

***Heath Township  
Meeting Minutes  
November 2013***

**1. Call to order**

The regular monthly meeting of the Heath Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Ron Jones at 7:00 on November 11, 2013 at the township hall. He also opened with prayer.

**2. Roll call**

Supervisor Ron Jones, Clerk Sheila Meiste, Treasurer, Misti Lindholm, Trustee Hilda Boerman, Trustee Bill Harvey.

**3. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Correction to the October minutes. Scout building is not on the township property but the school property.

**4. Reports**

Jim Storey, County Commissioner gave his monthly report.

- Public hearing on Thursday, November 15 for future use of the jail site. The final decision will come to the board of commissioners. An open house will be held the middle of February or early March.
- Economic Development breakfast put on by Michigan Works for skilled trades on November. 20 from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the Allegan County Area Tech. Center.
- The commissioners are looking for people to work on county boards. Applications are on the county web site.

**5. New business**

a) Approve road work for 2013. Reconstruct 126<sup>th</sup> Ave. from 38<sup>th</sup> to 36<sup>th</sup> St. 1 mile at an estimated cost of \$200,000. Motion by Boerman supported by Lindholm and unanimously approved. Approve road work for 2014. Reconstruct 136<sup>th</sup> Ave., from 38<sup>th</sup> St. west to 41<sup>st</sup> St. at an estimated cost of \$489,000. This is a township dividing line and the cost would be shared with Overisel. Our cost would be \$245,000. Motion by Harvey supported by Boerman and unanimously approved.

b) Fire department requested bids for 2013/2014 snowplowing. They sent out four bids and received two back. They are willing to try Al's again at \$42/hr. Straight line's bid was \$55/hr. Our board would like the fire dept. to make clear to Al's what our expectations are and when the work needs to be done. If they do not hold up their end of the bargain, we will look elsewhere. Motion by Boerman supported by Harvey and unanimously approved for Al's as long as they meet the criteria of what is expected. Hilda noted new stakes will be needed.

c) Park update by Hilda. Everything is done except for the asphalt and this will be done in the spring along with re-seeding, fertilizing the new grass and replacing any trees which do not make it. They will also take care of the graffiti on the new sidewalk. Ron thanked Hilda for all the hours she put in on this project. Hilda would like to see two more waste receptacles on the property. The project is coming in under budget. The walking markers will be added in the spring. The walking distance is approximately ½ mile. Sheila would like to see a fence added along the back of the township property.

d) A sign regarding a set of rules for the skate park was run by the lawyer and insurance company and approved. There will be three signs made and the rules will be posted in the newsletter as well. Motion by Boerman and supported by Lindholm and unanimously approved to accept the skate park rules.

e) Request from the last Planning Commission meeting to rezone from Ag to Industrial-1a a portion of parcel 03-09-017-0280-00, approximately 35 acres. It is on the Future Land Use Map and part of the Master Plan. Consumers Energy is interested in this site but has not bought the property. Motion by Harvey and supported by Lindholm to approve the rezoning. Resident Todd Beyer does not feel this is consistent with the Master Plan. He envisioned small industrial operations, similar to Schrotenboer Electric. He feels 35-40 acres is more of an Industrial Park. Bill questioned how many acres are already industrial; Hilda thought about five. Bill questioned if anything could be done on 4-5 acres. To make the property useful, it almost needs to be made larger for industrial. Todd feels there is more industrial property to the north and that this is sandwiching a large residential area between the industrial. Ron explained there could be a larger industrial use go in this area and feels Consumers would be a great addition to any township. The board understands his concern that ¾ of the property isn't in industrial and will look at these issues very carefully with PCI and our lawyer. The property survey description, which was brought to the Planning Commission by Consumers, was reviewed. Ron would like to see an overlay of the whole parcel and the board feels we need to table this until we know the exact piece of land. It was maybe clear to the Planning Commission but the boards need a better understanding.

f) Hilda and Ron met with the Lion's Club in regards to the tabled request from last month. The Lion's Club has come back with a scaled down version building on a slab with a price of \$10,700. They would contribute half of the money. The Lion's Club would like to see the chicken barbeque be more than a once a year event and have ideas of contacting business and churches to see if they would want to hold picnics here. Misti questioned if the board shouldn't be getting bids on this since the requested building is on our property. Ron is willing to get a few more prices. He hasn't agree to this and knows the board members have different feelings on this project but wants us to take a look at it. Hilda questioned residents who came to clean-up days if they would be in favor of the township paying for the structure. Most of the people objected to us paying for this for the Lion's Club. She also spoke with Jeff Lampen, owner of the Trestle Stop Restaurant and his feeling was the Lion's Club does not need a building but could get by with a tent over the asphalt. If the pits were used by other groups, the Lion's Club would be willing to clean the grates for a small fee and would take care of any graffiti. Ron would like to

hear from the county health department regarding regulations before any decision is made.

g) The Recreation Agreement with the school needs to be reviewed before it can be renewed and items need to be removed from the concession stand before winter.

**6. Zoning update**

a) The Planning Commission will be meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2014.

**7. Bills**

a) Motion by Boerman supported by Lindholm to pay township bills.

b) Motion by Harvey supported by Lindholm to pay fire department bills.

**8. Adjournment**

a) Motion by Boerman supported by Lindholm to adjourn the meeting at 8:24.

Minutes submitted by Clerk Sheila Meiste.