

APRIL 2009

The regular meeting of the Heath Township Board was held on April 13, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Heath Township Hall. Supervisor Jones was absent.

Trustee Boerman called the meeting to order and Schipper offered opening prayer. The previous months minutes were approved.

County Commissioner, Dean Kapenga, reported on the approved plan by Parks & Recreation and the county for 21 miles of marked equestrian trails. This has been in the works for a while and will be one of the largest in the state. He encouraged residents to attend a meeting tomorrow night, put on by the DNR, in regards to clear cutting on state land and the timber sale. This will be held tomorrow night at the Allegan High School. Bob Caarlie from the Allegan County Road Commission reported on bridgework being done in Hamilton this summer and took questions from the audience.

John Barkel questioned how much state land is in our township-approximately 49% and how much money the township receives from the state for this land. Misti informed him that approximately \$13,000 is received in PILT money and \$8,500 in swampland tax. He feels strongly that since the state does not contribute money to the township they should not have the right to come into townships and push through their programs. He would like to see an article in the newspaper about this. Sheila commented he is free to contact any reporter and ask them to do an article addressing his concerns.

Another resident questioned what has been done regarding the lock on the gate by the old dump. Misti will contact our retired workers to fix this. Questions arose whether the township has a curfew and if there could be more police coverage in the area with summer coming and teenage loitering. Sheila will contact our attorney to see if this is feasible and encouraged them to contact our county sheriff, Dean Kapenga.

Heath Township Assessor, Bob Jones, requested the board pass a motion to allow Larry Kempfers to turn 3 lots he owns in the Spring Brook subdivision into 2 lots. A motion was made by Schipper and supported by Lindholm to approve this land division. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Planning Commission has been working on fixing language in the zoning book. Allegan County has approved the wording; therefore, a motion was made by Meiste and supported by Lindholm to approve the amendments to the zoning ordinance. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Lampen/The Trestle LLC has applied for an on-premise retail liquor license. A motion was made by Boerman and supported by Schipper to adopt the resolution to approve the liquor license. Roll call vote: Lindholm-yes, Schipper-yes, Boerman-yes, Meiste-yes. Resolution adopted.

Sheila encouraged the audience to attend the meeting on April 21 put on by the Hamilton School Board in regards to the renewal of an expiring bond issue.

Joy O'Brien questioned if there is anything the township can do to help her and her neighbors in regards to the smell that is coming from the Hamilton Farm Bureau eggs as well as noise from the Hamilton Farm Bureau dryers. She has been in contact with the health dept. and the farm bureau and feels they are not getting this resolved. The board informed her that we have contacted PCI about this problem and she may want to talk with them as well. Sheila suggested she might want to get their well water checked and contact the DEQ. Hilda will contact Bob Jones about this.

The township bills were presented. A motion was made by Lindholm and supported by Schipper to approve. All ayes. Motion carried.

The fire department bills were presented. A motion was made by Schipper and supported by Lindholm to approve. All ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Meiste and supported by Boerman to adjourn at 8:00. All ayes. Motion carried.

Sheila Meiste,
Clerk