

Milton Township Board
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2006

Members present: Bargy, Fox, Atkinson, Pharo

Also present: Weinzapfel, Attorneys Derman and Turkelson, Sarasin, Sgt. Kopkau, Sheriff Terry Johnson and 15 audience members

Members absent: Cole

Bargy called the meeting to order at 7:01 and the Pledge was recited.

Agenda approved by order of the chair

Public Comment:

No one wished to speak

Approval of February 2006 minutes:

Pg. 3: Add vacation/re-plating

Pg 4: add circuit court file number #05-8152-CE

Pg. 1: add in public comment that we are working on getting improvements on NW Torch Lake Drive

Salary Resolution: Add 3 percent increase for Supervisor.

Zoning Report: Delete E from EA copy of the list

Pg. 3: Supervisor's change Peterso to Peterson

Motion by Atkinson, seconded by Pharo to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried.

Approval of Feb 17, 2006 Special Meeting

Motion by Atkinson, seconded by Pharo to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

No questions on Treasure's Report

Sheriff's Department Report:

As given by Sgt. Kopkau

86 complaints for Milton Township for February. 11 traffic stops for Milton. Two officers are currently in training; seven more are headed for training in the coming weeks. Jan Ganzel is leaving Antrim County Sheriff's Department to be with family downstate. A replacement has not been hired. Two deputies are currently out due to injuries.

Jerry Mensing asked how the coalition is going between the area departments regarding the sandbar issue on Torch Lake. Kopkau deferred to Sheriff Johnson.

Sheriff Johnson commended Kopkau's work.

Sheriff Johnson reported that regular meetings are ongoing regarding the Torch Lake sandbar. Progress is being made. Federal funding is coming through from the DNR and the total will be significant for Antrim County and the funds may go to new marine equipment. Johnson also discussed a new noise meter for the lakes, a new jail overcrowding policy for deadbeat dads and moms, snowmobile patrol, 911 numbering system, GPS coordinates on cell phones are increasing the ability to help dispatch find those in need of help. Sheriff Johnson also talked about a county study for new jail. It was built in 1955 and it has become old and is on the verge of being overcrowded. Three plans have been developed. It is a long-term project.

Derman asked regarding 911 mistaken alarm calls and if there is an alarm policy. Johnson said they are developing a policy on 911 alarms that seem to be broken.

Paul Patchen asked regarding marine noise statues. Johnson explained.

Fox also commended Kopkau for his service.

Fire Department Report

As given by Sarasin

6 runs for February. The bids have been sent out for the new truck(s). Hopefully, bids will be presented at next meeting. Insurance forms for the township are being filled out.

Ambulance Report

As given by Weinzapfel

27 runs for February. 11 to Milton. Landing Zone class will be March 28. Other upcoming classes were discussed. Checking into upgrading the defibrillator.

Zoning Report

As given by Weinzapfel

The Planning Commission at the Feb meeting approved Torch Hills for re-zone from Ag to PUD. Also approved amendment to ordinance regarding platted lots that must be approved by Township Board. Also, a recommendation regarding the splitting of platted lots. Public hearing tomorrow for Version Cellular to co-locate on the tower on Sutter Road. Discussed violations.

Kopkau asked what will be done with the old defibrillator. Weinzapfel said they may be turned back in. Kopkau suggested that he would like to have them in all patrol cars if they will be thrown out.

Attorney's Report

As given by Derman

Violations discussed: Garrow is ongoing litigation, Elk Tip Landing, nothing new to report, GTB, nothing to report; Violation on Chippewa Trail has been cleaned up and we are keeping an eye on it; Losse brief has been received and a response brief is being created; Weathertop SAD, Metro Act, Pension Plan, Sandbar Shop, South End Fire Station, Chartier or Orchard Hills Lot 14, Underground water tanks, recycling agreement with Elk Rapids, Torch Lake Totem LLC, Violation at Rex Terrace on Windburn Lane.

Johnson asked Derman if the GTB land had ever been put into trust. Derman said he has never been notified that is has.

Mensing asked if the property was still on the tax rolls. Derman said yes.

Larry Smith asked where does the county ordinance stand regarding septic tank inspection.

Derman cited a report in the February Antrim County News.

Supervisor's Report:

Summer Tax Collection: The Elk Rapids schools presented \$3.75 per parcel tax for summer tax collection

Motion by Bargy

Second by Pharo

Motion carried

Signed agreement with Torch Lake Township. They will pay \$1500 toward the park this year.

Bargy recommended that Larry Smith be appointed along with himself, and Pharo to meet with the auditors.

Public Comment:

Don Watkins of NW Torch Lake Drive: Asked regarding his request to change auditors. Bargy said they would discuss this next year in accordance with the contract with the auditors

Grace Herta asked when clean up day would be. Clean up day will be April 29.

Mensing asked regarding recycling. Bargy said the agreement with Elk Rapids has been signed.

Kopkau said he saw Great Lakes Energy people changing light and asked regarding changing a specific light at 31 and Campbell and 31 and Cairn Highway. The energy company said the request must come from the township.

Patchen asked regarding noise limits on gas compressor stations. Weinzapfel said the limit is 45 decibels at 1320 feet. Proposed facility is going on Dorman's property between Cairn Highway and US 31 in the woods.

The proposed budget is still under review. It may be ready by the time of the planning commission meeting. It will be available online.

Bills:

Transfer \$7500 from general fund contingency to general fund pension

Transfer \$1925 from general fund contingency to social security and Medicare account

Transfer \$300 from fire fund contingency to fire fund salary account

Request to pay board of review expenses in this fiscal year.

Motion by Fox, seconded by Pharo to approve transfers. Motion carried.

Larry Smith asked if the ambulance payment is for the whole year 2005/2006. Yes.

Motion to approve the bills by Atkinson, seconded by Fox. Motion carried.

Motion to go into closed session by Bargy, seconded by Pharo.

Pharo; yea

Atkinson; yea

Fox; yea

Bargy; yea

Motion carried. Went into closed session at 8:10 pm. Regarding Garrow litigation.

Supervisor re-opened regular meeting at 8:22 pm.

Motion by Pharo, second by Bargy, that Council is directed to proceed as directed in closed session. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm to call of the Chair.

These minutes subject to approval at April meeting.

Merris M. Fox, Clerk