

BURDELL TOWNSHIP MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
November 10, 2009

The Burdell Township Board met at the Tustin Community Center for their regular November meeting. Present: Supervisor Charles Raab, Treasurer Julie Seguin, Clerk Laura Peterson, Trustee Virgil Asplund, Trustee Darwin Norman, Deputy Clerk Sandra Leach, Deputy Treasurer Mary Ellen Holmes, Zoning Administrator Martin Dahlstrom, Tustin Area Fire District Representative Nancy McCreery and Cemetery Caretaker Bob Logan. Assessor Art Moyses arrived at 7:35 p.m. Guest: Morris Langworthy Jr., Glenn Verbrugge, Alan Van Antwerp, Lolita and David Hoaglund, Adrian Ashcroft, Barbara Hazlett and Jason Kelly.

Supervisor Raab called the November Burdell Township Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

All in attendance rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Asplund moved to approve the October 13th minutes. Norman seconded. APPROVED

Treasurer Seguin reported that her General Fund balance of \$42,064.32 at the end of October was consistent with the clerks General Fund balance. The Roads and Bridges Fund had a balance of \$31,224.57 at the end of October. Seguin handed out winter newsletters for the board to review. They will be sent out with winter tax bills.

Board members were given copies of cash account records for October and November along with a budget versus actual report for review. Clerk Peterson gave an explanation of a couple bills. First, the Village of Tustin bill with joint expenses only included half of the cost that was billed from the company that seal coated the Tustin Library and Community center parking lot. It was felt that the job was less than adequate; cracks weren't all filled in and the line painting still isn't complete. Also, the bill for the construction of the cemetery sign that totaled \$414.76 for parts and labor hasn't been paid yet. A bill for the service agreement for the Optech Insight ballot tabulator for \$342 had been received. The State of Michigan has picked up \$71 of the full service agreement; they will cover parts and labor. The remainder of \$271, paid by the township, will cover all on-site service, Election Day support and loaner machine if needed. After reviewing the cash account registers for October and November Norman moved to pay the bills as presented. Seguin seconded. APPROVED

Peterson informed that Jerry Adair who is a Risk Control Representative for the Michigan Township Participating Plan met with her earlier in the month. His objective was to assist the township in reducing existing and/or potential liability exposures. After the meeting he responded with a letter with a suggestion that Burdell Township should develop and implement a written sexual harassment and other unwanted conduct policy and procedure. Along with the letter he sent a copy of a sample policy. Peterson said that she would produce a policy to propose to the board within a couple months.

Fire District Representative McCreery gave her account of the October 21st Fire District meeting. She expressed that it was helpful having elected officials from both Dover and Sherman townships in attendance. They discussed changes that are being considered in the pending Fire District Contract and explained why Dover Township can only pay 1.5 mills to the Tustin Fire District at this time. They hope to again pay 2 mills as Burdell and Sherman Townships are next year when their financial situation may be adjusted by a ballot question approved by a majority of their resident voters. At the meeting a General Fund balance of \$206,371.04 was reported. The Truck Fund balance was \$62,619.75 and the CD balance was \$40,060.20. The board approved the purchase of new Air Packs from Front Line Services for \$4,090.00. A Fire Fighter #1 class is scheduled for January 25, 2010 at the Tustin Fire Department. This class will be state funded. Fire Chief Bob Rose informed the board what standard prices for new fire trucks are at this time. Also, the purchase of a new Jaws of Life from the General Fund account was discussed.

Zoning Administrator Dahlstrom said that zoning permit requests have slowed down. Only three permits were issued during the month of October. He has been working with the assessor to investigate possible zoning violations.

Morris Langworthy Jr. introduced himself, and told of his initiative to fill the State House of Representatives 102nd District position that will be open next fall. Langworthy stated that he has served as County Commissioner in Osceola County for eight years; during this period he sat on the parks board. He has been a life long resident of the area and is a Navy veteran. He pledged that he will answer any questions directed to him. Langworthy mentioned that he doesn't like stimulus money being used to balance the state budget.

Langworthy excused himself at 7:18 p.m.

Glenn Verbrugge was introduced. Verbrugge and other residents who live on Diamond Lake have been concerned about the growing abundance of milfoil weeds in the lake over the last few years and the affect on the lakes recreational value. He and other lake residents contacted Lakeshore Environmental, Inc. to assess the situation. Copies of a letter of assessment and other information on aquatic weed control were distributed to the board. They suggested treatment of approximately 20 acres of the shallow lateral zone of the lake (a diagram was provided). Due to shallow water well restrictions, much of the treatment would need to consist of an alternative systemic aquatic herbicide called Triclopyr. This would be applied along with a polymer-like adjuvant which facilitates adherence and contact time of the herbicide to the plant. Lakeshore Environmental Inc. will treat the lake, oversee treatment and send educational newsletters to residents surrounding lake for a cost of \$12,000.00. This would most likely be incremented in three year commitments. It is Verbrugge's and others of the Diamond Lake Association's desire to become a special assessment district to acquire the cost for treatment of the lake. Verbrugge said that a door to door survey was taken on the lake on Labor Day weekend; with 100% approval. He suggested that each land owner on the lake would pay \$250.00; while those who reside in Diamond Lake Heights with no lake frontage would pay \$125.00. Verbrugge and other residents composed a letter that was sent to 74 involved residents. Out of 45 responses; 41 were in favor, and 4 were not. He said that they had paid the cost of mailings and felt no need for legal involvement. Peterson commented that this was a board decision. Seguin added that there was a lot to think about. The cost of handling delinquent payments was brought up. Raab was given a list of addresses of all the residents that would be involved and responses to the letters sent to confirm residency as required before further action can be taken.

Assessor Moyses entered and Dahlstrom excused himself at approximately 7:35 p.m.

Adrian Ashcroft introduced himself as the treasurer of Diamond Lake Heights. He said that the weeds have increased dramatically over the last 5 to 10 years. He believes the milfoil weeds were brought in on boats at the public access. The question of whether the DEQ had been contacted arose. It was suggested that this would be handled by Lakeshore Environmental, Inc. Peterson asked if the county drain commissioner had been contacted; from what she had read, she said that this was a requirement also. She also wondered if planting of water insects that eat the weeds had been considered for treatment. Verbrugge suggested that he didn't think they could survive the climate in our area.

Verbrugge and the Hoaglund's excused themselves at 7:45 p.m.

Resident Barbara Hazlet who resides on 200th Avenue expressed gratitude that the resurfacing of 200th Avenue north of 20 Mile Road has been completed. She however expressed concern that the lines on

the sides of the road were painted over sand, and that the sand on the edges of the road has been washing down into the yards. The completion of the 20 Mile Road Bridge project was also mentioned.

Caretaker Robert Logan informed that the new cemetery sign was in place. Raab asked him if Community Correction workers had been out to rake leaves this fall. Logan said they hadn't. Raab will contact Pete Carlson with Community Corrections to try to line something up. Logan mentioned contacting Sexton Don Andreen to see if he could assist with the removal of the two trees that were down.

Assessor Art Moyses handed out his report for the month to the board. He mentioned that the CPI is at a negative .3% which will reduce taxable values next year slightly. Moyses has visited nearly all new construction sights. He has taken pictures and has produced new record cards for them. A residential ratio close to 50% will be used, so there should be little change in residential value.

OCTA will be held at the Tustin Community Center on November 30th at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be provided by Burdell Township board members.

The Board of Review will be meeting on December 15th at 3:00 p.m.

The following correspondences were received by Burdell Township and available at the meeting for all to review. 1). DEQ permit issued to Paul Roose for the dredging of a pond. 2). Notice of Hearing regarding the effect of wind turbine setback requirements and noise limitations on wind energy development in designated Michigan wind energy resource zones. 3). Notice of new National Electrical Code rules. And 4). A notice of hearing for the customers of Great Lakes Energy Cooperative.

Seguin asked if anyone else would like to attend the Fire District Contract meeting that is to be held the following morning, November 11th at 9:30 a.m. She has represented the board at the previous meetings. Raab said that he had a prior engagement at that time. Seguin explained the issues related to Dover Townships not being able to pay the 2 mill as they have in the past. She will attend the meeting. Seguin brought attention to the Winter Newsletter that will be sent out. A correction on the date of the 2010 Household Hazardous Waste Collection was made. It should be October 9th, 2010. She asked Moyses to assist her in forwarding zoning permit applications and land division applications to Dan Massy so they can be placed on the web site.

Former Burdell Township Supervisor Alan Van Antwerp commented that the board shouldn't feel rushed when considering making Diamond Lake Heights a special assessment district. He added that we shouldn't assume that they have done everything legally.

Adrian Ashcroft suggested that they hope that progress is fast forming the Diamond Lake Heights special assessment district because the springtime would be the best time to use the weed killer to stop their growth.

Supervisor Raab adjourned the November 10th Burdell Township Board meeting at 8:20 p.m.