

FILLMORE TOWNSHIP
ESTABLISHED 1849
ALLEGAN COUNTY

FILLMORE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
March 10, 2009 7PM

1. **Call to Order.**
Clerk Kenneth DeWeerdts called the meeting to order at 7p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chuck Schaap opened with prayer.
2. **Roll Call.**
Supervisor Keith Potter was absent with notice.
3. **Late Agenda Items.**
 - a. Allegan County Commissioner – Steve McNeal.
 - b. Water Tower Antenna.
4. **Graafschap Fire Department.**
Fire Chief Cal Haverdink reported a total of 15 calls for service in February. Fillmore Township had no fires and 3 rescues.
5. **Fillmore Township Deputy.**
Deputy Ron Haverdink was not in attendance and no report was available.
6. **Allegan County Commissioner.**
Commissioner Steve McNeal reported the County budget is tight but still attainable. A new jail is top priority with the funding still the issue.
7. **Fillmore Township Planning Commission.**
Chuck Schaap reported that at the February 16 meeting several wording issues in the Zoning Ordinance were looked at.
Quarterly meeting dates for 2009 are as follows: February 16, May 18, August 17 and November 16.
8. **Fillmore Township Board Minutes.**
A motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Janella Hop to approve the February 10 Board minutes as presented.
PASSED 3-0.
9. **Trustee Applications.**
Due to the resignation of John Kleinheksel, the Board will receive names from those individuals interested in the term expiring November 2011. A notice has been placed in the Holland Sentinel with March 28, 2009 being the dead line for receiving applications.

10. Fillmore Township 2009-2010 Budget Hearing.

As published in the Holland Sentinel the 2009-2010 Fillmore Budget was opened for public discussion. A motion was brought by Kenneth DeWeerdts and 2nd by Janella Hop to open the Public Hearing.

PASSED 3-0.

Kenneth DeWeerdts reviewed the Proposed Budget line by line. Daniel Miller questioned the water/sewer expenditure of \$120,000.00. Ken DeWeerdts explained this money is transferred into the water/sewer fund to supplement payment of the bond. There being no other comments a motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Kenneth DeWeerdts to close the Public Hearing.

PASSED 3-0.

Following a short discussion by the Board a motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Janella Hop to adopt the 2009-2010 Fillmore Township Budget for revenue and expenditures as presented.

PASSED 3-0.

11. Fillmore Township Park Public Hearing.

As published in the Holland Sentinel a Hearing was held to obtain public comments on a proposed Township Park on 143rd Ave.

A motion was brought by Kenneth DeWeerdts and 2nd by Janella Hop to open the Public Hearing at 7:55p.m.

PASSED 3-0.

Kenneth DeWeerdts introduced Mr. James DeWilde from M.C. Smith Associates. This firm has done the concept drawing and cost estimates for the proposed park. Mr. DeWilde explained the Grant Application process in which the Township will apply for a \$301,000.00 grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund. The Township will have matching funds of \$129,000.00 for a total project cost of \$430,000.00.

Comments of those in attendance:

Mr. Dan Seymour approves of the project and how it compliments the long-range plan of the Township for land use in this area for residential housing.

Mrs. Ruth Nagelkirk sees the need to preserve green spaces and the ability for the public to access these areas.

Mrs. Vicki Miller favors the project because of family atmosphere it will provide; grills, picnic area, trails and all free for public use.

Mr. Jerome Bush stated that the Township has owned the property since the 1940's and improvements for a public park would be a great addition.

Steve McNeal, Allegan County Commissioner sees the project as a great opportunity for a first Township Park.

A letter of support from Travis Williams, Director of the Outdoor Discovery Center located ¾ mile from the proposed park stating the Discovery Center will utilize the park for teaching purposes. The property has many varieties of mature trees with wildlife and birds in abundance.

Mr. Doug VerHoeven totally supports the park project as a good use of the wooded parcel.

At 8:30p.m. a motion was brought by Kenneth DeWeerd and 2nd by Chuck Schaap to close the Public Hearing.

PASSED 3-0.

12. Resolution 09-01 Township Park.

A motion was brought by Kenneth DeWeerd and 2nd by Janella Hop to approve a Resolution to authorize the Fillmore Township Board of Trustees to submit an application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund for a grant of \$301,000.00 with matching funds from Fillmore Township of \$129,000.00.

Comments from the Board:

Janella Hop supports the plan and favors public use for family activities.

Chuck Schaap sees a positive asset to the Township and dollars well spent.

Kenneth DeWeerd thanks M.C. Smith Associates for putting the plan together and is looking forward to completing the project. Appreciation was also given to Zeeland Community Park and Recreation Plan for incorporating this plan into their long-range recreation plan.

PASSED 3-0.

13. Monthly Bills.

A motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Janella Hop to pay the bills as submitted for February.

PASSED 3-0.

14. Water Tower Antenna.

Kenneth DeWeerd has been in contact with Tel-Rad Communications about placing cellular and internet service on our water tower. At this time no agreement has been made.

15. Public Participation.

Peter Mulder of 5586 139th Ave. asked the Board regarding the possibility of road improvements to 139th Ave. This is a dead-end road off 56th St. with drainage and lack of gravel being the problem. The Board will look at the section of road with the other 2009 road projects.

Theresa Geurink is still waiting on word from the Allegan County Drain Commissioner regarding drainage problems with the Rotman Drain.

Information was received regarding electronic recycling thru the county.

16. Treasurer's Report.

Balance on Hand February 1, 2009	\$182,507.08
Receipts	\$ 3,759.23
Sub-Total	\$186,266.31
Check Voided	\$ 1,183.10
Total	\$187,449.41
Disbursements	\$ 29,747.69
Balance on Hand February 28,2009	\$157,701.72

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth DeWeerd, Clerk
Fillmore Township