

ROLLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

February 8, 2012

Supervisor Jenkins called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm. Members present were Supervisor Jenkins, Clerk Gust, Treasurer Willett, and Trustees McGrath and Wilson. The agenda was accepted as presented. Martin Staib has resigned from the Board of Appeals, due to moving out of the township. There were no Citizen's comments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Minutes, Disbursements, and Treasurers reports were presented. There was one appeal, which was denied. Assessor reports BOR organizational meeting will be March 6 at noon, and the board will convene on March 12th and 13th from 1-4 pm and 6-9 pm. Building Inspector reports 8 inspections. Electrical Inspector reports 6 inspections, and 2 contractor registrations. Cemetery fence top rail has been damaged, possibly by the tree trimmers. Clerk will check with Consumers energy. Fire Board reports Rollin Township is charged with 19 calls for the month of December. Chief is seeking bids on a 4-wheel drive ambulance, as the cost of a new ambulance will be only slightly higher than refurbishing one of the older ambulances. A resident has complained of stumps left in the park after the trees have been cut down. Wilson recommends piling brush over the stump at the end of Townley until spring when the contractor will grind them out. Requests to use the hall were presented: Prelippe, Feb 19; Gilhouse, Feb 23; Atwell, Feb 26; Christensen, March 24; His Home 300, June 27; and Walters, Dec 8 or 15. Planning Commission is finishing the draft copy of the zoning ordinance and will meet again February 16. Transfer Station revenues are doing well for winter. The office floor is finished. Zoning Enforcement reports 1 inspection. Website reports 11,220 hits for January, down 3550 from December. Most visited pages were history, boards, and minutes. Sign committee reports bids are coming in, but the price is more than anticipated. Motion by McGrath, support by Wilson to accept the consent agenda as presented. All aye, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

A new governing ordinance regulating the use of Road ends and Public Access Sites was discussed. Senate Bill 778 is still in committee, but appears to be in line with the Attorney General's opinion, which states that road ends may not be used for any purpose other than ingress and egress to the lake. It allows no picnicking, no sunbathing, etc. We do not know what form the final bill will take. Motion by Wilson, support by Willett to adopt the ordinance on use of road ends as proposed by the attorney. Wilson – yes, McGrath – no, Willett – yes, Gust – yes, and Jenkins – yes. Motion carried.

Noxious Weeds ordinance is essentially a duplication of state law, enabling the township to mow weeds and grasses to keep the residential areas in good condition. The weed ordinance may be published one time per month in the summer or the township may notify the property owner of a violation. Gust and Willett feel both should be done. McGrath and Gust would like to find a way to handle the few large acreage parcels in the residential districts without requiring the entire parcel to be mowed.

Jenkins advised the board to be ready to choose an Attorney for review of the zoning ordinance once it is complete.

NEW BUSINESS

The herbicide survey for Devils Lake has been completed. A total of 531 surveys were sent to residents in the assessment district. Total returned: 182. Of these, 80 (43.9%) were returned in favor of herbicide use; and 102 (56.1%) were returned against herbicide use.

The clerk has also finished the survey regarding civil infractions. Surveys were sent to each property owner of record, enclosed with the tax bills. Rollin Township has a total of 2761 Parcels. There were 258 returned with 126 (48.8%) returned in favor of Civil Infractions; 120 (46.5%) requesting the enforcement remain as presently enforced; and 12 (4.6%) were returned stating no preference. Gust states that this survey may be flawed due to the fact that residents who have their taxes escrowed did not receive the survey, and those who owned multiple properties were given a survey for each property.

Jenkins met with the DNR representative in charge of reviewing grants at the sites of Lookout and Tibbs park. Lookout is a problem since it cannot be made handicap accessible, and the drain cannot be included as part of the grant. Wilson believes the drain could be repaired at a reasonable cost to the township. Tibbs park plan looks good except that the board allows reservations to township residents only. If reservations are open to anyone, then it could qualify for a grant. Our portion will be a maximum of \$15,000 and the grant portion will be \$45,000 maximum. This money would be a great deal of help with the roads in the park, installing more parking spaces, and providing more handicap access within the park. Jenkins recommends making Tibbs Park priority one for grant purposes. Motion by Wilson, support by Willett to open the reservations process at the park to all requests. Wilson – yes, McGrath – yes, Willett – yes, Gust – yes, Jenkins – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Gust, support by McGrath to allow the supervisor to seek a passport grant for improvements at Tibbs Park. Rollin Township Board will accept the grant if awarded and has the matching funds available. Wilson – yes, McGrath – yes, Willett – yes, Gust – yes, and Jenkins – yes. Motion carried.

Consultant status on Devils and Round Lakes: The report on Round Lake was delivered to Lakepro in December, and the township is still awaiting their report. Savin has emailed their report on Devils Lake in the past week. The results on Devils Lake indicate the greatest amount of Eurasian watermilfoil is in the southern part of the lake by the Yacht club. The sand bar has virtually no milfoil. At the DNR launch site, there is a mix of Eurasian and native milfoil. At this time it is unknown if weevils are a viable option for treatment in Devils Lake.

Round Lake problem appears to be mostly Eurasian watermilfoil and is still a go for weevils. Jenkins would recommend using Enviroscience as the consultant for Round Lake for the duration of the assessment.

Sagesse requests abandonment of a portion of Grove St. He owns a home that sustained severe water damage, and would like to build a new home larger than the existing structure. He would like to have the land in front of the house deeded to him in exchange for doing some work for the township at the Grove St public access. Motion by Gust, support by McGrath that Rollin Township Board not sell or trade public property to adjacent property owners or any others. Wilson – yes, McGrath – yes, Willett – yes, Gust – yes, and Jenkins - yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Gust, support by Willett to authorize the zoning officer to enter sites for inspection and issue stop work orders if necessary for zoning issues. Wilson – yes, McGrath – yes, Willett – yes, Gust – yes, and Jenkins – yes. Motion carried.

Board comments: Willett would like to extend the date to pay taxes without penalty until February 29, 2012. As of March 1st, the treasurer's office hours will return to Tuesdays from 2:30 – 6:00 pm, and Thursdays from 9:30 – 1:00.

Citizen's comments were heard regarding the grants, noxious weeds ordinance, and when the lake reports will be on the website.

Motion by Willett, support by Gust to adjourn at 8:50 PM. All aye, motion carried.

Sharon M. Gust
Rollin Township Clerk