

VILLAGE OF FRUITPORT
REGULAR SESSION
OCTOBER 17, 2005

Meeting called to order by President Ken Johnston at 7:30 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance given.

Prayer offered by Jerry Alger.

Roll call: Donna Pope, DeVere Bendixen, Ken Johnston, Carolyn Lemler, Jerry Alger, Dawn Osborne. Bruce Raymond. Absent: Chris Ostrowski.

Minutes: Motion made by D. Pope to approve minutes from October 3, 2005 Special Session. Motion seconded by D. Bendixen. Roll call: All ayes. Motion passed.

VISITORS: Bill Surridge, 351 S 3rd Avenue, had comments and questions regarding the placement of homes on lots along the lakeshore of Spring Lake. Currently a new house is being built in his neighborhood and is being located much closer to the lakeshore than existing homes. He has researched the setback limits for construction in the Village and the new construction is within the legal zoning limits because the lakeside of the house is considered the backyard. However, existing houses are set much further back from the lakeshore and now the existing houses have their views blocked by the new construction. His question for the Council was if anything could be done with a zoning ordinance to establish special setbacks for future construction of lakeshore homes and how could property owners start this process. Sharon Cartson, 373 S 3rd Avenue and Marv VanderKolk, 365 S 3rd Avenue also expressed concerns with the location of the new construction and what could be done for the future. Ken Johnston replied to the concerns: The State of Michigan does not recognize View Shed Ordinances; Ken had reviewed the site plan of the new construction with Michigan Township Services and the plans met the zoning requirements. One way to control building locations is to form a Neighborhood Association with covenants which can be enforced through the Courts. Research will be done to see if any sort of Ordinance from other municipalities regulating lakeshore building placement has been able to withstand Court challenges.

Nick Ceglarek, Superintendent Fruitport Community Schools, addressed the Council regarding construction issues to reconfigure traffic congestion on Pontaluna Road caused by school buses. Upon the recommendation of the Fruitport Township Fire Department a second access road to the bus garage has been constructed in the area of the corner of Beech street and 8th Avenue, The school is planning to use this access route to help alleviate traffic on Pontaluna Road during peak hours of school day starting and ending times. Buses would leave the garage and turn onto Beech Street going east and then turn north on 6th Avenue and then left into the bus passenger pickup area between the High School and Edgewood Elementary School. The school will notify the neighbors in the area of Beech Street, 8th Avenue and 6th Avenue of these changes.

CORRESPONDENCE: Received a letter from MDOT regarding a change in the formula to distribute road revenue sharing monies. The Village will see a decrease of about 8% from what was distributed in the past.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Donna Pope (Insurance/Personnel): None.

Chris Ostrowski (DPW/Streets): None.

DeVere Bendixen (Health/Welfare): None.

Jerry Alger (Special Projects): None.

Dawn Osborne (Special Projects): Village sign for Old DPW Lot will be ready in about 30 days.

Bruce Raymond (parks/Public Safety): Police report for August had 43 incidents reported in the misdemeanor class. September report had 35 incidents reported in the misdemeanor class.

Ken Johnston (Zoning): Trees to be planted in Pomona Park next week. Have winterized sprinklers at Peach Tree Project; lights at Peach Tree Project have been repaired.

Carolyn Lemler (Clerk/Treasurer): None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pomona Park Restroom Update: Lion's Club has building permits for the structure and erosion control; Health Department permit for septic system should be ready soon. Hope to start construction in near future.

Village 3rd Avenue lot: Fence has been installed; slab for bench and flagpole is ready and retaining wall for planting bed and sign has been built. Next on agenda is electrical work and planting.

Village Dis-incorporation: Reminder of public hearing for informational purposes will be held Tuesday, October 18, 2005, at Fruitport Middle School Auditorium.

NEW BUSINESS:

Flag pole in parking lot 4th Avenue needs repair work done; this will be checked into and done in November.

Motion to approve warrants made by D. Pope. Motion seconded by D. Bendixen.

Roll call: AU ayes. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn made by D. Pope. Motion seconded by D. Osborne.

Roll call: All ayes. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Carolyn A Lemler
Village Clerk
865-3234