

Maple Ridge Township Regular Meeting Minutes

Oct 25, 2016

I. Call to order

Supervisor, **Judy Trudell** called to order the regular meeting of the **Maple Ridge Township Board** at **7:00pm** on **Tuesday, Oct 25, 2016** at the **Maple Ridge Community Building**. Board Members present were Trustees Bill Toyra and Kathy Stams, Supervisor Judy Trudell, Clerk Sue Sicotte, and Treasurer Barb Nummilien.

II. Pledge of Allegiance Recited

III. Approval of Oct 25, 2016 Agenda: Stood as presented with addition of Roads, Janet Pattan Burial Fees, and Rock Water System Ordinance W-1. Motion by Kathy, supported by Sue to accept the agenda with the additions. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

IV. Consent Agenda:

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Payment of Bills in the amount of \$5,608.11-General Fund and \$1,484.88-Rock Water System for a total of \$7,092.99.

Treasurer's Report-General Fund Balance \$134,743.40 Trust & Agency Balance \$788.17, Rock Water Balance \$37,792.80 and Tax Account- \$5,177.90.

Clerk's Report-Township General Fund Revenues for Sept were \$17,199.53. Expenses were \$28,222.42; of this amount \$40.00 was for the Liquor Law Enforcement account. The General Fund Operating balance is \$134,724.90; \$75,000.00 is in a CD at First Bank in Gladstone, leaving a Net Operating balance of \$59,724.90; of this amount \$3,242.52 is in the Liquor Law Enforcement account. *Rock Water System* Revenues for Sept were \$6,149.54 Expenses were \$1,374.79; leaving an operating balance of \$37,792.80 of this amount \$10,835.31 is in Restricted Funds, leaving a Net Operating balance of \$26,957.49.

Trustee Reports: Liquor Law reports were submitted

Supervisor's Report: None

Motion by Bill, supported by Kathy to approve the consent agenda. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Comment was made by the Treasurer that the Clerk and Treasurers balances still do not match. Supervisor stated it needed to be worked out between the Clerk and Treasurer. Clerk let the Treasurer know she is only a phone call away, should she want to contact her-to discuss the discrepancy.

V. Public Comment:

Ted Bartczak commented on the pothole in the driveway at the Community Building.

Lucy Lampinen questioned the whereabouts of the bench and plaque that were removed from the gazebo park when the trees were removed this past summer. Judy stated she had them and would get them to Karen Azbell.

Linda Maki commented on the Clerk using her mailbox. The Clerk explained to Linda, that Barb Nummilien had requested an Absent Voter Ballot for her Grandson. The clerk had spoken to Brand Nummilien and he was aware that she would be putting a ballot in their mailbox on her way to work in the morning. Upon arrival to the mailbox the Clerk discovered there were two mailboxes side by side with no names on either one. The Clerk put the ballot in the mailbox she assumed belonged to the Nummiliens. It turned out the mailbox happened to belong to Linda Maki and the Clerk had inadvertently placed the ballot in the wrong box. As soon as the Clerk had discovered she had made the mistake, she contacted the Rock Postmaster to inform her that she had put a ballot in the wrong box. The Clerk apologized to Linda for her mistake and explained the situation as it occurred; to her and the public present.

VI. Unfinished Business:

1. *Amend Budgets:* None Needed
2. *Water System-Liens and Wells:* Tax Liens have been submitted for two customers with delinquent water balances. Bob Koski will be contacted to see about doing the disconnect from the Rock Water System for the Brand Nummilien residence; who recently obtained a permit to drill a private well. A new permit was also issued to Dave Beauchamp to drill a private well at their property on E. Maple Ridge. Judy spoke to the Supervisor from Gwinn and informed the Board that the cost of the reader, program, and training was approximately \$24,000 should we want to ever pursue doing our own billing again.
3. *Ordinances:* Judy gave an update on the Rock Water System ordinances. They have been published in a local paper and will take effect on Nov. 7, 2016.

4. Legion Meeting/Sue: Sue gave an update on her recent visit to the Rock American Legion meeting. The remaining balance of \$84.00 that was requested by the Legion was presented to them. Discussion was held on the procurement of flags and holders needed for the Veteran gravesites and the flags in town. The Legion will provide us with what they are going to need at the beginning of the year and the Township will do the purchasing.
5. Roads: Supervisor Judy Trudell is researching who is responsible for the upkeep on the frontage road in front of the bars and ambulance garage along M-35. She is in contact with MDOT at the present time.
6. Janet Pattan's Burial Fees: Barb Nummilien submitted a question via email to Catherine Mullthaupt of MTA Legal Services in regards to the legality of the donation of services-for the Grave Opening/Closing fees donated by Bill Toyra and the Bookkeeping fees donated by Judy Trudell. Since it was not the intent of the Board Members to perform an "illegal" act, Judy will follow up with Catherine from MTA so that the Board can make right this situation if need be. Since the Board was unaware of the communication that took place with Catherine, and they were not given a copy of this communication for review prior to the Board Meeting -no action was taken until the situation could be reviewed and discussed with Catherine Mullthaupt if needed.

VII. New Business

1. Grants:

CDBG Monitoring Letter and Request for Information: The letter has been received that states what additional information is required to close out the grant. The Treasurer stated that she does not have a ledger/journal system for the Rock Water System and was unsure what documentation is needed. A date was set for Wed. Oct. 26, 2016 at 9:00am for Barb and Judy to meet at the Township Office, to get the required Treasurers' documentation needed to close out the grant and meet the October 30th deadline.

A Fair Housing Resolution was also needed to close out the grant. A motion was made by Sue, supported by Bill to pass the Maple Ridge Township Fair Housing Resolution as presented. Roll Call Vote: Judy, Sue, Bill, Kathy, and Barb-All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Kitchen/Front Entryway: A grant has been awarded for work to be done in the kitchen at the community building in the amount of \$5,000.00 from the Windfall Foundation. Dick Weidner gave an update on the removable temporary enclosure that is being constructed by Howard Alto to be put up along the front entry of the Community Center.

MI Council for the Arts: A grant in the amount of \$2,500.00 has been awarded by the MI Council for the Arts for next summer's concert in the park series. It is a 50/50 matching funds grant. A motion was made by Sue, supported by Bill to accept the check in the amount of \$2,250.00 from the MI Council for the Arts, to be deposited into the Maple Ridge General Fund Account and to accept the grant of \$5000.00 for the kitchen fund. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

7. Set Date for Swearing in New Board/New Officials Training: A Special Meeting will be held on November 16, 2016 7:30pm at the Maple Ridge Township Hall for the Clerk to swear in the Newly Elected Board. New Officials Training will be held on January 12, 2017 at the Island Resort. Registrations are due Jan. 5, 2017.
8. Ordinance W-1 Discussion on New Wells: Discussion was held on the need to make sure our Water Ordinances contain a clause that will prevent the drilling of private wells for customers who are on the Rock Water System. There is a clause in the newly updated ordinances prohibiting the drilling of private wells, if you are in the Rock Water System service areas. The Supervisor will follow up with the DEQ and the Health Department regarding the wording.

VIII. Items Removed from Consent Agenda None

IX. Public Comment

Ted Bartczak commented on the new gravel used on the Old M-35 project in certain areas-was it covered under the current contract? He also commented on MDOT and the service road issue.

John Malnar gave an update on latest Commission issues. There will be a newly hired Equalization Director, who should be Julie Kolbe as of Jan. 1, 2017.

Barb Nummilien asked for a report on Election Inspectors. Sue gave an overall report on the inspectors appointed, the total of A.V. ballots that have been issued, and informed the board that the Public Accuracy Test will be held on Nov. 1st at 7:00 p.m.

X. Adjournment

Supervisor, Judy Trudell adjourned the meeting at **8:25 p.m.**

Unapproved Minutes submitted by: Susan Sicotte & Judy Trudell