

BURDELL TOWNSHIP MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

September 8, 2009

The Burdell Township Board met at the Tustin Community Center for their regular September 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, Tustin Area Fire District Representative Nancy McCreery, Cemetery Sexton Donald Andreen and Cemetery Caretaker Bob Logan. Absent: Assessor Art Moyses and Zoning Administrator Martin Dahlstrom. Guest: Barbara Hazlett.

Supervisor Raab called the September Burdell Township Board meeting to order at 6:58 p.m.

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

Seguin asked that .Net software for tax administration and assessing be added to new business on the agenda.

Raab moved to approve the Burdell Township August 14th board meeting minutes. Norman seconded.
APPROVED

The Road Fund Account report for the month of August was handed out by Treasurer Seguin. It showed an August end balance of \$31,211.53. She reported that General Fund Account had an August end balance of \$43,617.28 which matched the August Cash Account Register handed out by Peterson.

Peterson told those present that some township employees would be receiving an extra check this month which is for reimbursement for mileage which she had incorrectly paid since the beginning of the year. She informed that the IRS 2009 standard mileage rate changed to 55 cents from 50.5 cents on January 1st, 2009. A sheet showing exact figures was attached to each check.

The Clerk also mentioned that she wrote a fourth letter to Consumers Energy regarding the bill for the balance of account 1000 0022 7080 which Consumers Energy is unable to prove is on Burdell Township property. Because late fees are now being added to the balance which they transferred to a different Burdell Township account, Peterson explained that she paid the balance of \$35.30, and wrote a letter to Consumers Energy stating that it was being paid in protest. After review of the General Fund Account Cash Account Registers for August and September Norman moved that the bills be paid as presented. Asplund seconded.
APPROVED

Fire Board Representative McCreery gave her account of the Tustin Area Fire District meeting held on August 19th. She mentioned that Burdell Township Treasurer Seguin was present along with three board members from Dover Township. Details were given by members of the committee that have been working on the revision of the old Tustin Area Fire District Contract. McCreery feels that there is still some confusion on how the Department is subsidized by township taxes, and that it should be discussed further at the next Fire District meeting. McCreery feels that township officials need to voice how they feel about the possibility of Dover Township lowering their Fire District Tax millage to 1.5 mills from 2 mills. She said that a grant has been received for the purchase of night vision goggles. McCreery followed up on last month's discussion on how some feel that the Fire Districts Account Balances are quite high. She explained to the board that there is a plan to purchase a new truck and new Jaws of Life; which they would need a substantial amount of funds for. She explained that their hope is to have more cash to pay upfront so there wouldn't be a large outstanding debt as there has been for past purchases. At the meeting fireman training and Tustin Daze events were discussed. The next Tustin Area Fire District meeting will be on Wednesday, September 16th at 7:30 p.m. McCreery announced that she will be unable to attend the October Burdell Township meeting.

Norman handed out copies of Zoning Administrator Dahlstrom's August report. Norman explained that Dahlstrom, who was not in attendance, had dropped them off at his home along with copies of a sample wind energy generator policy that the Planning Commission will be reviewing at their meeting on September 16th. Four zoning permits were issued by Dahlstrom in August.

Supervisor Raab gave township resident Barbara Hazlett the floor. Hazlett told those present that she serves as a representative for the Commission on Aging (COA) Advisory Board. She explained that she feels a need to get the word out that there is a possibility that the state budget may decrease funding to COA by as much as 90%. She continued that this would jeopardize the existence of Meals on Wheels and other programs that are very important to many seniors. Brandon Fewins, a representative from Debby Stabenow's office in Traverse City will be present On Tuesday, September 15th at 3:30 p.m. at Boomers Rendezvous of Tustin to discuss the topic further. Also Hazlett mentioned that the Area Advocacy on Aging of Western Michigan (AAAWM) meets once a month in Grand Rapids. These meetings are open to all who wish to attend.

Seguin said that Dave Eggle and she were present at the Fire District Contract meeting that met in August. Their next meeting will be on September 22nd at 6:30 in the Tustin Library. Continual progress is being made on revising the contract for the Tustin Area Fire District.

The Osceola County Townships Association (OCTA) met at the Lincoln Township Hall on August 31st. Sharmaine Lucas informed them of the upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Day which is October 10th and will be held at Osceola County Road Commission North Facility in Tustin from 9:00 a.m. till 12:00 noon. Seguin had brochures available. State Representative Darwin Booher was present at the OCTA meeting to spread the word that he is now running for State Senate. Also there, was Republican Linda Howard who hopes to fill Booher's seat in the House of Representatives. A representative from BS&A Software was present to highlight their new .net software available to assist in assessing and property tax administration. Seguin was very pleased with the upgrade and asked the board to consider it. She said the offer that Assessor Moyses previously mentioned which was to expire in May has been extended to us, if we take action soon. Total cost for both the Equalizer Assessing. Net and the Equalizer Tax.Net Systems would be \$4,290.00. This amount includes a 25% reduction to the assessing program and a 10% discount for purchasing them both. Van Antwerp asked if the new software would take data from the old software. The answer was "yes". Seguin added that Osceola County has budgeted for its purchase.

Bill Logan has agreed to make a sign for the Burdell Township Cemetery. The sign will be big enough to post the Cemetery Policy. The cost should be between three and four hundred dollars. There was some discussion on whether two were needed. The board decided to wait on the second.

Raab has talked to Kelly Van Houten, the painters who will be painting the Community Center. They plan to contact Librarian Sandra Leach to schedule the job soon after Labor Day. They have plastic edging they will adhere to the corners to prevent wear. They have agreed to paint the registers for less than \$200. Asplund moved to approve that Van Houten's paint the Community Center interior, restrooms and registers. Seguin seconded. APPROVED

Peterson distributed a sample notice that she wrote up for the boards' approval on the Burdell Township Cemetery fall clean-up date. It was agreed that the notice should be in the Cadillac News announcements the next two weekend additions and the next two Monday additions. Peterson will contact the Cadillac News and post flyers around Tustin. Peterson mentioned that she will make sure the Veteran Memorial flags are taken down before the clean-up deadline of October 1st.

Next on the agenda was the consideration of the approval of Resolution 2009-7, Tax Rate Levy 2009, Revised. Peterson handed out copies of the resolution and the 2009 Tax Rate Request for the board to review. Supervisor Raab moved that the resolution be approved. Norman seconded. A roll call vote followed.

Norman	Yes
Asplund	Yes
Peterson	Yes
Raab	Yes
Sequin	Yes

Resolution 2009-7 was declared adopted.

After further consideration over the new .NET software offered by BS & A for assessing and taxes. Norman moved that the township accept the bid. Peterson seconded. APPROVED

Raab updated the board on road and bridge projects in Burdell Township. He has received a contract from the Osceola County Road Commissions for the seal coating of 200th Avenue north of 20 Mile Rd. The total cost will be \$282,188.00; with half being the contractual responsibility of Burdell Township. Reith Riley should be starting the project the third week in September. The seal coating should have a life span of 8 to 10 years. The 22 Mile Rd. Bridge is now open. The Hibma Rd. Bridge is now under construction.

Supervisor Raab moved to accept the proposal from the Osceola County Road Commission for the estimated cost to pave/overlay 200th Ave. from 20 Mile Rd. north to County line Rd. (4.28 miles) and County Line Rd. west of 200th Ave. (.58 miles). Sequin seconded. APPROVED All the Burdell Township Board members signed two copies of the contract. One to be on file at Burdell Township and the other will be sent to the Road Commission.

Supervisor Raab adjourned the September 8th Burdell Township Board meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Laura A. Peterson, Clerk