

1 Updated: February 11, 2010
2 Approved: February 11, 2010
3

4 PRAIRIEVILLE TOWNSHIP
5 REGULAR BOARD MEETING
6

7 February 10, 2010
8

9 CALL TO ORDER
10

11 Supervisor Stoneburner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
12

13 PRESENT: Supervisor Jim Stoneburner, Clerk Jill Owens, Trustee Bill
14 Miller, Trustee Jim Grundy, and Treasurer Deb Newhouse
15

16 Also present 10 guests.
17

18 All present pledged Allegiance to the flag and observed a moment of silence
19 for our troops.
20

21 APPROVAL OF AGENDA
22

23 Motion made by Clerk Jill Owens for the agenda to be approved as
24 amended. Supported by Treasurer Deb Newhouse. All Ayes. Motion
25 carried.
26

27 Change: Add “Board of Review Appointments” to the Agenda.
28

29 APPROVAL OF MINUTES
30

31 Trustee Jim Grundy moved to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2010
32 Budget Workshop Meeting as corrected. Treasurer Deb Newhouse
33 supported. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
34

35 Correction: In title change “Regular” to “Budget Workshop” and line #45
36 add “times”.
37

38
39 CORRESPONDENCE
40

41 Clerk Jill Owens stated she had an email that a scam involving senior
42 citizens has been happening. The scam is someone acts like they are a
43 Grandchild out of country and needs money wired and the senior is told to
44 keep it a secret. She knew of three seniors that it happened to and the only
45 way did not send the money is ~~there~~ *their* children got involved.

46

47 COMMISSIONER'S REPORT by Chairman Robert Houtman

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49 Commissioner Chairman Robert Houtman stated the Board of
50 Commissioners increased the urban services area to include out to the
51 intersection of M43 and M37, the area the Hospital plans to develop. The
52 hospital will have the option to negotiate with Hastings Sewer or Southwest
53 Barry Sewer Development. The County Budget is in the black. There will
54 be a meeting in Hastings for the Eaton Barry County Health Department
55 regarding Ordinance on Wells and Septic Systems on the third Thursday of
56 March.

57

58 PUBLIC COMMENT

59

60 None

61

62 FIRE REPORTS

63

64 Fire Reports were received and filed. Supervisor Jim Stoneburner read
65 Chief Garrison request for the board to approve a set of Michelin tires for
66 the fire truck for the price of \$1,672.00. Trustee Bill Miller wanted to know
67 where the tires would be purchased, but no one knew.

68

69 Clerk Jill Owens moved to approve the purchase of Michelin tires for the
70 amount of \$1,672.00. Supported by Trustee Jim Grundy. Four Ayes, One
71 Nay. Motion Passed

72

73 POLICE REPORT by Aaron Lomonaco

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75 Police report was received and filed.

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77 TREASURER REPORT

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79 Treasurer Deb Newhouse presented a Treasurer's Report.

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CLERK REPORT

Clerk’s report was received and filed.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bills were presented and discussed.

Motion made by Trustee Bill Miller for the bills in the amount of \$20,755.57 to be paid. Supported by Clerk Jill Owens. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Sexton Contract

Clerk Jill Owens stated that they received two bids for the sexton. She stated that she felt that Adams and Sons has been an asset to Prairieville Township. They are willing to be available twenty four hour notice and know our cemeteries. Justin Holtman bid was very close to Adams and Son and would not be a savings.

Clerk Jill Owens moved to accept Adams and Sons bid to be Sexton for a contract for two years. Supported by Treasurer Deb Newhouse. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Computer Service Contract

Clerk Jill Owens stated that she had researched and found a computer company that would service our computers for \$2,000.00 per year. Prairieville Township previously spent approximately \$12,000.00 per year for computer service in the past. She had called three township and Gull Lake Sewer and they were 100% satisfied with IT Right service.

Clerk Jill Owens moved to accept the Service Contract from IT Right for one year for \$2,000.00 with the condition they have insurance. Supported by Treasurer Deb Newhouse. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

118 Hardship Application

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Prairieville Township Board Resolution

121

to Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test

122

123 WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the supervisor
124 and board of review, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute to the public
125 charges is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under the General
126 Property Tax Act; and

127

128 WHEREAS, the township board is required by Section 7u of the General
129 Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893 (MCL 211.7u), to adopt guidelines for
130 poverty exemptions;

131

132 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, pursuant to MCL 211.7u, that
133 Prairieville Township, Barry County, adopts the following guidelines for the
134 supervisor and board of review to implement.

135

136 The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset
137 levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any
138 property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year.

139

140 To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

141

142 1) Be an owner of and occupy as a homestead the property for which an
143 exemption is requested.

144

145 2) File a claim with the supervisor or board of review, accompanied by federal
146 and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the homestead, including
147 any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the
148 current year.

149

150 3) Produce a valid drivers' license or other form of identification if requested.

151

152 4) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property
153 for which an exemption is requested if requested.

154

155 5) Meet the federal poverty income guidelines as defined and determined
156 annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget:

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158

Poverty Income Guidelines

159

How Much Income A Person Can Receive Per Year And Be Eligible For The
160 Poverty Exemption.

161

162

2009 Federal Poverty Income Guidelines

163

	<u>Size of family in</u>	<u>Maximum Total Income</u>
165	<u>Household</u>	
166	1	\$10,800.00
167	2	\$14,600.00
168	3	\$18,300.00
169	4	\$22,100.00
170	5	\$25,800.00
171	6	\$29,500.00
172	7	\$33,300.00
173	8	\$37,000.00
174	<i>Additional person</i>	<i>\$3,700.00</i>

175
176

177 According to the U.S. Census Bureau, "income" includes:

- 178 • Money, wages and salaries before any deductions.
- 179 • Net receipts from nonfarm self-employment. (These are receipts from a
180 person's own business, professional enterprise, or partnership, after
181 deductions for business expenses)
- 182 • Net receipts from farm self employment. (With the same provisions as
183 above for self employment.)
- 184 • Regular payments from social security, railroad retirement,
185 unemployment, workers' compensation, veterans' payments, and public
186 assistance.
- 187 • Alimony, child support, and military family allotment.
- 188 • Private pensions, government pensions, and regular insurance or
189 annuity payments.
- 190 • College or university scholarships, grants, fellowships, and
191 assistantships.
- 192 • Dividends, interest, net rental income, net royalties, periodic receipts
193 from estates or trusts, and net gambling or lottery winnings.

194

195 6) Meet additional eligibility requirements as determined by the township board,
196 including:

197

198 Things of value that a person can own and still be granted a poverty exemption:

199

- 200 • Prairieville Township Board established a policy that the residence is
201 not covered at all.

202

203 Things of value that the Board of Review can consider to decide what percent of
204 exemption to grant:

205

- 206 • Prairieville Township Board established a policy that the applicants
207 with a total value of assets of \$15,000.00 or more will received a 0%
208 exemption, even though they meet the Poverty Income Guidelines.

209
210 BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the board of review shall follow the above stated
211 policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the
212 board of review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why
213 there should be a deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these are
214 communicated in writing to the claimant.

215
216 The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member Treasurer Deb Newhouse
217 and supported by Board Member Clerk Jill Owens.

218
219 Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

220
221 Ayes: Trustee Jim Grundy, Trustee Bill Miller, Treasurer Deb Newhouse, Clerk
222 Jill Owens, and Supervisor Jim Stoneburner.

223
224 Nays: None

225
226 The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted on February 10, 2010.

227
228 Ambulance

229
230 Supervisor Jim Stoneburner moved to have Pride Care as primary and Life
231 Care as secondary ambulance service and send a copy of minutes to Phyllis
232 Fuller of 911 Board. Supported by Trustee Jim Grundy. All Ayes. Motion
233 Carried.

234
235 Health Insurance Agent

236
237 Clerk Jill Owens moved to have Burnham Insurance be the Agent for Priority
238 Health Insurance. Supported by Treasurer Deb Newhouse. All Ayes.
239 Motion Carried.

240
241 Budget Hearing and Meetings

242
243 February 11, 2010 at 4:00 pm Budget Workshop
244 February 15, 2010 at 1:00 pm Budget Workshop
245 February 18, 2010 at 7:00 pm Budget Hearing

246
247 Tahoe Bid

248
249 Supervisor Jim Stoneburner stated that he received a bid for the Tahoe for
250 the amount of \$1,700.00.

251

252 Clerk Jill Owens moved to accept the bid for Tahoe at the amount of
253 \$1,700.00 with condition the buyers will remove all emergency lights and
254 decals. Supported by Treasurer Deb Newhouse. All Ayes. Motion
255 Carried.

256

257 Board of Review Appointments

258

259 Clerk Jill Owens moved to reappoint Lee Sequin to the Board of Review to
260 12/31/2010. Supported Trustee Bill Miller. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

261

262 Clerk Jill Owens moved to reappoint Jim Fish and Ken Craft to the Board of
263 Review to 12/31/2011. Supported Treasurer Deb Newhouse. All Ayes.
264 Motion Carried.

265

266 PUBLIC COMMENT

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268 Bob Pence, Assist Chief Pine Lake Fire Department, stated that the tires for
269 the Firetruck would be done at Bell Tire.

270

271 Richard VanNiman stated he had bought a Delton Ambulance membership
272 and wonder what he should do. Supervisor Jim Stoneburner stated that Pride
273 Care will honor the memberships.

274

275 BOARD COMMENTS

276

277 SUPERVISOR STONEBURNER

278

279 Supervisor Jim Stoneburner that he attended the MTA conference and took
280 classes on all different subjects.

281

282 One of the classes was done by the State of Michigan Treasury regarding
283 Assessing. The State will be auditing all Townships in the near future using
284 the 14 point review. They recommended that the Township Audit their
285 Assessing and make sure it is up to date. The State stated over 50% of the
286 Townships has not passed the 14 point review.

287

288 Trustee Jim Grundy moved to authorized Supervisor Jim Stoneburner to
289 engage a consultant to do an efficient audit against the State of Michigan 14
290 point review for up to \$5,000.00. The consultant will present an audit report

291 with a specific ~~audit~~ *action* plan within 60 days. Supported by Treasurer
292 Deb Newhouse. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

293

294 Clerk Jill Owens moved to move \$5,000.00 of the budget from 101-209-
295 702.100 Assistant Assessor Wage to 101-209-814 Contract Service.
296 Supported by Treasurer Deb Newhouse. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

297

298 TREASURER DEB NEWHOUSE

299

300 Treasurer Deb Newhouse thanked the Township Board and Employees for
301 their help and support with the death of her husband. ~~She plans on being the~~
302 ~~Treasurer for the Township and enjoys her position.~~

303

304 CLERK JILL OWENS

305

306 Clerk Jill Owens stated that she learned a lot at MTA Conference and
307 recommends that we send the Board every year.

308

309 She also stated she would like to thank the Pine Lake Fire Department
310 and Prairieville Township Police for being so great to Treasurer Deb
311 Newhouse on that terrible day.

312

313 TRUSTEE JIM GRUNDY

314

315 Trustee Jim Grundy stated he would like to see the minutes have a date that
316 they *are* approved on them. Clerk Jill Owens stated that she also had a
317 request for the draft minutes *to* be put on the website. The Board decided
318 we would put the draft minutes on the website and the date approved would
319 be on upper right corner.

320

321 TRUSTEE BILL MILLER

322

323 Trustee Bill Miller wanted an update on Ford Point Assessment. Supervisor
324 Jim Stoneburner stated it was with the attorney and that looks like it will be
325 worked out soon.

326

327 Trustee Bill Miller stated that he call the Barry County Drain Commission to
328 check on the Pine Lake pump. They stated the pump will not be run during
329 the winter months because the fear of freezing.

330

331 Trustee Bill Miller also stated that he wants the Assessing to be done right.
332 The Board agreed and will make it high priority 2010-2011.

333

334 Clerk Jill Owens moved to adjourn the meeting. Supported by Treasurer
335 Deb Newhouse. Supervisor Jim Stoneburner adjourned the meeting without
336 objection at 8:52pm.

337

338 Respectfully Submitted,

339 Jill Owens, Clerk

340