



**ACME TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**ACME TOWNSHIP HALL**  
**6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**  
**Tuesday, June 5, 2012, 6:30 p.m.**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AT 6:33 p.m.**

**Members present:** D. Dunville, R. Hardin, W. Kladder, P. Scott, E. Takayama, L. Wikle, F. Zarafonitis  
**Members excused:** None  
**Staff present:** S. Vreeland, Township Manager/Recording Secretary  
J. Jocks, Township Counsel

**A. STUDY SESSION:**

1. **Northflight Ambulance** - **Discuss a proposal to bring Ambulance Service to Acme Township:** The idea of having a Northflight ambulance housed in Acme Township has been discussed off and on since Bill Kurtz was Supervisor prior to 2006. Early investigations were based on providing 24 hr./day service, but the current proposal is to have the ambulance staffed during the busiest 16 hrs./day. This should provide adequate service while removing the need to provide sleeping quarters.

The service as currently proposed would be ALS (Advanced Life Support). East Bay and Whitewater Townships provide separate BLS (Basic Life Support) service. Northflight would cover the cost of the ambulance, all supplies and the ALS-certified EMT. Acme Township would provide a driver. Since our MESA firefighters are trained to a BLS level and certified to drive large emergency equipment, the concept is that Acme would pay the additional cost above and beyond the existing contract with MESA for the driver wages.

The township has an emergency services special assessment district (SAD). 2.1 mills are currently dedicated to the MESA contract. An additional 0.2 mills has been used to maintain needed cash flow reserves in our Fire Fund. However, due to a restructuring of the MESA payment schedule the cash flow reserves are not needed. The money accumulated could be used to fund the driver for the ambulance service for the final 6 months of 2012. An increase of 0.1 mills to the SAD starting in December 2012 could fund the service for 2013.

MESA Chief Pat Parker introduced Olga from Northflight, and said that providing an ambulance in Acme Township would enhance safety services to our citizens. From his perspective there has been a desire to have an ambulance here for at least 10 years, and to date it hasn't happened because call volumes are still fairly low. Overall, Northflight currently experiences high volume periods when the numbers of calls for service exceed the number of ambulances available. Adding an Acme ambulance would therefore not only increase service to Acme but to the entire region. The ambulance can be housed in the fire station. This would also add a second firefighter to the station staffing for 16 hours a day, and the ambulance would always respond to a fire to serve victims and the firefighters themselves.

An Acme-stationed ambulance, which would cost Northflight approximately \$300,000, would also be used to handle intercepts for outlying ambulance services to complete transport to the hospital. Chief Parker anticipates that the ambulance might be at the hospital 5-6 times a day. Service to Acme-area citizens would be approximately 8-12 minutes faster than it is now.

The MESA Board was asked if they would help participate in the cost and was told that while they don't mind providing the firefighters, the cost must be borne entirely by Acme. To qualify as a driver, one must be a Firefighter I/II and qualified as an EMT. If the program works well, it could be expanded to 24 hrs./day.

The contract would be structured for 1 year, automatically renewing at each anniversary unless a party opts out with 90-days notice prior to the anniversary date.

Scott asked for a better explanation for the public of an “intercept.” This is when a more highly-licensed Paramedic (ALS) meets a lesser qualified BLS ambulance and patient somewhere between the initial accident site and the hospital. If the patient is sick enough, the ALS is launched because they can perform more life-saving procedures and administer a wider range of medicines en route to the hospital.

Kladder reported that Bill White from Elk Rapids Township was very interested in the potential new Acme service, as they are seeking to partner with Milton Township on a similar venture and found the idea inspiring. He has spoken with the Supervisor of Whitewater Township, the management at Hope Village, and TCAPS administration. All are in favor of the concept. A citizen attending a meeting of the Arrowhead neighborhood association came in to talk to Kladder and was excited to be able to tell his association that the service might occur. A lady who received a large ambulance bill recently came in and was concerned because she does not have insurance; however, apparently Northflight is working with her on this issue.

Chief Parker stated that the cost to staff the ambulance is slightly over \$82,000/year including wages and employment costs. The hourly wage is \$12.50/hour. Many of the firefighters are eager for the opportunity for additional shifts.

Kladder added that while Northflight ambulances sometimes transport patients from Munson to places downstate, the Acme ambulance would not be used.

Olga reported that the service provided to the township will not decrease below current levels, but adding the ambulance here would enhance it greatly. This side has been generating more calls over the years, and Northflight has a great working relationship with MESA. She is personally has been based at Station 11 for about 12 years. There is an ambulance at Station 12, and they used to work with the City fire department.

73% of the calls for service MESA handles are medical in nature, with the rest being fire and other rescue. This is generally true nationwide.

Jay Zollinger asked if Whitewater Township would be willing to share costs with Acme Township, as it appears that this proposal would benefit them at no cost. Kladder reported that Whitewater Township is more interested in cooperating closely with the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians, and it appears a new fire station for them will be built on the Tribal property at Turtle Creek. They previously asked Acme to leave MESA and join them and the Tribe.

Rachelle Babcock has had prior experience with ambulance use. She asked if fees to Acme residents for ambulance service will be reduced in consideration of the fact that they are paying a millage to support the service. Chief Parker replied that Northflight would be losing money on providing the ambulance in Acme so he does not expect a discount. Kladder has thought about this issue and feels that after the program is established there should be discussion Acme receiving some of the revenues earned by Northflight. He does not want this discussion to be a barrier to moving forward.

Scott asked what the anticipated increased millage would cost to taxpayers; it would cost about \$18/resident/year. 0.1 mills generates just under \$30,000/year. Mr. Zollinger asked if the figure could be provided in cost per \$100,000 of property value.

Ms. Babcock offered that the additional millage, coupled with the proposed special

assessment on properties in Grand Traverse County with septic tanks to support the Septage Treatment Plan, could begin to feel like a burden. Kladder noted that septic tank users who experience the county special assessment would also receive a discount on pumping costs. Wikle recalls that having better ambulance service is perceived to create a lower need for full medical coverage and therefore a reduction in the cost of homeowner insurance premiums. Chief Parker reported that MESA is having its ISO rating re-evaluated. The current rating is a 6, and he is confident that the current review will reduce it to a 4 or even a 3. The final results will be known in November. This will help reduce home and business-owner insurance premium costs. Wikle added that if other units of government become willing to help support the service financially in future years it would benefit the township that much more. Kladder noted that the call volume in Garfield Township is high enough that the Northflight ambulances are stationed at the MESA stations there at no cost to the local unit of government.

Kladder asked Jocks to comment on the proposed contract. The current plan is for a three-way contract between Acme, MESA and Northflight that specifies which parties will be responsible for providing what assets and covering which costs. It will be a fairly basic contract setting forth all parties' rights and responsibilities.

Wikle asked if the crews would be trained for neonatal service; all full-time Northflight Paramedics will soon be certified for this type of care.

If approved, the service could be in operation in July or August if all progressed smoothly.

**B. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Rachelle Babcock, Bartlett Road, attended a public hearing in Mayfield Township regarding a potential deep injection well. Such a well was also proposed for Acme Township a few years ago as well. She asked that the Board ask the Planning Commission to broaden the scope of any existing ordinances regarding deep injection wells to protect our environment and drinking water. She suggested that special use permit be required, that well operators provide an annual report to the township, baseline testing of local drinking water, and be subject to random testing by township officials. Ms. Babcock stated that she has witnessed leaks in deep injection wells and it was unknown what chemicals were in the materials.

Melanie Stanton is running for Grand Traverse County Probate Judge and provided brochures for her campaign. She has practiced family and probate law for 22 years and expressed expertise in working with mentally challenged individuals. She asked for support. Two of her goals are to grow the juvenile and mental health court services collaboratively with the other courts. She serves on the Commission on Aging and sees that the area's population is growing older. The demand for new volunteers is going to grow.

Linda Raetz is running for Grand Traverse County Probate Judge and provided brochures for her campaign. She has been an attorney for 23 years and is an adoptive mother and adoption attorney. She has been a litigator, but for 12 years has focused on mediating civil and domestic disputes. Her goal is to create a juvenile volunteer mentoring program.

Heidi Scheppe is the Deputy Finance Director and has been there for 12 years. She is running for County Treasurer, and has a Masters in Accounting and government certification.

Joe McCarthy is a candidate for GT County Sheriff. He has been a police officer for 29 years, starting in Los Angeles during the Olympics. Locally he has been a patrolman, school liaison, road patrol sergeant and detective sergeant. He has a college degree and several law enforcement certifications. He is running because of the elimination of the school liaison program. He knows the type of work that goes on there and the serious nature of the complaints and crimes that occur there. He would return 2 school liaison positions, one for the east and one for the west side of the county. Mr. McCarthy would also change how the value of seized assets is used to benefit the citizens by using

the money not for heated storage buildings but for cameras in patrol cars, new computers in patrol cars and similar equipment needs. 60% of the corrections staff does not have scheduled weekends off, which he feels is a problem for those working in stressful positions. He would move from 8-hour shifts to 12-hour shifts to improve staffing options and provide better time off options for officers.

- C. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Kladder noted that a notice was provided to the Board this evening about a public information meeting regarding Holiday Road improvements on June 13. As New Business item 9 a resolution for TCAPS school tax collection was added.

**Motion by Dunville, support by Zarafonitis to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.**

- D. **INQUIRY AS TO CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None noted.

- E. **CONSENT CALENDAR: Motion by Zarafonitis, support by Takayama to approve the Consent Calendar as amended to remove the Board meeting minutes for discussion and approval, including:**

**RECEIVE AND FILE:**

1. [Treasurer's Report](#) as of April 2012
2. [Clerk's Report](#) as of 5/29/12
3. Draft Unapproved Meeting Minutes:
  - a. Planning Commission [05/21/12](#)
  - b. Metro Emergency Services [04/24/12](#)
  - c. Placemaking Leadership Team [05/18/12](#)
4. [Parks and Maintenance Report](#) – Tom Henkel:
5. "The Metro Insider" Newsletter [May 2012](#)
6. [Sewer Authority Update](#)

**ACTION – Consider approval:**

7. ~~Township Board meeting minutes of [05/01/12](#)~~
8. [Accounts Payable](#) of \$140,439.44 through 05/29/12 (recommend approval: Dunville)

**Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

- F. **ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR:**

1. Takayama expressed a conflict of interest regarding the proposed agritourism ordinance amendment at the beginning of the meeting. He has performed work for Mr. Garvey. Motion carried by a vote of 6 in favor with Takayama abstaining from voting.  
Township Board meeting minutes of [05/01/12](#): **Motion by Dunville, support Wikle to amend the minutes as suggested by Takayama. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion by Takayama, support by Dunville to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2012 Board meeting as amended. Motion carried unanimously.**

- G. **REPORTS:**

1. [Sheriff's Report](#) – **Mike Matteucci:** Deputy Matteucci provided the statistics for May, which included one fatal car accident. Things are getting busier for the summer, particularly in the early evening.
2. **County Commissioner's Report – Larry Inman:** David Benda, new County Administrator starts work on June 18 with orientation meetings. Some work has been deferred until his arrival, including preparation of the 2013 budget for which a revenue shortfall is already predicted. Taxable property values have been adjusted downwards at many recent Tax Tribunal hearings. A new 3-year strategic plan will be created. The new Health Department

building on LaFranier Road is about 50% complete, and Mr. Benda will be called upon to recommend a strategy for selling the old building. The search for a new Health Officer is underway, with Mr. Benda working with the Human Resources Director and other team members to interview candidates and recommend one to the Commission. This is one of the few hiring decisions by the Administrator that has to be ratified by the County Commission.

**H. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS:** None

**I. CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. **Management Letter from MESA 2011 FY Audit:** the audit was “clean.” The full audit can be obtained through the Supervisor or through Chief Parker.
2. **Memo re: Court Ruling – Township Responsibility for private raw sewage discharges:** these materials were provided by the Supervisor for the Board’s information. Jocks stated that the case was complicated with several failing septic systems polluting Lake Huron and the DEQ trying to force the township to build a sanitary sewer system. The situation was a discharge of untreated sewage into the waters of the state. A situation would have to be drastic to occur again. The rulings were received just days after the township completed turnover of the Orchard Shores sanitary system to the neighborhood, but it is unlikely that a problem will occur there. The agreements indemnify the township for such potential future liability and associated costs.

**J. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Zoning Administrator Hiring Recommendation:**

Vreeland said that we received ten applications in response to our advertisements for a part-time Zoning Administrator. The responses received were generally high-quality. An interview committee consisting of the Supervisor, Planning Commission Chair, contract Planner and Vreeland choose three candidates to interview, and after the interviews conducted reference checks on our preferred candidate.

Vreeland said the committee is recommending the appointment of Nikki Lennox to the part-time non exempt position of Zoning Administrator. Lennox was in attendance and was introduced to the Board. Vreeland said that Lennox has worked for Rutland Charter Township for the last seven years.

**Motion by Dunville, support by Takayama to appoint Nikki Lennox as the Acme Township Zoning Administrator at an initial wage of \$15.00/hour, with a 90-day probationary period and a salary review at 1 year of service. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

2. **Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 019 – Andres Rezoning:**

Vreeland reviewed the Andres request to rezone a parcel of land at southwest corner of M-72 East and Lautner Roads from R-3, Urban Residential, to B-2, General Business.

**Motion by Dunville, support by Scott to adopt Zoning Ordinance Amendment 019 rezoning the property at 4946 M-72 East from R-3 Urban Residential to B-2 General Business as presented. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

Mr. Andres thanked the Board.

3. **Proposal to expand the Shoreline Phase III properties to include the Coldwell Banker Building and a 15 foot strip of land:**

The building on the Schmidt property at the southwest corner of M-72 and US 31 N. burned several months ago. This property is contiguous to Bayside Park and could be used to create a new entrance/exit to the park that would access Shores Beach Road and the traffic signal, creating greater safety. The owner of the Shorelane Motel also owns a 15’ wide strip of land immediately to the north of the Beach Club Motel. The Beach Club is part of the Phase III shoreline project, and the Shorelane owners are

willing to sell the 15' wide strip as well. The suggestion is to substitute these two properties into the Phase III application for another property the township hoped to acquire but the property owner does not want to sell. Megan Olds, Deputy Director of the Conservancy stated that the Conservancy board supports the acquisition of the three properties. The Beach Club purchase is somewhat over \$400,000, and for all three properties the cost is about \$650,000.

Vreeland said the Coldwell Banker building experienced a fire around the first of the year which is considered a total loss. At the April 12 meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals a variance was approved for the property to allow for new construction once the building is removed. If this property were purchased it would provide a green gateway to the shoreline district and a direct linkage between Bayside Park and Shores Beach Road. This could eventually provide a safer entrance to the Bayside Park from Shores Beach Road.

The Shoreline Advisory has recommended the purchase of the additional two properties. Takayama appreciates the possibility of alternative access to the park via Shores Beach Road. Scott finds this a good opportunity, but also strongly urges approaching the owner of the rental property immediately west of the Schmidt property on Shores Beach Road to see if he would be interested in selling the property to the township. The house appears to have a lot of deferred maintenance needs. Kladder noted that the township has a strict policy of only purchasing properties from willing sellers.

**Motion by Dunville, support by Scott to add the Coldwell Banker property and the 15' wide strip to Phase III Shoreline project and to partner with GTRLC for fundraising and property acquisition. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

Chuck Walter, 6584 Bates Road, asked if the township has funding in its budget for deconstruction of buildings as needed. Kladder replied that this will be addressed later in the agenda.

**Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

4. **Potential Acme Parkland Endowment:** The Conservancy has offered to work with the Township to fundraise and establish a \$250,000 endowment fund housed at the GT Community Foundation to support the future needs of all the township parklands. Olds stated that many communities are facing difficult budgetary times and multiple priorities. The endowment would create a permanent restricted amount of money available to the community for park maintenance and improvements. The Conservancy has set up these types of endowments in partnership with other local units of government before. The fundraising would be part of the Phase III shoreline campaign. The township would receive an annual check for the interest income on the fund to manage the parks according to our recreation plan.

Takayama asked if the decision on how to spend the funds would be subject to approval by a committee including representatives from the Foundation or the Conservancy or other sources. Olds stated that the decisions on how to spend the funds would be entirely decided by the township within the parameters of allowable expenditures established when the endowment fund is set up. Planned giving gifts from people's estates could become part of the principal of the fund during or after the Phase III fundraising campaign. Wikle noted that donors can give appreciated securities to endowments and receive tax benefits. Olds stated that donors like to give to endowments because they know that they are giving to something lasting.

Mr. Zollinger asked if consideration has been given to the township managing the endowment itself rather than using the Community Foundation; it has not. The Conservancy as the fundraiser has suggested using the Foundation, and their donors trust that organization



because they are viewed as a neutral party. Many of them don't generally trust governments, so using the Foundation can eliminate one barrier to giving.

Connie Collette, Deepwater Point Road, asked for clarification that the money used would be only the investment income on the corpus. Olds stated that the Foundation sets their investment policy, and she hasn't seen their rate of return drop below 4% even in the down market. Wikle suggested that stated perhaps there is a guaranteed minimum rate of return; Olds said this is not the case.

**Motion by Dunville, support Wikle by to work with the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy to establish an endowment fund with the Grand Traverse County Community Foundation, that the Conservancy will serve as the funding agent, and that money from the endowment will be used to help fund improvements, operational and maintenance costs and could also be used to leverage other grant opportunities. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

5. **Shoreline Phase III Budget & Fundraising:** The Conservancy has provided a fundraising budget/proposal for Phase III of the shoreline project. The budget includes anticipated costs and secured revenue sources. The total appraised and negotiated fair market value for the three target properties are provided, along with some incidental costs of the transactions. There is a carryover cost from the Phase II project, including resolution of the cross-easement issue between the Marina and the Mt. Jack's property and a gap between the appraised value of one of the properties and the value approved by the DNR Trust Fund that was "eaten" by the Conservancy. Deconstruction costs of approximately \$40,000/property are projected. Short-term stewardship for start-up park improvements at \$50,000 is included. Olds added a 10% contingency based on past experience with the funding gap for Phase II.

Kladder noted that Vreeland is working with County Deputy Planning Director Jean Derenzy to attract a grant to help with Phase II deconstruction costs. He noted that more money has been awarded to projects in Acme Township by the Trust Fund than to any other township in the state. This is in part due to the excellent work of and collaboration with the Conservancy.

Zollinger asked how much taxpayer money has been used towards the shoreline projects to date. The figure is estimated at about \$260,000 for property acquisitions and Phase I deconstruction out project totals for acquisition only of over \$8 million.

**Motion by Dunville, support by Zarafonitis that the township work with the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation to raise the total need for Phases II and III in the amount of \$1,108,497. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

**A recess was declared by the chair from 8:22 p.m. – 8:33 p.m.**

6. **2012-13 Fiscal Year Board Salary Resolutions:**
- a. **R-2012-06 Supervisor:** Kladder recused himself and turned the gavel over to the Clerk. Zarafonitis stated that the Personnel Committee recommends leaving the salary at the current \$30,000. Scott had previously expressed concerns that at that rate of pay we would have trouble attracting good candidates to the job. As it happens, three individuals are running for the office, so perhaps his concern was unfounded.

**Motion by Zarafonitis, seconded by Scott to adopt the supervisor's salary at \$30,000. Motion carried by a vote of 6 in favor 0 opposed and 1 abstaining. (Kladder)**

Kladder reassumed the gavel.

- b. **R-2012-07 Clerk:** Dunville recused herself. Scott reiterated his earlier comments.

Personnel recommends same.

**Motion by Zarafonitis, seconded by Wikle to adopt the clerk's salary at \$37,008. Motion carried by a vote of 6 in favor 0 opposed and 1 abstaining. (Dunville)**  
Dunville rejoined the Board.

- c. **R-2012-08 Treasurer:** Wikle recused herself. Personnel Committee recommends no change from \$34,510.

**Motion by Zarafonitis, seconded by Takayama to adopt the treasurer's salary at \$34,510. Motion carried by a vote of 6 in favor 0 opposed and 1 abstaining. (Wikle)**

Wikle rejoined the Board.

- d. **R-2012-09 Trustees:** Vreeland said currently Trustees make \$500 per month. This can be reduced effective the start of the new terms of office on November 20. Hardin noted that the salary has never been increased over the past 8 years. Takayama could support lowering the monthly salary but increasing the use of per diems for extra meetings. Wikle believes that as Acme grows the Trustees will have more decisions to make, more personal studying to do and more continuing education. She supports leaving the salary as is. Scott has childcare expenses to meet when he is at meetings and supports the current salary or the use of additional per diems. Dunville supports leaving the pay rate as is. Takayama said he could support leaving the salary as is, and notes that the Trustees rarely ask for per diems they are entitled to, or mileage to go to seminars and public meetings in the region. He sees all of the Board members as doing a conscientious job and the salary we offer as commensurate with that job. If you think of it as \$500/meeting it may sound outrageous, but when you think about the additional meetings and educational opportunities and the miles driven to do a good job, it isn't so unreasonable.

Mr. Walter stated that he used to put about 15 hours a week into being a Trustee and he thinks that \$500/month is underpayment if compared to other area governments. He thinks Board members should be reimbursed for mileage and per diems and that to not be paid for those things is misrepresenting to the community.

**Motion by Hardin, seconded by Zarafonitis to adopt the Trustees salary at \$500 a month/\$6000.00 a year and the \$50 per diem remain unchanged. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

7. **Resolution R-2012-10 allocating available 2012-13 Fiscal Year Farmland Funds for PDR Program:** Discussion followed.

**Motion by Takayama, seconded by Scott to adopt Resolution R-2012-10. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

8. **Amendments to 2011-12 Fiscal Year budget Resolution R-2012-11:**

**Motion by Dunville, seconded by Zarafonitis to table until after 12-13 budget discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**

8. **TCAPS Tax Collection Agreement:**

Wilke said that the Treasurers pushed back on requested decrease and documented expenses, TCAPS resubmitted at last year's rate.

**Motion by Zarafonitis, Seconded by Takayama to agree to TCAPS Tax Collection Agreement. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**



**K. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**1. Proposed [General Appropriations Act \(2012-13 Budget\) Resolution R-2012-12](#)**

Vreeland led the discussion.

**Motion by Takayama, seconded by Scott to adopt a salary of \$9/hour beginning July 1 for Park workers. Motion carried 4 in favor (Dunville, Hardin, Takayama, Scott) and 3 opposing (Kladder, Zarafonitis, Wikle)**

**Public Hearing opened at 10:02 p.m. as to the General Fund Budget**

Mr. Zollinger asked about any potential expenditures for capital equipment items that were removed from next year's proposed budget. Possible purchase of those items from the projected current year budget surplus will be discussed later in the agenda. Mr. Zollinger also asked where the public would find the amounts receivable from Immanuel LLC for monies still owing for their Bates Crossing SUP process. This item is a liability that does not appear in the budget cash flow statements until it is either received or written off as uncollectable. The figure appears on the township's General Fund Balance sheet in the annual audit documents, which are available to the public and on the township website. Jocks reports that Immanuel LLC is going through bankruptcy, and at this time it appears that there could be funds to pay at least part of the amount due to the township, which is an unsecured creditor of the bankruptcy.

**Public Hearing Closed at 10:08 p.m. as to the General Fund Budget.**

The current projections are for an approximate \$56,000 surplus for the current fiscal year. Conservatively, the township might dedicate about half this amount to purchasing various items such as park equipment (tables, benches, grills), a beach groomer that could be towed behind the township's tractor (approximately \$14,500, plus a bagger and shipping for a total of about \$16,000). The Clerk would like a small fireproof safe to protect cemetery records, some of which were lost long ago in a fire. The Clerk would also like a second 4-person voting booth eliminated from next year's budget to reduce a projected deficit. The office copier/network printer/scanner/fax is 5 years old with about 500,000 copies logged on it. A comparable new machine would cost approximately \$12,000, and the monthly maintenance contract that covers supplies and repairs would be moderately less costly.

The Board generally felt that the copier should be a top priority. The beach groomer would also be important because by tilling the sand oxygen is introduced that kills microbes. Scott feels that the amount of material washed up on the beach would concern the parents of small children. There is a significant amount of remnants from the old sawmill at the mouth of Acme Creek that washes ashore from time to time and is very unattractive. Takayama is concerned that the proposed machine would not be heavy-duty enough to take care of this material. He also asked if the tractor has been driven on the beach; it has. The groomer is seen as very important, but getting the right one is key. Takayama suggested just getting a "York Rake" which would pick up material about 1" long or larger from the surface or down to a depth of about 6". He has one we could borrow to test.

For the parks, replacement/new equipment as proposed by the Buildings & Grounds Manager would cost: 8 tables at \$300/each, 8 ADA tables at \$400/each, and benches at \$200/each, all including lumber. There was some concern about whether equipment purchased now would match the style chosen for Bayside Park through the Placemaking process, or whether they would alternatively be useful at Sayler Park.

The Board reached consensus to purchase \$3,000 worth of park tables and benches in this fiscal year, and transfer \$16,000 in this fiscal year to the Parks & Recreation Special Fund for

future purchase of suitable beach groomer when identified. If not used in part or whole, a portion could be reallocated to tables and benches. There was discussion about authorizing purchase of a new copier up to a total of \$12,000 in the current fiscal year, and a voting booth in this fiscal year at \$800.

**Motion by Zarafonitis, seconded by Wikle to authorizing purchase of a new copier up to a total of \$12,000 in the current fiscal year, and a voting booth in this fiscal year at \$800.00, to purchase \$3000 worth of park tables and benches in this fiscal year and transfer \$16,000 in this fiscal year to the Parks & Recreation Special Fund.**

Mr. Zollinger asked if competitive bids have been obtained for the copier and the beach groomer. Two options have been looked at for the copier, although only one has performed a site visit. Henkel has compared various pieces of equipment and sources.

Scott urged the Board to respect the comments made by the public and ensure that additional competitive bids are received before selection the best option. Takayama is not comfortable allocating \$16,000 for the beach groomer after more research, as this could be regarded as too much of a “blank check.” He has purchased a lot of equipment and it hasn’t always worked out well, and he is very concerned that the machine suggested won’t do what we need it to do. The Board stressed that a final purchase decision for the groomer will come back to the Board for approval, and Kladder will ask Henkel to consult with him.

**Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

**A recess was declared from 11:09 – 11:16 p.m.**

**Public Hearing regarding special funds budgets opened and closed at 11:38 p.m., there being no discussion.**

Vreeland led the discussion in special funds.

Scott questioned the charges for police telephone expenses on the Police Protection fund. He thought the patrol cars were all equipped with computers. Vreeland said there is a special phone/computer line that we were paying for. We will look into this.

**Motion by Zarafonitis, seconded by Wikle to adopt the Acme Township General Fund and Special Funds budgets for 2011-12. Motion carried by unanimous roll call.**

**Motion by Dunville, seconded by Zarafonitis to adopt the Amendments to 2011-12 [Fiscal Year Budget Resolution R-2012-11](#). Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

**L. OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **[North Flight Ambulance Service in Acme Township](#):** Scott noted that by reducing the Policing portion of the Emergency SAD since there is enough of a fund balance to continue to fund the officer and maintain reserves, increasing the total SAD to cover fire, police and ambulance service would increase the total levy by only 0.5 mills from 2.55 this fiscal year to 2.6 next fiscal year at current projections. This would improve service to taxpayers with an increase of only approximately \$3 per \$100,000 of taxable value. This seems like an excellent value.

**Motion by Takayama, seconded by Dunville to have the documents be prepared by township attorney for Supervisor’s approval to move forward with Northflight ambulance service in Acme Township. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

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

None

**Meeting adjourned at 11:46 p.m.**