

Cross Village Township Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 05-12-2015

Present: Supervisor Gene Reck, Treasurer Donna Wood, Trustee Howard Wood, Clerk John Keller, Trustee Lynn Ribits

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Cross Village Board was called to order by Reck at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

Agenda: Several amendments were added under New Business: e. Cleanup; f. Sign; g. Septic; h. Audit. Howard Wood moved to approve the amended agenda. Gene Reck seconded it. All were in favor and the amended agenda was approved.

Minutes (April 2015): Howard Wood moved to approve the April 2015 minutes. Gene Reck seconded. All were in favor and the April 2015 minutes were approved.

Financial Report: The Treasurer's report and Clerk's reports were summarily accepted.

Total Bills Paid (April 2015): \$20,374.63

Payment of Bills: After some discussion, payment was not made on an invoice for \$704.00 to MacGregor Plumbing and Heating pending an itemized invoice. Gene Reck made a motion to approve payment of the remaining bills (\$6,165.12). Lynn Ribits seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Announcements/Correspondence:

- Reck said a citizen has complained that the ramp at the park is 'gapped'. The Supervisor feels it will be a relatively simple matter to remove some sand to allow the two pieces to join.
- Reck reported a complaint about the fishing boat parked on private property on M119 near Bluff Terrace.
- Reck asked if he should get other bids for the painting of the Community Center, and the Board felt that was appropriate.

Public Comments:

- Addressing the agenda item regarding a 'tobacco-free' park, a citizen felt it wasn't fair to restrict tobacco at the park, while also permitting other activities such as unrestricted fireworks. He also pointed out that tobacco can and is used in ceremonial functions by Native Americans.
- A citizen related that he hadn't received a tax bill, and thus hadn't paid it, incurring penalties and fees.

Committee Reports:

- Election Committee Report on May 5, 2015 Special Election: Clerk Keller reported that the Township had a total of 93 voters, and noted that Proposal 1 had failed statewide in the range of 80% NO and 20% Yes.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Discussion of Board Procedures: No discussion occurred
- b. Forward Planning for 2013 – 2016: No discussion occurred.
- c. Master Plan and Recreation Committees: The Board is grateful to Ms. Edy Stoughton for her willingness to serve on the Recreation Committee.

New Business

- Grand Marshall for July 5 parade: Gene Reck suggested Sue Howard be asked, and the Board agreed. He will ask her.
- Discussion of Ordinance changes: Discussion occurred regarding procedure for amending ordinances.
- Research at Cross Village Park: U of M Biological Station members wish to conduct research at the Park, Reck announced. The research involves Pitcher Thistle plants and the thistle tortoise beetle, which feeds on the plant. The Board feels such research is useful and acceptable.
- Tobacco-Free Park: No further discussion of the matter occurred, with members of the Board agreeing any such restriction would not be warranted or desired.
- Cleanup: The Spring Cleanup is tentatively scheduled for June 13th, pending the availability of the dumpster/truck. Trustee Ribits will again work on getting this set up.
- Sign: Some discussion regarding a sign along M119 for the upcoming bicycle race occurred.
- Septic: Discussion occurred regarding methods for keeping the septic from freezing, as it did last winter. Trustee Wood suggests placing cement blocks around the tank, a few inches below grade, and a metal plate over the blocks, with 2” insulation sandwiched between, and a few inches of soil over that. In the winter, if the need arises, hay can be placed on top to further insulate the septic tank.
- Audit: Clerk Keller stated the 2014 Audit will be complete by 5/15/15, according to the auditor, Richard Mahlmeister. Discussion regarding whether to close the Road Fund account and the Capital Outlay Account, or to continue keeping those accounts open and keeping the committed road funds in that separate account. It was decided to continue utilizing the accounts, and to keep the allocated road millage separate. Keller also spoke of a change to the employee withholding amounts to include Medicaid.

Second Public Comment: None

Adjourn Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

John F. Keller, Cross Village Township Clerk

Contact Information:

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