

Minutes of Lapeer Township Board
Lapeer Township Offices and Community Building
1500 Morris Road, Lapeer, Michigan 48446
Regular Meeting
March 12, 2007
8:30 a.m.
Dawn Walker, Clerk

Supervisor Jarvis called the meeting to order at 8:29 a.m.

PRESENT: Clerk Dawn Walker, Supervisor Scott Jarvis, Treasurer Lori Ann Taylor, Trustees John Rutzen and Howard Stack.

Also present:

Leonard Lumley, 1031 Pine Tree Lane
William Marshall
Bill Blaine
Weston G. Wickham, 2517 Clark Rd.
Linda Jarvis
Lenny Schneider, 1450 Tanglewood
Clark Kent
Rosie Cousens

Representing:

Self
Lapeer Township Chief of Police
Self/EMS
Self
Lapeer County Commissioner
Lapeer County Commissioner
Township auditor
LA View Newspapers

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rosie Cousens entered at 8:40 a.m.

CONSENT
AGENDA:

The minutes of the February 12, 2007 regular meeting.
The minutes of the March 6, 2007 special meeting.
General correspondence for review:
Police Statistics for February 2007
Fire Report for February 2007
Reports from GLTA, CCA, EMS & Library

MOVED by Jarvis, support by Stack to approve the consent agenda with changes to the minutes. A vote was taken. Yes: All (5). ***MOTION CARRIED.***

PUBLIC TIME: Lenny Schneider addressed the board representing the County Commissioners.

AGENDA:

TREASURERS
REPORT:

FUND	CLOSING BALANCE
General Fund Checking	\$641.70
General Fund Saving	\$13,664.75
MONEY MARKETS	
Wolverine Bank	\$1,076.26
CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT	
National City 5.02 APY Matures 3/28/07	\$102,153.13
Wolverine Bank 5.2% Matures 4/9/07	\$233,472.12
MERRILL LYNCH	
R.I. CD Matures 5.57% 6-20-07	\$97,000.00
R.I. CD Matures 5.57% 6-20-07	\$97,000.00
COMERICA	
Revolving Improvement	\$131,995.84
Capital Improvement	\$138,962.87
Capital Improvement CD – 5.18% - matures 2/21/2007	To C.I.
General Fund J-Account	\$21,942.76
LASALLE BANK	
State Share	\$60,369.70
General Township Working Totals:	\$898,282.13
RESTRICTED FUNDS	
LAPEER COUNTY BANK & TRUST	
Disaster Contingency	\$301.12
Liquor Law Enforcement	\$953.13
Cemetery Trust	\$35,097.19
Trust & Agency	\$69,703.90
NATIONAL CITY BANK	
Tax Collection	\$388,941.69

MOVED by Stack, support by Rutzen to accept the Treasurers report. A vote was taken. Yes: All (5). **MOTION CARRIED.**

Vacation request submitted by the Treasurer.

CLERKS
REPORTS:

Clerk Walker presented the following:
Budget Amendments:

	DEBIT	CREDIT
1011917050 – ELECTION WAGES	600.00	
1011919780 – ELECTION, EQUIP. & HARDWARE		600.00
ADDITIONAL WAGES TO COVER 5/8/07 ELECTION		
1012097290 – ASSESSOR, POSTAGE	1325.00	
1012098140 – ASSESSOR, COUNTY CONTRACT EXP.		1000.00
1012097410 – ASSESSOR, MAPS & SUPPLIES		325.00
TO BETTER ACCOUNT FOR EXPENSES IN ASSESSING DEPARTMENT.		
1013018010 – POLICE - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	120.00	
1013017420 – POLICE - OPERATING SUPPLIES, GAS		120.00
TO ADJUST FOR DONATION TO TNU		
1012108011 – ATTORNEY, GOVERNMENT BODY	2000.00	
1012108013 – ATTORNEY, CODE / ORDINANCE ENF.		1000.00
1012108015 – ATTORNEY, ZBA		500.00
TO ADJUST BUDGET FOR REMAINDER OF YEAR ALLOWING HIGHER ATTORNEY FEES THAN EXPECTED.		
101890890 – CONTINGENCIES		17050.00
1012187270 – GENERAL OFFICE, SUPPLIES	500.00	
1012188010 – GENERAL OFFICE - PROF. SERVICES		500.00
1012768040 – CEMETERY - OPENING, CLOSINGS	800.00	
1012767050 – CEMETERY – WAGES		800.00
1014008100 – P/C – SUBSCRIPTION	360.00	
1014008600 – P/C - CONFERENCE & EDUCATION		200.00
1014008011 – P/C – PROFESSIONAL SERV. ENG		160.00
101841718 – TOWNSHIP PENSION	15000.00	
101841720 – PENSION ADMINISTRATION	1550.00	

MOVED by Stack, support by Rutzen to approve the budget amendments. A roll call vote was taken: Stack; yes, Rutzen; yes, Taylor; yes, Jarvis; yes, Walker; yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- Vouchers presented from February 16th thru March 15th, including payroll from March 5th for total voucher payments in the amount of \$54,816.81.
- Budget report.
- Balance sheets for all funds.
- Profit & Loss Report.

Discussion followed.

MOVED by Jarvis, support by Stack to approve payment of the vouchers. A vote was taken. Yes: All (5). **MOTION CARRIED.**

FDIC:

Discussion followed regarding disbursement of Township funds and FDIC Insurance. Auditor recommendations from the June 30, 2006 audit were clarified and discussed.

Clark Kent departed.

REVENUE SHARING: Correspondence was reviewed by the board from Attorney Gary Howell regarding the Interlocal Agreement signed and placed into effect in December of 2006. Slight changes in the language of the agreement need to be changed to satisfy the State of Michigan.

MOVED by Jarvis, support by Walker to accept the amended "Agreement to Share Revenue and Municipal Services" Interlocal Agreement with the City of Lapeer. A roll call vote was taken: Jarvis; yes, Walker; yes, Rutzen; yes, Stack; yes, Taylor; yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ALTERNATE TO ZBA: Supervisor Jarvis nominated Dan Gingell as an alternate to the ZBA for a term ending on May 31, 2010.

MOVED by Jarvis, support by Walker to approve the appointment of Dan Gingell to the position of Alternate, Zoning Board of Appeals, term to expire May 31, 2010. A vote was taken. Yes: All (5). **MOTION CARRIED.**

LAWN SPRAY: **MOVED** by Stack, support by Jarvis to approve a pre-paid price on Lawn Spray Services in the amount of \$290.70 from Oakridge Lawn and Snow. A vote was taken. Yes: All (5). **MOTION CARRIED.**

DUST CONTROL: Estimate received from Lapeer County Road Commission regarding the 2007 Dust Control program.

MOVED by Jarvis support by Rutzen to accept the estimate provided by the Lapeer County Road Commission for Dust Control at up to four (4) applications at a cost of up to \$4,912.80 each application. A vote was taken: Yes: All (5). **MOTION CARRIED.**

ROADSIDE MOWING: **MOVED** by Jarvis, support by Rutzen to approve the expenditure to Lapeer County Road Commission for Roadside Mowing, project number 504-012-704198 at an estimated cost of \$4,300.00 less 2007 allocation in the amount of \$2,150 for a balance of \$2,150. A vote was taken. Yes: All (5). **MOTION CARRIED.**

POVERTY EXEMPTION: The prior Poverty Exemption resolution adopted on December 11, 1995 was presented to amend following advise from Connie Lipka, the Lapeer Township assessor.

Walker moved and Jarvis supported that the Lapeer Township Board resolve to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Public Act 390 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1994 authorizes the Township Board of Review to grant poverty exemptions or partial exemptions in appropriate circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Lapeer Township Board wishes to establish a uniform and fair policy for the consideration of such requests;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lapeer Township Board hereby adopts the following policy to be utilized by the Board of Review in deciding poverty exemption requests:

1. All requests for poverty exemptions or partial exemptions shall be applied for in writing on forms provided by the Township. No request shall be considered

unless all required information is properly filled out and presented to the Township. The Board of Review shall require documentation to prove claims made on an application.

2. An application for a poverty exemption or partial exemption from the property taxes shall be filed after January 1 and prior to the last day of the Board of Review meetings in December. Any exemption or reduction shall be granted only for the year in which application is made.

3. Poverty exemptions or partial exemptions shall only be considered for homestead property or qualified agricultural property as defined in Attachment B. No other types of property shall be eligible for consideration.

4. The annual Federal Poverty Income Standards shall be used as a guideline to determine if a whole; partial; or no exemption may be granted. The total household income of all members of the household must be considered.

5. Total net worth of all household members shall be considered in determining if a whole or partial poverty exemption is warranted.

6. Prior to granting any poverty exemptions, the Board of Review shall take into consideration the potential refund to the property owner of the Michigan Homestead Tax Credit on property taxes in excess of 3½% (three and one-half percent) of household income.

7. In granting a property tax exemption for poverty reasons, the Board of Review shall have the power to grant an exemption for the entire tax assessment or for a portion of the assessment.

A roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Walker, Jarvis, Taylor, Stack, and Rutzen.

Nays: None

The supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

FARMLAND
RESOLUTION:

The prior Farm Land Resolution adopted by the Lapeer Township Board in February of 2000 was presented with a change recommended by Connie Lipka, the Lapeer Township Assessor.

Jarvis moved and Walker supported that the Lapeer Township Board resolve to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Lapeer Township has intent to do what is necessary to preserve farm/agricultural land, in this township, county, state, and

WHEREAS, Lapeer Township has intent to facilitate ways to help make farms more profitable, and

WHEREAS, Lapeer Township determines that by keeping our farms working and profitable, the sprawl of urban development is slowed down, maintaining some of the rural integrity of our communities, and

WHEREAS, Lapeer Township has consensus that independent farms keep a "check" on larger farming operations, minimizing the monopoly that can occur when small farms go out of business, and

WHEREAS, the United States of America was founded on a free enterprise system of government, and

WHEREAS, the Lapeer Township Board determines that if farms are not preserved then free enterprise in farming becomes endangered, and

WHEREAS, the Lapeer Township Board believes that support should be given to methods, procedures and policy that would benefit farm use/agricultural land, resulting in the nurture and prosperity of the farming industry, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township of Lapeer would support a constitutional amendment to support the concept that farms be assessed based on farm values, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Lapeer Township would support legislation/assessment law which would recognize that when property transfers on agricultural land occur, that the land continue to be assessed at the taxable value, as long as the land stays involved in agricultural use.

A Roll Call Vote was taken:

Ayes: Jarvis, Walker, Rutzen, Taylor

Nays: Stack

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

TNU INTERLOCAL
AGREEMENT:

Discussion took place regarding donations to Thumb Narcotics Unit and participation in the Thumb Narcotics Unit, Interlocal Agreement. Suggestion by Trustee Rutzen to have the Township Attorney review the Interlocal agreement before the board opts in as a participating entity.

MOVED by Walker, support by Stack to enter into the TNU interlocal agreement upon a review from the Township Attorney. A roll call vote was taken: Walker; yes, Stack; yes, Rutzen; yes, Taylor; yes, Jarvis; yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ELECTION
RESOLUTION:

Jarvis moved and Walker supported that the Lapeer Township Board resolve to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Clerks must adhere to State and Federal laws in running all elections, and

WHEREAS, school districts have not previously been given the opportunity to allow their elections at even year August regular elections, and

WHEREAS, holding school elections at even year August regular elections would save clerks from filing mountains of paperwork and would save school districts the expense of regular school elections, and

WHEREAS, holding school elections at even year August regular elections would put into place the policy of having electors vote at the same location for all elections by negating the "opt-in" and "opt-out" chance for clerks holding school elections,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Township of Lapeer, at their regular meeting held on March 12, 2007, do hereby support HB 4212 of 2007 in its effort to offer school districts the option of combining their elections with even year August regular elections in an effort to save time, paperwork, and expense on behalf of all clerks and school districts.

A roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Walker, Stack, Taylor and Jarvis.

Nays: Rutzen

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

DRY HYDRANTS: Fire Chief Terry Kluge presented a letter and map to the Township requesting approval from the Board to apply for a grant to install dry hydrants throughout the township. The grant would require a 10% Township match equaling approximately \$3,000.00 plus an additional \$1,500.00 for unforeseen contingencies.

MOTION by Rutzen, support by Taylor to approve the expense for up to \$4,500 to the Township General Fund for the 2007-2008 budget year for dry hydrants. A vote was taken. Yes: All (5). ***MOTION CARRIED.***

DSL: DSL Internet is now available at the Township offices through AT&T.

MOTION by Stack, support by Rutzen to allow Clerk Walker to move forward on pursuing a high speed DSL connection for the Township offices. A vote was taken. Yes: All (5). ***MOTION CARRIED.***

Report given by Leonard Lumley on the Lapeer District Library, Bill Blaine on EMS Committee and John Rutzen on Planning Commission.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by Jarvis, support by Rutzen to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was unanimously adjourned (at 10:23 a.m.).

Dawn M. Walker, Clerk