

GOLDEN TOWNSHIP
July 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 June 12th regular meeting were presented.

Motion by Ackley, support by Cargill to accept the minutes from the June 12th meeting with the following additions to the Treasurer's Report: Total purchase price of park, \$582,000. Land donation, \$107,000. MNRTF Grant, \$322,272. Community Foundation, \$55,321. All yes, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

-None

TREASURER'S REPORT

-Cargill reported the balances as follows: General Fund beginning balance of \$54,469.85 on June 1st, 2012, ending balance on June 30th, 2012 of \$158,356.87. Cargill noted that the Road Fund maintained the same balance of \$293,266.15.

-Motion by Fuehring, support by Ackley 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.

-Motion by Fuehring, support by Ackley to approve check numbers 14647 through 14685 from the General Fund totaling \$26,295.12. Roll call vote: Cargill-yes, Fuehring-yes, Wiegand-yes, Ackley-yes, Walsworth-yes. Motion carried.

ZONING REPORT:

- Wrote 7 permits.
- Worked on several sign violations this month.
- Met with a man regarding an Itinerant Merchant violation.
- Helping to resolve a fence dispute between neighbors.
- Wireless towers no longer require a Special Use Permit.
- Will have a Public Hearing for the Zoning Ordinance Amendments on July 31st at the Planning Commission Meeting.
- Fielded several phone calls regarding allowing ORV's on the roadway.

-PC met regarding the Wilson PUD Amendment. PC recommended it be approved by the Golden Township Board as presented.

-Motion by Ackley, support by Fuehring to approve the Wilson PUD Amendment as presented. Ayes – Cargill, Fuehring, Ackley, Walsworth. Nays – Wiegand. Motion carried.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

-As presented.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Friends of Silver Lake – Mr. Byl and Mr. DeJong

-Meeting with residents went well last month. Show of hands vote was 90 to 6 in favor of supporting the proposed lake study.

-The water quality in Silver Lake has decreased significantly in the last couple weeks.

-Two copper sulfate treatments have been done.

-Additional water/algae studies are in progress and reports will be provided to the community via the website, e-mails and other public notifications.

-This study will be comprehensive and will explore many different options for what is causing the decrease in water quality.

-Many different entities are helping with funding for the lake study including: Residents, businesses, potential grant through USGS, potential state funding, potential county funding and potential township funding.

-Request to Golden Township is for \$30,000 over the next three years to support the Silver Lake water quality study.

-Mr. Bricker questioned when action would be taken when the problem was found. Mr. DeJong stated it would depend on what the problem is, when it is found, what the cost would be and what the funding sources were.

-Adams questioned whether there would be any treatments to the lake as the study is occurring. Mr. DeJong stated there would be treatments done as the lake is being studied.

-The comprehensive plan would include timely reports to the public via websites and e-mail notifications.

-Wiegand questioned whether the County had approved funding for the project. Mr. Byl stated it would be discussed at their meeting this week.

-Cargill discussed the township budget and what the timeline for payments would be.

-Mr. Byl discussed the fact that Silver Lake is one of the top five tourist destinations in the state.

-Wiegand questioned what is being done to ensure action will be taken after the study is completed. What is being done to educate the community regarding the condition of the lake, the cause of the poor lake quality, the money that will be needed to fix the eventual problem and who will be paying for it. Mr. DeJong stated that educating the community will be a continuous effort throughout the study. They will be researching many potential causes, their solutions and the costs throughout the study so as to be prepared when the final results eventually come in.

-Mr. Fong spoke in opposition to the proposal as there is no guarantee that the findings of this study will be supported, acted on, and funded. There have been many studies done in the past with recommendations for what would improve the Silver Lake water quality. These findings were never acted on due to lack of interested parties willing to fund the

project. Mr. Fong is disappointed that this assessment will be forced upon Golden Township residents without them being able to vote on the issue. Mr. Fong believes there are less expensive ways to improve the quality of the lake water.

-Motion by Cargill, support by Fuehring to approve \$30,000.00 to support the Silver Lake Quality Study being coordinated by the Friends of Silver Lake group to be paid \$10,000.00 per year over the next three years. Roll call vote: Cargill-yes, Fuehring-yes, Wiegand-yes, Ackley-yes, Walsworth-yes. Motion carried.

2. Fire Board Agreement

-Motion by Fuehring, support by Cargill to rescind the Fire Board Agreement that was approved at the township board meeting in June 2012, and approve the Fire Board Agreement presented tonight dated July 5, 2012. Roll Call Vote: Ackley-yes, Walsworth-yes, Cargill-yes, Fuehring-yes, Wiegand-yes. Motion carried.

3. Fire Board Resolution

-It was proposed that Carl Fuehring be directed to request, on behalf of the Township, that the Hart Area Fire Board adopt the following resolution at its next meeting:

HART AREA FIRE

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Hart Area Fire Administrative Board (the "Fire Administrative Board") currently consists of the City of Hart, a municipal corporation of the state of Michigan, the Township of Golden, a statutory unit of local government, the Township of Hart, a statutory unit of local government, and the Township of Weare, a statutory unit of local government (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Parties" and individually referred to as the "Party").

WHEREAS, the Parties have jointly operated a fire department under the direction of a joint fire administrative board known as the Hart Area Fire Administrative Board.

WHEREAS, the Parties are negotiating the terms of a new fire administrative agreement to replace the 1966 Hart Area Fire Protection Agreement, to replace the 1976 Agreement, and to replace any amendments to those Agreements, and to replace any other written or oral agreements between these Parties concerning the same subject matter.

WHEREAS, Golden Township has received complaints from one or more of its citizens that personnel of the Fire Department have threatened to withhold services from the citizens of Golden Township who are in need of such services

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED;

That the Hart Area Fire Department shall be, and is hereby, directed to continue to provide fire and safety protection to the citizens and properties of Golden Township.

Moved by Fuehring, supported by Cargill, and thereby adopted that Carl Fuehring is hereby directed to place the afore-mentioned Resolution on the agenda for the next Hart Area Fire Board Meeting and to request, on behalf of Golden Township, adoption of said Resolution.

Ayes: Walsworth, Cargill, Fuehring, Ackley. Nays: Wiegand, Absent: None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Appoint Election Inspectors

-Wiegand requested the following be appointed as Election Workers for the Primary Election on August 7th and the General Election on November 6th: Phyllis Whitney, Nancy Peters, Pamela Tingley, Brenda Draper, Melinda Whitney, Tina Wiegand.

-Motion by Ackley, support by Fuehring to appoint Phyllis Whitney, Nancy Peters, Pamela Tingley, Brenda Draper, Melinda Whitney and Tina Wiegand as Election Workers for the Primary Election on August 7th and the General Election on November 6th. All yes, motion carried.

Open Truth and Taxation Public Hearing

-Cargill explained that with this hearing 3.6852 mils will be levied, without this hearing 3.6795 mils would be levied.

-Walsworth explained that this is the old "Hedlee Override."

-No Public Comment.

Close Truth and Taxation Public Hearing

-Motion by Fuehring, support by Cargill to approve levying 3.6852 mils from the voted millage. Roll call vote: Fuehring-yes, Wiegand-yes, Ackley-yes, Walsworth-yes, Cargill-yes. Motion carried.

2. White Lake Nursery

-Previously approved a bid for spigots in the new part of the cemetery and are researching funding for a sprinkling system for the same area. Issue was tabled until next meeting to allow more time to research funding resources for the additional sprinklers.

3. Lake Quality – As discussed under "Old Business"

4. Outdoor Gathering Request – Apple and BBQ Cook-off Festival

-Motion by Ackley, support by Fuehring to approve the Outdoor Gathering Request submitted by the Silver Lake Sand Dunes Apple and BBQ Cook-off Festival Executive Board for their festival at Silver Lake scheduled for September 7-8, 2012. All yes, motion carried.

5. Stripes for Township Park

-Bid submitted by Kasza Asphalt Sealing for re-stripping the parking lot at the township park at Lake Michigan for \$1,475.00..

-Motion by Fuehring, support by Ackley to approve the bid submitted by Kasza Asphalt Sealing for \$1,475.00 for re-stripping the parking lot at the township beach park. Roll call vote: Ackley-yes, Walsworth-yes, Cargill-yes, Fuehring-yes, Wiegand-yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Mr. Ashley questioning who decides where the Road Fund money should be spent. Walsworth explained that recommendations are made by the Road Commission for repairs and these recommendations are either approved or denied by the Golden Township Board.
2. Mr. Ashley also questioned if anyone knows if the algae in Silver Lake is similar to the algae in Lake Michigan. Mr. Byl explained that the two algae are very different according to a scientist from Michigan State Extension who has recently studied both types of algae.
3. Jeanne Henks expressed disappointment and concern based on a recent conversation she had with an officer regarding fire service in Golden Township. Because of this conversation,

she is concerned that fire service may be affected because Golden Township has not paid for fire service this year. Additionally she is concerned that Golden Township is extremely dry this year and this makes it more likely for fires to occur. Walsworth explained that negotiations are still in progress and hopes for a final agreement soon.

4. Resident questioning whether Golden Township would be considering any new ordinances regarding the new fireworks law. Walsworth stated there are no plans for revising the ordinance related to fireworks at this time.

Meeting adjourned 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tina Wiegand
Golden Township Clerk