

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Regular meeting of the Grass Lake Charter Township Board was called to order on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall. Board Members Adams, Jr., Hart, Loveland, Clark, Stormont, Lesinski, Bray present. Also present Ordinance Enforcement Officer Gitcho, Fire Chief Jones, Shannon Maynard Citizen Patriot Reporter, County Commissioner Lutchka, Representative Mick Shirkey and 5 citizens. Pledge to Flag recited.

Agenda Additions: under Old Business item (i) Grass and Noxious Weed Ordinance/Letter.

Agenda Approval: Moved by Lesinski to approve the agenda with addition, supported by Hart. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment: County Commissioner Lutchka reported that the County is negotiating for the County Administrator position, have signed an assessing contract with Parma Township, working on the Dog Ordinance and have flyers prepared for daily events for the Jackson County fair. Dustin Krasny representative from Congressman Walberg office gave an update as to what Congressman Walberg is working on in Washington. Some topics were creating jobs in Michigan, reducing federal debt spending and gas prices. He will be in Chelsea on June 25th for another Coffee hour.

Minutes: Correction to the work session minutes written by Bray for the improper spelling of Treasurer first and last name. Motion by Hart to approve the regular meeting minutes and the work session meeting minutes with correction, supported by Bray. Motion carried by voice vote.

Monthly Bills: Motion by Lesinski to pay the Allocated Fire Fund bills in the amount of \$ 197,072.15, General Fund bills in the amount of \$ 39,344.97 and the Grass Lake Weed Control District in the amount of \$ 6,069.50, supported by Bray. Roll Call: Yeas; Lesinski, Bray, Adams, Jr., Hart, Loveland, Clark, Stormont.

Treasurers Report: Loveland states that the money is available to pay for the new fire truck and we received the metro act check the later part of May. Motion by Hart to receive and file the Treasurers report, supported by Clark. Motion carried by voice vote.

Hearing Officer Report: Gitcho has taken pictures of property at 3476 Pleasant Drive and 9230 Cedar Knoll which are in violation of the Dangerous Building Ordinance. Letters will be sent by certified mail to the owners of the properties.

Old Business: (a) LRUA proposal – this is a 5 point direction that the authority would like to move forward with and are asking for support from the municipalities. Motion by Adams, Jr. to support the LRUA to go in the right direction, supported by Bray. Voice Vote – Yeas; 6, Nay; 1
(b) Whistlestop Park, liaison Hart states that the Chamber of Commerce would like to give 20% of the income instead of a flat fee and they are going to install cameras on the grounds because of the vandalism. Stormont is still working on the bids for painting the interior and refinishing

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the floor. (e) Park Ordinance Revisions – due to board members not having the copies of the changes, this will be taken up at the next work session/meeting. (f) Park Rules, sign updates-signs have been prepared are ready to be installed at the park. (g) Planning Commission with Zoning Authority Ordinance under the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, Public Act 33 of 2008, MCL 125.3801 – Motion by Stormont to approve the Planning Commission with Zoning Authority Ordinance, supported by Adams, Jr. Motion carried by voice vote. (h) Electronic Funds Transfer and Payment Services Agreement – Treasurer Loveland had met with a representative from Farmers State Bank in regard to ACH for Current Tax Collection only payments to the different entities. The yearly cost may be between \$ 500 to \$ 600, this is all based on the amount of transactions. He feels this will be more secure than mailing of checks. Motion by Adams, Jr. to approve the electronic funds transfer agreement, supported by Hart. Motion carried by voice vote. (i) Grass and Noxious Weed Ordinance – Stormont had prepared a packet regarding noxious weeds, with a sample ordinance and a letter. This will be on the agenda of our next meeting.

New Business: (a) Township Attorney Update – Our previous attorney has now retired. Stormont has talked with Bill Fahey, from Fahey, Schultz, Burzych, Rhodes firm from Okemos, MI. Mr. Fahey has worked with Grass Lake Township when forming the DDA and has been very helpful in sending e-mails regarding different issues effecting Townships. Motion by Clark that we sign an agreement with William K. Fahey as our Township Attorney, supported by Lesinski. Motion carried by voice vote. (b) Tennis Court Repair update – Stormont has talked with Bruce Colfelt who did work on the Tennis Court a couple years ago and has asked that he come down and check them as to whether there is maintenance that is now needed. (c) Cemetery Ordinance 91-1 revisions – due to having problems in the cemeteries with “Ground Maintenance” we need to enforce the ordinance. We are having many families putting landscaping blocks on the graves, but they are not on their own lot. They are placed on other peoples lot, therefore they must be removed. The Clerk had prepared a letter which will be sent from the Township Board for all families which have placed landscaping blocks in the cemeteries. Motion by Adams, Jr. to approve the revisions to the Ordinance and the mailing of the letter to families in violation, supported by Bray. Motion carried by voice vote.

Fire Department Report: Chief Jones states that we had 7 medical calls, 1 open burning, 3 weather alert/station standby calls, 1 automatic aid given and 1 mutual aid given for the month of May. He also states the new Fire Vehicle is ready and he will be going to South Haven some time in the next week to drive it here.

Closed Session: Motion by Clark at 8:45 p.m. to go into closed session, supported by Hart. Motion Carried.

Regular Meeting: Came back to regular meeting at 9:10 p.m. Moved by Lesinski to adjourn the regular meeting, supported by Loveland. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

James Stormont, Supervisor

Marjorie Clark, Clerk