

**Minutes from the  
Almira Township Board Regular Meeting  
July 8, 2013  
7:00 p.m.**

Supervisor Mark Roper called the meeting of the Almira Township Board to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Almira Township Fire & EMS Facility.

Supervisor led the Pledge to the Flag.

Supervisor called for roll call. Members present were: Mark Roper, Mandy Gray Rineer, Tammy Clous, Matt Therrien, and Ann Beaujean.

**Additions/Deletions to Meeting Agenda by Board and Citizens:** Under Guest: B. Brandon Morse.

**Approval of Meeting Agenda:** *Motion by* Therrien, and supported by Rineer, to approve the meeting agenda as amended. All ayes, motion passed.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** *Motion by* Therrien and supported by Rineer, to approve the consent agenda:

- I. Approve regular Board meeting minutes dated June 10, 2013.
- II. BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF June 2013: None
- III. APPROVE PAYMENT OF CHECKS #'s 34527 – 34595. SEE CHECK REGISTERS INCLUDED IN PACKET. BILLS AVAILABLE FOR EXAMINATION UPON REQUEST.
- IV. RECEIVE AND FILE THE FOLLOWING REPORTS:
  - BENZIE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: Included in Packet
  - ASSESSOR: No Report
  - ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: No Report
  - RECREATIONAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE: Included in Packet
  - FIRE & EMS DEPARTMENT: Included in Packet
  - PLANNING COMMISSION: No Report
  - VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE: No Report
- V. MISCELLANEOUS: None
- VI. RECEIVE AND FILE THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE: None

**Treasurer's Report:** Rineer presented the treasurers report. Report was received and filed.

**Brief Public Input:** None.

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**County Commissioners:** Commissioner Bates said that there is not much new going on at the county level. The county will be advertising for a Recycling Coordinator as well as a County Administrator. The Maples have made their installment payment as well as started the New Building construction. Bates then answered questioned posed from the public.

**Department Heads:**

- A. Planning Commission:** Chairperson Nolan said they have started the “Almira 2033” master plan coordination. The commission is going to try to get together with all the boards and committees on Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> to begin the master plan process.
- B. Fire Department:** *Motion by* Therrien, and supported by Rineer to appoint Ronald Oakley as a Fire & EMS department member upon passing a pre-employment physical. All ayes motion passed. *Motion by* Therrien, and supported by Beaujean to appoint Gary Freseman as a Fire & EMS Department member upon passing a pre-employment physical. All ayes motion passed. *Motion by* Therrien, and supported by Beaujean to appoint Levi Harner to the Fire & EMS Department upon passing a pre-employment physical. All ayes motion passed. Chief Morse stated that mutual-aid agreements have been made with other local departments. He also stated that a county-wide rapid response system is being looked into. There will also be an article in the Record Patriot on the lack of response issue that the county is facing with all of its Fire & Ems Departments in hopes of gaining volunteers. The county chiefs also discussed offering a Fire Fighter class here in our county to possibly help to reduce the costs of training new firefighters. He also stated that the department scheduling is working although he would like to see more people volunteering to take shifts.

**Guests:**

- A.** Adam Gandolfi presented our current summary of coverages as well as answered questions that the board had. He also stated that he is willing to look over any grant applications that we wish to submit to the PAR Plan if we would like.
- B.** Brandon Morse presented the board with a power point presentation of the Eagle Scout project that was completed at our Veterans Memorial. He shared photos of the different stages of construction as well as what he was required to do to gain his Eagle Scout level. Brandon also thanked all those who volunteered to help with the project as well as all those who donated materials. This project was completed at no cost to the Veterans Memorial Committee.

**Old Business:**

- A. Department Chief Applicants:** We received 21 applications for our Department Chief position. It is currently narrowed down to 12 applicants, next is to narrow it down further by the full board to 5 or 6 applicant to set up interviews with the interview board whom will narrow it down to two to three for the Twp. Board to consider.

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**New Business:**

- A. General Attorney:** Information was provided on different firms seeking to be our general council. Motion by Beaujean, and supported by Rineer to accept Richard Figura as one of our general attorneys. All ayes motion passed.
- B. Beach Property Line Fence:** Discussion took place on placing two more section of privacy fence along the property line from the existing fence to the water's edge. It was decided to talk to the DEQ and bring this item back to our next board meeting.

**Extended Public Input:** Eileen Meredith asked why we are interviewing for a Department Chief position. Jim Morse Jr. stated that members of the Veterans Memorial Committee volunteered at the National Cherry Festival and accumulated 65 hours of volunteer time that they will be receiving a check in the amount of approximately \$300.00 for. He also stated that his family used the Lakefront Park for a family function and was thankful for the park being completes as well as thanked all who participated in the Lakefront Park project. He further shared that other departments in the area wish to have what we have here at our department. He says that all this has come about due to the leadership we have. He also asked that we please see through any personal agendas and do what is best for the community when we select our Department Chief. Pat Morse stated that the Lakefront Park is very nice and quiet, however that the neighbor is not happy even with people whom canoe past her house on the lake. Don Kempa says that the beach is nice, but that fencing is not going to fix the issues of the neighbor's complaints.

**Board Comments:** Therrien shared that he will be doing the MC work at Music in the Park and that Lake Ann Homecoming was good again this year. Beaujean stated that the Recreational Resources Committee is currently working on Music in the Park and then will be moving on to a Recreational Plan. They have also discussed ways to connect the parks. They would like to see how funds may be used for motorized and non-motorized transportation together. Rineer said that tax season is upon us and that we are using a new tax system. She also said thank you for the sand in the sandbox. She also asked about replacing the maple tree at the Lakefront Park as well as the bathroom venting issue. She also stated that the booth at the Lakefront Park for homecoming went well but next year see about possibly doing an event at the park. Roper stated that there is a meeting at the Road Commission 7-9-13 to discuss getting a proposal to the County Commissioners for a millage for road maintenance and improvements.

**Adjourn:** There being no other business the Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:37p.m.

Tammy Clous  
Almira Township Clerk