

BROOKS TOWNSHIP MINUTES
490 QUARTERLINE ROAD
NEWAYGO, Michigan 49337
(231) 652-6763
April 19, 2016
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 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Cory Nelson.

Pledge of Allegiance

AGENDA: Supervisor Nelson asked for additions or corrections to the agenda.
Moved by Bouwer, **Seconded** by Badgero to accept the agenda with the addition of Sidewalk Easement under New Business.
Approved Unanimously

MINUTES:

Moved by Roehrig, **Seconded** by Bouwer to accept the minutes of the Regular March 15, 2016 Township Board Meeting with a correction of a typo.
Approved Unanimously

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS:

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

TREASURER’S REPORT: (attached)

There was some discussion on the variation in savings at different times of the year.

Received and Accepted Treasurer’s Report as presented.
GF 101 – Beginning Balance \$910,208.58, Receipts \$95,862.69, Disbursements \$66,700.62, Ending Balance \$939,370.65.
PA 103 – Beginning Balance \$.00, Receipts \$9,540.20, Disbursements \$9,540.20, Ending Balance \$.00.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

REPORTS:

Planning Commission: Bouwer reported the PC held an election of officers last month. There are two new members. The PC went through the OSDS Ordinance and would like input from the Township Board. The PC didn’t think anything needed to be changed.

The Outdoor Heating Ordinance was amended and is on the agenda tonight. The PC is discussing Lake District Language.

Zoning Administrator: (See attached)

Fire Board Report: Badgero said the Fire Board will be meeting Wednesday (tomorrow) night with Garfield Township regarding their contract with the Fire Board. There were a couple questions that hopefully will get resolved then.

They have another certified fire fighter on the roster. There has been a number of brush fires. Badgero didn't know about VanDyke other than he was charged and arraigned.

Roehrig is going to try to set up a meeting with the Fireboard Chairman, Tim Deater, to discuss the fireboard representatives.

Newaygo Community District Library: Sharon Haege said that Kelly Tinkham is the interim Library Director. Ray Arnett, Director of the Fremont Area District Library has been hired as a consultant for six months if needed.

The story time attendance had 35 children, the tweens had six children, the art class with Victor Dubois who is a graphic artist, helped design a t-shirt for the summer reading program. There were 25 children who submitted entries and the winning design will be chosen in April. They have a license to show movies. They would like to have them after school and need to be scheduled. They still have the adult coloring club. There were representatives at the Community Expo on March 25. The library is seeing a lot of staff training.

Library circulation has gone up from 2015 to 2016. The yearly audit will be April 25 and 26 which will be done by Brickley Delong. Cindy Scarbrough from Ross Accounting will also be there.

The embezzlement case is with the prosecutor. Haege didn't have any update on that. They do have a personnel sub-committee starting the search of a new director. They have an attorney looking at their policies and will establish policies they don't have in place now.

Coolbough Management Commission: Haynor said their next meeting will be on May 11. They are looking to update the master plan. The commission will discuss turning over management from the Nature Conservancy to the Michigan Nature Association. However, the Conservancy will still have a presence on the board.

Chain of Lakes Sewer Authority: Jim Dutkiewicz said things are running well. They did a lot of clean ups over the winter so they are ready for summer. No freeze ups this past winter. There are six people that weren't hooked up to the system and five out of six are hooked up now. They need to be hooked up by May 1st.

Newaygo Area Recreation Authority: Badgero said that baseball and soccer has started. They will be working on their master plan this year.

County Commissioner: Lethorn said there is a new County Administrator. The search was very extensive and took almost 90 days. It was done by Hiring Solutions. There were 52 candidates. It was narrowed down to six that were interviewed by the selection committee.

That was narrowed down to two individual candidates and both were good. The position was offered to Chris Wren and he accepted. He is from Linden, Michigan which is south of Flint. Mr. Wren is anxious to get started and will be here tomorrow when the employees meet with the insurance committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. OSDS Ordinance: Bouwer said the PC thinks this is a good ordinance. They would like input from the Township Board to be sure nothing needs to be changed. Bouwer said he talked to some realtors and they think this is a good ordinance. Realtors like inspections done too. There was some discussion and the general consensus was to leave the ordinance as written.

2. Sherriff Patrol Around Lakes: Nelson said this is regarding speed control and other situations around Brooks and Hess Lake.

Moved by Haynor, **Seconded** by Nelson to add a Sherriff's patrol around Brooks and Hess Lakes on the three holiday weekends this summer.

Nelson said he had quite a few complaints regarding the speeders around those lakes. It cost \$2,700 at \$30 an hour for this summer. Patrol will be Friday through Sunday from noon to 10:00 p.m. for each of the holiday weekends.

After discussion a vote was taken. Approved Unanimously.

3. Outdoor Heating Unit: Bouwer said the change in this ordinance is to do with the size of the wood shed being changed from no larger than 400 square feet to 800 square feet. They don't need to build it that big but some people store two years' worth of wood and heat everything with wood. This gives them more space and room making it safer so they don't have to stack it as high.

Language was also inserted as to the 14 foot height requirement of the chimney. Wording stated a mechanical inspector may approve a lesser height on a case-by-case basis if necessary to comply with manufacturer's recommendations and if the smoke from the lower chimney height does not create a nuisance for neighbors.

Moved by Haynor, **Seconded** by Nelson to approve language changes on Ordinance 3.16a Outdoor Heating Units.
Approved Unanimously

4. NCRA Budget:

Moved by Badgero, **Seconded** by Roehrig to approve the NCRA Budget for 2016-17 total revenue and expenditures.

Badgero said we only have to approve the total revenue and appropriations and not the individual items.

After discussion a vote was taken. Approved Unanimously.

5. Sidewalk Easement:

Moved by Nelson, **Seconded** by Roehrig to look at the sidewalk easement with the city.

Nelson said he talked with Jon Schneider, Newaygo City Manager, in the fall about the potential for the city to put a sidewalk down Division and a bridge over the small creek. Brooks Township would not bear any cost in this project. We retain property rights to the easement area.

Badgero asked about the sidewalk being 15 feet from the road. We have shrubs along the side to block the recycling area. She also wondered what will happen with the parking area. Nelson said they will replace the shrubs with evergreens. Nelson also said they will not cut into the parking lot.

After more discussion a vote was taken. Approved Unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments received.

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Bouwer asked if the board could get information on the applicants ahead of time prior to a meeting when an appointment is up for township positions. Haynor thought we could start in January under New Business giving out information to Township Board members on the applicants and have it under Unfinished Business when it is time to vote.

Haynor said highway pick-up will be this Friday at 9:00. We will meet at the First Baptist Church parking lot.

Trash Day will be on June 4 beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Badgero said Newaygo is having a Color Run on June 5th.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Bouwer, **Seconded** by Nelson to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.
Approved Unanimously

Jennifer Badgero – Clerk

Maureen Dutkiewicz – Recording Secretary