

APPROVED MINUTES  
GROSSE ILE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
September 28, 2009  
Grosse Ile Township Hall ó Merle Solomon Boardroom 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
9601 Groh Road

7:30 p.m. Call to Order

Present: Supervisor Loftus, Clerk O'Connor, Treasurer Van Os, Trustees Johnson, Ranka and Kantz

Absent: Trustee Frucci (Excused)

Pledge of Allegiance

**Presentations:** None

**Additions/Deletions to Agenda:** None

Motion Johnson, second Kantz to approve the Agenda as presented. Approved 6-0

**CONSENT AGENDA 09-114:**

1. Minutes of September 14, 2009 Regular Meeting

2. Check Register dated September 25, 2009

Motion Van Os, Second Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Approved 6-0

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. **09- 115** Motion Van Os, Second O'Connor, WHEREAS, the Proprietary Funds Statement of Net Assets (Deficit) as of March 31, 2009 for the 2008 season showed that the Waterø Edge Country Club has a deficit in the change in Net Assets in the amount of \$454,208 and in the Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets (Deficit) has a deficit in the change in Net Assets for the year ended March 31, 2009 in the amount of \$125,999; and,

WHEREAS, the deficit resulted from the decline in usage of the golf facility and memberships, the deferment of any fees collected prior to year end for the upcoming season, and the reporting requirement of depreciation (a non-cash book entry) in the amount of \$66,412; and,

WHEREAS, management has implemented and taken measures for cost containments and opening the entire facility to the public for this most recent 2009 season and thereafter: and,

WHEREAS, the Township continues to monitor this facility closely, and is currently investigating alternative reporting and funding methods: and,

WHEREAS, MCL 141.921, requires the local municipality to formulate, adopt, file, and institute a deficit reduction plan with the Department of Treasury for the Waterø Edge Country Club;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grosse Ile Township adopts the attached projection plan.

Approved 6-0

2. **09-116** Motion O'Connor, Second Van Os, based on the recommendation of the Grosse Ile Community Recreation Commission, the Township Board grants approval to maintain the 2008-2009 Rates in the 2009-2010 Operational Rate Structure for the Waterø Edge Marina. Approved 6-0.

**Clerk's Report**

1. Last date to register to vote is October 5, 2009, by 5:00 p.m.
2. A Public Accuracy Test of election programming is scheduled for October 22, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at township hall.
3. Write-In Candidates for the Board of Education must file their Declaration of Intent forms by 4:00 p.m. on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
4. Clerk O'Connor read the ballot language for Proposition O- County Operating Millage Renewal to provide proceeds in order to continue existing county services for ten more years at the rate of 0.9529 mills. *(Full text of the ballot language is available at the Clerk's Office)*
5. Absentee ballots are expected to be available beginning October 15<sup>th</sup> and may be obtained until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.
6. Clerk O'Connor congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Jack Delphy on being Gold Medalists in Ballroom Dancing at the Downriver Senior Olympics competition.

**Treasurer's Report**

1. For the month of August Grosse Ile Township had \$ 9,670,023.00 invested in Certificates of Deposit ranging from .30% to 1.15% with terms ranging from 30-90 days.

For the month of August the balance of the MBIA Class investment pool is \$3,337,768.00, which is earned investment interest of \$986.48 at a rate of .27%

\$1,279,345.00 is the amount in the sweep/investments accounts as of July 31, 2009 earning interest of \$313 at a rate of .11%

The 2009 summer tax payment due date was the 14<sup>th</sup> of September. Payments will be accepted with penalty until February 29<sup>th</sup> 2010. Penalty accumulates at a rate of 1% per calendar month.

To date have collected \$12,005,540 in property taxes. Distributions have been made timely to the County and the Schools.

State School	3,600,471
School Operating	511,958
School Hold Harmless	547,246
School Debt	1,316,129
School Sinking Fund	300,030
SSES	2,340,301
County Operation	3,389,405
	12,005,540

Total Levy: 13,165,053 equals 91% collected

**Supervisor's Report**

1. Mr. Loftus reported that Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> was the last Grosse Ile Market Day for the year. It was well attended and there are plans to bring something similar back next summer.
2. A reminder of the upcoming Fall Harvest Day at Centennial Farm on October 10<sup>th</sup>.
3. Supervisor Loftus noted the recognition by Governor Granholm and State Representative Kennedy on the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Grosse Ile Yacht Club.
4. Mr. Loftus noted and corrected a statement he made at the last board meeting regarding the U.S. Constitution

### **Supervisor's Report (continued)**

5. Supervisor Loftus announced that stricter enforcement of Township Ordinance 285.3.3 which governs the storage of recreational vehicles and project automobiles on residential property. After an appropriate educational period violations will be ticketed and strictly enforced.

### **Trustees Reports**

1. Mr. Kantz had nothing to report.
2. Mrs. Frucci was absent from the meeting.
3. Mr. Johnson reported that the new ambulance ordered earlier in the year will be ready within the week. He also reported that the concrete repairs at the Public Safety Building are being done under warranty. Mr. Johnson also reminded residents to visit the Fire Department Open House on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 4 p.m.
4. Mr. Ranka reported that the Planning Commission met regarding a sketch plan review for a proposed drive up window at the Metro Shores Credit Union office at Meridian and Macomb Streets, no action was taken. The Commission also tabled the Wind Energy Ordinance update.

### **Discussion Item:** Property transfer between Community Recreation and Airport Commerce Park

At the September 14, 2009 Board of Trustees meeting, as part of his "Trustees Report", as documented in the approved minutes: "Trustee Ranka asked for a board discussion item on the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda regarding property acquisition or exchanges within the township."

This was in reference to four proposals presented by several board members at the August 27, 2009 Joint Community Recreation Commission/Township Board Study Session.

Supervisor Loftus started the discussion regarding four options proposed to look at new ideas to manage all the assets of the township and recreation being one of the primary offerings of the community, everyone wants to maintain the recreational opportunities available and finding ways to make them better and to find new ones to offer. The four proposals being considered are:

Proposal One: Sell 14.5 acres of Recreation Area to the Open Space Program

Proposal Two: Swap 9 acres of Airport Commerce Park land for Waters Edge Marina

Proposal Three: Airport Commerce Park assumes responsibility for clubhouse/restaurant building at Waters Edge

Proposal Four: Recreation Department assumes responsibility for maintaining all Open Space

The Board continued with a discussion of the various aspects of the four proposals.

### **Public Comment:**

The following members of the community spoke in opposition to the Property transfer between Community Recreation and the Airport Commerce Park

1. Mr. Bill Morreau, Recreation Commissioner, questioned need for more playing fields
2. Ms. Deb Kacher, questioned plans to sell the marina
3. Carl Roush
4. Cliff St. Pierre, Open Space Committee Chairperson, urges the board to thoroughly think the issue through and determine the consequences of these actions.

*Trustee Johnson called a Point of Order regarding Mr. St. Pierre speaking on behalf of the Open Space Committee and suggested he speak only on his own. Mr. St. Pierre complied.*

5. Bob Wischer, Recreation Commission, commented that recreation serves residents of all ages, not just children.
6. Walt Kacher, Recreation Commission Chairperson, asked what steps will be taken next on the proposed changes. *Board members commented that there is still a lot of work to be done and feasibility needs to be explored.*
7. Ingo Hasserodt, Swan Island, commented that he sees no merit in the plans and on the use of open space funds for township property

8. Glen Bagnall, suggested a marina commission and wondered where the marina money would go if management is changed to airport.
9. Lynne Ryder, thanked Trustee Ranka and Clerk O'Connor for their clarity of the situation and objected to the implication that money is being taken away from the kids.
10. Bob Zelasko, objected to the process followed and lack of total board consensus due to lack of prior public board discussion.

*The following comments were also offered on other topics:*

11. Marty Taylor, expressed concern about the care and maintenance of the police boat.
12. Gary Jones, commented about the board using the parliamentary procedure of "calling the question" at the previous board meeting. Mr. Jones demanded clarification of the rule.
13. R. Janowski, objected to comments made by Treasurer Van Os at a previous meeting and complained about the meeting broadcast schedule and the methods used to transcribe and retain meeting minutes.
14. Maureen Budny, asked the status of the Safe Routes to School project and suggested the board reconsider the project due to the delays being experienced.
15. W. Clark, asked if there are legal fees on the check register (*Finance Director reports there are none*), Mr. Clark also commented on side yard restrictions for boat storage and paving of various streets.
16. Trustee Ranka commented that the four proposals discussed at this meeting were not supported by the entire board and proper board process was not followed.
17. Craig Pilkington, commented that an orientation program for the board should be put together and suggested that the Clerk's office could steer the effort to build a governance commission.
18. Ben Guajardo, commented that the most important issue is that the money earned at the marina stay at the marina.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Treasurer Van Os, second Clerk O'Connor. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

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Ute O'Connor, Township Clerk