

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 16, 2015**

**FENTON TOWNSHIP CIVIC COMMUNITY CENTER  
12060 MANTAWAUKA DRIVE, FENTON, MICHIGAN**

Clerk Krug called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Krug, Goupil, Kesler, Lorraine, Shumaker, Attorney Cooley and  
Operations Manager Broecker.

Absent: Mathis, Tucker

**OPENING PRAYER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Trustee Goupil offered the opening prayer. Clerk Krug led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON:**

Clerk Krug stated that, due to the absence of the Township Supervisor, a temporary chairperson needs to be appointed for this evening's meeting.

Motion to appoint Clerk Krug as chairman pro-tem.

Motion by: Goupil

Seconded: Shumaker

Ayes: All Present

Nays: None

Absent: Mathis, Tucker

Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the 3/16/15 Fenton Township Board Meeting agenda as presented.

Motion by: Goupil

Seconded: Shumaker

Ayes: All Present

Nays: None

Absent: Mathis, Tucker

Motion carried. The agenda is approved.

**PRESENTATION:**

**Denny Dunfield – Linden-Argentine-Fenton Trails Coalition**

Chairman Krug introduced Denny Dunfield, who is here representing the Linden-Argentine-Fenton (LAF) Trails Coalition. Mr. Dunfield outlined their group's efforts to raise awareness of the need for non-motorized trails and working on raising funds for development. The proposed trail network in Genesee County includes high priority routes along Silver Lake Road and Owen Road within Fenton Township.

Trustee Lorraine stated that he supports the concept of having a network of pathways and trails – it's great for the community in general.

Chairman Krug asked how the LAF benefits Fenton Township. The highest priority trails have the least amount of benefit to Fenton Township residents. Fenton Township is not even mentioned in the promotional materials.

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Trustee Lorraine agreed that Fenton Township needs to be included in the process. All communities need to work together toward a complete network of pathways that is mutually beneficial to all residents.

Trustee Shumaker pointed out that Fenton Township may ultimately have greater potential for providing funding resources for the development of the trail system. The Township still has a significant amount of undeveloped land while the two cities are mostly built out.

Mr. Dunfield thanked the board for their input and stated he would share the comments and concerns with the LAF Trail Coalition.

**MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes for the 3/2/15 regular meeting stand approved as presented.

**EXPENDITURES:**

Motion to approve invoices and expenditures for all funds totaling \$1,315,592.95 for payment as presented.

Motion by: Goupil  
Seconded: Kesler  
Ayes: Krug, Goupil, Kesler, Lorraine, Shumaker  
Nays: None  
Absent: Mathis, Tucker

Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None

**REPORTS:**

Chairman Krug noted that new Ordinance Enforcement Officer Tom Hosie started 3/9/15.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

**ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES:**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Lake Fenton Property Owners Association – Request for Support of Canada Geese Roundup Application**

Chairman Krug reviewed a request from the Lake Fenton Property Owners Association (LFPOA) for support of their application to the DNR for a permit to conduct a Canada Geese roundup in 2015, which was postponed from earlier meetings. Association President George Dyball explained that the Canada geese on Lake Fenton are becoming more of a nuisance every year and they want to implement measures to reduce the population. While they prefer the Egg & Nest Destruction program, the DNR requires that a goose roundup be completed three times within a 5-year period before an Egg & Nest Destruction permit could be considered. Supervisor Mathis was unable to persuade the DNR to grant an exemption to allow Lake Fenton to implement the egg &

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nest destruction program immediately. The association is requesting a letter or resolution of support to move the process forward. If approved, their plan is to relocate the minimum requirement of 25 geese per year in order to comply with the DNR regulations. They also plan to consider using a company called Goose Works to complete the roundup process. This company has a reputation for handling this process very humanely.

Trustee Goupil asked if the only DNR requirement is to complete a roundup for three years. He also asked if they would be able to use different contractors in subsequent years. Mr. Dyball answered affirmatively for both questions.

Trustee Lorraine asked how many property owners are members of the LFPOA and if a majority are in favor of the goose roundup. Mr. Dyball responded that, although association dues are not a legal requirement, approximately 60% of the property owners pay dues voluntarily, and a significant majority of those members are in favor of the goose roundup.

Public Comment:

Dan Daniels, 13293 Haddon Street

Mr. Daniels again urged board not to approve resolution for reasons given at previous meetings, including:

- A Wall Street Journal article reporting a 50% worldwide decrease in wildlife population from 1970 to 2010.
- The goose roundup is not humane.
- The board should require the LFPOA to submit a petition to the DNR rather than approving a resolution.
- The DNR has stated that Michigan does not have a goose population problem, but there is a goose tolerance problem.

Mr. Dyball pointed out that the Canada Geese population in Michigan has increased from 9,000 in 1970 to over 300,000 currently, with 80% of those geese nesting in the bottom 1/3 of the state.

Trustee Shumaker stated that he supports the program. The health safety and welfare of our residents outweighs the impact on geese from being relocated. He also pointed out that there is virtually no hunting of geese in our township anymore due to population growth. The roundup and egg & nest destruction programs appear to be the best way to control the goose population.

Trustee Lorraine stated that the board needs to consider the opinions of the residents. Most of the people he has spoken to do not believe there is a waterfowl problem on the lake, but doesn't doubt Mr. Dyball's statement that a majority of the property owners are in favor of the roundup program. He is prepared to support the request but suggested using the petition process to get a true representation of residents' opinion.

Deputy Clerk Broecker presented the following resolution:

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-02**

*WHEREAS, the Lake Fenton Property Owners Association wishes to make application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to participate in the Canada Geese Roundup Program on and around Lake Fenton in 2015, and*

*WHEREAS, such application must be supported by the governing body of the local unit of government, and*

*WHEREAS, the Fenton Township Board supports the efforts of the Lake Fenton Property Owners Association to control the population of Canada Geese to benefit the health, safety and welfare of the lake residents;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the township board of the Charter Township of Fenton hereby supports the application the Lake Fenton Property Owners Association to participate in the MDNR Canada Geese Roundup Program in 2015.*

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2015-02 as presented.

Motion by: Krug

Seconded: Shumaker

Ayes: Krug, Goupil, Kesler, Lorraine, Shumaker

Nays: None

Absent: Mathis, Tucker

Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

**Next Meeting Date Reminder – 3/30/15**

Chairman Krug reminded the board that the next regular meeting will be Monday 3/30/15. The first April meeting was moved to this date to avoid Easter and Spring Break scheduling conflicts. The next meeting after that will be Monday 4/20/15.

**Election Commission Meeting – 3/30/15 at 7:00 p.m.**

Chairman Krug announced that the Election Commission will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday 3/30/15 (prior to the board meeting) to appoint inspectors for the 5/5/15 special election.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution No. 2015-07, Honoring Retiring Ordinance Enforcement Officer Robert**

**Atkinson**

Chairman Krug reported that Bob Atkinson has retired from his position as Fenton Township Ordinance Enforcement Officer. A resolution has been prepared to honor Bob for his years of service.

Deputy Clerk Broecker presented the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-07**

*WHEREAS, Robert E. Atkinson has recently retired from employment with Fenton Township, and*

*WHEREAS, Mr. Atkinson was employed as Fenton Township's Ordinance Enforcement Officer for more than twelve years, during which time he has contributed*

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*greatly to the growth and development of township enforcement operations and services, and*

*WHEREAS, under Mr. Atkinson’s direction, ordinance enforcement has become a well organized, highly efficient process, making compliance the ultimate objective for all reported violations, and*

*WHEREAS, Mr. Atkinson served loyally and faithfully as Fenton Township Ordinance Enforcement Officer from October 2002 to March 2015, exhibiting the qualities of dedication, leadership and professionalism throughout his term of employment;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Fenton hereby recognizes Robert E. Atkinson for his valuable contributions to the development of the township’s services and overall operations, and for his commitment to the entire Fenton Township community, and expresses sincere appreciation and gratitude for his dedicated service to the government and citizens of Fenton Township, and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a copy provided to Mr. Atkinson.*

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2015-07 as presented.

- Motion by: Krug
- Seconded: Kesler
- Ayes: Krug, Goupil, Kesler, Lorraine, Shumaker
- Nays: None
- Absent: Mathis, Tucker

Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

**2015 Law Day Proclamation**

Chairman Krug stated that the Genesee County Bar Association has requested that the Township consider adopting a proclamation designating May 1<sup>st</sup> as Law Day. The Township has adopted similar proclamations in previous years. It was noted that Law Day is designed to give students an appreciation for the legal system. Among other activities, Law Day is an opportunity for students to appear before a real judge in a mock trial. Deputy Clerk Broecker presented the following:

**2015 LAW DAY PROCLAMATION**

**“Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law”**

*WHEREAS, Law Day is an occasion of public acknowledgement of our nation’s and Michigan’s heritage of justice, liberty and equality under the law, and*

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*WHEREAS, Law Day has been annually proclaimed by the President of the United States since Dwight D. Eisenhower proclaimed the first Law Day on May 1, 1958, and*

*WHEREAS, the United States Congress in 1961 encoded the presidential practice into law, statutorily designating May 1 as Law Day, and*

*WHEREAS, the year 2015 marks the 800th anniversary of a milestone in legal history: the sealing of Magna Carta at Runnymede, England in 1215, and*

*WHEREAS, the founders of our nation drew upon the principles of Magna Carta in drafting our cherished documents of liberty, including the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and*

*WHEREAS, Magna Carta has become one of the world's most enduring symbols of liberty under law, and*

*WHEREAS, Magna Carta continues to be a source of inspiration in the international struggle to advance human rights, and*

*WHEREAS, promoting public understanding of the roots of our freedom are an important component in the civic education of the citizens of the United States and of the state of Michigan, and*

*WHEREAS, the American Bar Association has identified the 2015 Law Day theme as "Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law";*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Fenton does hereby proclaim May 1, 2015 as Law Day. We urge the people of Fenton Township and all of Genesee County to acknowledge the importance of our legal and judicial systems with appropriate ceremonies and activities, and to display the flag of the United States and the State of Michigan in support of this educational observance. We further encourage schools, businesses, media, religious institutions, civic and service organizations to join the members of the bar and bench in commemorating Law Day.*

Motion to adopt the 2015 Law Day Proclamation as presented.

Motion by: Krug  
Seconded: Kesler  
Ayes: Krug, Goupil, Kesler, Lorraine, Shumaker  
Nays: None  
Absent: Mathis, Tucker

Motion carried. The proclamation is adopted.

**Resolution No. 2015-08, CDBG Program Signature Card**

Chairman Krug stated that Genesee County Community Development periodically requires participating communities to update, by resolution, their authorized signature card. Such a resolution has been prepared for board consideration.

Deputy Clerk Broecker presented the following resolution:

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08**

*WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Fenton participates in the Genesee County Community Development Program, and*

*WHEREAS, the Genesee County Community Development Program has requested an updated signature card for officials authorized to request reimbursements from the Community Development Block Grant Program;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individuals are hereby authorized to request reimbursements from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program:*

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>
Bonnie K. Mathis	Township Supervisor
Robert E. Krug	Township Clerk
John R. Tucker	Township Treasurer
Thomas R. Broecker	Operations Manager/Deputy Clerk

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2015-08 as presented.

Motion by: Goupil

Seconded: Kesler

Ayes: Krug, Goupil, Kesler, Lorraine, Shumaker

Nays: None

Absent: Mathis, Tucker

Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

**Proposed Donation of Pontoon Boat to Fenton Township Fire Department**

Chairman Krug reported that Fenton Township employee Valerie McDonald has informed the Township that she wishes to donate her pontoon boat to the Fenton Township Fire Department. The boat is in very good condition and Fire Chief Volz has indicated that it can be modified for use by the Dive Rescue Team. Michigan law requires that the Township Board must formally accept any proposed donation before ownership can be transferred.

Motion to accept the donation of a 1982 Crest 25 ft. pontoon boat and a 2000 Honda BF25A 25hp boat motor from Valerie McDonald, as presented.

Motion by: Goupil

Seconded: Lorraine

Ayes: Krug, Goupil, Kesler, Lorraine, Shumaker

Nays: None

Absent: Mathis, Tucker

Motion carried.

**BOARD COMMENT:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

None

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**ADJOURN:** Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

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Robert Krug, Chairman Pro-Tem

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Thomas Broecker, Deputy Clerk

**Minutes Posted 3/17/15**