

BROOKS TOWNSHIP MINUTES

490 QUARTERLINE ROAD
NEWAYGO, Michigan 49337
(231) 652-6763
July 21, 2015
APPROVED

Members Present: Supervisor – Cory Nelson, Clerk – Jennifer Badgero,
Treasurer – Christina Haynor, Trustee – Mike Bouwer, Trustee – Kim Roehrig

Members Absent: None

A regular meeting of the Brooks Township Board was held on the above date at the Brooks Township Hall. Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Supervisor Cory Nelson.

Pledge of Allegiance

AGENDA: Supervisor Nelson asked for additions or corrections to the agenda.
Moved by Badgero, **Seconded** by Haynor to accept the agenda as presented.
Approved Unanimously

Moved by Badgero, **Seconded** by Haynor to suspend the regular meeting and open the Fire District Public Hearing at 7:04 p.m.
Approved Unanimously

FIRE DISTRICT PUBLIC HEARING: Badgero explained this is an annual public hearing and allows time for the public to express their opinions. The meeting was properly published in the Times Indicator. Badgero said millage will increase 0.4 (4/10) of a mill because Garfield Township has not expressed that they want to stay in the fire district. No public comments received pertaining to the fire district millage.

Moved by Haynor, **Seconded** by Bouwer to close the Fire District Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m. and reopen the regular Township Board meeting.
Approved Unanimously

MINUTES:

Moved by Roehrig, **Seconded** by Haynor to accept the minutes of the Regular June 16, 2015 Township Board Meeting as presented.
Approved Unanimously

Moved by Badgero, **Seconded** by Haynor to accept the minutes of the Special July 2, 2015 Township Board Meeting as presented.
Approved Unanimously

Special Joint meeting with Croton on June 15, 2015: Badgero explained she has not received the minutes yet from Croton so this will be tabled for approval until we receive those minutes.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS:

Moved by Haynor, **Seconded** by Nelson to pay the bills as presented.
Approved Unanimously

TREASURER’S REPORT: (attached)

Received and Accepted Treasurer’s Report as presented.

GF 101 – Beginning Balance \$1,028,646.54, Receipts \$106,726.78, Disbursements \$206,500.30, Ending Balance \$928,873.02

PA 103 – Beginning Balance \$.00, Receipts \$9,459.44, Disbursements \$9,459.44, Ending Balance \$.00.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Comment received

REPORTS:

Planning Commission: Bouwer said the PC has been working on the camping ordinance along with sea walls and wild life feeding. They will also be discussing fences in the Lake District at next Monday’s meeting.

Charlie Harris isn’t ready with his site plan so that will be taken care of at a later date.

Haynor asked if the PC minutes could be put in the Township Board Packets like was done before.

Zoning Administrator: (See attached)

Fire Board Report: Badgero said they responded to 26 calls in June and 214 so far this year. There are two fire fighters on medical leave. They are receiving formal applications for captain and lieutenant positions. The Fire Board voted at the last meeting to extend the agreement for Garfield to August 12 but if there is no response from Garfield, they will not have coverage on August 13. This was in the minutes and sent to Garfield Township.

There was a golf outing fund raiser in June that was completely sold out.

Newaygo Community District Library: Sharon Haege reported they have a new board member, Carol Sherwood. They have 541 children signed up for summer reading. In June there were 129 and 49 adults who attended two events held on Thursdays called Amazing Adaptations and Real Heroes Read. July 9th was a Voyage in Time that was collaborated with the Newaygo County Museum presented games, toys, and stories about life in 1915. Super Hero Stunt Show was the 16th and Deep Fried Pickle Project will be this Thursday, July 23.

On the 30th there will be an Extreme Duck Tape Hero Workshop and August 6 is Super Hero Costume Party in the Park.

They raised \$1,008 at the Scholastic Book Fair giving the library \$403 to purchase children's non-fiction books. Circulation doubled in the month of June. The Library will be closing on October 12 for a staff training. The book store is open every Friday in the park during the Farmer's Market through October 16.

Coolbough Management Commission: Haynor said they are reworking the management agreement with the Nature Conservancy. The Conservancy wants to step back so the commission is working with the Michigan Nature Association to take over the management. We are working on getting new signs made to identify the different types of plants and trees. The next meeting is August 12.

Haynor thought the cutting of timber will be done at the end of summer.

Chain of Lakes Sewer Authority: Haynor said at last Tuesday's meeting everything was going well. They will take care of the freezing of some of the pipes at the end of summer. They don't want to work on them while people are there. Some pipes will have to be dug up. They are also looking at having a spare pump on hand incase something happens with a pump at one of the lift stations. It would be nice to have two of them but they are expensive. Each pump is unique for each lift station. There is money in the budget for one but not two at this time.

Jim Dutkiewicz said they will work with the people who go to Florida or Arizona to drain their pipes or put antifreeze in the pipes so they don't freeze. There was never a problem for seven years but the last two years the weather was extremely cold. There are more problems with repairs at rental properties as the renters don't know what can go down the drain and what not to put in.

Newaygo Area Recreation Authority: Badgero said they are still working on the soccer field and hope to play there this fall. The resurfacing of the tennis court hasn't been scheduled yet; it is in the budget beginning July 1.

County Commissioner: Larry Lethorn said Abby Watkins is the Director of Emergency Services. Several years ago we did the hazardous fuel mitigation program getting away from fire problems. He explained what fire hazards were taken care of before and what will be done again. They will remove the Scotch Pine and Jack Pine which will get rid of this hazardous fuel that is around homes.

The 911 system is up and running. Newaygo County will be connected to the Peninsula Fiber Network which will work with other 911 districts so there will be back up in case ours goes down. This is all taken care of through the State Wireless Fund.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. FOIA: Badgero attended a seminar at her conference regarding the FOIA requests. There was discussion on the process that is recommended to get a FOIA. Our last request was in 2013. After discussing the pros and cons of this new procedure it was decided to table this for now.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. WRTIFA Plan: Nelson said we are still waiting for Cliff Bloom to provide this to us.

2. Road/Pathway Paving: We are looking at 76th and Basswood. The cost is \$70,000 for a four foot (4') paving on both sides of the road. For a two foot (2') paving on both sides cost is \$46,925. For paving a four foot (4') path on one side of the road, cost is \$40,000. We did not receive a grant to do this. Money will have to come out of the General Fund. There was discussion as to width of path, running on sidewalks, school track and other options.

Chris Ortwein, County Commission, said he is on the Pathway Committee (EDGE) and they hope to rewrite the grant in September.

Roehrig suggested the new road committee look into these types of things any time we do road work now. If we can get road millage passed, we could put paths next to the roads too.

After a lot of discussion it was decided to table this for now.

3. Resolution 2015-318 Fire District Confirmation of Assessment Roll:

Moved by Roehrig, **Seconded** by Bouwer to approve Resolution 2015-318.
Approved Unanimously.

4. Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Resolution 2015-319 & Agreement:

Moved by Roehrig, **Seconded** by Bouwer to pass Resolution 2015-319 MABAS.
Badgero said this is an agreement between all fire departments in the State of Michigan. Specialized equipment could be requested if needed from another department. It is supposed to be used during a disaster if the governor declares a disaster area. The state will then pay any cost above the normal for the use of the specialized equipment.
Approved Unanimously.

5. Budget Amendment: This amendment is for the difference in price for work done on Gardner. Kelly Smith of the Road Commission brought this to our attention. They had made a mistake in the estimate. It will cost \$25,000 more.

Moved by Badgero, **Seconded** by Nelson to add \$25,000 to the Road Budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments received.

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Roehrig said he read the documents regarding butterfly protection in the National Forest and parts of Coolbough. It includes 7,600 acres in a couple counties. There are only 106 acres the Federal Forest Service is to post signage to not walk, drive on or use ORV's because of environmental improvement for the butterflies. If people keep going on this area, they will close them. They are trying to establish the Lupine as that is the only thing the butterflies eat. Most of the area is south of M-82, there is a loss of 2.1 miles of road on the east side of the county.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Haynor, **Seconded** by Bouwer to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.
Approved Unanimously

Jennifer Badgero – Clerk

Maureen Dutkiewicz – Recording Secretary