



**ACME TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**ACME TOWNSHIP HALL**  
**6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**  
**Tuesday October 2, 2012, 7:00 p.m.**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AT 7:00 p.m.**

**Members present:** R. Hardin, W. Kladder, P. Scott, E. Takayama, L. Wikle, F. Zarafonitis  
**Members excused:** D. Dunville  
**Staff present:** S. Vreeland, Township Manager/Recording Secretary  
J. Jocks, Township Counsel  
J. Iacoangeli, Consulting Planner

**A. STUDY SESSION:** None

**B. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Virginia Tegel, 4810 Bartlett Rd thanked the Board members for their service during their tenure, particularly in protecting and preserving the township's farmland and shoreline natural resources.

**1. Supervisor's Update – Septage Treatment Facility Special Assessment:** A report by Wade Trim looked at operating costs for the facility. Over the past several years a number of changes have been made at the plant to increase efficiency or cease operations of some elements of the facility that were not cost-effective. This morning, the Board of Public Works agreed to hold the first of two potential public hearings to determine who would be part of a special assessment district consisting of all residential septic system users in the county. A postcard will be mailed to each such user this week inviting them to the public hearing. There are close to 28,000 residential septic tank users as compared to the initial estimate of 24,000. This may mean that the assessment rate could be lowered as compared to original projections. The assessment might be \$25 per household in the first year, and the rate charged for accepting the septic waste at the treatment plant could drop from \$0.12/gallon to \$0.06/gallon.

**2. Purchase agreement with Acme Heritage Facility:** The township and the Heritage Society signed the agreement by which the society can purchase the Hoxsie House for relocation and preservation on or before June 30, 2014.

**3. Preservation of Send Farm:** With assistance from federal grant funds, last week the township closed on the purchase of development rights on more of the Send Family farm.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Amendments to tonight's agenda include: addition of a Supervisor's update on the proposed special assessment for the Septage Treatment Facility ("STF") as item B1, correspondence from Chuck Collett as item I6, correspondence from Connie Kern as item I7, removal of item K1 (easement to Karen Kane), addition of annual audit contract as item K9, and addition of discussion about a resolution regarding an advance to Peninsula Township to help them pay their share of paying off the STF bonds as item L3.

**Motion by Wikle, support by Hardin 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 approval of the Board meeting minutes for further discussion, including:

**RECEIVE AND FILE:**

1. [Treasurer's Report](#) as of August 2012
2. [Clerk's Report](#) as of 9/21/12
3. Draft Unapproved Meeting Minutes:
  - a. Planning Commission [09/24/2012](#)
  - b. Parks & Recreation Advisory [09/13/2012](#)
  - c. Shoreline Advisory [09/19/12](#)
  - d. Placemaking Leadership Team [09/12/12](#)
4. [Parks and Maintenance Report](#) – Tom Henkel
5. [Planning, Zoning & Administrative Activity Report](#)

**ACTION – Consider approval:**

7. ~~Township Board meeting minutes of [09/04/12](#)~~
8. [Accounts Payable](#) of \$65,878.99 through 09/21/12 (recommend approval: Dunville)
9. [August 2012 Northflight Statistics](#)
10. [Reimburse Robert & Dawn Shields](#) for costs to repair roof damage from tree in adjacent township parkland
12. [Copier Operating and Maintenance Cost Statistics](#)

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

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

1. Township Board meeting minutes of [09/04/12](#): Jocks reviewed the audio recording of the last Board meeting minutes, and suggests that corrections are necessary to his discussion of conflict of interest issues and campaign contributions by SUP applicant Bob Garvey. The minutes do not accurately reflect the recording.

The corrections needed are to the fourth paragraph on page 8. The following is the corrected text, with words removed in ~~strike through~~ and words added in **boldface**:

“The township’s Conflict of Interest Policy sets a limit on the value of gifts or donations a township official may accept. The limit is \$50, and **could be interpreted to includes include** campaign contributions. This creates a concern, because it would seem to impair the normal political process for citizens to fear giving a campaign donation because at some unforeseen future date they might want to bring legitimate business before the township for an approval. Likewise, it seems to unfairly handicap incumbent elected officials in accepting campaign contributions as compared to non office holder challengers. **Jocks concluded that campaign contributions did not qualify as a gift and that no conflict of interest would arise from them in this case.** Jocks recommends that the policy be amended, and noted that the state Attorney General’s office has some templates that could be used to consider appropriate redrafting of the policy.”

**Motion by Zarafonitis, support by Wikle to approve the 09/04/12 Board meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.**

**G. REPORTS:**

1. **Sheriff's Report – Mike Matteucci:** Statistics for September are not yet ready. There has been little significant crime activity in the township. Kladder reported that several other townships in the county are considering adopting a new consumer fireworks ordinance similar to the one adopted by Acme. Fireworks activity has slowed considerably.
2. **County Commissioner's Report – Larry Inman:** The public hearing regarding the proposed STF special assessment will be October 16 at 6:00 p.m. The County has asked for an extension to reply to the second request by the Tribe that additional lands be placed in federal trust. The state also sent a letter to the BIA, copied to the county and township,

expressing concern about the addition of additional acreage to federal trust and the completion of an agreement for the replacement of lost tax revenues. The County has saved \$700,000 by making changes to their employee medical plan, and will be considering additional changes to copay requirements. Initial projections are for a \$1 million shortfall in the County budget for 2013. The Michigan Municipal Risk Association, a government pool which handles their liability insurance, is returning a check to participants of about \$500,000. There were also expenditures that were budgeted but were not made, so the county is currently anticipating being close to or at a balanced budget for 2013. County Treasurer Bill Rokos retired on October 1 with 28 years of service, and Heidi Scheppe has been appointed to complete his term of office.

## H. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS:

1. **2011-12 Annual Audit – Dennis, Gartland & Niergarth:** Trina Edwards and Mary Krantz presented the annual audit for the recently-completed township fiscal year. The auditors have issued an “unqualified” rating, the highest possible audit rating. There was a \$34,000 reduction in tax revenues to the township, but a \$2.7 million increase in government-wide net assets. This is primarily due to grants received for the acquisition of shoreline properties. The sewer fund revenues increased by somewhat over \$249,000. The General Fund increased by about \$183,787 and ended the year with a Fund Balance of approximately \$1.173 million.

Total assets for governmental activities (excluding sewer and water) were about \$14.4 million, with liabilities of about \$561,000. This was up from the prior year due to the issuance of the new capital improvement bond for the farmland and shoreline preservation programs. Total net assets are \$13.8 million, of which \$5.7 million are related to capital assets including shoreline properties purchased. Some assets are restricted to use for specific purposes only, most notably approximately \$1.1 million in Farmland Preservation millage funds. Unrestricted net assets are approximately \$1.2 million.

There was approximately \$772,000 in total revenues to General Fund, with total expenditures of approximately \$660,494. Net Fund Balance increased by approximately \$184,000. Current Fund balance is approximately 21 months’ worth of expenses, well above the 6-month minimum goal established by township resolution.

The report on internal controls notes some items considered to be “material weaknesses.” These are the same items they have listed every year. The audit firm prepares the financial statements for management review rather than the management preparing them for audit review. This situation is common for governments of this size. Also listed was non-optimal segregation of duties, which is again a repeat from prior years and due to the small size of the township staff which creates an inability further segregate some duties. The Treasurer provided the auditors some accrual transactions that occurred after June 30 but were accrued prior to June 30 and the auditors prepared adjusting entries. The township needs to ensure that these items are adjusted out of the 2012-13 fiscal year as well to ensure they are not double-reported. It was also noted that due to a change in the way MESA bills for fire prevention services, the township paid for 6 quarters during the fiscal year rather than 4. MESA is now taking payment once per year at winter tax collection rather than quarterly. This resulted in the amounts paid that relate to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters of calendar 2012 (which for the township are the first 2 quarters of fiscal 2012-13) being recorded in the audit as prepayments. The audits also noted that some transactions between some of the funds should have been recorded as inter-fund loans rather than transfer to other funds. They recommended that future budget amendments take into account payments that may occur after the year-end that were accrued prior to year end so that there do not appear to be overages in expenditures. In the accounting for the purchase of development rights, in order to accurately reflect the value of the asset required, it was also necessary to note the values of the donations that farmers made towards the purchase prices.

The most sensitive item affecting the township’s financial statements are some of the debts

related to the sewer and STF systems. By contract the township's share of some of these costs fluctuates based on periodic re-evaluation of the comparative levels of use by all system participants.

Kladder asked if the single audit was required this year. It was not, because the township did not receive federal grant money in the amount of \$500,000 during the fiscal year. It did use some federal grant money, but not enough to trigger the single audit.

Kladder stated that the audit documents, page 32, reflect the amount of money the township has agreed to loan to the STF so that it will be clearly documented that this money is owed by the STF to the township until it is repaid. He recommends that this language be carried forward in each future audit report until repayment.

**The agenda was adjusted to move discussion regarding item K9, the 2012-13 audit contract, to this point.**

Wikle noted that a new Clerk and new Treasurer will take office in November. The idea of changing auditors with both individuals being new is daunting. It would be helpful for the new officers to be able to call auditors who are familiar with the township already for assistance with questions. The suggestion is that the township retain Dennis, Gartland & Niergarth for one more year during the transition period.

**Motion by Wikle, support by Takayama that the bid from DGN in the amount of \$17,000, plus \$2,000 if the single audit is required, to perform audit services for the township for the 2012-13 fiscal year be accepted.**

Scott received clarification that the single audit would only be required if the township uses more than \$500,000 in federal funds during the fiscal year, and that there would be no additional potential increases in the contract cost.

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

2. [Amendment to Shoreline Fruit Ag. Production Renaissance Zone](#) (Resolution R-2012-22): Ken Swanson, CEO of Shoreline Fruit was present to support the request, which would provide financial assistance to the company for expansion of their fruit drying operation. Economic slowdowns in 2011 and small fruit crops in 2012 have necessitated a change to their original expansion plans. Long-term opportunities are still present, but risk management dictates that the expansion plans be phased. An emphasis has been placed on how to maximize use of the existing building rather than expanding it immediately. As a result, the new drying equipment would occupy a different physical location than the zone previously established. It is therefore necessary to revoke the existing zone and establish a new one where the new dryer would be. The new dryer has been custom-manufactured and delivered, but is not yet in service because there isn't enough fruit to dry. It is ready to come into service in 2013 if there is sufficient supply.

While the cherry crop has been small, the company has been diversifying and expanding the drying of other fruits such as Michigan blueberries.

Phase I will cost \$6.3 million, Phase II costs a bit over \$5 million and Phase III about \$600,000, for a total investment of approximately \$12 million. Jean Derenzy from Grand Traverse County has prepared an analysis of how the existing and proposed new zones compare financially. The taxes forgone over the 15 year zone period would increase by about \$300,000. However, the new plan would also cause relocation and replacement of outdated freezers, and the new freezers would be installed outside of the new zone and would be fully taxable as personal property. Over \$1 million has also been invested in the concentrate production line, which is also outside of the zone and fully taxable.

School debt taxes for property in the zone are reimbursed by the state, and library and township fire protection taxes are still fully payable as well.

Job creation associated with the zone as originally proposed was accomplished, with approximately 40 new jobs added. Due to the poor crops this year, 22 of the new production workers have had to be laid off. It is anticipated that the jobs will be restored when the crop improves. Many of the high-level management and sales jobs have been retained. The state is willing to consider the total pool of jobs created for the original zone as support for a new, amended zone.

Kladder asked how many acres of farmland are needed to support the expanded production. The new dryer was going to require 10,000 new acres of cherry production on top of the 4,000 – 6,000 supporting the original dryer. While diversifying into blueberries is not involving local production land, it is a benefit to the local community by improving the stability of the business.

The County must also consider this proposal before it returns to the state level for final approval. The whole process must be complete prior to the end of the calendar year.

**Motion by Kladder, support by Wikle to adopt Resolution R-2012-22 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

3. **Shoreline District Placemaking Plan – John Iacoangeli, Beckett & Raeder:** Placemaking is a planning concept born in the 1970's that has gained ascendance in Michigan over the past several years. Successful placemaking requires vision, leadership and collaboration. One must understand one's assets and focus on creating a destination that is sensitive to the local culture and transformative. One goal is to provide amenities that attract talented young adults to settle. Placemaking defines a community's image, connects people with community and natural assets, cultural and heritage opportunities, creates sense of place and creates economic opportunity and prosperity.

This placemaking project involves the reinvention of the US 31 corridor in Acme Township to create a vibrant and accessible mixed-use shoreline district.

The report is being finalized, with funding and improvement sequencing plans to be provided along with proposed zoning ordinance amendments to help accomplish the vision. The materials will be presented to the Grand Vision Growth & Investment Network meeting next Monday, and these materials and the final report will be loaded to the [www.acmeshores.org](http://www.acmeshores.org) website, with the presentation materials being loaded tonight and the final report following within 3 weeks.

Inman commented that he was recently in Marquette and was pleasantly stunned by the shoreline redevelopment there to which Iacoangeli referred. The housing units developed along the shoreline are selling quickly for between \$300,000 - \$500,000. He characterized the whole development as phenomenal.

#### **I. CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. **Letter of support for Erickson Property from Jim “Woody” Woodburne:** received and filed. The County Parks & Recreation Department is working with the Land Conservancy on an attempt to fund purchase of the property for public parkland.
2. **09/12/12 Green Lake Twp Letter & Resolution re: proposed Septage Treatment Plant Special Assessment:** received and filed. Similar letters have been received from Whitewater and Blair Townships. Long Lake Township decided not to proceed with the threat to sue, largely based on urging from board member Maureen Kennedy Templeton.

3. [American Waste Annual Rate Adjustment Letter](#): received and filed. The increase per the contract will be \$0.57/month/household, and is starting 3 months later than called for in the contract.
4. [Planning Commission 2011-12 Annual Report](#): received and filed.
5. [Record Eagle Forum: "A simple transparency test" 09/26/12](#): received and filed.
6. [Letter from Chuck Collett regarding Master Plan committee](#): received and filed, and may be referred to later in the agenda during the master plan update contract discussion.
7. [E-mail from Connie Kerns regarding Ambulance Service](#): received and filed.

A recess was declared from 8:55 p.m. – 9:02 p.m.

J. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

K. NEW BUSINESS:

1. ~~Easement to Karen Kane – Saylor Park:~~
2. [Proposal for Master Plan Update:](#)

Discussed jointly with the interrelated...

3. [Proposal for 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Update:](#) The township has requested proposals from Iacoangeli as the township's contract planner for concurrent updates to the overall Master Plan and the 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan which is expiring in March of 2013. There are common elements to the preparation of both plan updates, most notably community engagement and input. As part of the process it is proposed that the township would use NMC to prepare and distribute a written community survey. During the placemaking process we found that the best response was received from mailing materials to citizens. The cost for this survey is approximately \$12,000, which is a significant portion of the total amount Iacoangeli suggested be budgeted for the Master Plan update in the current fiscal year.

Iacoangeli met with Planning Commission Chair Virginia Tegel to craft the Master Plan proposal. Tegel proposed using special Planning Commission meetings that the township has budgeted for to direct the process, while Iacoangeli suggested setting up an advisory committee to assist the Commission in the Master Planning process. It could work well either way. The goal is to have the Master Plan ready for public review by April 2013, while the Parks & Recreation plan update must be ready for Board approval at their February 2013 meeting so that it can be approved by the state prior to March 1 to preserve the possibility of applying for state park improvement grants. The community survey would be developed and distributed before the winter holidays.

Hardin appreciates the input Iacoangeli has provided, and has no preference for which management model is used. He is anticipating a complete redevelopment of the Master Plan. Vreeland concurred; the current plan is based on a survey conducted in 1996, was adopted in 1999 and has been amended several times for specific project purposes.

Kladder has received concerned comments about why the master planning process has not been put out for broader bid. He has also heard concerns about the formation of a master plan advisory group to do the majority of the work on the master plan when the Planning Commission should be performing this work. Concerns have been raised about perceptions of the potential membership on an advisory committee if one is formed, particularly over

perceptions that it might include representatives of non-Acme based entities that should be heard as part of the process but perhaps should not be a part of directing the process. Additionally, the letter from Mr. Collett was received today which seemed to go quite far towards recommending specific committee members on behalf of the Acme Business Association.

When Kladder was part of the Planning Commission when the original Master Plan was adopted, they scheduled interviews on weekends with a number of regional interest groups to learn from them. They gathered much useful information that was used in developing the plan, but none of the interest group representatives actually had a vote on the Master Plan content. Kladder asked Hardin what he interpreted from Planning Commission discussion. Hardin did not recall specific discussion about these concerns, but he would support input from a broad range of sources within the township and region but decision-making being in the hands of Acme representatives. Scott feels that the Planning Commission itself should manage the process without inserting another layer of semi-official appointees into the process between the public and the elected or appointed officials. He is concerned that by doing so some important messages could get lost. Takayama concurred with Hardin and Scott, and feels that working with a professional planner is important to the Commission's success in achieving public education and input goals leading to preparation of a new Master Plan. Zarafonitis and Wikle also concurred that the public body should control the process in an open and transparent process that does not cater to any special interest groups.

Tegel offered that the development of a practical guide with vision and a process for attaining the vision is the end goal, and can be achieved in a variety of ways. She is concerned about sticking to the timeline and achieving the goals well within the budget framework established. Kladder asked if any of the audience had input to offer, but nobody spoke up.

Kladder is concerned with starting into the process in the manner in which it can productively continue. Since the concept of the advisory group is causing significant community concern, he recommends that the Planning Commission perform the effort with the guidance and assistance of Iacoangeli, the Zoning Administrator and the Manager. Together they will be able to solicit public input broadly and equally throughout the township and regional community. Hardin agreed that it is important to reach out to both individuals and organizations to get well-rounded perspectives. He views the appropriate role of an advisory group as to identify and promote talking to all of the stakeholders. Kladder simply feels the advisory group should not be formed. Iacoangeli is hearing that the Planning Commission would steer the process without an associated advisory group. To build a "library" of stakeholders, he proposes sending a letter to each known public or private stakeholder group in the township asking each of them to identify the people and entities that should be asked for input. Compilation will reveal a clear stakeholder analysis.

Kladder asked how County Planning might be of assistance, and if the County Planning reviews the ultimate product. They do review it, and Iacoangeli will reach out to County Planning Director John Sych.

The total price for the two planning processes including the NMC survey is \$40,000.

**Motion by Takayama, support by Zarafonitis to accept the Beckett & Raeder proposal for Master Plan preparation services without the use of an advisory committee to guide the process. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

**Motion by Takayama, support by Zarafonitis to accept the Beckett & Raeder proposal for Parks & Recreation Plan update services without the use of a separate advisory committee to guide the process. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

4. [Resolution R-2012-21 Establishing Election Receiving Board:](#)

**Motion by Wikle, support by Takayama to adopt Resolution R-2012-21 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

5. **Assessing Services Contract Renewal Proposal**: Dawn Plude of AD Assessing stated that the three-year contract is up for renewal as of October 1. They have proposed a contract similar to the one previously in place with moderate increase in the contract amount. The last 3 year contract was entered into at a price “freeze” at the prior rate.

**Motion by Wikle, support by Zarafonitis to approve the assessing services contract with AD Assessing as presented. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

6. **Budget Amendment Resolution R-2012-23**: Vreeland summarized the resolution, which amends the Fire Fund budget to recognize the difference between the projected and approved Emergency Services special assessment levy for 2012, and to segregate the amounts of the levy revenues that will be both received and paid out for fire protection and ambulance service respectively.

**Motion by Wikle, support by Scott to adopt Resolution R-2012-23 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

7. **Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 022 – Wineries**: In the section of the Zoning Ordinance setting specific requirements for special use permits for wineries, there are about two pages of standards for associated special events such as weddings. The township recently adopted an “agritourism” Zoning Ordinance amendment that allows special events on all agriculturally zoned properties as an agritourism use subject to the issuance of a special use permit, and not exclusively at wineries. The special events use by SUP has no unusual special conditions to be met such as those in place relative to wineries. Therefore, to ensure that all properties are being treated consistently, the Planning Commission recommends removing the pages of special conditions for special events at wineries from the ordinance.

A question was raised regarding how special events are addressed by state Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices (“GAAMPS”). There is no set of GAAMPS specific to agritourism special events, although the GAAMPS for farm markets indicates that special events may be allowed and may be subject to local zoning regulation. In any event, GAAMPS are not state laws. They are guidelines promoted by the Michigan Department of Agriculture that promote best management practices for a variety of farming activities. If someone is conducting their business in accordance with the applicable GAAMPS, they are protected in the event that they are sued for creating a nuisance by their neighbors. Nothing in the proposed ordinance amendment is inconsistent with GAAMPS.

**Motion by Scott, support by Takayama to adopt Zoning Ordinance Amendment 022 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

8. **Beckett & Raeder Evaluation and Contract**: Kladder summarized the memo provided to the Board. This item will return for discussion on the November 13 agenda.
9. **2012-13 Audit Contract**: Previously discussed directly after 2011-12 annual audit.

**L. OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **Township Park Special Events recommendations from Parks & Recreation Advisory**: Hardin feels the advisory did a good job of reviewing the city ordinance as a model for our own with an eye towards how it would most appropriately be customized for Acme. He particularly agrees that we are not yet ready to think about taking on large festivals in our public parks, and liked how each unique park was approached separately.



Takayama was put in mind of hearing Fred Kent speak about Placemaking, and cautioned against being too restrictive. We want things to happen to generate public interest. He agrees that the smaller parks should be treated differently than the growing stretch of centralized shoreline. There are some areas he feels could be simplified by allowing final approval by the Manager and/or Supervisor. He is concerned about the idea of limiting an event to 2 days, or limiting events to one at a time in a given park. Over-regulating a good thing in the dawn of a new era can be stifling, and we need to be open to new ideas if we want to create a vibrant place.

Kladder was in the office but behind the wall at his desk during some of the discussions so that his presence would not be a distraction. He was impressed by the flow and evolution of the discussions and the thinking about the inter-relationships of different factors.

Zarafonitis agreed with Takayama to a large extent. Parking for very large events could be a concern. He appreciates the requirements for set-up and tear-down for events, but agrees that we need to have interesting things going on to attract people. There needs to be room for reasonable discretion in allowing multiple events per site per day.

Wikle is concerned about liability insurance, and most organizations know they need daily event insurance for this purpose. Otherwise the township might be held liable. Protecting the township is important. Kladder felt that an event like the Acme Fall Festival, which was held this past weekend at Flintfields, was too big and successful to be likely to fit into the shoreline park. Connie Collett stated that their liability insurance policy cost for the day was \$700, and the only reason it was that high was the provision of the childrens' bouncy house.

Kladder feels the Board needs more time for discussion on this issue. Also, most of the current Board members will not be in office when this ordinance is finally adopted. So, he is concerned about moving too far too fast when a new administration is coming in. Wikle feels it should be a fairly simple process and a good winter project, and that it should be left largely to the new administration. Scott feels that we should still keep moving along, and that while the new board may introduce some new ideas he thinks it is unlikely there will be a significant difference in thinking. Jocks had recommended that the Board provide more input before he began drafting the new ordinance in earnest. Given the comments he has heard this evening, and the consistency he has heard on several points, he feels he could do some basic drafting for more effective continuing review. Kladder stressed that the current administration is not seeking to push something through that would make it difficult for the new administration to proceed as they feel appropriate. Vreeland suggested that any materials developed over the coming month could be distributed to both the current and incoming board members for a joint discussion at the next meeting. Hardin suggested that someone from the Parks & Recreation advisory should be present for the discussion as well. Jocks will provide an initial draft.

2. **GT Regional Land Conservancy MOU – Shoreline Preservation Project:** Kladder stated that the Conservancy suggested some time ago that they and the township enter into a new memorandum of understanding regarding our cooperative efforts on the Shoreline Preservation project. This draft is the result of extensive discussion back and forth between the parties and the attorneys. Hardin asked about the provision for the creation of the an endowment fund. This draft seems to limit the endowment fund to the shoreline parks, while his understanding of earlier discussions was that the endowment fund would be for the entire township parks system. Kladder thought that language limiting the endowment to Bayside Park had been removed, but Wikle and Zarafonitis recalled that the endowment would be exclusive to Bayside Park. Some donors are passionate about making contributions to specific locations or elements. The minutes of the June 5, 2012 Board meeting were consulted, and indicate a representation that endowment funds raised would be for use in all township parklands and not limited to just the shoreline district park.

**Motion by Scott, support by Zarafonitis to approve the proposed MOU with the GT Regional Land Conservancy as amended to remove the word “Bayside” in item D. Motion carried unanimously.**

3. **Resolution R-2012-24 to approve advance to Peninsula Twp. Related to calling 2003 & 2004 Septage Treatment Facility Bonds:** At the September meeting the township approved a resolution to call the 2003 and 2004 STF bonds. We also approved the concept of giving more than our share because everyone finds it desirable to call the bonds to refinance them, but Elmwood and Peninsula Townships have expressed that they do not currently have enough cash on hand to fund their shares. Kladder’s understanding was that the township would be loaning all of the money directly to the County. Yesterday we received the new resolution, which indicates that while we would be loaning our appropriate share to the County, we would be loaning the extra portion to Peninsula Township, which would in turn use it to make their share of the payment. Thus, eventually we would be reimbursed by both Peninsula Township and the County.

**Motion by Scott, support by Wikle to adopt Resolution R-2012-24 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

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

Earlier today Hardin sent Vreeland a link to a solar cell phone charging station that comes with lockers where you can securely leave your phone and play in the park while it charges. Everything is incorporated into some antique gasoline pumps. He thinks an electronic charging station might be a cool feature for our shoreline district. He is trying to research the pricing and will report back.

Takayama was in the UP a few weeks ago, and in some of the national parks there were stations with solar panels to provide emergency lighting or power.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.**