

Minutes of REGULAR MEETING (work session)

Held October 29, 2014

8:30 AM

TOWNSHIP OF MARATHON

DAWN JOHNSON, CLERK

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by Supervisor Moorhouse.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Fred Moorhouse, Supervisor
Sandi Glesenkamp, Treasurer
Dawn Johnson, Clerk
Karen Webber, Trustee
Jim Chaffer, Trustee - Absent

ALSO PRESENT:

Michael Gildner, Township Attorney

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Glesenkamp made a motion supported by Webber to approve the agenda as presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Franchise agreement The Board has had a very difficult time understanding the franchise agreement that was presented to us from Attorney Gildner. In discussion over the content of the agreement, we found out that Attorney Gildner used the franchise agreement provided to him by Christopher Goebel and massaged it a bit for our township's use. He agreed that it is difficult to understand and will work on one that is more specific to Marathon Township.

Township owned property 6495 Marathon Road

1. **disposal of junk left behind** Steve Brainard's scrapping service came in and took the debris that could be recycled and removed the blight from the property
2. **motor home removed from site.** Attorney Gildner will follow up on who removed the motor home and where it is being held.

Zoning issues

1. **Oliver**, 6452 Marathon Road. The collection of blight on the property comes and goes. The Michigan Department of Agriculture has been out to revisit the property for follow-up on the manure management practices. Attorney Gildner advised that weekly pictures of the property should be taken for proof in the court case.
2. **Schall**, 5040 Otter Lake Road. The Circuit Court order allows the township to enter the property to clean it up. Attorney Gildner will write a letter to Schall to let him know we will be starting a clean-up.

3. **Jones/Moorman**, 6221 Marathon Road. Attorney Gildner will send a letter to the Jones/Moormans to advise them that we will be moving forward with legal action to remove the trailer from the property.
4. **Jeremy Johnson**, 5225 Hollenbeck Road. Jeremy is living in a recreational vehicle on the property. Children may be living on the premise in less than desirable conditions. No progress has been made in cleaning up the fire debris and blight. Moorhouse and Mike Alexander will make a site visit to find out what Jeremy plans to do with the property and the motor home.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Authority assessment Discussion took place on the 10% increase that is due to take effect with the 2014 winter taxes. Attorney Gildner advised us that the assessment could be levied without a public hearing. Because of the large amount of storm related runs paid for by the utility companies, the Fire Authority budget is quite healthy this year and it is not necessary to increase the assessment this year. However a new fire truck is needed in Columbiaville. Gildner advised that the Authority could set up special assessment to take care of that.

Extension of moratorium on oil and gas The Board wishes to keep a moratorium on oil and gas exploration intact. There are still many unanswered questions about how the exploration in our township will be handled. We are currently working on policies that will impact the exploration of oil and gas in the township. Attorney Gildner advised that we can extend the moratorium if the original is still intact or impose a new moratorium if necessary.

Zoning issues

Herzog The Herzogs have put a pole barn on vacant property that was denied in a recent ZBA variance request. No building permits were filed for the pole barn construction. Attorney Gildner will write a letter to the Herzogs advising them that the township will be taking legal action against them.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am

Submitted by 
Dawn D Johnson, Clerk

Approved by 
Fred Moorhouse, Supervisor

date 12/8/2014