

APPROVED MINUTES  
GROSSE ILE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
March 8, 2010  
Grosse Ile Township Hall ó Merle Solomon Boardroom 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
9601 Groh Road

Call to Order by Supervisor Loftus at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Loftus, Clerk O'Connor, Treasurer Van Os, Trustees Frucci, Johnson, Kantz  
and Ranka Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

**Presentations:** None

**Additions/Deletions to Agenda:**

Motion Van Os, Second Johnson, to delete Action Item # 2, Resolution to petition to eliminate one district court judicial position, from the agenda. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion Van Os, second O'Connor, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 7-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA 09-160:**

1. Minutes of February 22, 2010
2. Check Register dated March 8, 2010
3. Authorization to Pay bills through March 26, 2010

Motion Van Os, Second Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. **09-161** Motion O'Connor, Second Johnson, to adopt the recommendation of the Community Recreation Commission, to award the project known as "Historical barn roof replacement" to Baird & Lowler for the original contract price of \$9,609.87, (including the original bid of \$8,991.87 and \$618 for the roof felt upgrade from 15 pound to 30 pound) with additional work at bid prices of \$50/hour plus materials at cost plus 15%. Motion carried 7-0.

**Public Comment:**

1. W. Clark, Parke Lane, inquired about the difference between using 15 pound and 30 pound roofing felt.
2. R. Janowski, Groh Road, questioned the wording of the motion regarding the cost for any unforeseen construction problems.

*Based on questions from members of the audience, the Board modified the original wording of the motion to provide guarantees for any cost overruns to read as the motion appears above.*

**Clerk's Report**

1. General Update: Clerk O'Connor provided a reminder that passport fees will be increasing soon and urged anyone needing a passport to beat the rush and the rate increase by calling the Clerk's Office soon for an appointment.

*Public Comment: W. Clark, Parke Lane, inquired about the difference between the passport book and the passport card and whether immigration will accept the passport card or book for travel to and from Canada by personal watercraft or whether an I-68 form will still be required? Supervisor Loftus volunteered to look into the Immigration Services requirements.*

Clerk O'Connor also spoke briefly about the U.S. Census April 1, 2010 count and the importance of every resident returning their completed census form in order to make sure that Grosse Ile receives any and all benefits entitled to for schools, hospitals and emergency services, senior citizen programs, roads and public transportation and business opportunities and support; as well as representation in state and federal legislatures. More information may be obtained by visiting [www.grosseile.com](http://www.grosseile.com) and looking for the link to the Census website.

*Mrs. Frucci asked Clerk O'Connor asked how the Census will affect "snowbird" residents. Clerk O'Connor reported that they would fill out the form based on their primary residence. If they don't return the form from their secondary residence they will likely receive a visit from the Census Bureau.*

## 2. Liaison Update:

- a) Recreation - reminder to residents that the Community Recreation Commission is currently in the process of updating the five year Recreation Master Plan and invites residents to become involved in the process and provide their input. Notices have been sent to all organized island groups seeking their input.
- b) Festival- the Clerk provided a report of events and entertainment scheduled for this year's Islandfest on June 4th, 5th, and 6th. Friday night will be Family Night culminating in the Fireworks display. Saturday morning will bring the Islandfest Parade starting at 10 a.m. on Macomb Street.
- c) Zoning Board of Appeals- Clerk O'Connor explained the process of obtaining a variance for residents.

## **Treasurer's Report**

### 1. Investment Report and Tax update:

- For January, Grosse Ile Township had \$5,485,075.00 invested in Certificates of Deposit ranging from .50% to 1.01% with terms ranging from 30-90 days.
- For January the balance of the MBIA Class investment pool is \$5,584,978.00 which has earned investment interest of \$1,366.98 at a rate of .25%.
- \$1,944,311.00 is the amount in the sweep/investments accounts as of January 31, 2010 earning interest of \$1,416.00 at a rate of .13%.
- The Treasurer's Office has completed collecting taxes for the 2009 tax year. All unpaid property taxes are now considered delinquent. Unpaid real property taxes can now only be paid at the county. The township will accept payments for delinquent personal property taxes for Grosse Ile businesses. The process of closing the tax roll and settling with the county has started.

## **Trustees Reports**

### 1. Trustee Ranka: Nothing to report at this time

### 2. Trustee Kantz: Announcement and details of several events scheduled to take place this Spring at the Grosse Ile Municipal Airport as follows:

- April 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Polishing Party and Bomber Buffing from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; visit [www.yankeearmuseum.org](http://www.yankeearmuseum.org) for more information. This is a Free Event open to the public
- Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> 6 Grosse Ile Duathlon from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> (11 a.m.- 7 p.m.) and Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> (11 a.m.- 5 p.m.) the Grosse Ile Boat Show will take place in the hangar at the airport.
- Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> (11 a.m.- 7 p.m.) and Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> (11 a.m.- 5 p.m.) Yankee Air Force display and presentation. For additional details visit [www.grosseileairport.com](http://www.grosseileairport.com)
- A Car Show and Motorcycle Rally currently in the planning stages.

### 3. Trustee Johnson: Nothing to report at this time

- Trustee Frucci invited Karl Moehr to share his ideas for more recreational improvements including a possible Winterfest that would expand the use of the ice pond and a possible 3 on 3 hockey tournament and cross country skiing. Mr. Moehr also made some suggestions to help reduce the amount of vandalism of the sprinkler heads and landscaping at Macomb Commons, which could include the installation of a security camera. Mr. Moehr asked residents to consider volunteering their time or money to make next year rink and programs even better. Mrs. Frucci commended Mr. Moehr for the donation of his time and materials to create and manage the ice rink.

Mrs. Frucci also expressed interest in pursuing the creation of an off-island entry way committee that she had brought to the attention of the Board; in order to work with DTE, Wayne County and the Bridge Company to improve the appearance at the entryway to Grosse Ile. A preliminary meeting of the interested parties took place recently and further talks are being scheduled within the next few weeks.

Mrs. Frucci provided details of month-long activities surrounding Amelia Earhart during Women's History Month that will be held at township hall and also reminded residents that on Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 11:30 a.m. the Kiwanis Club is seeking volunteers to help with their Annual All Island Clean-Up. Interested parties may contact Kiwanis at 734-671-6269 or visit their meetings each Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the VFW Hall on Macomb Street.

### **Supervisor's Report**

- Supervisor Loftus reported that Grosse Ile is one of only a few communities able to pull off a Balanced Budget without layoffs or severe cuts due to the hard work of the department managers, staff and the board have worked really hard and thought ahead to make a balanced budget a reality.
- Mr. Loftus warned residents to be aware of Census Scams. The U.S. Census will never ask for social security numbers or bank names or account numbers. If someone posing as a Census worker asks for this type of information either in person or by telephone, do not give it to them and report them to the police immediately.
- Supervisor Loftus noted the loss of twenty-one year old Marine Cpl. Jacob Turbett of Canton Township, Michigan on February 13<sup>th</sup> and the loss of longtime Grosse Ile resident Master Sgt. Robert King at the age of seventy-four.

### **Township Manager's Report**

- Mr. Reaume reminded interested parties about the Annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life event scheduled for May 1-2, 2010 at Young Patriots Park in Riverview. To form a team or for more information visit [www.RelayForLife.org/RiverviewMI](http://www.RelayForLife.org/RiverviewMI) or call Bryan Friel in the Clerk's Office.
- Mr. Reaume reported that work and follow-up on the water treatment plant/tower study is ongoing and we expect additional reports by the end of March. A joint study session will follow.
- Manager Reaume announced the Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Township Hall and will be preceded by a public reception at 5:30 p.m.; the regular Board Meeting will follow the completion of the Annual Meeting.

### **Public Comment:** *Three minute time limit per person*

- R. Janowski, Groh Road, asked the following questions: a) What types of budget cuts are being made? b) Is payment for the Toll Bridge lawsuit being planned for in the budget? c) Are there any plans to ask residents for a millage increase? *Response: The budget process is ongoing and final decisions are pending. Currently the 2010-2011 Budget is balanced. The lawsuit is pending and decisions regarding payments are pending the outcome.*
- M. Jeffries, Parke Lane, asked questions regarding payments to Hennessy Engineering for the Safe Routes to School project and whether residents will be reimbursed by the township for landscaping and tree loss due to the sidewalk project. *Supervisor Loftus indicated that the township has no liability to restore county easements and that there have been no payments to Hennessy Engineering to date.*

3. Steve Lemoine, Hampton Road, inquired about the status of having access to the water at the road end at Stout Road and asked that the access point in the area be clearly defined and marked.  
*Supervisor Loftus responded that by State Law, people may walk to and enter the water, but may not picnic on, or fish from the land at the road end. Chief Porcarelli clarified that Township Ordinance ends when a person's feet enter the water. Trustee Ranka suggested issuing written permission for access to county road ends and Mr. Lemoine asked to receive permission in writing.*
4. W. Clark, Parke Lane, had the following questions and comments:
  - a) Commented about drivers crossing the center lines while talking on cell phones.
  - b) Asked if there were legal bills on the approved check register? *Response: No legal bills*
  - c) How many deer permits were filled in the culling program this year? *Response: 100 of the 125 permits issued by the DNR were filled and the DNR reports on the program outcome are pending.*
5. Clerk O'Connor indicated she had received an inquiry from a resident as to why the township doesn't use contraceptive darts to control the deer population and asked for an explanation. Chief Porcarelli responded that the contraceptive dart method is very expensive and not sanctioned for local use. The Chief added that this year's culling program provided area homeless shelters with 5,200 pounds of venison.
6. Derek Thiel reported that Mr. Ed Kosteroff, the township's contact at City Lights Shelter will be providing a report in the next couple of weeks.
7. Mr. Janowski asked who did the culling for the township. Supervisor Loftus responded that it was done through the Police Department.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Trustee Ranka, Second Treasurer Van Os. Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

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Ute O'Connor, Township Clerk