

Supervisor Bill Haggard called the Public Hearing to order at 7pm on Wednesday March 5, 2014. Also present were Rick Speck, Don Tritsch, and Jean Wierenga. Jim Wojan was absent. Many Island residents were also present.

Purpose of Hearing:

A Hearing on the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Grant Application Proposal for development of a boat launch facility.

Lucas Porath from Northwest Design Group presented a Construction Scope Summary and a Budget Summary on the proposed boat launch project. Phase 1 is for the boat launch with associated sheet pile seawalls, paved drive, segmental retaining walls, railings, sidewalk, skid pier and restoration. The total estimated project cost is \$450,000. The MNRTF grant is \$240,000; MDNR Waterways grant is \$93,750; MDEQ Coastal Zone Management grant is \$41,250; Other Grants and Foundations are \$63,750; and local match would be \$11,250.

Public Comment followed and the public hearing closed at 7:15pm.

The regular meeting of the St. James Township Board followed immediately with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Tritsch and seconded by Speck to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2014 meeting as written. Motion carried.

Motion by Tritsch and seconded by Speck to approve the schedule of payments as presented. Motion carried.

Reports:

WMC Report:

Wierenga reported no problems at Transfer Station.

Tritsch reported the plans for an Island radio station moving forward, however not sure where the antenna will be placed. Hope to reach an agreement to place antenna on tower on Kings Highway. If not, may request space on tower on Donegal Bay Road.

New Business:

Resolution by St. James Township Board Authorizing Submission of a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application – Boat Launch Development

WHEREAS, St. James Township adopted a 5-year Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan includes this project; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board held a public hearing and received comments on the conceptual plans and MNRTF grant application; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. James Township Board of Trustees does hereby resolve to take all actions necessary to submit a 2014 St. James Township Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant application in connection with the above-referenced project.

Moved by R. Speck , supported by D. Tritsch, to adopt the above resolution at a regular meeting of the St. James Township Board of Trustees on March 5, 2014.
Roll call vote: All in Favor.

Homestead Poverty Resolution:

The St. James Township Board of Review shall base the asset level test on the application for the Homestead Poverty Exemption in 2012 on the 2012 poverty guidelines provided by the US Department of Health and Human Services. Motion by Wierenga and seconded by Haggard to approve the Homestead Poverty Exemption. Motion carried. Roll call vote. All in Favor.

Approve Letter Of Support for the Airport Committee in Seeking a Grant from the Tribal Council for furnishings at the new Beaver Island Airport Terminal Building: Motion by Wierenga to approve letter of support and seconded by Tritsch. Motion carried.

Airport Committee Appointment(Board Member): Motion by Haggard and seconded by Tritsch to re-appoint Jim Wojan to the Airport Committee. Motion carried.

Planning Commission Appointment: Motion by Haggard and seconded by Tritsch to appoint Bob Tidmore to the St. James Township Planning Commission. Motion carried.

Library Board Appointment: No letters of interest received, so will be posted again.

Road Name Approval (Connelly Lane). Motion by Speck to approve the name "Connelly Lane" requested by Jim Connelly, 35895 Indians Wood Rd. This is a road into the Connelly property, which is in the process of dividing the property into several lots for sale. Motion by Speck and seconded by Tritsch to approve the road name. Motion carried.

Due to the resignation or absence of Board of Review members at the time of BOR, it is necessary to post for the position.

Set Annual Meeting Date:

Motion by Wierenga and seconded by Speck to set date of March 29, 2014 and time as 1pm for the St. James Township Annual Meeting. Motion carried.

Proposed Budget:

Discussion followed on what is needed: Board recommended Supervisor check further on outhouse for campground, check with area contractors on costs to update the public restrooms, and cost for the parking area and steps at Governmental Center. Also talk with CCRC engineer on upgrading of shoulders and drainage ditches on Donegal Bay Road rather than paving. Check cost of good gravel with CCRC engineer. Haggard requested hiring someone to prepare budget rather than he doing it, but board not in favor of paying anyone. Clerk will help with the budget preparation.

Public Comment:

Cindy Ricksgers reported on how successful the phragmites eradication has been and the monies received from the property owners, over \$8,000 in donations.

Ed Wojan reported the property transaction between The Woollam Foundation and the Grahams for the purchase of the property located on Main St. next to Am Vets Park is complete.

Motion by Tritsch and seconded by Wierenga to adjourn at 8:55pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Wierenga
Clerk, St. James Township