

CROCKERY TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
HELD ON APRIL 14, 2014

1. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Stille at 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Roll call: Present: Stille, Buchanan, VanBemmelen and Suchecki, Constantine. Others present: Fire Chief Gary Dreyer and Attorney Jim Brown..
4. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Suchecki to approve the minutes of March 10, 2014 Regular Meeting as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
5. Motion by Constantine, seconded by VanBemmelen to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2014 Special Meeting as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
6. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by Suchecki to approve disbursements as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
7. Supervisor's comments/correspondence was heard. Supervisor Stille reported that he has received word that we have been recommended to receive \$87,000 from Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for CMAG (air quality) money. This would be for the part of the North Bank trail that goes under I-96. We hope that the new Park & Ride location is near there also. Crockery would need \$17,000 in matching funds. Supervisor Stille received a call from Spring Lake District Library asking if we had any TIFA Districts. They requested copies of the resolution and map establishing the Corridor Improvement Authority. Their attorney will need these for the library contract. Ten days ago Supervisor Stille and Zoning Administrator Bob Toland met with Ken Rizzio (Ottawa County Economic Development) and a prospective buyer for the old Strawberry Barn property along M-104. The hope is that this property could be developed and bring new jobs which could lead to a Community Block Grant for infrastructure from the sewer plant to M-104 over to Power drive (industrial area). At this time there has not been any agreement worked out between the property owner and the prospective buyer. Three signs stating that money was received from the MNRTF have been erected along the North Bank Trail. This was a requirement of the grant. Jay Wright has submitted an application for a \$300,000 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant for the North Bank Trail. Supervisor Stille will meet with a forester to explore the feasibility of logging off the 50 foot pine trees in Nunica Cemetery. This will be from the area that would be a future expansion of the cemetery. The Riptide Baseball group asked for permission to use the poles on the back side (that was previously used for netting) for their dugout corners. Supervisor Stille told them to go ahead. A letter was received today from the City of Grand Haven inviting area units of government to join in a technology collaborative. This would include computer usage, telephone services, etc. We have received the DEQ pond approval for Hathaway Lakes Phase 5. This plan shows an increase to the pond of about  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre. Looking at the map that we approved there was a little change to the lots, but this pond approval could affect 12-20 lots. Attorney Brown will look at the plat approval map and advise us on any action the Township should take. Supervisor Stille

met with Mrs. Kulikamp regarding Williams Street and has contacted Glen Merrill , a spokesperson for A&R Pipeline with questions regarding an easement on a street that is dedicated for public use.

8. County Commissioner Matt Fenske was in attendance and he gave an update on what has been happening at a county and state level. Ottawa County has been awarded a grant to clean out the Sand Creek Drain from Chester Township to Tallmadge. The County is currently studying how to address the problem of drains that are filling in due to erosion, sediment and fallen trees and brush. Grant money may be available to get local drains cleaned. Ottawa County now has a new WIFI system. Ottawa County was declared the healthiest county in Michigan. Michigan Works has 22 positions available with jobs starting at \$9.75 an hour. Revenue Sharing has been restored back to local governments. The Agriculture Preservation Board has hired a consultant for about 12 hours a month to seek grants and foundation money. A bill addressing delinquent property tax was passed and will limit County Treasurers to charge up to 1% on delinquent taxes. Ottawa County dispatch is now offering Smart 911 which allows people to set a smart phone profile up with the county dispatch.. The water study being conducted in the County is moving along slowly. The road commission has used up a large portion of their budget already this year due to the harsh winter we had. The Board thanked Mr. Fenske for the update.
9. Treasurer's Report was offered. The Treasurer has been working with the Ottawa County Fiscal Services and she is expecting further information in July. Treasurer VanBemmelen has completed last years tax collection, and our Property values have increased by over 7 million dollars.
10. Clerk's Report was offered. The election for the Spring Lake Public Schools Bond proposal will be on May 6<sup>th</sup> and the township cleanup day will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Dumpsters will be placed behind the old fire station. A reminder that the Easter Egg Hunt will take place on April 19<sup>th</sup> at the township hall.
11. Fire Chief's report was given. The department responded to 32 calls last month. The county fire academy is being held for the next two months at the fire station. Chief Dreyer reported he has submitted a grant application to the Grand Haven Community Foundation for a carbon monoxide pulse oximeter. The application was submitted to include the other departments in the Tri-Cities area. The Chief attended a fire department instructors conference last week.
12. Public Comment was offered. None was heard at this time.
12. Committee Chair reports were offered. None were heard.
13. Board Member Committee reports were offered. Trustee Constantine reported that he will be meeting with an excavating company April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm to discuss the township hall parking lot for a quote on reconfiguring and resurfacing.
14. Discussion was held on the proposed Comprehensive Plan. Gordon Haskins resides on the south side of Garfield in Section 35 and he spoke against changing this area from AG-1 to Rural Estates. He recognizes that the plan does not change zoning but it does set the coarse for allowing future zoning changes. He stated that many of the parcels on the south side are currently being used for agricultural purposes. One neighbor raises sheep, chickens and cows. On

another parcel there is a chestnut farm and blueberries. Mr. Haskins also urged the Township Board to consider the effect this could have in the future to Jubbs Bayou. He stated that this is a pristine bayou that could not support the future development the change to the plan could lead to in years to come.. Harry Gruen stated that he concurs with what Mr. Haskins has said. He added that there could potentially be a significant increase in traffic if this area sees more development. Beth Meuer also spoke that she is not in favor of the proposed change to the plan. Mary Jo Haskins and Ann Gruen also spoke asking the Planning Commission to reconsider the proposed change to Section 35. There were 9 residents from Section 35 who spoke against changing the Comprehensive Plan from AG-1 to Rural Estates for this area.

15. Motion by Constantine, seconded by VanBemmelen to send the Comprehensive Plan back to the Planning Commission with the recommendation that Sections 35, 36, and 01 be planned for AG-2. Roll call: Suchecki, Buchanan, Stille, Constantine, VanBemmelen – Yes. Motion carried.
16. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Buchanan to adopt Ordinance 2014-04 , An Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance of the Township of Crockery [ Commercial Horticultural District]. All in favor. Motion carried.
17. Motion by Constantine, seconded by Suchecki to adopt Ordinance 2014-05 , An Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance of the Township of Crockery [Jane and James Word Parcel on State Road from R-1 District to AG-2 District] All in favor. Motion carried.
18. Motion by Constantine, seconded by Suchecki to approve the quote from Reliant Professional Cleaning for stripping and finishing the tile floors at the townhall at a cost of \$1,960.00. All in favor. Motion carried.
19. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Suchecki to approve the recommendation from the Building and Parks Committee to purchase a floor buffer from Brian Copeland at a cost of \$300.00. All in favor. Motion carried.
20. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Suchecki to contract with John White, White Trucking for this years brining of the roads. All in favor. Motion carried.
21. Motion by Constantine, seconded by VanBemmelen to amend the policy to change the level of discretionary spending for the fire department from \$300.00 to \$500.00. All in favor. Motion carried.
22. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Constantine to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by

Kathy Buchanan, Clerk  
Crockery Township

