

GOLDEN TOWNSHIP
BUDGET HEARING
PUBLIC HEARING RE: LAND ACQUISITION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 9, 2010
7:00 pm Golden Township Hall

Meeting Called to order by Supervisor Walsworth at 7:00 pm. Present: Fuehring, Cargill, Wiegand, Walsworth, Ackley.

BUDGET HEARING

7:01 pm

2010-2011 Budget presented by Cargill.

Discussed Road Fund and General Fund.

Wiegand to research cost of new computer for her office. To research new tower vs. laptop.

No Public Comment

To host additional Budget Hearing in April because this Hearing was not properly advertised.

7:22 pm Budget Hearing closed.

PUBLIC HEARING RE: LAND ACQUISITION

7:23 pm

-Presentation by Whelpley re: Land Acquisition for park property at Silver Lake.

-Grant request will be submitted to MI DNR for money to purchase the property.

-This is the same grant that the Township applied for last year to purchase the same plot of property. It was not funded last year because two Board members from the DNR didn't believe the property was assessed accurately. This year there is surrounding property that has been appraised recently and, in addition, the Township agreed to have the property in question re-appraised this year.

-Public comment: Any time there is public property available to the Township and grant money available to purchase it, it only makes sense to purchase it.

7:27 pm Public Hearing Closed.

7:28 pm Regular Meeting resumed.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

MINUTES from the February 9th meeting were presented by Wiegand.

Motion by Fuehring, support by Ackley to accept the minutes from the February 9th meeting. All yes, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letters opposing the Wind Turbine Project:

Patricia P. Hirsch, 9441 North Montgomery Blvd., Pentwater, MI 49449.
Ken Throughman, 2383 S. 38th St., Climax, MI 39034, 269-665-9111
Ester Throughman, 2383 S. 38th St., Climax, MI 39034, 269-665-9111
Richard Sparks, 931 S. Bluff Rd., Shelby, MI 49455
Meredith Herndon Whitten, 13 Fairmount Ave., Somerville, MA, 02144, North Beach
Association, Pentwater, MI
Peter M. Rexford, 818 South Beach St., Pentwater, MI 49449
David P. Messerlie, 693 6th St., Pentwater, MI 49449
Jean McCoy, crabbyjean2@aol.com

Letters in favor of the Wind Turbine project: None

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cargill reported the balances as follows: General Fund beginning balance of \$172,081.83 on February 1st, ending balance on February 28, 2010 of \$218,877.69. The Road Fund beginning balance of \$501,874.21 on February 1st, 2010 and ending balance of \$272,297.65 on February 28, 2010.

Cargill noted that \$120,218.00 was for the school property purchase.

Cargill also noted that \$300,000 was moved to a separate account for the Silver Lake Corridor project.

Motion was made by Ackley, support by Fuehring to accept the Treasurer's report. All yes, motion carried.

Cargill presented a Budget Amendment Report to amend the Budget to reflect a transfer of \$123,121.00 from Other Income to Professional Services, Capital Outlay and Street Lighting. This will cover expenses that were incurred over and above the Budgeted amount for last year.

-Motion by Fuehring, support by Ackley to amend the Budget to reflect a transfer of \$123,121.00 from Other Income to Professional Services, Capital Outlay and Street Lighting. All yes, Motion carried.

BILLS were presented for approval:

Motion by Fuehring, support by Ackley to approve check numbers 13529 through 13571 totaling \$35,723.17. Roll call vote Cargill-yes, Fuehring-yes, Walsworth-yes, Ackley-yes, Wiegand-yes, Motion carried.

ZONING REPORT: Report from Jake Whelpley.

1. Three permits given out this month.
2. Planning Commission met and elected new officers: Bill Kolenda – Chair, Brad Whitney – Vice Chair, Avery Wilson – Secretary. Also established a sub-committee to work on the Township Master Plan.
3. County Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan has been completed. Jake has a copy.
4. GIS presentation done by Dr. Roseman last month. Jake presented ideas for how having GIS could help the County and the Townships with zoning, assessing, drain office, etc. Discussed trying to get WMRSDC to apply for grant funding to purchase the program for

the county.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT
As submitted

OLD BUSINESS

1. Heating Contract – Tanner Bid Approval

-Have met with Tanner and Hankwitz separately this past month regarding heating and air conditioning for the building.

Motion by Ackley support by Fuehring to approve paying the down payment to Tanner which is half of the total \$12,649.00 bid which is \$6,325.00. All yes, motion carried.

-Walsworth signed the original bid and Cargill will get a check to Tanner so they can begin the project.

2. Parking Ordinance

-Wording submitted by Ed McNeeley regarding wording for the Harrison Road area to be added to the Township Parking Ordinance.

-Motion by Cargill, support by Fuehring to add: "Public parking shall be prohibited between 10:00pm and 6:00am on that portion of Harrison road beginning at the westernmost terminus of the improved roadway (at the guardrail) and continuing east therefrom one-quarter of one mile. Further, signage to the same effect shall be posted," to the Golden Township Parking Ordinance. All yes, Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Board of Review Members

-Motion by Cargill, support by Fuehring to appoint Helen Lefler, Gary Gibson, Ryan Walsworth, and Bill Ensign (alternate) to the Golden Township Board of Review. All yes, motion carried.

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2. Telamon Update

-Don and Carl met with Telamon representative this month. They will be in our building approximately 7 months out of the year, and storing their equipment the other 5 months. The Township has already had the kitchen re-done. Telamon agreed to purchase materials for necessary upgrades in the classrooms if the Township will pay for the labor. Telamon will take care of their own custodial services and will also pay the utilities (Which will need to be metered) for the classrooms they are using. Don is still waiting to receive a written proposal from them.

3. Flagpole/Landscaping presentation

-Bob Henry submitted written proposal regarding putting up a flagpole in the new

Roundabout area and also doing some landscaping. Bob stated that Sierra Sands will provide the flagpole and Dunes Waterfront Resort will provide materials and labor necessary to complete the landscaping. Bob is requesting from the Township \$220 to install the electricity necessary for lighting for the flagpole, monthly utility payments related to lighting the flagpole and any future maintenance the flagpole may need. This electricity to the flagpole would be metered through Great Lakes Energy.

-Motion by Cargill, support by Ackley to approve \$220 to install electricity necessary for lighting for the flagpole, paying monthly utility payments related to lighting the flagpole and taking responsibility for any future maintenance the flagpole may need. Roll call vote: Ackley-yes, Walsworth-yes, Cargill-yes, Fuehring-yes, Wiegand-yes. Motion carried.

4. Economic Development Area – Castle

-Cargill working with Castle's attorney to establish boundary lines for the district. Cargill has submitted a map to them with her suggestions for what the boundaries should be. Cargill to get more information regarding this issue and bring to the April meeting.

5. Polk/56th Ave. Road improvement discussion

-Bids for the work at this intersection are due March 16th. This area will be re-paved this year, but drainage issues have not been considered in the bid. Dick Walsworth recommended adding gravel and checking to see if current drains need to be replaced. He recommended running a camera through these old drains to determine if they are steel or concrete and be able to make a good decision about whether they should be replaced or not. He also recommended slightly widening the road to allow for some pedestrian traffic from Mears Proper to that intersection. Dick recommended using some of the Township Road money to address these issues that have not been considered in these bids.

-This project is scheduled to be completed before Memorial Day.

-Dick and Dwight Fuehring to recruit qualified personnel to run cameras through the drains in Mears to determine the condition they are in.

6. Clean Up Day

-Motion by Ackley, support by Fuehring to schedule Clean up day for May 15th, 2010 from 9:00am – 1:00pm. All yes, Motion carried.

7. Land Acquisition Resolution

-Resolution presented by Whelpley for authorization for the Township to acquire park land as follows:

RESOLUTION

Authorization for the Township to Submit a Grant application to Acquire Park Land

WHEREAS, Golden Township ("Township") has identified a need for additional park land on Silver Lake Road near the business center and has documented that need in the 5 year Park and Recreation Master Plan and the Plan has been approved by the Township and submitted to Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Grants Division; and

WHEREAS, The Township is eligible to apply for grant-in-aid funding assistance from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) which is administered by MDNR Grants Division; and

WHEREAS, the Township Park Advisory Committee (The Committee) and the Silver Lake Dunes Chamber of Commerce (The Chamber) have proposed an acquisition project, confirmed the availability of the proposed site and committed to the local match portion of the acquisition cost, if the grant application is approved, for approximately six (6) acres of land on the east side of Silver Lake Road; and

WHEREAS, the site is currently used for community events under special permission from the Owner and is a proven recreational asset for the Township; and

WHEREAS, plans for new walks and trails connecting existing trails and pathways, Silver Lake State Park, Silver Lake business center and other recreational and tourism oriented facilities in the Township, have recently approved for construction adjacent to the proposed acquisition and confirm the importance of the site for park, trail head, nature preservation and community events purposed;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Township needs, supports and approves the acquisition of the proposed land will act on behalf of The Committee and The Chamber as eligible Applicant and file an application to the MDNR Grants Division for funding assistance from the MNRTF for the acquisition of approximately six (6) acres on the east side of Silver Lake Road on or before April 1, 2010; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township shall act as Applicant only, and shall not be responsible for any costs of the grant application or local match if the project is approved and acts with the understanding that The Committee and The Chamber shall be responsible for all coordination and administration of the application and the project if the application is awarded.

I, Tina Wiegand, Golden Township Clerk, do certify that the foregoing is true and an original copy of the resolution adopted by the Golden Township Board at the Board meeting thereof held on the 9th day of March, 2010.

Tina Wiegand, Golden Township Clerk

Motion by Cargill, support by Fuehring to approve the Resolution for Authorization for the Township to Submit a Grant application to Acquire Park Land. All yes, motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Keith Adams questioned if anyone had attended the Wind Turbine meeting. Cargill stated that the meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 11, 2010, at the Court House.
2. Further discussion regarding the Wind Turbines and what authority the Township may or may not have. Walsworth stated the Board will be approaching County Commissioners regarding this issue. Fuehring spoke with Geoff Hansen and stated that he is opposed to the issue.
3. Dr. Roseman has created a website with information related to the Wind Turbine issue. The site is: lakemichigantowers.org. Dr. Roseman stated that Governments bordering the lake may have veto power for the project.
4. More discussion against the wind turbines and why they are not good for this area. Also discussed alternative energy including coal and nuclear energy.

Meeting adjourned 8:32pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tina Wiegand
Golden Township Clerk