

**PLEASANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
MANISTEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

Thursday, February 9, 2017

APPROVED MINUTES

The regular monthly meeting of the Pleasanton Township Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Members present: Supervisor Carol Merrill; Clerk Amy Cross, Treasurer Judy Girven, Trustee Brenda Monk; Absent: Trustee Rochelle Rollenhagen.

Kenny Kott, Manistee Recreation Association, gave an overview of the organization and presented a funding formula. Based on Pleasanton Township residents' participation, he is asking the Board for \$551.12 - \$606.12 which would reduce sign-up fees for these residents.

Public comment opened/closed.

Motion by Monk, supported by Girven, to approve the minutes for Thursday, January 12, 2017; AIF; Motion carried.

Motion by Monk, supported by Merrill, for Supervisor to receive Treasurer's Report; AIF; Motion carried.

Motion by Cross, supported by Girven, to pay the monthly bills; AIF; Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Fire Dept. – run report & minutes thru 1/1/2017

Notice of Special Meeting regarding five-year review of Lake Improvement Board

NEW BUSINESS

There was a long discussion about the sewer initiative. The Manistee County Collaborative Sewer Initiative Resolution was reviewed and is attached to these minutes. If approved by Pleasanton Township Board, it would cost the township \$3,400 - \$8,000 to form a sewer authority involving all local governments and file an application to finance the construction of the sewer system which would result in a definitive financing proposal involving grant and loan funding. Motion by Monk, supported by Girven, to approve the above resolution, with roll call vote – ayes: Girven, Monk, Merrill, Cross; AIF; Motion carried.

A budget workshop has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 6 p.m.

Public comment opened/closed.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Report given by Brenda Monk.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Cross, Clerk

RESOLUTION
MANISTEE COUNTY COLLABORATIVE SEWER INITIATIVE (1/31/17)

WHEREAS, our local government has participated in a preliminary collaborative sewer project involving Onekama Township, Arcadia Township, Bear Lake Township, Pleasanton Township, and the Village of Bear Lake; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the project is to assess the economic and practical viability and benefits of developing a sewer system that would connect participating local governments with the wastewater treatment plant owned and operated by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (LROI) with the understanding that LRBOI has agreed to make treatment capacity available to the participants; and

WHEREAS, the potential benefits of constructing such a sewer system include: creating infrastructure to develop and expand businesses and create jobs; protecting surface and ground waters and Lake Michigan from pollution caused by septic system failure; protecting three critically important watersheds; and achieving an economy of scale in completing such a project through collaboration; and

WHEREAS, because of the potential benefits of the project the participants believe that their respective governments should proceed to the next phase of the project; and

WHEREAS, the next phase of the project involves two steps: (1) formation of a sewer authority involving all local governments and (2) an application by the sewer authority to USDA Rural Development to finance the construction of the sewer system which would result in a definitive financing proposal involving grant and loan funding; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost for the next phase of the project includes legal fees of \$10,000 to establish the sewer authority (Attorney Eric Williams) and \$30,000 in fees to complete the application to USDA Rural Development (Wade Trim/Brian Sousa), a total of \$40,000; and;

WHEREAS, a USDA Rural Development Planning grant could be sought by the Sewer Authority that could cover \$23,000 of the \$40,000 in costs to establish the authority and complete the financing application, leaving a balance of \$17,000; and

WHEREAS, if all five local governments continue to participate in the next phase, each local government would contribute a sum of \$3,400 if the planning grant is secured or \$8,000 if it is not secured, with an understanding that the sum (\$3,400 or \$8,000) could be financed through the financing provided by USDA Rural Development for the sewer project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that our local government, contingent on full participation by the above referenced local governmental units, will allocate \$3,400 toward establishing the sewer authority and submitting a complete financing application to USDA Rural Development with the understanding that the participants, through the Sewer Authority, will make their best efforts to secure a planning grant and that Attorney Eric Williams and the firm Wade Trim will proceed to establish the sewer authority and the sewer construction grant application to USDA Rural Development, respectively; and

FURTHER, that the participants will collectively establish a communications process to discuss and answer questions about the project, including three open public meetings; and

FURTHER, that we be provided copies of all agreements and other documents executed, prepared or completed as part of this phase of the Initiative; and

FURTHER, that our current representative(s) on the collaborate sewer ad-hoc committee continue to be our representative(s) to develop the proposed sewer authority and funding application with final approval by our governing body.