

Milton Township  
Meeting Minutes  
August 10, 2015

Members present: Bargy, Atkinson, Cole and Pharo

Members absent: Ball, excused

Also present: Attorneys Derman, Weinzapfel, Chief Ball and 11 audience members

Bargy called the meeting to order at 7 pm and the Pledge was recited

Agenda Approval  
Agenda approved by consent

Approval of meeting minutes  
Motion to approve the minutes by Atkinson. Seconded by Pharo. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

Carol Barnes said her husband has signed the option that was offered regarding the Water's Edge Resort. Now Milton Township can have the beach for all of its citizens. I know it's not immediate, but I am grateful to Glen Chown and Todd Vigland and the conservancy for helping us understand what a resource this will be to the community.

Todd Vigland said he is happy to partner with the township on the purchase of Maplehurst. Bargy said it seems like we have a lot on our plate right now with the waterfront, but I don't know what the feeling of the board is? Cole asked what point the board would have to come up with the funding. The realtor said he has two offers on the table right now. So, this is something that should be decided quickly. The conservancy outlined terms we could use to secure the property if the family would choose to accept them. Cole asked regarding the percent of purchase from the DNR. Todd said 25%. Communities often have an appraisal commissioned. The conservancy has made an offer to secure the property. We would like to get to the table to preserve the opportunity. Bargy said he's heard there is a problem getting grants if there are gas wells on the property. Is this true? Todd stated, there are new owners of the gas fields and we've gotten permits for new applications on the land. Todd said this is important part of the due diligence regarding the property that would need to be sorted through. Appraisals are helpful early in the process for negotiations. It's important for trust fund application. If you do move forward with the trust fund and are approved, the appraisers come in again and appraise. Cole said his concerns about the property are the immediacy of the situation. I'm concerned that this could be gone very soon. I was part of the group that toured the property and was surprised. It's a fantastic property. The potential as a township for a public property is tremendous. I would like to pursue the property and get two appraisals and see where we go from there. I'd hate to lose out on this and wish we hadn't. Vigland said recently there have been other situations similar. He described a camp in Charlevoix County and one in Emmet County. We are happy to help you

understand how those recent purchases came together which could be helpful in the decision making process. Pharo said he feels we are pretty stretched out and we don't have the funding for this project right now. Atkinson spoke about funding. Atkinson said she doesn't want to turn her back on this until we have more information. I'd like to see what our options are. Cole asked if there is any way the conservancy to hold on to the property during the bidding process or should we look at getting appraisals. Vigland said the offer they made is contingent on appraisals. Vigland said he can put 5K toward the two appraisals. Bargy said he shares Brett's concerns, but he would also like to find out more information. What is our long term obligation regarding the usage for the property? We are here to help however the township would like us to help.

Motion by Cole/Atkinson to approve \$5K for appraisals on the Maplehurst property.  
Motion carried.

Resolution #2015-16 Rotary Charities Capitol Grant Application

Motion to approve by Atkinson/Cole.

Roll Call:

Pharo: Yea

Cole: Yea

Atkinson: Yea

Bargy: Yea

Motion carried: 4-0, Ball absent

### **Sheriff's Report**

347 total calls for the month of July. 87 Marine stops. 11 Minor in Possession. These include the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend on the Torch Lake Sandbar.

### **Fire Department Report**

As presented by Chief Ball

8 calls for service in July. One homeowner is installing a Knox Box.

Firefighter Jim Stilson, after 41 years of service has decided to retire. He has dedicated many years to the community and the township. He is our longest serving member and was our key daytime member. He will leave behind deep shoes to fill and we will miss his experience. We thank him tremendously for his service.

Update on training. Update on storm damage. We don't have specifics yet. The second storm kept the FD busy for three days straight. The key area was Torch River Road. We are very thankful there was no one injured and no house fires. It was impassable. We went door to door to check on people as we were able to get to the homes. Virtually every power pole was destroyed. Any of the pictures you see don't do justice to what actually happened there. Our crew worked very hard and very well. Our emergency services coordinator opened Station 2 as a shelter for residents. We had 20 people who came in during those days. John Peal of Torch River Marine and Tim Wellnitz used their heavy equipment to help us open the roads.

## **Zoning/Planning Report**

As presented by Weinzapfel

Weinzapfel discussed the agenda for the planning commission for tomorrow night. There is no ZBA meeting this month. No update on DeFauw. Working with Cottage Cove. Jim McKimmy has requested an amendment to his multi-user agreement. There are three tanks that pump back. He would like to consider having them pumped every 3-5 years. The existing agreement requires them be pumped annually. This is something we can look into with the Health Department. All of our current agreements say once a year. Derman said he would like to see what the DNR has to say. We have a request from the Schuler family. Off of Schuler road, they have an esement that they have split into 12 lots. They need a road name and they are requesting permission to name it Round Lake Drive.

Motion to approve Round Lake Drive by Cole/Pharo  
Motion carried.

Amendment #2015-01

Motion to approve by Cole/Pharo

Roll Call: Atkinson-Yes; Pharo-Yes; Bargy-Yes; Cole-Yes

Motion carried – 4-0

Excused - Ball

Amendment #2015-02

Motion to approve by Pharo/Atkinson

Roll call: Atkinson-Yes; Pharo-Yes; Cole-Yes; Bargy-Yes

Motion carried 4-0

Excused - Ball

Amendment #2015-03

Motion to approve by Pharo/Cole

Roll call: Atkinson-Yes; Cole-Yes; Bargy-Yes; Pharo-Yes

Motion carried 4-0

Excused - Ball

Amendment #2015-04

Motion to approve by Atkinson/Cole

Roll Call: Bargy-Yes; Cole-Yes; Atkinson-Yes; Pharo-Yes

Motion carried 4-0

Excused - Ball

Amendment #2015-05

Motion to approve by Pharo/Cole

Roll Call: Cole-Yes; Atkinson-Yes; Pharo-Yes; Bargy-Yes  
Motion carried 4-0  
Excused - Ball

### **Ambulance Report**

As presented by Holtcamp

Matt was not here. Pharo gave a brief report. We met with him this week and we are running at 88-89%. They had some extra vehicles at Harbor Days. Whitewater Twp. has approved MMR and they should be running there by the end of the month. This will give us another ALS ambulance in the area. They also had coverage at the Torch River Bridge for the holiday.

### **Attorney's Report**

As presented by Derman

Update on the hydro dam: I got a note that this has been re-licensed. We have five other municipal sewer systems and all require a one yearly pump out. Campbell Road end access. Construction is continuing on the North side. The south fence has been moved back to the property line. I recommend putting a fence down both sides, which will stop the issue. Both of the deeds acknowledge that road right of way.

### **Supervisor's Report**

As presented by Bargy

We got a quote on washing the windows at both halls. The bid for inside and out \$106. The old town hall was \$130. They recommend doing it every six months. This is by Krystal Clear Window Washing and he is a Milton Resident.

Motion to approve by Atkinson/Cole. Motion carried.

We also got bids for fixing the tennis courts. One bid is from Hentco and one is from Racquet Sports. There is some confusion regarding the bids. It is not apples to apples. We will approve fixing the courts on Cairn Hwy.

Motion to approve \$3158 to approve fixing the Cairn Hwy courts by Hentco by Pharo/Cole. Motion carried. We will hold off fixing Indian Road until we have a second bid.

Bargy talked to Antrim County Road Commission about getting SW Torch Lake Drive striped. It's going to be about \$1000. Once you do it, it must be maintained. Cole said with a striped line, you will encourage faster traffic. Pharo said this isn't something we want to do because we would have to maintain it. Atkinson said the traffic did speed up when they got their lines on NW Torch Lake Drive.

Update on Recycling: It is coming to the board of commissioners to put it to a millage. They would like to put it on the February ballot, but they would have to pay extra for the election. It will most likely go in August.

Bargy will be sitting down with S. Ball to discuss the three outbuildings on the Earl property out for bid for removal.

Bids for filling cracks and resealing and restriping the township hall parking lot. One is from Ahrens and one is from Scott Jacobs. Jacobs offers a two year guarantee and it is less money.

Motion to approve the bid by Jacobs for \$1400 by Pharo/Atkinson. Motion carried.

A meeting was put on by Triston Cole and the situation at the Torch Lake Sandbar. The discussion was on possible solutions. The only conclusion that came was a commitment to create a task force to find solutions and get with the state agencies to provide more support. The primary issue is the number of walk on people that has increased significantly over the last few years. Now you are getting more promoters on social media.

Update on Road Paving: Chippewa and Miller are done and this took the whole budget. Next year, Quarterline is on our schedule. There was a request for Joe Marks Tr. to be put on the list.

#### **Approval of Bills**

Motion to approve the bills by Atkinson/Cole. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned by order of the chair at 8:33 pm.

These minutes are subject to board approval at the regular September 14, 2015 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Ball  
Milton Township Clerk