

GOLDEN TOWNSHIP
January 10, 2012
Regular Board Meeting 7:30 pm
Golden Township Hall

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Regular Board Meeting called to order at 7:30pm.

Present: Wiegand, Cargill, Walsworth, Ackley, Fuehring.

MINUTES from the December 13th regular meeting were presented by Wiegand.

Motion by Ackley, support by Cargill to accept the minutes from the December 13th meeting as presented. All yes, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

-None

TREASURER'S REPORT

-Cargill reported the balances as follows: General Fund beginning balance of \$70,399.10 on December 1st, 2011, ending balance on December 31st, 2011 of \$153,043.14. The Road Fund beginning balance of \$5,137.12 on December 1st, 2011 and ending balance of \$116,172.06 on December 31st, 2011.

-Cargill presented up-to-date budget report.

-Cargill also presented information on the Silver Lake Corridor Construction Fund. This money will be used toward payment on the bond.

-Cargill stated the cemetery CD's have been combined in to one CD.

-Motion by Ackley, support by Fuehring to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. All yes, motion carried.

BILLS were presented for approval:

Cargill summarized bills for the month as presented on the report. Payment to Hart Area Rec is for their youth sports programs.

-Motion by Ackley, support by Fuehring to approve check numbers 14408 through 14433 from the General Fund totaling \$86,052.13. Roll call vote Fuehring-yes, Wiegand-yes, Ackley-yes, Walsworth-yes, Cargill-yes. Motion carried.

ZONING REPORT:

- Researched whether the township can inspect septic tanks. After discussions with the health department, it was found that the township does have the authority to do this. Jake plans to bring this up and possibly add this to the ordinance and see what kind of responses come up at a public hearing.
- Discussed new technology with Dan Swihart regarding septic tanks. Also did some research on-line for new septic tanks that may be beneficial at Silver Lake on the smaller lots that are close to the lake.
- Presented the year-end report.
- Met with Grace Youth Camp and have decided to change them to a church operation when working under the Zoning Ordinance instead of designating them a camp and requiring a PUD.
- 2 Special Use Hearings were held at the Planning Commission meeting last month. Both were tabled. More specific Site Plans were requested and may be reviewed in February.
- Ted Ferwerda spoke with Jake, Tina and Don expressing his desire to resign from the Planning Commission. Jake requested a letter of resignation, but has not received one as of yet. Board may replace him at the February meeting. Jake will be talking to two prospective applicants this month.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

- Board of Review School will be February 17th from 1-4pm. The cost is \$15 per person.
- Recommending a new computer for the Assessing Department after the next Board of Review as the current one is from 2005 and is becoming outdated.
- Also submitted Taxable Values for 2012 prior to March Board of Review. These can be used for the budget for 2012.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Cemetery Maintenance/Sexton
 - Wiegand presented total cemetery costs for 2011 including wages, fuel, parts, supplies and capital expenses. \$12,477.01 was the total for these areas. Wiegand recommended referencing this number when accepting bids for professional landscapers this spring.
 - Robert Bricker remains interested in the maintenance position and is monitoring areas on the township property where he would recommend maintenance.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Set Date to appoint Election Inspectors between Jan. 19th and Feb. 7th.
 - Don, Connie and Tina to meet Friday, February 10th at 7:30am to appoint Election Inspectors.
2. Re-Appoint Ted Hosner as Planning Commission Representative.
 - Motion by Fuehring support by Cargill to appoint Ted Hosner as the Planning Commission Representative. All yes, motion carried.
3. Appoint Keith Adams as an Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals
 - Motion by Cargill, support by Ackley to appoint Keith Adams as the Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals. All yes, motion carried.
4. Appoint Ted Beattie and Tom Worth to the Zoning Board of Appeals

-Motion by Fuehring, support by Cargill to appoint Ted Beattie and Tom Worth to the Zoning Board of Appeals. All yes, motion carried.

5. Set 2012 Board Meeting dates and times

-Motion by Cargill, support by Fuehring to schedule 2012 Golden Township Board Meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm at Golden Township Hall. All yes, motion carried.

6. Escrow for Fire Board Payments

-Township Legal Counsel has recommended that the Golden Township Board escrow the Fire Board payment to the Hart Area Fire Board dated January 5, 2012 for \$25,068.75 until compliance with MCL 41.811 is achieved.

-Motion by Cargill, support by Ackley to escrow the Fire Board quarterly payment dated January 5, 2012 for \$25,068.75 to the Hart Area Fire Board until compliance with MCL 41.811 is achieved. All yes, motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Resident stated questioned whether the township had considered the ORV on the side of the road issue. Walsworth stated the township is not legally able to address this issue until July 2012.
2. Cargill updated the board on the status of the DNR grant for the park property. Currently we are waiting on approval of the third appraisal, which was lower than the first two. If this appraisal is approved, there is a good possibility the township will have to come up with additional funding to put toward the purchase of the park.
3. Resident requesting an explanation on why the township is escrowing payments to the Hart Area Fire Board. Township attorney, Ed McNeely, summarized the issue.
4. Resident questioning whether Golden Township presently has fire protection coverage as they are not making scheduled payments. Presently, the answer to this is uncertain. The hope is that they would continue to provide coverage until an agreement is reached.
-Lengthy discussion regarding the Fire Board Agreement ensued.

Meeting adjourned 8:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tina Wiegand
Golden Township Clerk

