

FILLMORE TOWNSHIP

ESTABLISHED 1849

ALLEGAN COUNTY

FILLMORE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

December 10, 2019 7PM

1. Call to Order.

Supervisor Ken DeWeerdts called the meeting to order at 7pm. Leah Folkert opened with prayer and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call.

Members Present: Ken DeWeerdts, Leah Folkert, Elaine Mokma, Bob Yonker and Chuck Schaap.

Members Absent: None.

3. Late Agenda Items.

a. F.E.M.A.

4. Graafschap Fire Department.

Fire Chief Doug DenBleyker reported:

a. A total of 77 calls for November 2019. There were 5 rescue calls and 5 fire calls for Fillmore Township, also 3 fire calls and 2 medical/rescue call to other agencies.

Fire Board Chairman Bob Yonker reported:

a. Graafschap Fire Board to meet January 13, 2020 to begin the 2020-2021 Budget process.

b. Hamilton Fire Board to meet on December 19, 2019.

5. Treasurers Report.

Balance on Hand November 1, 2019	\$ 43,259.47
Receipts	\$502,440.57
	\$545,700.04
Disbursements	\$397,708.14
Balance on Hand November 30, 2019	\$147,991.90
CD's	
General Fund	\$301,799.61
Utility Fund	\$301,890.41

6. Monthly Bills.

Upon review of the bills as presented;

A Motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Elaine Mokma to approve the bills as presented.

PASSED 5-0.

7. Fillmore Township Planning Commission.

a. The minutes of the November 18, 2019 meeting were received for information.

b. Planning Commission member Chuck Schaap gave the following report of the November meeting;

1. The Board held a Public Hearing to consider a Special Use Request for Parcel 0306-015-013-01, located at 4290 M-40. The request was made by Kevin Dykgraaf and Eric Slenk to operate a Concrete Crushing and storage yard as a Special Use in Fillmore Township. The Site Plan for this project will be sent directly to the Planning Commission upon receipt.

A Motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Bob Yonker to approve the Special Use Request as recommended by the Fillmore Township Planning Commission.

PASSED 5-0.

c. Fillmore Township Land Use Plan.

At the October 14, 2019 Planning Commission meeting discussed proposals of 5 separate areas to possibly change the current Land Use Plan. Each area was discussed in depth, no amendments were proposed at that meeting.

With Ken Dettloff M.C.P. being present at the November 18, 2019 meeting, the Board of Trustees has received 5 recommendations from the Planning Commission;

1. Change the Land Use Plan from current R-1 to Mixed Ind/Commercial for all the land west of 52nd St. from the Holland City limits, north to I-196.

PASSED 5-0.

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2. Change the Land Use Plan from A-1 to C-2 on all the parcels west of Blue Star Hwy from 140th Ave., south to the current C-2 Land Use Plan. Approximately 660 feet in depth (to follow current parcel boundaries.)
PASSED 4-1.
3. Change the Land Use Plan from current A-2 to Residential Rural Estates (2.5 acre minimum split) for the land east of 60th St., south of 142nd Ave., east and south to the current Residential Land Use Plan.
PASSED 5-0.
4. Change the Land Use Plan from A-1 to A-2 on Parcel 0306-025-005-00 located at 3828 48th St.
PASSED 5-0.
5. Change the Land Use Plan from current A-2 to RRE (Residential Rural Estates) for land west of 50th St. approximately 660 ft. in depth (to follow current parcel boundaries) north of 146th Ave. to current RRE (Residential Rural Estates) Land Use Plan.
PASSED 5-0.

Each of the above recommendations for change were discussed by the Board of Trustees;

A Motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Leah Folkert to accept these recommendations.

Supervisor DeWeerdts then brought a concern from a property owner in the area of #1. This property owner suggested that only 38 acres be changed from R-1 to Mixed Ind/Commercial for that area.

Following discussion by the Board of Trustees;

An amended Motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Bob Yonker to downsize the area of #1 to only include All Properties Unlimited (38 acres) and maintain the current Land Use Plan on the remaining property.

PASSED 5-0 by Roll Call Vote; Ken DeWeerdts – Yes, Elaine Mokma – YES, Leah Folkert – YES, Chuck Schaap – YES, Bob Yonker – YES.

The above recommendation will be sent to the Fillmore Township Planning Commission.

At this point Treasurer Leah Folkert requested to be excused from the meeting to attend to a family event. Supervisor DeWeerdts granted this request.

8. Fillmore/Overisel Township Deputy.

Officer Tyler Langerak reported:

- a. 99 calls for November 2019, 57 calls for Fillmore Township and 42 calls for Overisel Township.

9. Allegan County Commissioner.

Jim Storey was absent with notice but sent the following report;

- a. Shoreline erosion – Our county emergency services director, Scott Corbin, and several county departments have been focusing on the impact of rising Lake Michigan water whipped by high winds in October and November. Lakeshore road north of 126th Street in Saugatuck Township has been closed due to the collapse of a sand dune on which it is built. At least one structure is on the verge of falling into the Lake. Worries about the impact of erosion on electrical and natural gas lines are also being examined. Several fire departments are identifying potential risks to emergency responders. There is already documented \$400,000 worth of damage to publicly owned infrastructure, including the complete loss of the stairway to the lake at West Side park. I hosted a meeting of responding agencies, state and federal agencies and a geologist from Western Michigan U. on Friday, December 13, to develop short- and longer-term response to this ongoing issue that may expand due to predictions of more lake level increases in the spring.
- b. Groundwater Study – The Board of Commissioners approved a proposal from the county health department to develop a proposal for investigating the threats to the underground aquifer which is the main source of water to most county residents. Except for those connected to the Holland Board of Public Works water supply system, which is sourced from Lake Michigan, county residents, including those connected to other municipal water systems, depend on wells which draw upon the aquifer underlying the county. A study originating in Ottawa County in response to dry wells and others with high levels of salt brine identified the impacted aquifer extends into

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Allegan County. The proposal approved Thursday, Dec. 12 will propose a method and cost for profiling the current condition of the aquifer in our county and recommend actions to preserve it. Study details will be shared with local governments soon.

- c. PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN – The Board also approved a five-year parks and recreation plan to be submitted to the Department of Natural Resources as the base document against which future grant applications will be based. The county owns and operates parks throughout the county in which we hope to attract funding for needed improvements.
- d. CITIZEN SURVEY – Late last month, 1,700 randomly selected county residents were mailed a scientifically designed survey. The survey asks residents about the state of the county and the interest in future services that the county might render. In cooperation with several non-profit agencies, the survey was developed by a national research organization that has completed similar surveys for other local governments, including Jackson County in Michigan. Results are expected to be released in mid-to late February.
- e. LABOR AGREEMENTS – The board also approved, pending concurrence by the respective unions, contracts with 11 of the 12 labor organizations with whom negotiations were conducted. The lone exception is the union representing assistant prosecuting attorneys which is seeking mediation.
- f. COURTHOUSE IMPROVEMENTS – The Allegan County Courthouse, which was originally constructed in 1962 and enlarged in 1994, needs improvements related to modern security concerns. Design work is underway for constructing a new entrance at the intersection of the original 1962-era wing and the 1994 addition. Along with representative employees of impacted departments, I toured the Kent County Courthouse’s security sections to learn to review that county’s approach to courthouse security.

10. Public Participation.

None.

11. Fillmore Township Board of Trustees Minutes - November 12, 2019.

Upon review of the November 12, 2019 minutes;

A Motion was brought by Ken DeWeerd and 2nd by Bob Yonker to approve the minutes as presented. PASSED 4-0.

12. Supervisor Updates.

- a. A Regional Prosperity Initiative Watershed Funding is to investigate and present options of sustainable watershed funding.
- b. A new Director has been chosen for the M.A.C.C., a name has yet to be released.
- c. Fillmore Township Recycling.
Due to increased charges, abuse of this service and less items appropriate for recycling, the Township Board is considering terminating this service in the future.
- d. The Allegan County Drain Commission held a Board of Determination for a proposed drain in Drain District No. 811 known as the Neerken’s Plat Drain. Proceedings at this public hearing received evidence which determined the necessity for construction of the proposed drain in Drain District No. 811. Allegan County Drain Commission to begin the process to locate, establish and construct a drain/drains in Fillmore Township, Drainage District No. 811.
- e. A meeting was held December 6, 2019 with officials from M.A.X. to determine the availability of extending limited service to Hidden Creek and Graafschap. These services would be for Reserve-A-Max Bus Service only. M.A.X. officials to gather information for another meeting at a yet to be determined date.

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13. Late Agenda Item.

- a. Supervisor DeWeerdts attended a December 5, 2019 meeting regarding Flood Plain Mapping. Fillmore Township must enroll in the F.E.M.A. program for homeowners to obtain flood insurance should their property be located in the Flood zones.
More information on this enrollment process to be coming.

14. Meeting Adjourned.

There being no other business presented to the Board;

A Motion was brought by Chuck Schaap and 2nd by Bob Yonker to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm.

PASSED 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Mokma, Clerk
Fillmore Township