

CROCKERY TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES
HELD ON JANUARY 13, 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, VanBemmelen, Constantine, Buchanan, Suchecki. Others present were Attorney Jim Brown.
4. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Suchecki to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2013 Regular Meeting as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
5. Motion by Constantine, seconded by Suchecki to approve the disbursements as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
6. Public comment was offered. State Senator Arlan Meekhof gave an update on what is currently happening in legislation in Lansing. Jerry Meeuwenberg, 10754 Walnut Dr., made a request for a streetlight at the corner of 112th and State Road for the purpose of safety since it is extremely dark at the intersection.
7. Supervisor's comments/correspondence was heard. Supervisor Stille reported that he has been very busy with the North Bank Trail fundraising that is ongoing at present time. He sent letters out to approximately 45 businesses and individuals seeking donations towards a matching grant of \$25,000 we have received from the Loutit Foundation. Approximately \$21,700 has been promised to date. Supervisor Stille met with Ottawa County to talk about the non-motorized trail that would go over the new bridge, down the M-231 bypass out to the North Bank Trail at 120th Ave. There has been a problem with Hathaway Lakes discharging their club house pool water into the sewer system. This large influx of pool water is harmful to our system. The Ottawa County Road Commission who runs our utility has stated this must stop. Attorney Brown will send a letter to Hathaway Lakes that discharging pool water into the sewer system is in violation of our sewer ordinance. There has been a rash of cars for sale at various residential properties in Crockery. Several have been placed there by the same person who works for a car dealer. The property owners have been notified and the cars have been removed. We have discovered that the fence on the western border of the Ottawa Area Cemetery is actually located on the neighbors property. Attorney Brown will contact the land owners to work on resolving this issue.
8. Treasurer's report was offered. Treasurer VanBemmelen reported that Charter Cable is dropping the free fire department cable service so we will now be charged monthly for cable. There have been 27 new housing units built in 2013. with a value of \$5,593,725 and 1 duplex unit with a value of \$349,000. The total value is \$5,942,725.
9. Clerk's report was offered. Clerk Buchanan reported that there will be four elections this year. February will be Fruitport Schools, May is Spring Lake Schools, August is the Primary, and November is the General election.
10. Fire Chief's report was offered. Chief Dreyer prepared a 2013 Year End Numbers Report. There were 20 structural type fire responses within Crockery

Township, 155 medical emergencies, and 35 motor vehicle accidents. In 2013 there was significant flooding in the township and fire personnel aided residents with property conservation and flood relief. The call volume in 2013 had an 8% increase over 2012.

11. Committee Chair's reports were offered. None heard.
12. Discussion was held regarding a possible millage request for the fire department operations.
13. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Buchanan to place a millage renewal request for 1.5 mils for 15 years in one proposition for fire operations, equipment, apparatus, building, and fire protection vehicles on the August ballot. Roll call: Suchecki, Buchanan, Stille, Constantine, VanBemmelen – Yes. Motion carried.
14. Discussion was held with members of a group seeking library services for Crockery residents. Angela Hyde, 15370 Patchin Dr. discussed the offer from the Spring Lake District Library Board. The Library Board sent a letter to the township stating that they are agreeable to a contract for full library services for a .5 millage plus penal fines and state aid along with the penal fines being held in escrow which are approximately \$86,750. This would be a five year contract. Board members and members of the library group would like a longer contract. The library group is asking that this millage request would be placed on the August ballot.
15. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Suchecki to authorize Supervisor Stille to meet with representatives of the Spring Lake District Library Board to continue negotiations with them on possible library services for Crockery residents.
16. Motion by Constantine and seconded by VanBemmelen to construct a fence along Dickenson on Meekhof's property out to 120th Ave. for the North Bank Trail. The new fence will match with the existing fence. All in favor. Motion carried.
17. Discussion was held regarding the Hathaway Lakes pool water discharge into the sewer system. Attorney Jim Brown was requested to send a letter to Hathaway Lakes telling them to stop discharging water into the sewer system.
18. Motion by Constantine, seconded by VanBemmelen to approve Supervisor Stille to submit grant applications to MNRTF and MDOT for North Bank trail construction. Grants should not include more than a 10% matching grant from Crockery Township. All in favor. Motion carried.
19. Discussion was held on property negotiations with Don Jablonski, Bill Hatfield and Jim Garzelloni for the North Bank Trail.
20. Motion by Constantine seconded by Buchanan to approve the contract with the State of Michigan for the 2013-2014 financial audit and authorize the Treasurer to sign the contract. All in favor. Motion carried.
21. Motion by Vanbemmelen, seconded by Suchecki to authorize the distribution of the Master Plan to the surrounding communities. All in favor. Motion carried.
22. Motion by Constantine, seconded by VanBemmelen to accept the 2014 Township Goals with additions. All in favor. Motion carried.

23. Discussion was held on the request for a light at 112th and State Rd.
24. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Buchanan to adjourn the meeting.
All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by

Kathy Buchanan, Clerk