

Boston Township Board Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2010

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Dunton at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Lamphere, Dunton, Stuck, Spoelstra, and Perry, Olson, Harvey

Citizens Comments –

- Jim Banfield and Fred Coorman were present and represented Dausman Park SAD. They are still unhappy with the resurfacing project. Letters from other residents of the district were read to the board.
- Ron Boehm from the American Legion requested information on obtaining a grant to improve the American Legion's facility.

Agenda Approval – A motion was made by Dunton to approve the Agenda. Supported by Lamphere. All ayes. Passed.

Consent Agenda Approval –

- April bills payable – Checks 15944 - 15988 for a total amount of \$69,263.86.
- March board meeting minutes were reviewed

Supervisor Dunton requested Clerk Spoelstra to present the millage authorization form that will be submitted to the county. Dunton further expounded on the millage request process.

A motion was made by Stuck to approve Consent Agenda moving cemetery bids to second on the agenda. Supported by Dunton. All ayes. Passed.

Clerk's Reports

- Spoelstra introduced Jan VanderMolen to the board as the new deputy clerk.
- Website has been updated with election material
- Absentee Ballots available
- Doug Wohlberg, CPA is scheduled for the township's 2009-2010 audit on April 28, 2010

Treasurer's Report

- Accounts were reviewed in detail
- Treasurer responded to board regarding the special assessment districts – there was a shortfall on Dausman Park of approximately \$300; and Hawks Landing had excess of about \$1,300.

New Business –

- *Paul C. Spoelstra, CFP – Pension Review* – Mr. Spoelstra gave an update on the township pension with a portfolio snapshot provided. Each board member was given their individual statement for review. Spoelstra recommended to the board that the current New Perspective Fund in the portfolio be changed to New World Fund. No motion was made to make this change.

- Cemetery Mowing Bids - There were five (5) sealed bids provided prior to this meeting for consideration. Sealed bids were opened and reviewed. Bidders were as follows (in order of bids – lowest to highest):

\$18,600.00	Geoff Emelander
\$19,500.00	Brian VanderHoek
\$20,307.00	Paul R. Dintaman
\$21,000.00	Lamphere Lawn Care
\$29,805.00	Wolbers Landscaping

Lowest of the qualified bids were discussed and debated on.

Motion was made by Stuck to extend the bid award of the cemetery mowing and maintenance to Geoff Emelander. Olson supported the motion. Roll call vote: Stuck (yes), Lamphere (yes), Perry (yes), Olson (yes), Harvey (yes), Spoelstra (yes), Dunton (yes). 7 (yes), 0 (no). Motion passed.

- Dorothy Pohl – Ionia County Road Commission

Dorothy Pohl, Fred Chapman, Wayne Schoonover, and Scott Peterson were in attendance and represented the Ionia County Road Commission to discuss the issue of the replacement of Portland Road bridge over Lake Creek, as well as other projects the township is contemplating.

Project costs for the bridge were discussed. The road commission applied for a grant to pay 95% of the construction costs from the government and was awarded the grant. The project needs to continue to completion or the grant funds will not be received. The DNR and DEQ could require that this bridge be replaced in whole (\$712,900 est.) or they could allow a maintenance step of replacing the existing culvert with a three-sided concrete culvert (\$300,000 est.). In either instance, preliminary engineering costs for the township are estimated to be \$14,250. Replacing the bridge would impose a \$74,750 construction cost on the township. Replacing the culvert would impose a \$60,500 cost on the township. The road commission will match the expense of the costs.

Harvey moved, and Perry supported, to request the amount of construction and construction engineering costs be allowed to be made in three equal payments in 2011, 2012, and 2013. 6 (yes), 1 (no – Stuck). Motion passed.

Scott Peterson of the Ionia County Road Commission also presented the MacArthur Road project. This project would level the grade at the corner of MacArthur and Darby for safety factors. The project would increase visibility at that corner. Surfacing the road with limestone versus gravel was discussed.

Also Peck Lake Road and Darby Road intersection has the same problem. The cost of the two projects would put the township over budget. Peterson advised they couldn't be done in 2010 anyway.

- Crack Seal and Gravel Contracts – Board reviewed the road commission's suggested gravel sites together; making sites #1, #2, and #3 (two portions of Peck Lake Road and a portion of MacArthur) a priority for summer of 2010. These three portions will have \$2,700 of gravel expense.

Harvey moved to gravel 2,700 yards of roads in the 2010-2011 year, with additional road expenditures broken down as follows: \$1,500 gradall, \$25,500 brine, \$14,500 Portland Road bridge engineering (providing the above mentioned installment payment plan is approved), \$9,000 Hatch Hollow; crack seal of Jackson Road of

\$2,000, Bell Road culvert \$2,345, and gravel of approximately \$20,000, totally \$74,845. Saving the remaining balance budgeted for future projects to be awarded. Olson supported motion. Lamphere suggests that we contact ADAC to see if they can provide the crack seal on Jackson Road.

- Completion of Hillside Estates – Dunton was contacted by a prospective purchaser of the site regarding its incomplete status. Dunton had a telephone conversation with Jay Kuiper, the developer, who stated he was not in a financial position to complete the project at this time. The township attorney suggested a letter be written to Mr. Kuiper, asking that he complete the project, and advising of the starting date of May 30 and completion by June 30. The question to the board is should the township draw on the \$60,000 surety bond to finish the project if Mr. Kuiper fails to perform? The board concurred and authorized such action. Dunton read a proposed letter to Mr. Kuiper to the board. There were no objections by the board preventing the sending of the letter.
- 911 – County Ordinance – Belding dispatch has elected to merge with the Ionia County dispatch to have a common 911 answering point. Boston Township could file for an exemption from the dispatch ordinance and would be required to take emergency calls. There was no interest on the part of the board to do this.
- Resignation of Clerk – A resignation letter was read by Clerk Spoelstra stating the reason for her resignation as residency outside the jurisdiction of Boston Township. Spoelstra will be moving with her family to Lowell Township. Effective date of resignation will be May 12, 2010.

Motion to accept the resignation of Lori Spoelstra as Boston Township Clerk was made by Dunton, and supported by Perry. All ayes. Motion passed.

A notice of position vacancy will be posted in the Ionia County Shopper's Guide April 17. Applications for the position available at the township hall on April 21, with interviews following by May 6.

Supervisor's Notes

- Escrow accounts were reviewed

Next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, May 12, 2009, at 7 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Board Meeting Minutes submitted by

Lori Spoelstra
Boston Township Clerk