



**ACME TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
ACME TOWNSHIP HALL
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690
Tuesday, April 8, 2008 7:00 P.M.**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER WITH PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AT 7:00 P.M.

Members present: B. Boltres, D. Dunville, R. Hardin, W. Kladder, P. Scott, E. Takayama
Members excused: F. Zarafonitis
Staff present: S. Vreeland, Township Manager/Recording Secretary
C. Bzdok, Legal Counsel (7:22 p.m.)

INQUIRY AS TO CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: None noted

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Scott, support by Takayama to approve the agenda as amended to change the order of business to present Old Business prior to New Business, and to add an item 6 to New Business, resignation letter from Mark Lewis - Infrastructure Advisory Chair. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

A. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Motion by Takayama, support by Scott to approve the Consent Calendar as amended to remove the Treasurer's Report for discussion under Old Business and note that the 03/19/08 DPW Sewer and Water Committee meeting minutes were received:

RECEIVE AND FILE:

1. ~~Treasurer's Report~~ as of 02/29/08
2. Clerk's Report as of 03/26/08
3. Draft Unapproved Meeting Minutes:
 - a. Planning Commission 03/24/08
 - b. Zoning Board of Appeals 03/13/08
 - c. Personnel Advisory Committee 03/13/08 and 03/20/08
 - d. GT County DPW Sewer & Water Committee Draft Meeting Minutes:
 - 03/14/08
 - 03/19/08

ACTION – Consider approval:

4. 03/04/08 Township Board meeting minutes
5. Accounts Payable of \$62,899.15 through 03/26/08 (recommend approval: Dunville)
6. Accept 03-12-08 resignation by LouAnn Brohl from Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion carried by unanimous roll call.

B. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT:

Christine Maxbauer, 503 W. Eighth Street, Traverse City noted that there may be discussion this evening about TCTV2. She hopes that the township will consider talking to LIAA (Land Information Access Association) about their proposal to assume operational responsibility for TCTV2 and Government Channel 99. Ms. Maxbauer is part of a citizens' transitional board seeking to preserve public access television for all area citizens. They would also like to work with the County to help put City Commission meeting broadcasts on the Internet. She asks that the Board talk to LIAA before making a decision about what to do with its share of proceeds from the Cherry Capital Cable Council and TCTV2.

Gene Veliquette, Elk Lake Road, was hoping to see some action regarding the proposed Meijer store

and the Village at Grand Traverse. He understands that it is official that Wal-Mart will be locating on tribal land, and laments the loss of potential tax base to the community. He believes that it is time to stop “demonizing” people, and did not believe that the minutes of the last Planning Commission meeting accurately characterized his community involvement.

Ron Olson, CEO of the Grand Traverse Band Economic Development Corporation, stated that a Wal-Mart is not coming to tribal property. They have had no conversations with any big-box retailer about locating in their development, and probably will not.

C. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. **03/10/08 Traverse City Senior Center annual update**: received and filed.
2. **03/22/08 BIA Notice of Turtle Creek Environmental Assessment Availability/Twp. Copy Request**: Vreeland provided copies of the full environmental assessment and documents from Board discussions about the trust status application that occurred in 2007 on CD to the Board. The BIA has extended the response time period for the township to May 2, 2008.
3. **03/14/08 Letter from MDNR approving 2008-2013 Parks System Plan**: received and filed.
4. **MDNR Trust Fund Application**: An application for an approximately \$3 million grant for the shoreline project was submitted to the DNR Trust Fund on April 1. Kladder noted that about 50 letters of support were received from a broad base of governmental, business, agency and individual representatives. We expect feedback from the DNR on the application, will have an opportunity to revise and enhance it, and will resubmit by August 1 for a decision;

D. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: None

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

F. OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Dissolution and distribution of assets of Cherry Capital Cable Council**: Vreeland summarized the materials that were in the board packets, which included a memo from City Manager Richard Lewis, a proposal from LIAA and a letter from Bill Vockel. She introduced Joe VanderMeulen from LIAA to discuss their proposal for assuming responsibility for TCTV2 and Channel 99. Mr. VanderMeulen handed out some general information about LIAA and noted that about a decade ago they located a public information computer kiosk in the township hall. The proposal at hand requests that current and former members of the CCCC transfer their share of assets to LIAA to facilitate the transfer of TCTV2 operations from the Traverse Area District Library (TADL) to LIAA and move Channel 99 from the City of Traverse City where it has been started up. They also hope to make some programming that educates the public in Civics. They plan to stream video on the Internet through a third-party provider, both real-time and on-demand. Last night the City Commission authorized City Manager Richard Lewis to negotiate a contract with LIAA, which will also seek to negotiate with Garfield and Elmwood Townships in the near future.

Kladder asked how LIAA will differ from the current situation in terms of how services will be offered. Programming has been inconsistent and controversial, and he wondered how this might be addressed. Mr. VanderMeulen stated that they believe they can improve the production values and service delivery (regular schedule publication in the newspaper and programming aired when scheduled). The plan is that TCTV2 will remain public access under the current model whereby citizens from financially participating governmental jurisdictions may borrow equipment and air their programs. There may be points of view put forth by some that others will not want to hear; they hope that those others will then create programming to air their point of view.

Kladder noted that in the past equipment has been purchased and installed at various locations. It is unclear to him who owns the equipment (the CCCC or the municipality where the equipment was installed) and he hopes this issue will be resolved. He also wonders how decisions will be made as to who will be equipped. At a recent CCCC meeting one township requested that equipment be purchased and installed for them; several other townships expressed that they also would like equipment and did not feel that the purchase should be made in advance of the asset distribution. The LIAA budget proposal contains a line item to purchase equipment for that township. Mr. VanderMeulen stated that they hope to acquire all the existing assets of TCTV2 and CCCC and to provide additional equipment in new locations where needed.

Scott asked about how accounting for assets and funds will be performed. Mr. VanderMeulen stated that LIAA is a 501(c)3 non-profit which is audited annually and they will commit to regular, accurate and thorough reporting.

Kladder noted that in our new contract Acme Township decided not to take the PEG fees. We expect to receive just under \$60,000 in franchise fees this year, and it appears that LIAA would be asking for 30% of those funds. Mr. VanderMeulen stated that the remaining participating governments have been asked for this share; this may or may not be an amount requested from other governmental units. Kladder noted that the township needs to do some research about whether it would make sense to contribute funding to an organization over which it might have limited influence, or whether it can provide the same services more efficiently independently and retain more control. Mr. VanderMeulen stated that LIAA will continue to provide training to interested citizens as a service, and that when the CCCC disbands a whole new set of operating rules must be drafted. They may well be based on existing CCCC rules, but nobody can know the shape of them at this time. He believes that a shared network creates efficiencies and economies of scale, knowing that bandwidth can be purchased more cheaply in bulk. They are committed to providing Channel 99 services (administration and contracting for cameramen, etc.) to the City, Garfield and Elmwood.

Beyond the proposal provided to the City in the format requested, there are many variables to be resolved. Mr. VanderMeulen hopes that many governments will join and use economies of scale to reduce the financial burden on each for good service.

Takayama felt that the current situation demonstrated a high level of operating costs and wages but not a lot value delivered for the money. In looking at the proposal he wonders if a station manager is really needed 40 hours per week, or if he would also be working in a similar job elsewhere. A full third of the budget is wage-related. Mr. VanderMeulen stated that the station manager would be a new, full-time individual. They plan to begin web video streaming along with broadcast right away. The estimates are informed estimates. Takayama wants to be sure that people will be working diligently for the wages paid. He believes in public access television, but that it shouldn't be run by people who have received comfortable positions through political favoritism. He'd like to see TCTV2 become a quality station that attracts new viewers, and to date it has not demonstrated that it is generating value for the funding required. Mr. VanderMeulen noted that TCTV2 may never gain as much viewership as a mainstream station, but particularly through webcasting they will be able to track viewership by program and evaluate results.

Hardin asked what public meetings would be covered, and whether there would be a flat fee or a per-meeting charge. Mr. VanderMeulen said that such decisions have not been made but he would expect every meeting a township would like to have covered to be covered. It is likely that there would be a per-meeting charge that would cover filming, production and ongoing distribution. Hardin asked when more details might be available; Mr. VanderMeulen stated that once decisions are made at the CCCC meeting next week they can proceed to complete contracts with the City, Garfield and Elmwood and prepare to be up and running by July 1 when TADL ceases to operate the station. Hardin asked if the township is being asked

to make a decision on how to direct its share of CCCC assets tonight; Mr. VanderMeulen hopes that a decision can be deferred pending further information, and said that having the township withdraw its share would complicate their plans.

Dunville noted that public television is generally funded at least in part by donations from private citizens. She wondered if there should be a component of citizen funding for TCTV2. Mr. VanderMeulen drew a distinction between public television and public access television. Dunville asked if it would be possible for citizens living in non-participating governments to use the channel for a fee; Mr. VanderMeulen hopes all governments will participate to some level, and that all citizens will have access to the channel. Funding would have to come from somewhere if there are governments that don't participate but their citizens would like to create programming.

Kladder suggested that if the CCCC is disbanding, it may be a concern to agree to leave assets in common accounts pending final decisions. It might be better for Acme Township to request its funds back at this time, but agree to set them aside pending the receipt of additional information and a final decision as to our level of participation with the new LIAA proposal. We may wish to do this to ensure that we have control of our assets and can find out what is happening in more detail before we make a commitment. There is a desire to communicate with the public, but also to protect the financial interests of the township and its citizens.

Boltres noted that the township has previously indicated a desire to have the funds back. Kladder is suggesting that this occur, with the funds kept segregated while further discussion occurs.

Kladder invited public comment. Beth Friend, a Trustee from East Bay Township speaking as an individual, stated that financial accountability is a key point with her. She understands the need to look at cost-effective service provision to the community. This is not only about the government distributing its meetings, but about allowing citizens to express their voices as well.

Motion by Scott, support by Dunville to request Acme Township's share of CCCC assets be distributed to the township to be held in a segregated account pending further discussion about the LIAA proposal and a final decision. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Kladder thanked everyone for participating in the discussion. As a former teacher he appreciated it when his students watched TCTV2.

2. **Select one additional board member for Township Engineer RFQ/P review/recommendation committee:** Vreeland noted that 14 proposals were received from interested engineering firms. She, Mark Lewis and Kladder are developing a review and scoring tool to standardize the factors for evaluation and weight them appropriately. Kladder added that one additional Board member is needed to round out the selection committee and nominated Hardin to the task.

Motion by Takayama, support by Dunville to appoint Hardin to the township engineer selection committee. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Boltres noted that the Treasurer is required to submit an annual statement of the township's fiscal health. In addition to the annual audit, he prepares a monthly report as to the assets in each of the township accounts and current rates of interest. For this evening he has prepared an additional report demonstrating the history of interest earnings on the General Fund and Investment Funds. Returns have dropped sharply recently. He believes that there is about \$600,000 that could be available for major expenditures

without jeopardizing reserves for general operating expenses.

Chuck Walter, 6584 Bates Road characterized the \$600,000 mentioned from a business perspective as “retained earnings.” He asked how much would remain for operating reserves; the amount would be about \$400,000. Boltres would like to see operating reserves equal to at least one year’s operating expenses maintained.

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Consider approval of Elk Rapids Schools/Acme Township Agreement for Collection of 2008 Summer School Property Taxes:** Vreeland summarized the annual proposal from Elk Rapids schools for reimbursement to the township for collecting their summer taxes with our summer property tax bills. Last year the township received \$2.50/parcel; this year the E.R. School Board proposes to pay \$1.75/parcel. As with the past several years, they also suggest that we should not charge a per-parcel amount at all, and that the costs of collecting taxes for them should be covered by our 1% administration fee. Boltres believes that we should not agree to a reduced amount. There are about 300 parcels of land in the township that are in the Elk Rapids school district. The Traverse City school district is paying \$3.72/parcel, which is about what Elk Rapids was paying three years ago. Takayama agreed with Boltres that the rate should stay at \$2.50/parcel. Kladder suggested that if the Board chooses to propose an amount different than proposed by the E.R. School Board, the text of the agreement should be amended in our office and returned to them after a phone call informing them of the situation.

Motion by Boltres, support by Hardin to modify the suggested Elk Rapids Schools/Acme Township Agreement for 2008 Summer School Property Tax Collection to require \$2.50/parcel. Motion carried by a vote of four (4) in favor (Boltres, Hardin, Scott, Takayama) and 2 opposed (Dunville, Kladder).

2. **Consider request from Grand Traverse Area Veterans Coalition for July 4 fireworks funding:** Vreeland provided the request from the Veterans Coalition to help fund the July 4th fireworks for a second year. Attached was information from last year’s request that established the basis for this being a lawful expenditure of township funds. The Board noted that the figures in the 2008 request spreadsheets did not agree; the financial statement suggested a contribution of \$890.07 while the funding revenue formula sheet suggested a contribution of \$936.30. Vreeland reported that while this expense was not budgeted separately, there are surplus funds from the Senior Center allocation and Parks improvements line items that would cover the costs without increasing the overall budget appropriation.

Motion by Takayama, support by Dunville, to approve the request from the Grand Traverse Area Veterans Coalition for July 4 fireworks funding for an amount up to \$936.30

Boltres feels times are tough and we can’t afford to spend money on “extras.”

Motion carried by a vote of five (5) in favor (Dunville, Hardin, Kladder, Scott, Takayama) and one (1) opposed (Boltres).

3. **Consider Resolution #R-2008-08 Approving Actions and Operation of GT Metro Fire Department:** Kladder reported that Metro Fire has a ladder truck it would like to dispose of. The Metro Board authorized the department to sell it for a certain amount, but once the potential buyer found out it was green instead of red they lost interest. A new bid was received for more than the asking price. They have been eager to take delivery, but the situation has been complicated and the sale delayed by discussion about how the truck is actually owned and the appropriate procedure to approve the sale. The truck has many optional features and few miles on it because it was too big to maneuver on local roads and thus underutilized. A new truck will be ordered and ready in about a year, and in the meantime there will be a mutual aid agreement for a similar truck with the City. Bzdok has

reviewed the proposed resolution and finds it acceptable.

Hardin asked for the status of creating a new fire authority agreement, noting the difficulty involved in buying and selling assets under present circumstances. Kladder stated that there was an excellent meeting today and he is encouraged that things will begin moving more smoothly and quickly. Ms. Friend noted that there have been about 2 years of frustration in the process.

Boltres asked why a new truck would be purchased if there will be a mutual aid agreement for an existing truck with the City. Kladder applauded the level of cooperation between local fire departments and between paid and volunteer staff within Metro Fire.

Mr. Walter stated that there was a fire near his property on Arnold Road this weekend to which firefighters from Metro Fire and Rural Fire responded. He complimented them highly on their cooperation and the fact that they contained a fire that could easily have damaged many acres. They needed to use some specialized equipment, so he supports the idea that additional equipment may be needed to address a variety of situations.

Motion by Hardin, support by Takayama to adopt Resolution #R-2008-08 as amended to reflect the correct attendance at the meeting.

Boltres asked if this resolution is specifically approving sale of the fire truck. Vreeland and Bzdok explained that it allows the purchase or sale of any assets within the scope of the budget as annually approved. Right now the way Metro Fire is constructed each township has to independently approve each decision, and this resolution is intended to facilitate the process. Boltres has concerns with any potential “blanket” approvals, being concerned that Metro Fire will make commitments beyond the scope of the member townships’ desires and their actions should be closely and continuously watched.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

4. **Select procedure for considering sewer district amendment** : Vreeland explained her staff memo. Immanuel LLC has a variety of pending zoning applications regarding property they own on the south side of M-72 just west of Bates Road. One of their requests is for an expansion of our sewer service district to include their property. As part of the discussion about their request, a 1997 police-power sewer ordinance was discovered, the provisions of which conflict to some degree with the existing state of the Zoning Ordinance and Master Plan. Revisions to all three are needed in the short term to deal with these issues, regardless of whether or not the service district is expanded as requested. The content of the revisions will dictate how future requests for district expansion are handled. Staff and legal counsel felt the Board should decide which of the available options would be the best for the community.

Hardin feels that the most inclusive process is the one that should be followed because there are a lot of issues and concerns in the public, and they should be brought forth, discussed and resolved. Many people believe that allowing sewer district expansions promotes sprawl. It may be a lengthy process, and it allows for referendum but this is a necessary part of the democratic process. Scott concurred.

Takayama recalls that several years ago there was discussion about the sewer district related to an expansion request to the Meijer property. The discussions were lengthy, and he does not believe lengthy additional processes are required to now amend the decision made then. He believes we should be able to move more quickly to make and implement decisions without tying things up in “red tape” all the time. Takayama was concerned about providing “special treatment” to development interests who want to change the rules.

Kladder generally believes in maximizing public input into the decision-making process.

However, he also recognizes the Planning Commission as being charged with designing the community. He must therefore ask himself if it would be best to leave this work to them with minimal interference. Vreeland observed that it would follow from this that the sewer district be defined in the Master Plan. While she is not in favor of making things more complicated than need be and she is in favor of a maximally-inclusive process, her key concern about placing the district map in the Master Plan is confusion. The Zoning Ordinance is about the here and now, and the Master Plan is largely about the future vision for the community. Having a current regulation in the Master Plan could be confusing, particularly when there generally seems to be a high level of confusion about the differences between and applications of each document.

Kladder asked if the public could petition for changes to the 1997 Sewer Ordinance, or for referendum on decisions made about it; Bzdok stated they could not. Kladder asked if any changes being contemplated to expand the sewer district could expose the township to liability if we create more district than we have the capacity to serve in the regional treatment plant. Bzdok replied that what requires people to hook into the sewer system if they are within the district is the 1997 ordinance. The people are put in an “impossible” situation if they are required to hook up but the township has no capacity to serve them. Part of any district expansion decision would be the township knowing that it has the capacity to serve the members. Vreeland noted that in the late 1990s this situation arose and there was a “moratorium” on new system connections within the existing district because then-existing plant capacity was minimal. The township calculated how much treatment capacity it had available, subtracted capacity needed to serve any projects already approved, and the minimal amount left over was available on a first-come basis.

Based on discussion, Takayama understood the “cleanest and most protected way” for the township to make any amendments to the sewer district now or in the future is to have the district defined in an amendment to the 1997 police power sewer ordinance. This would protect the township the most, based on what he has heard, from legal battles.

Bzdok’s preference would be to put the sewer district definition in the Master Plan, even recognizing Vreeland’s thoughts. There are binding aspects to the Master Plan in terms of where infrastructure will be placed. He feels it is also hard to sue a township for refusal to amend its Master Plan, and the process includes a public component. Right now the Planning Commission has the final say over Master Plan amendments, and we are required to include other surrounding governmental units in the process.

Hardin asked about amending the police power ordinance to not require the township to define areas it intends to serve within 10 years. Bzdok agreed that the language could be simplified somewhat.

Dunville believes that the district should be defined and amended in the Master Plan, which requires a public process but minimizes exposure to lawsuits. Boltres had no comment. Hardin could be persuaded as long as the police power ordinance can be amended to not require the map to display areas intended to be served within 10 years, therefore creating an expectation that may or may not be reachable to which the township might be held. Scott believes amending the map into the Master Plan is sensible. Although he believes in the right of public referendum he is concerned about the other risks having the sewer district defined in the Zoning Ordinance opens the township to.

Hardin noted that discussions have centered on sewer, and asked about the effect on water. The water issues are not being ignored, but they are not as immediate as the sewer issues. Boltres suggested that a special committee be formed to review the issue in more detail without spending additional public time at the Board meeting and bring the results back to the full Board when ready.

There was consensus that the Board would like the sewer district to be defined in the Master Plan. Bzdok and staff can work together on the details to accomplish this task.

5. Shoreline Advisory

- a. **Review/approval of marketing materials:** The materials provided have been used by the Shoreline Advisory to solicit letters of support for the project, and to raise approximately \$10,000 since the beginning of the year. Vreeland wanted to ensure that these materials had the approval of the Board, since they are presented as officially representing the township. The Board expressed support for the materials as presented.
- b. **Procedural review:** The owners of three properties immediately south of Bayside Park have expressed interest in option agreements to have the township purchase their properties. Two appear willing to sign option agreements, the third is more on a “handshake” basis at the current time but seems generally in agreement. Bzdok was asked to weigh in on how the optioning process might be conducted, and how public disclosure of details might work at various points in the process. Bzdok noted that the township has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy for their assistance with the shoreline acquisition project. Subject to that agreement, the Conservancy has been negotiation options and housing funds raised to acquire the options. Because the options will be between the landowners and the Conservancy, no Board action is required at this time. At some future point, when and if the township acquires options from the Conservancy to complete property purchases if the grant applications are successful, public deliberation will be needed and the details of the financial agreements will become subject to disclosure.
- c. **Board decision on how donations are received:** Boltres asked who is collecting the interest on funds housed at the Conservancy for the project; Bzdok replied that the Conservancy is. Boltres has concerns about this, and also about potential confusion about the project with the public if it is defined as a township initiative but people are asked to make donation checks out to the Conservancy. Bzdok explained that having the funds housed at the Conservancy and having them manage the optioning process allows the process to move more quickly than it might otherwise. The terms of the option agreement are between the parties for now, the parties being the Conservancy and the landowner. For the township to complete the MDNR Grant application process it must acquire the options from the Conservancy, and at that point the details will be public information. Grants received will come to the township and not to any other party. Some fundraising can direct money to township accounts for marketing materials or land acquisition costs as well.

Motion by Hardin, support by Takayama to approve recommended procedures for private donations as set forth in the marketing materials. Motion carried by a vote of five (5) in favor (Dunville, Hardin, Kladder, Scott, Takayama) and one (1) opposed (Boltres).

6. **Acceptance of Resignation as Infrastructure Advisory Chair by Mark Lewis:** Resignation received and accepted by the Board with thanks for Lewis’ excellent service to the community.

H. REPORTS

1. **County Commissioner’s Reports** – Larry Inman: received and filed
2. **Parks and Maintenance** – Tom Henkel: received and filed
3. **Sheriff’s Deputy** – Mike Matteucci: received and filed

I. PUBLIC COMMENT & OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD:

Ms. Friend stated that she did not mean to be “tongue-in-cheek” with her comments about Metro Fire. She agreed that they are seeking a way to balance a need for a certain level of autonomy with a certain level of control by the member townships. She hopes an agreement will be ironed out in the second quarter of this year.

Andy Andres, Jr., Traverse City, spoke to the issue of defining the sewer district. He noted the concept that the area in the district needs to have some relationship to the area that can be served by township infrastructure. He believes that this is one reason why the township needs an engineer – to help it understand a very complex sewer system scenario. He remains firmly committed to the need to plan for the M-72 Corridor.

Kladder invited Vreeland to comment on a recent meeting about the M-72 Corridor. The meeting last week was a follow-up to a recent quarterly M-72 Corridor meeting in which MDOT, the Road Commission, TC-TALUS, Acme and Whitewater Townships and the Tribe regularly participate, and which is open to any governmental unit along the M-72 East corridor between Traverse City and Grayling. Tribal representatives had indicated a growing need for some traffic control near Turtle Creek, which was the subject of last week’s discussion. MDOT brought the key engineer from their signalization permitting department and two key people who deal with railroads, the latter to discuss the railroad crossing at Bates and M-72. Discussion was fruitful, with everyone desiring to work together to see if a signal can be placed at Turtle Creek in the near future. The spacing of Bates, Elk Lake and Lautner Roads is nearly ideal for future signalization based from this centerpoint, and even one signal there now may help create gaps facilitating turning movements at these other key intersections as well. There has also been a regional study of the traffic signal network timing and the entire grid will be retimed to create greater efficiency in the near future. MDOT has also agreed to work with the township on some potential temporary directional signage for the horse show in July. Vreeland invited Mr. Olson to comment about roads at the Resort, and he explained some upcoming cooperation with the Road Commission to make improvements to North Lautner Road with some money that the Tribe can access. They are looking at improvements to their major access points at the Resort, and may foot the bill for a signal at Turtle Creek if approved.

Kladder has a weekly meeting with DPW Director Chris Buday, and reported that they may be making progress in achieving reimbursement of about \$22,000 in costs to repair a sewer breach by a company working on gas lines at Mt. Hope and M-72 last summer. Michael Houlihan is also working on a new ordinance that would require utility workers in rights of way to provide bond money to prevent future problems with collections for repairs. Hardin asked for a status update on enforcement for hauling septage to the treatment plant. An enforcement employee has been making headway in increasing grease hauling by 10,000 this month. Vreeland is being the test case to verify DPW information regarding which township properties use septic systems. If our data is highly accurate it will be presumed that other townships can use data about their areas to identify septic systems and perform public education about having waste hauled to the treatment plant and enhance enforcement. Two bids were received from accounting firms to come up with long-term solutions to the septage plan financial problems.

Mr. Walter is concerned that there be speed control between Bates Road and Turtle Creek, particularly with industrial traffic coming off of and onto Arnold Road. Perhaps the speed limit should be reduced. He would appreciate having the speed trailer deployed on M-72 in the Arnold Road area if possible.

Takayama asked for a status report on the boat launch study. Vreeland has met with Gourdie Frasier, and they will begin work very soon now that the snow has melted. The work will be billed in July after the start of the new fiscal year. Parks & Recreation Advisory Chair Owen Sherberneau is trying to arrange a meeting to discuss this project and some other issues for Thursday, April 24 at 7:00 p.m. There may also soon be a meeting of the advisory at Sayler Park to view the site to further the boat launch preliminary design discussions.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.