

**CRYSTAL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, May 13, 2009**  
**7:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Braman at 7:00 p.m. and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:** Charlie Braman, Dennis Lance, Jerry Stone, Bob Naumann and Curt McCracken

**Public Comment:**

None

**Agenda:** Motion was made by Stone, supported by Lance to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5/5.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by Stone, supported by McCracken to approve the minutes as presented with the following corrections: Public comment from Larry **Fate**. Waste Water Assessment should be changed to Waste Water **Study**. Motion carried 5/5.

**Approval of Township Bills:** Motion was made by Lance, supported by Stone to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 5/5.

**Approval of Crystal and Duck Lake Sewer Bills:** Motion by Lance, supported by Stone to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 5/5.

**Reports:**

**Treasurer:** On file

**Police:** On file

**Fire:** Lonnie has a grant request to Tri County Electric for cones and vests for emergency personnel.

**DPW:** Roger reported Porta-Johns are taken care of at Noll Park and will be coming for the park. He also reported that the cost for grave digging may increase from \$100 to \$125 or \$150. Asked the board to consider increasing the cost for grave opening. The board asked Roger to get an average of the number of grave openings per year to present prior to budget time. Also reported on 2 dead shrubs at Crystal Cemetery. Supervisor Braman will meet with Roger to look at.

**Sewer District:** Will meet May 21, 2009

**Sewer Advisory Committee:** On file.

**DDA:** On file

**Chamber of Commerce:** On file. (Summer events are also posted)

**Parks and Recreation:** Committee met April 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Duck Lake Improvement Board:** No report

**Road End Ordinance Committee:** Naumann reported the committee met and created a revised proposal to the existing policy (on file). Supervisor Braman will present for consideration at the meeting with the Road Commission on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

**Town Hall Committee:** No report (have not met yet).

**Library Report:** On file.

**Correspondence:** Crystal Community Church contacted Supervisor Braman about having their youth group paint the posts at the park downtown. Supervisor Braman will give Roger a phone number for who to contact to coordinate this work.

Paula Plank contacted Supervisor Braman about holding a Pancake Breakfast at the Fire Barn from 8:30-11:30 on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Proceeds from the breakfast would go towards the purchase of playground equipment at Noll Park. The board is supportive of this event but asked Paula to get in touch with Lonnie to work out the final details.

Clerk Naumann mentioned the list of foreclosures in the township sent by Marcia Sawdy.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Reinstatement of Dan Eller:** Supervisor Braman indicated the State Police has concluded it's investigation and that the Montcalm County prosecutors office indicated no criminal charges are pending against Mr. Eller. Mr. Eller's lawyer, Steve St.Amant spoke on Dan's behalf requesting that the board take action and reinstate him and discuss the impending issues of compensation and other matters after he is reinstated.

**DISCUSSION:** *Clerk Naumann asked that we should perhaps consider the issues regarding compensation, lawsuits etc... before taking action on whether or not to reinstate Mr. Eller. Stone suggested we wait and look at the police reports before taking any action. Motion was made by Naumann, supported by Lance to nominate two board members to meet with Dan and his attorney to discuss the conditions of employment prior to making the decision for potential reinstatement.*

*Roll call vote: Stone- aye, Lance- aye, McCracken- aye, Naumann- aye, **Braman- nay** Motion carried 5/4.*

*Motion was made by Lance, supported by Naumann to appoint Naumann and Stone to a committee that will meet with Dan and his attorney to discuss conditions of his potential reinstatement. Motion carried 5/4 (**nay- McCracken**)*

*Stone discussed having Naumann do a FOIA request from the prosecuting attorney and the Michigan State Police Post to obtain the reports from the investigation on Mr. Eller.*

Roger reported on painting of the parking lot at the library and other painting throughout the township. He also reported on prison workers saying that there is no help available at this time. Officer Fricke said there could be some help through Michigan Works. Clerk Naumann will get the number of a contact person with Michigan Works as soon as possible to try and coordinate some assistance.

22 applications were received for the part time DPW worker position. Each board member will take applications to review. A motion was made by Naumann, supported by McCracken to have Lance and Braman coordinate interviews with Roger. Motion carried 5/5.

Gerrit Bakker's request to be granted a post ordinance waiver for lake access will be tabled until the June board meeting.

The exterior painting will be tabled until the June meeting.

Job Descriptions: Braman will get with Lonnie to discuss the Fire Chief description. McCracken questioned why we don't have a job description for the sewer administrator.

Semi trailer parking at the fire barn: Braman will make a contact Gail Bogart to see if trailer could be parked on his property.

Employee Handbook Edits: In progress

Sidewalk Policy: The board reported that there is a sidewalk replacement policy but since no sidewalk was initially at the location (L.G.'s restaurant), there will be no further action/discussion.

Weidbrauk Drain Section 25-26: Braman reported the Road Commission and Drain Commission are working to investigate where the bad portion of tile is located. Supervisor Braman wants the Drain Commission to come to the next meeting to explain the costs involved and who is responsible for the costs. Further discussion of this and the Frost/Shinabarger issue will be tabled until the June board meeting.

Road Commission Policy: discussed earlier in meeting

Road Commission construction season: Naumann wants to wait until June board meeting when costs can be reviewed.

Crystal Lake Association: A motion was made by Lance, supported by Naumann to adopt resolution 2009-01 regarding the round up of Canadian Geese on Crystal Lake. (Resolution on file).

### **Public Comment:**

Rich Bescemi reported that he will check with the road commission to try to help with the wash out problems from the alley behind CMS and the Laundromat.

Deb Woodard asked about MI Works helping with the Township Hall work. Also inquired about the goose problem/issue on Duck Lake, asking if a round up could be done there as it's being done on Crystal Lake. Braman directed her to bring this up with the Duck Lake Improvement board. Marie Nico from the Duck Lake Improvement board said she will bring up this question at the next meeting.

Rich Bescemi asked about getting the steps painted in front of his shop to prevent people from tripping/falling. Says he has had numerous people fall. Would like help getting in touch with someone to help get painting and/or railing taken care of.

Pat McShosh asked when the Township Hall Improvement board would have their first meeting. Naumann indicated he would get a meeting set up before the next board meeting and a chairperson will be decided at that time.

Roger Gooding needs black dirt put in at the curve on Elm & Myers Street.

Naumann presented a letter from Trisha Saylor requesting \$320.00 from the township board to go toward costs for permits to operate the portable concession booth at Noll Park for ball games.

**Adjournment:** Motion made by Naumann, supported by Stone to adjourn meeting at 8:50 p.m.