

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday ~ December 8, 2009
Menominee County Courthouse - Courtroom B
Menominee, MI 49858

MINUTES – Approved 1/12/2010

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. (CST) by Chairman Gary Eichhorn

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken with the following in attendance:

Present: Commissioners Furlong, Anderson, Peterson, Lang & Eichhorn

Excused:

Public Comment: Judy Bright, Menominee Township – Re-appointment of Parks and Recreation Committee member – Jason Lauzer. Ms. Bright states that the Parks Committee voted unanimously to re-appoint Jason Lauzer to the committee. Because of his experience, Mr. Lauzer will provide stability to the committee. On behalf of the committee, we ask the Board to consider Jason for another term of appointment on the Parks & Recreation Committee.

Department Head Reports/Comments: Diane Lesperance – Ms. Lesperance handed out financial statements for June 2009 – Oct. 2009 for the commissioners to view. Ms. Lesperance also spoke of a letter from the Department of Treasury in reference to Recovery Zone Bonds. (Available from a stimulus package) She indicated these are a form of Grant – they are bonds that must be repaid. These are bonds that the County must apply for before Dec. 2010 if we choose to. She is currently awaiting more detailed information from Ms. Kathy Cole, Lansing.

Sheriff Ken Marks - Spoke of Hannahville Grants awarded to the Sheriff Dept., totaling \$16,022.06. Monies were used for Digital Cameras in squad cars, Digital in-car video cameras and Radar units. Currently the Sheriff Dept. is applying for a USDA grant to outfit one squad car, which was used by the investigator and was not marked. This will now be a road patrol officers' vehicle. Sheriff Marks requested the commissioners to surplus the Sig P226.40 cal pistol that Mr. Hauser carried during his employment with Men. Co. so the pistol can be presented to Mr. Hauser for a retirement gift. Sheriff Dept. employees will donate funds to purchase a new pistol to replace the surplus pistol, if approved. This will be at no cost to the county, and the county receives a new pistol. **Eichhorn:** It's not good practice. Personally he thinks the County shouldn't surplus any items unless worn out. **Furlong:** So what you're asking for is to retire the pistol with the officer. Give it to him as a token for his service with the county. **Diane Lesperance:** Would like to add, if the county chooses not to use the bonds (as discussed prior) they would like the county to pass a resolution stating that we won't use them. Then the state can give the \$ to someone else. Also, we did get a check for the Commercial Forest Reserve (CFR) it was less than expected. We expected to get \$134,000 (figuring at 1.20/acre) we only received \$119,000. She is waiting on a return call

for reasons why we were cut. There was also a reduction in the payment for “Payment in lieu of taxes” (PILT), (land the DNR owns) we should have received 2.0/acre but were given only 1.76/acre. Ms. Lesperance also discusses dog licensures. Sales are way down and if there is anything we can do to increase sales, we should look into it. We should have more kennel sales, none have registered in 2009, as of yet.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Com. Anderson, seconded by Com. Peterson to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 5-0

Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes: Moved by Com. Furlong, seconded by Com. Peterson to approve the previous meeting minutes of November 09.2009 (Special Meeting of the COW). Motion carried, 5-0. Moved by Com. Anderson, seconded by Com. Furlong to approve the previous meeting minutes of Nov. 10, 2009 (Special Meeting of COW). Motion carried, 5-0. Moved by Com. Furlong, seconded by Com. Peterson to approve the previous meeting minutes of November 10, 2009 (Reg. Meeting of COW). Motion carried, 5-0.

Presentations: None

Agenda Items:

1. Personnel Items:

- a. none

2. Building and Grounds/ Parks Items:

- a. Parks Superintendent Responsibilities
- b. Recommendation from Parks & Rec. Committee- Reappointment of Jason Lauzer to the Parks & Rec. Committee.
- c. 5-year Menominee County Recreation Plan

Com. Anderson recommends the Committee of the whole DOES NOT move #2 (Building & Grounds/Parks items) to the County Board. Reason why is because the responsibilities will fall under the County Administrator. We should wait until we have an administrator in place. The 5-year plan should also be handled by the administrator. He also recommends that Jason Lauzer apply for the committee like everyone else. Furlong: There are a few things that need to be done in a timely fashion at the parks. I recommend the new administrator take the responsibilities over immediately. And also recommend the Administrator attend the next parks committee meeting. As far as reappointing Jason, he is a long standing member of the Parks Committee. He has the knowledge of what is going on in the parks. He has stepped up as the Vice President of the Committee to keep the committee informed. He brought the 5-year rec. plan to the committee for recommendations to get it updated. We took a vote at the parks committee, and we voted unanimously to reappoint him. Peterson said he didn't vote. It is recommended to move the reappointment of Jason Lauzer to the CB to be included with other applicants.

3. Miscellaneous Items:

- a. Resolution 09-19 ~ support of Marinette Marine Corp. It is recommended to move this to the County Board for approval.
- b. Correspondence from Greg Arnold Jr. ~ Request parcel held by Menominee County be abandoned or deeded to him. It is the consensus of the committee to have Dan Hass take a look at the paperwork we received and have him give us an opinion.
- c. Miscellaneous board/committee appointment – vacancies posted ~ Com. Eichhorn asked if the Planning Commission has two or three openings. We currently have two posted...Eichhorn thinks it may be three. Smith said she would double check. Eichhorn thinks the term end dates should be extended until the end of Feb. (for those expiring in Dec.) There is discussion about changing the term end dates. Furlong suggests checking with each individual board and revising by-laws to coincide with the changes.

4. Finance Items:

- a. Commissioner Per Diems/Expenses: Furlong recommends moving it to the board for approval.
- b. Miscellaneous Bills – Peterson recommended moving it to the board for approval.

Other Items Members may wish to present: Furlong, the Filoramo bill that we got, dated 10/29/09. The first part is regarding the lawsuit, the second part of the bill it's obvious that it work for the county board, but at the top it says Reference: Jason Lauzer VS Menominee County Board. Is there any way he clarify the billing so that the county board work is billed for the county board and the lawsuit is billed for the lawsuit. Anderson, he was supposed to straighten it all out.

Correspondence: Smith received correspondence from Public Health in reference to taking water samples at Shakey Lakes and Kleinke Parks. Because we were open at least one day in Oct., we are required to submit a quarterly sample for Oct. Nov. & Dec. Now that the water is shut off for the season, we may be fined a \$200 fine for not complying with the laws.

Public Comment: Judy Bright: States she is disappointed that the county is not working together with the committees. Also, she asks the board to clairify the extended dates of appointments. Will the current advertised appts. be extended until the end of Feb. 2010, or will the commissioners appoint as written in the advertisement?

Adjournment: Moved by Comm. Anderson, supported by Comm. Peterson to adjourn this meeting at 6:36 pm. Motion carried, 5-0.