has completed the township's annual audit and the presentation could be at the August BOT meeting. The clerk talked with the Niles postmaster to have our carrier bring the township mail inside the building instead of leaving in the mailbox outside.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS REGARDING MILTON TOWNSHIP'S SMITH CHAPEL PROPERTY

Supervisor Benjamin gave a detailed history why it was necessary to conduct a survey and title search of the entire township owned properties. SLS Surveying came highly recommended. The documents were required by our Planner of Record in order to obtain grants for future township park and recreation plans. The survey discovered graves have been placed on township owned property. Having the title company (Meridian) was necessary to validate the survey as being correct. The township is not interested in getting into the cemetery business, but cannot just give this property to the Smith Chapel Cemetery. There must be a value to value exchange. It was the intent of the township to show the value in the land and parking. The township attorney advised the board to having a formalized recorded easement, legally calling out the driveway, where is the boundary, and if it is the fence on the east and north sides and the center of the road to the north. All agreements would need to be put into writing. The attorney recommend the board consider a resolution if the land is deemed of no value to the township. At the present time the board has no plans to expand the chapel, only to paint the exterior and replace the sign. Smith Chapel Cemetery president C. Gard asked for a recess. 7:45pm, Benjamin called for a 15 minute recess. 8:01pm the board came back into session.

Motion: Benjamin
Motion to approve Resolution 2013-0702-1R Smith Chapel Excess Property Resolution.

Second: Renken

ROLL CALL VOTE: Benjamin – Yes, Flowers – Yes, Kronewitter – Yes, Renken - Yes, Sweeney - Yes.
Motion Carries

Motion: Benjamin
Motion to approve the attorney to create an access easement agreement for the Smith Chapel Cemetery and the Smith Chapel Building

Second: Renken

ROLL CALL VOTE: Flowers – Yes, Kronewitter – Yes, Renken - Yes, Sweeney – Yes, Benjamin – Yes.
Motion Carries

The attorney provided a written legal opinion that the township is under no legal obligation to provide pauper graves. Copies were given to board members and Smith Chapel Cemetery Commission members.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Renken
Motion to adjourn.

Second: Flowers

All in Favor: YES - Motion Carries.
Meeting adjourned at 08:06pm

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Kronewitter Clerk, Milton Township