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GOODLAND TOWNSHIP  
TOWNSHIP BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
February 9, 2016

A regular meeting of the Goodland Township Board was held at the Goodland Township Hall, located at 2374 N Van Dyke Rd, Imlay City, MI 48444; pursuant to notice duly posted.

Board Members Present: Ron Cischke, Mavis Roy, Louie Parsch, Mike Juip  
Board Members Absent: Norm Tanis  
Others Present: Fred Lothrop, Mary Weemaes, Bob Van Den Berg, Edmund & Helene Novy, Deb Rubenstein, George Foltz, Dennis Collison, Amy Nolin

Supervisor Cischke called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. A moment of silence was held and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Public Hearing for the Goodland Township Park Plan was opened at 6:10 p.m.

Rob Eggers from Spicer Engineering was introduced. He explained the park plan and gave a brief overview of the public grant process. He explained that the Plan must be submitted to the State of Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources by March 1, 2016 to be eligible for this round of grants. The grant application must be completed by April 1, 2016. He also confirmed that a single grant can be used for multiple parcels of property.

Deb Rubenstein inquired if an additional plan needed to be prepared for additional parcels or changes. Eggers explained that the Plan is in place for 5 years. This would allow for 5 years' worth of grant rounds.

Mary Weemaes asked about the responses to the Park survey that was distributed. All the responses that were discussed were positive. Eggers explained that no negative responses were received as of the meeting, but that all responses were tallied.

Rubenstein asked if the Plan would be updated as additional responses were received. Eggers explained that only the responses received as of the time the Plan was created were included in the Plan.

Weemaes expressed concerns that grants would only cover the property and property improvements, but would not cover maintenance, etc. The Twp. Board explained that maintenance, staff etc. costs would have to be covered out of the budget. It was asked what would happen if no grant was received. The Board responded that the Plan is good for 5 years. Applications will be submitted annually until sufficient grants have been received.

Helene Novy expressed concerns about needing matches as no grant covers 100%. She was also concerned that there are parks in close proximity that are available for use and that other services (Library, etc.) are available and are not used fully.

Michelle McKee (on Park Committee) expressed that children in the Twp. need to have activities available. She also thinks that having amenities in the area will increase rental revenue to the Twp. as a rental fee could be charged for pavilions, etc. that could be built under the Park Plan.

Weemaes expressed concern for how to control/manage use of pavilions, etc. It was explained that all facilities would be available for public use.

1 Don Bissett mentioned that the grant would only be used to establish or improve park property. The  
2 grants could not be used for maintenance or upkeep. Older residents may not use the amenities, but  
3 younger families would.  
4

5 Eggers explained that parks are a quality of life issue. They can be used to influence property purchases  
6 for homeowners, etc. He also explained that currently Goodland is being conservative and is only  
7 currently planning on obtaining property, not improvements.  
8

9 Mike Juip (Board member) asked what would happen if property was purchased in the near future, but  
10 never developed. Would the State grants have to be reimbursed? Eggers explained that under the current  
11 plan, a reimbursement for property purchase would not have to be paid back.  
12

13 Edmund Novy asked if a property purchase would be covered at 100% or if the Twp. would have to  
14 contribute? Eggers explained that grants typically cover 75% of the purchase price, but that the 25%  
15 match could be obtained via donations (including property or a portion of the purchase price from the land  
16 seller). He explained that the money from the State grants comes from a fund from the sale of mineral  
17 rights, etc. on State land.  
18

19 Lou Parsch (Board member) asked how the purchase works. Eggers explained that the land is appraised  
20 for a fair market value. The seller could then “donate” a percentage of the value so that the Twp. would  
21 not have a capital layout for the 25% match of the grant.  
22

23 Eggers then explained that the grant application deadline is 4/1/16, but announcements of grants are not  
24 made until December 2016 to fund 2017/2018 projects.  
25

26 Sara Boyd (Park Committee) expressed excitement to have the potential for a park in close proximity. It is  
27 her opinion that children need outdoor opportunities and that a park close to the Library might offer a  
28 chance for increased use of both the Library and a park.  
29

30 Rubenstein stated that she has been ambivalent about the idea since most parcels in Goodland are 5 acres  
31 and most have areas for children to play outdoors, but this also offers other opportunities such as an Ag.  
32 museum, etc. She feels that Goodland is a prime location and that obtaining property now for future use  
33 is a benefit.  
34

35 Mavis Roy (Board member) stated that she would love to see parks, museums, Library all incorporated  
36 together and this is an opportunity to do that.  
37

38 Fred Lothrop (Park Committee) expressed his opinion that this might be a draw for younger families  
39 considering moving in to the area and that this is a chance to plan for the future of Goodland Township.  
40

41 Rob Sommer (Park Committee) explained that having the Plan and obtaining property for parks is not a  
42 rush, but is just a step to plan for years down the road. He doesn't want to see taxes increase for this, but  
43 agrees that the process needs to start. This is a multi-year process and this is just the first step and keeps  
44 options open for the future.  
45

46 Bob Van Den Berg expressed that he feels this is an opportunity to lock in property while there are  
47 cooperative neighbors that may be interested in the process. He feels that the land needs to be locked in  
48 while it's available.  
49

50 Roy read the Resolution that would need to be passed to adopt the proposed Goodland Township Park  
51 Plan.  
52

1 There being no additional comments, the Park hearing was closed at 7:03 p.m.

2

3 The regular meeting of the Goodland Township Board was reconvened at 7:09 p.m.

4

5 **AGENDA**

6 **Motion 02-16-01TB**

7 Motion by Juip, seconded by Roy, to approve the agenda as presented.

8 **MOTION CARRIED.**

9

10 **MINUTES**

11 **Motion 02-16-02TB**

12 Motion by Juip, seconded by Parsch, to approve the minutes of the January 12 & 28, 2016 as presented.

13 **MOTION CARRIED.**

14

15 **TREASURER'S REPORT**

16 **Motion 02-16-03TB**

17 Motion by Roy, seconded by Juip, to approve General Fund prior disbursements for payroll and bills of  
18 \$2,594.18.

19 **MOTION CARRIED, with a roll call vote: Juip, yes; Parsch, yes; Cischke, yes; and Roy, yes.**

20

21 **Motion 02-16-04TB**

22 Motion by Roy, seconded by Juip, to approve Library Fund prior disbursements for payroll and bills of  
23 \$2,298.26.

24 **MOTION CARRIED, with a roll call vote: Parsch, yes; Cischke, yes; Roy, yes; and Juip, yes.**

25

26 **Motion 02-16-05TB**

27 Motion by Roy, seconded by Juip, to accept the Treasurer's Report into record, as presented.

28 **MOTION CARRIED.**

29

30 **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

31 **Motion 02-16-06TB**

32 Motion by Parsch, seconded by Juip, to pay Public Safety Fund bills in the amount of \$1,286.44: \$967.32  
33 in bills and \$319.12 in payroll.

34 **MOTION CARRIED, with a roll call vote: Cischke, yes; Roy, yes; Juip, yes; and Parsch, yes.**

35

36 **Motion 02-16-07TB**

37 Motion by Juip, seconded by Parsch, to pay Library Fund bills in the amount of \$1,023.71: \$500.54 for  
38 bills and payroll of \$523.17.

39 **MOTION CARRIED, with a roll call vote: Roy, yes; Juip, yes; Parsch, yes; and Cischke, yes.**

40

41 **Motion 02-16-08TB**

42 Motion by Parsch, seconded by Juip, to pay General Fund bills in the amount of \$38,457.03: \$32,421.34  
43 for bills and payroll of \$6,035.69.

44 **MOTION CARRIED, with a roll call vote: Juip, yes; Parsch, yes; Cischke, yes; and Roy, yes.**

45

46 **CORRESPONDENCE**—a simplified contract was received from the new Attorney. This needs to be  
47 signed and returned. Those that attended the MTA Annual Conference gave reports on the classes they  
48 attended.

49

50 **PUBLIC TIME**—a reminder of election deadlines was given.

51

52

1 **REPORTS**

2 Fire Dept.—1 run this month. 3 from Goodland will be attending Fire School this spring. Goodland will  
3 host the LCFA monthly meeting on February 24 at 7:30 p.m. The overhead door has been repaired in Bay  
4 1 and quotes for a washing machine for gear are being obtained.

5 PC—nothing to report. The Twp. will be working to schedule a meeting with the new Attorney and all  
6 the Commissions & Boards.

7 ZBA—no meeting to report.

8 LCRC—a meeting with the Bank is needed to separate the loans for the gravel project.

9 CCA—1 permit was issued.

10 LCEMS—nothing to report.

11 GT Library—a fundraiser is being held 3/6 at Holly Meadows. The officers are the same for this year and  
12 programming continues.

13 GT Historical Collection—nothing to report.

14

15 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

16 KWA—there is a meeting between the LCRC & the contractor at Goodland on 2/17 at 3:00 p.m.

17 Park Committee—the public hearing was today at 6:00 p.m.

18 Mill Creek—the InterCounty Drain Board will meet at Goodland on 3/29 at 10:30 a.m. They are working  
19 on bids to repair the dam during the summer of 2016.

20 Newsletter—is being finalized. Any changes/updates need to be to Deb by Friday.

21

22 **NEW BUSINESS**

23 Park Plan Resolution

24 **Motion 02-16-09TB**

25 Motion by Juip, seconded by Parsch, to adopt the Goodland Township Park Plan Resolution as presented

26 **MOTION CARRIED, with a roll call vote: Parsch, yes; Cischke, yes; Roy, yes; and Juip, yes.**

27

28 \*\*\*Due to the Election, the next meeting will be Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. The March 8  
29 Board of Review meeting will be held in the Office.

30

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33 Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

34 These minutes are correct to the best of my knowledge.

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Ron Cischke, Supervisor

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Mavis Roy, Clerk

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Amy Nolin, Recording Secretary