

Boston Township Board Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2009

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Dunton at 7 p.m. with the following members present: Olson, Harvey, Lamphere, Stuck, Spoelstra, and Dunton. Absent: Perry

Citizens Comments –

- Jim Bandfield and commented regarding the Dausman Park special assessment district project issues.
- Larry Tiejema, County Commissioner, was present and reported on the current happenings at the County level.

Agenda Approval – A motion was made by Harvey approve the Agenda with the addition of “follow up on signs on the Morrison Lake public access.” Supported by Lamphere. All ayes. Passed.

Consent Agenda Approval –

- December bills payable – Checks 15800-15832 for a total amount of \$23,030.86.
- November board meeting minutes were reviewed.

A motion was made by Harvey to approve Consent Agenda, and to add the Open Session portion of the November minutes the authorization to prepare a resolution to authorize arrangement of assessing services. Supported by Dunton. All ayes. Passed.

Clerk’s Reports

- Website is live. The address will be www.bostontwp.org
- Spoelstra proposed to the board the possibility of a resolution with regard to cemetery lot buy backs. Board instructed Spoelstra to inquire as to what other townships policies are.

Treasurer’s Report

- Winter taxes are coming in.
- Lamphere presented account balances for all township accounts

Old Business –

- *Determine future action on possible blight violation on the Palmer property* -- Dunton posed the question to the board on whether the township should pursue any action with an additional citation. It was suggested to table the issue until spring after the winter thaw to proceed. continue to monitor the blight complaint in the Palmer matter for further action.

Harvey moved to continue to monitor the blight complaint in the Palmer matter for further action by requesting the deputy to begin building a timeline file. Supported by Lamphere. All ayes. Passed.

* *Signs at Morrison Lake Public Access* – Harvey initiated discussion with the board regarding the changing of the signs from “No Parking Tow Away Zone” to “No Parking.” No action taken.

New Business –

- Consider a policy resolution dealing with special assessment districts – The board was provided a policy for public improvement special assessment districts, initiated by Trustee Harvey, and expanded by Attorney Mark VanAllsburg.

Dunton moved to adopt the policy with the correction on Page 2, paragraph b, last sentence to read, “All owners of a signed parcel must sign the petition.” Supported by Harvey. All ayes. Passed.

- Assessor Reclassification – A resolution was prepared and proposed by the township attorney and provided to the board for approval. The engagement of Klein Assessing, Inc. for the annual wage of \$200 was discussed.

Harvey moved to adopt Resolution 09-14 to engage Klein Assessing, Inc to certify the roll for Boston Township in the amount of \$200 annually effective January 2010. Supported by Olson. Roll call vote: Lamphere (yes), Olson (yes), Stuck (yes), Harvey (yes), Spoelstra (yes), Dunton (yes). Perry: Absent. Yes (6), No (0), Absent (1). Motion passed.

- Ionia County Economic Alliance Survey Reimbursement – The Ionia County Economic Alliance (ICEA) has requested the township board for a reimbursement of some of the cost for a survey that was given to the residents of Saranac. The survey was sent out without the board’s knowledge, and township board is now being asked to contribute.

Dunton moved to not pay the requested ICEA reimbursement of \$131.89. Supported by Harvey. All ayes. Passed.

- Cemetery – Dead Tree Removal – Allen’s Tree Service removed one dead tree in the Saranac Cemetery in November. There are three more trees that need to be removed. It will require 2 ½ days of work and require a “cherry picker” to be used to minimize damage to the cemetery graves. The cost by Allen’s Tree Service is estimated to be \$500 a day or \$1,250 for the three trees.

Lamphere moved to have the three marked trees removed by Allen’s Tree Service when they are available and weather permitting, not to exceed the amount of \$1,250. All ayes. Passed.

- ICRC 2010 Brine/Gradall Agreement – The proposed dollar amount is the same as 2009 for both the Brine and the Gradall Agreements.

Dunton moved to accept the ICRC 2010 Brine and Gradall Agreements as proposed. Harvey supported. All ayes. Passed.

- Budget Review -- The 2009-2010 budget was presented by Clerk Spoelstra and reviewed by the board. No changes made.

Supervisor’s Notes:

- Dunton discussed a potential blight or unlicensed junkyard offense in the township.

Citizens Comments:

- Larry Tiejema commented on the reclassification issue of the township assessor
- Jim Bandfield commented regarding adopting a policy for special assessment districts
- Deputy Jack Peters announced that he will no longer be working in Boston Township, and that Deputy Rick Charon will be replacing him on January 1, 2010. The board thanked Deputy Peters for his services to the township.

- Next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, January 13, 2010, at 7 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Minutes submitted by

Lori Spoelstra, Boston Township Clerk