

MEMBERS PRESENT: BALDWIN, REYNOLDS, CRAWFORD, BRADLEY, BRUCKNER AND KELLY

MEMBERS ABSENT: KISH

ALSO PRESENT: PAT SMITH, FIRE CHIEF
 LISA SHAGENA, ASSESSOR'S ASSISTANT

7:00 O'CLOCK P.M. - Supervisor opens Public Hearing to review Proposed Special Assessment Roll for 2013/2014 Gravel and Annual Maintenance for Velma Drive.

Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Kelly, to approve the Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of September 4th, 2013, as printed and posted. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: *

Dan Evenson, Krafft Road, regarding blight problem, ditch/water and junk. Issue has been turned over to Ordinance Enforcement Officer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Baldwin, seconded by Bradley, to approve the Agenda, with the addition of Item #8, NEW BUSINESS: Supervisor's request to go to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing property. Vote, Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

GENERAL FUND	\$	1,175,007.52
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$	1,638,282.92
CEMETERY FUND	\$	18,935.71
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$	523,844.63
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$	61,534.61
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$	452,861.74
TRASH FUND	\$	187,642.00
TOTAL	\$	4,058,109.13
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	\$	3,057,111.21
GENERAL INVESTMENTS	\$	2,199,934.26
UTILITY RECEIVING INVESTMENTS	\$	171,754.22
UTILITY BOND INVESTMENTS	\$	42,746.26
GRAND TOTAL	\$	9,529,655.08

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Kelly, to receive the Treasurer's Report, as given. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED. TOTAL TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 9,529,655.08.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL:

GENERAL FUND	\$	19,844.40
UTILITY RECEIVING FUND	\$	9,876.90
CEMETERY FUND	\$	5,384.98
FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	\$	9,377.65
BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$	555.76
POLICE PROTECTION FUND	\$	54,393.36
TRASH FUND	\$	36,789.55
TOTAL	\$	136,222.60

POINTS OF DISCUSSION: * Donations received from local businesses for Scarecrow Saturday.

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Bruckner, to pay bills, as presented. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. MOTION PASSED. BILLS APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 136,222.60.

* According to Section 6 of the Charter Township of Fort Gratiot By-Laws adopted 07/20/2003.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Total Calls for Service for the month of August, 2013, (482). Number of Patrol Hours, (930). 21 Animal Complaint; 2 Assault & Battery; 24 Assist Other Depts.; 38 Assist Public; 5 B&E/Building; 1 B&E/Vehicle; 34 B&E/Alarm; 7 Child Abuse/Neglect; 9 Disorderly Persons; 13 Domestic Assault; 12 Fraud; 14 Harassment & Threats; 7 Juvenile; 11 Larceny; 11 MDOP; 1 Narcotics; 8 PI Traffic Crash; 38 PD Traffic Crash; 17 Retail Fraud; 4 Stolen Vehicle; 39 Suspicious Incidents; 2 Trespasser; 164 Misc. Warrant Arrests/Follow-up/BOL, 911 Hangups, etc...; 145 Traffic Stops; 69 Tickets Issued; 22 Township Tickets Issued.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total runs for the month of August, 2013 - NOT SUBMITTED AT TIME OF PRINTING AGENDA.

PLUMBING/MECHANICAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of August, 2013, (11).
10 Mechanical; 1 Plumbing. Total Fees, \$ 1,631.00.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of August, 2013, (40). 13 Residential Addition/Alteration/Repair (Val. \$91,139); 4 Residential Accessory Structures (Val. \$9,646); 3 Fence; 3 Deck/Porch (Val. \$3,565); 1 Multiple Residential (Val. \$2,200); 3 Pools (Val. \$58,000); 1 Residential Demolition; 1 Misc. Zoning Compliance Permit; 5 New Commercial Structures (Val. \$850,000); 2 Commercial Addition/Alteration/Repair (Val. \$2,750); 2 Signs (Val. \$47,580); 2 Commercial Zoning Compliance Permits. Total Valuation, \$ 1,064,880.00. Total Fees, \$ 8,858.00.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT REPORT: Total permits issued for the month of August, 2013, (13). Total Fees, \$ 2,943.00.

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: 3 Blight; 5 High Grass/Noxious Weeds; 3 Unlicensed Vehicles; 5 Misc. Ordinance Violations.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. St. Clair County Board of Road Commissioner's and Board of Public Works Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2013.

Motion by Baldwin, seconded by Kelly, to accept report(s) and correspondence, as given. Vote, Unanimous.
MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC HEARING(S), CONTINUED:

1. CONTINUE PUBLIC HEARING TO REVIEW AND HEAR COMMENTS, QUESTIONS AND/OR OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED 2013/2014 VELMA DRIVE GRAVEL AND ANNUAL MAINTENANCE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00 AT TWO (2%) PERCENT INTEREST, TO BE BILLED ON THE DECEMBER 1ST, 2013 (WINTER) PROPERTY TAX NOTICE:

Supervisor asked for citizen comments, questions and/or objections, at this time:

Steve Palmateer, Velma Drive - "Get it done".

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Bruckner, to close the Public Hearing to review and hear citizen comments, questions and/or objections to the Proposed 2013/2014 Velma Drive Gravel and Annual Maintenance Special Assessment Roll. Time, 7:09 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED. PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.**

BOARD DISCUSSION: * Road Commission is ready to begin this project very quickly.

Motion by Baldwin, seconded by Kelly, to approve the 2013/2014 Velma Drive Gravel and Annual Maintenance Special Assessment Roll, in the amount of \$5,000.00 at two (2%) percent interest, to be billed on the December 1st, 2013 (WINTER) Property Tax Notice; and to adopt Resolution No. 5, Confirming the *2013/2014 Velma Drive Gravel and Annual Maintenance Special Assessment Roll*. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION NO. 5, ADOPTED.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. PHILIP PORTE, OF BMJ ENGINEERING & SURVEYING - PRESENTATION REGARDING NEW SANITARY SEWER MAIN ALONG KEEWAHDIN ROAD, FROM TOWNSHIP HALL TO AN EXISTING MANHOLE, LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 1,400 FEET EAST OF PARKER ROAD.

- DISCUSSION:
- * Needed for construction of Township Hall, starting at the Warner Drain going easterly to approximately 3390 Keewahdin Road to existing manhole on the northerly side of Keewahdin. Will be constructed to allow future expansion to the west; and also to the North down Parker. Pump Station will be located at Parker Road. Preliminary Cost of this project is \$510,000. Residents have been invited to this meeting because of the limited road right-of-way, which will necessitate the need for the Township to obtain Permanent Utility Easements. Residents along the North side of Keewahdin, East of Parker will be asked to grant a 35' Easement; Residents along the North side of Keewahdin, West of Parker, will be asked to grant a 25' Easement. Projected construction could begin by the end of February or beginning of March, 2014.
 - * Easement measured from just north of the pavement line; ditches to be reestablished in accordance with County Road Commission Standards.
 - * Residents will not be required to connect to this Sewer System. Current standards, if a resident chooses to connect to this Sewer System, would be to have the septic system cleaned out and filled with sand. There is no State Law mandating a resident connect to the Sewer System if there is a working septic system. The State Law mandates that the Township notify residents that the system is ready to use; eighteen months later the Township is required to send a resident notification that they have not hooked up. That's the end of the Township's responsibility. If a resident wants to hook up to the sanitary sewer, they will have the option after the Township Board determines a "Fee In-Lieu of Assessment". Each home will be provided a sewer lead; at the owner's choice, they can tie into the sewer system. If a homeowner's septic system is failing, the County Health Department may pressure the homeowner to connect to the sewer system. Residents wishing to connect will have to hire a Contractor to tie their home into the system; but a lead will be provided to the system, either at the easement line on the north side or at the property line on the south side. Residents along the south side of Keewahdin will not have to borer under the roadway to the other side.
 - * Residents wishing to hook into the system can roughly estimate the hook-up cost to be about \$10/foot. This does not include the "Fee In-Lieu of Assessment".
 - * Within the Easement, the Township would have the right to construct and maintain the utility. An owner would give up the right to build a house or a garage over the easement. But, because setback requirements are 35'; you can't build in it anyway. If an owner constructs a fence or driveway, they must understand that at any time the Township has the right to remove and/or replace it.
 - * County Drain Commission considering enclosing ditch west of Parker. Drain Commission approval will be needed to go under the Howe-Brandymore Drain.
 - * It was reiterated that the Township is installing the sewer. Those that want to hook up to the sewer will be charged a "Fee In-Lieu of Assessment", rather than a Special Assessment based on front footage. The "Fee In-Lieu of Assessment" will be determined by the Township Board, but at this time has no estimate of what it will be. Owners would also have to pay a contractor to tie their home into the system at the lead provided.
 - * The cost of installing the sewer system will be paid from the Capital Maintenance & Improvement Fund.
 - * The Township is asking for and needs 100% cooperation from owners in granting Easements.
 - * Twelve (12") Inch Main; adequate for future expansion.
 - * It was reiterated that residents will not be required to hook into the system. But, if you have a non-working septic system, the Health Department can require that the residence be hooked up to the sanitary sewer system. The Health Department won't offer permits where sanitary sewer is available.
 - * Average cost of quarterly bill for Sanitary Sewer = additional 30%/40% of current water bill.
 - * Customarily, residents receive a One (\$1.00) Dollar Transfer Fee for granting of easements. Trees, within the Easement, will not be replaced.
 - * Possibility of allowing owner with an open ditch to pay cost for installing culvert to enclose it.
 - * If an owner grants an Easement, it will still be the owners property and responsibility to maintain.
 - * Residents inquired if they could buy a culvert and fill in the existing ditch. Briefly discussed.

Mr. Porte advised residents that he will be available after tonight's meeting to discuss individual residents concerns and questions.

2. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Bradley, to approve \$430.00, plus expenses, for Greg Randall and Jeff Parent (DPW) to attend S2 Certification Review Course on October 22 & 23, 2013 in Novi. Roll Call Vote, 6/0.
MOTION PASSED.

NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED:

3. Motion by Reynolds, seconded by Bradley, to set the Public Hearing date on Wednesday, October 16th, 2013, beginning at 7:00 p.m., for the purpose of reviewing and hearing comments, questions and/or objections to the Township-at-Large Highway Lighting; and individual Lighting Assessment Districts; and for the adoption of the 2013 Resolution confirming the Special Assessment Roll. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**
4. Motion by Bruckner, seconded by Kelly, to set the Public Hearing date on Wednesday, October 16th, 2013, beginning at 7:00 p.m., for the purpose of reviewing and hearing comments, questions and/or objections to the Proposed Solid Waste Collection and Disposal with Yard Waste Collection Special Assessment Roll for the 2014 contract year; and for the adoption of the 2013 Resolution confirming the Special Assessment Roll. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**
5. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Reynolds, to authorize the Township Clerk to request the transfer of \$ 6,195.00 from the County Drain Fund to the County Match Money Fund. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**
6. Motion by Baldwin, seconded by Kelly, to adopt the amended *Policy Resolution for Charging Wholesale Water Rate on Documented Water Line Break*. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED. RESOLUTION ADOPTED.**
7. Motion by Baldwin, seconded by Kelly, to approve beginning Regular Meetings at 6:00 o'clock p.m., beginning October 16th, 2013, to hold Work Sessions for ensuing year (2014) Budget, until the Budget is adopted. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

At this time, Sergeant Jones briefly discussed the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department Report for the month of August, 2013. A concern of cars not stopping for school busses was brought up to Sergeant Jones and he explained the procedure for following up on such incidents.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: (Heard prior to Item #8, NEW BUSINESS)

Lowell Marl, Wooded Twiggs - Missed action taken on items at the beginning of the agenda. Supervisor clarified that Public Hearings have been scheduled for October 16th, 2013, beginning at 7:00 p.m. for Township-at-Large Highway Lighting and Individual Lighting Districts Special Assessments; and the Solid Waste Collection and Disposal with Yard Waste Collection Special Assessment.

8. Motion by Crawford, seconded by Bradley, to move to a Closed Session for the purpose of discussing acquisition of property. Time, 8:04 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**

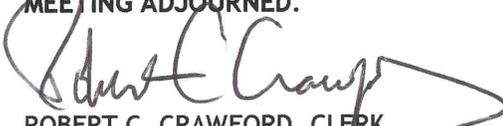
REGULAR MEETING RECONVENED AT 8:16 O'CLOCK P.M.

Motion by Crawford, seconded by Reynolds, to authorize the Township Supervisor to enter into negotiations to purchase property. Roll Call Vote, 6/0. **MOTION PASSED.**

BOARD DISCUSSION:

- Scarecrow Saturday,
- Improvements at Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Clerk thanked Lowes for a \$200.00 credit toward landscaping; and Haacks Greenhouse for donating 28 mums.

Motion by Reynolds, seconded by Bradley, to adjourn. Time, 8:25 o'clock p.m. Vote, Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**
MEETING ADJOURNED.


ROBERT C. CRAWFORD, CLERK
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FORT GRATIOT

JORJA BALDWIN, SUPERVISOR
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FORT GRATIOT