

MERRILL TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MINUTES

Merrill Township Community Complex

1585 West 11 Mile Rd.

Bitely, MI 49309

September 18, 2017

Agenda

1. Call to order – Barry Baldwin called meeting to order at 7:00 pm
2. Pledge to flag – Frank Jackson led Pledge of Allegiance
3. Prayer –Denise Suttles offered opening prayer
4. Roll Call – Board members present – Supervisor Barry Baldwin, Clerk Janet Osmolinski, Treasurer Cathy Stroop, Trustee Frank Jackson, and Trustee Denise Suttles.
5. Approval of meeting agenda – Frank Jackson made motion to accept agenda with the additions that Denise Suttles introduced. Denise Suttles seconded. Ayes all. Motion carried.
6. Approval of consent agenda – Denise Suttles made motion to approve Consent Agenda with adding bill from Randy Payne to be paid \$250. Janet Osmolinski seconded. All Ayes. Motion carried.
7. Lilley Township Fire Report – Read by Fireman Mike, Lilley Township fire dept., has gotten 3 bids for installing the barrier around the fire hydrant, these will be forwarded to Merrill Township. Lots of questions were asked in regard to First Responders. Barry Baldwin stated he has been trying for several months to get a quote from Lilley Township as to the cost of having First Responders in Merrill Township. The question was asked how to go forward. It was suggested to talk to Newaygo County Clerk, to see if getting First Responders would need to be put on the ballot and voted on. As it was a township vote that took First Responders out of Merrill Township.
8. Zoning Administrator Report – as we no longer have a Zoning Administrator we do not have a report.
9. Supervisors Report – Barry Baldwin reported he has been looking for a Zoning Administrator to replace Ron Corrigan, who resigned. He also got a quote from Newaygo County Road Commission for the cost to put in the dry hydrant on 11 Mile & Croswell. It was stated in our last board meeting we go ahead with installing the dry hydrant not to exceed \$1500. The quote is \$2712.50 no action has been taken as over board allowance. New Assessor is doing a good job. The Transfer Station was cleaned up and looks really good. We still have a hazard waste issue but the DEQ is working with the township. Roberta Daniels stated she has a list of places that will take hazard waste for free. She will get Barry the list.
10. Clerks Report – Janet Osmolinski stated no resumes have been received for the Zoning Administration position. Also, she will call DAR's to check on trimming of bushes in front of building.

11. Treasures Report – Per Cathy Stroop the report is attached, also September 14 was last day to pay taxes without interest being added. Cathy will continue to collect taxes at township hall until March.

12. Planning Commission Report - Denise Suttles reported they are still working on the marijuana ordinance. She thanked Ron Corrigan for all his input in the Planning Commission while he was Zoning Administrator.

13. Public Comment - None

At this point Supervisor Barry Baldwin adjourned the meeting stating the rest of the agenda was not meeting board procedure. He was stating this as the clerk had not had the agenda to the board members 5 days prior to the board meeting. Clerk, Janet Osmolinski said that was true but also the prior clerk Marilyn Pembroke for the last 5 years never mail out the agenda before the board meeting.

Denise Suttles made a motion to continue the meeting in spite of the Supervisor's attempt to adjourn, with the agenda as is. Janet Osmolinski seconded. Roll Call Vote – Denise Suttles Yes, Janet Osmolinski Yes, Cathy Stroop Yes, Frank Jackson Yes, Barry Baldwin would not vote as meeting was adjourned. Motion carried.

14. Unfinished Business –

a. Transfer Station – Janet Osmolinski, reported at the August 24, 2017 board meeting lots of good suggestions were brought to the board's attention on how to control and save money at the Transfer Station. However none of them were adopted at that time. Denise Suttles had a list of things the Transfer Station attendants would like to see happen. Janet Osmolinski will make a list of rules to be passed out to residents when they come in to use the Transfer Station. Olie Powers would like to take tires. He would charge a fee to be paid by the person who is bringing in the tires, then the tires would be cut up to go into the dumpster. Olie would keep the fee for himself for doing the work. Janet Osmolinski stated there is a company out of Big Rapids that will take old tires. James Dice said they only charge \$1.50 per tire and they come and pick up the tires. See notes from Transfer Station attendants attached.

b. Marijuana – Denise Suttles brought forward a resolution regarding the medical marijuana issue. Denise Suttles read the resolution then made a motion; after being duly informed and advised, the board of Merrill Township has decided it shall NOT adopt an ordinance to authorize the location of any medical marijuana facilities within Merrill Township as provided by the Medical Marijuana Facilities Act. Roll Call Vote – Janet Osmolinski Yes, Cathy Stroop Yes, Frank Jackson Yes, Denise Suttles Yes, Barry Baldwin Nay. Motion carried. Resolution filed

15. Other Business – Denise Suttles read a letter she had written addressed to Barry Baldwin. Regarding decorum.

16. New Business

a. None

17. Public Comment - Rolanda Richardson stated she had emailed the clerk, Janet Osmolinski, about a board action but would table it until next month. Janet Osmolinski apologize as she thought the email was just information and that Rolanda would bring the item up under public comment. The email will

be on the agenda next month. Another comment was from a gentleman stating he would like a survey to go out to the township residents if a big decision needs to be made.

18 . Adjourned – Barry Baldwin adjourned the meeting at 8:37pm

Respectfully Submitted

Janet Osmolinski, Clerk