

**Ovid Township Board  
August 11, 2014**

**Public Hearing**

The Ovid Township Board met at the Township Hall on August 11, 2014.

Members present: Sue Miller, Supervisor; Shelly AcMoody, Treasurer; Judy Sabaitis, Clerk; Larry Omo and Ron Sampsel, Trustees. Also in attendance were 13 guests.

The Second Public Hearing for the Shady Oaks Subdivision weed control special assessment was called to order by Sue Miller at 7:00 PM.

The Board led the guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- A. Review Petition to confirm Special Assessment District. Miller stated the petition for a special assessment for weed control for the Shady Oaks Subdivisions was signed by 72% of the total parcels.
- B. Sue Miller reviewed the cost estimates for 2014 weed control of \$10,892.14 or \$52.62 per property (207 properties). Shady Oaks #2 Subdivision will be in charge of annually submitting the estimated cost for weed control to the Township Board. Miller reminded those in attendance that approval by the Ovid Board would place the special assessment on the tax rolls and would separate them from the existing Marble Lake Association weed control assessment.
- C. Public Comment: Marvin Libby asked why the cost of the weed control would be lower than previously assessed on the property taxes. Miller stated the cost of the current weed control is under the Marble Lake Association weed control assessment and the costs are split among all property owners associated with the control areas. In addition Miller stated that without your own weed control program, property owners are required to be included in the Marble Lake Association weed control assessment.
- D. Miller stated that any appeal of this confirmation must be voiced in person at this meeting. Miller closed the Public Hearing at 7:10 PM.

**Regular Board Meeting**

Sue Miller called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

AGENDA: Ron Sampsel moved to approve the Agenda as presented, supported by Larry Omo. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES (JULY 14, 2014): Omo stated the year for the assessment in the minutes should be 2014, not 2015 as printed. Sampsel moved to approve the minutes as amended supported by Omo. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES (JULY 14, 2014): Omo moved to approve the minutes as presented, supported by Sampsel. MOTION CARRIED

TREASURER REPORT: Miller asked if everyone reviewed the Treasurer's Report and if there were any questions or comments. Sabaitis noted that several checks were voided when the checks remained in the printer instead of regular paper. Sue Miller placed the Treasures Report on file.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Greg Gemmill asked the Board what the process was to have rumble strips placed on public roadways. Miller said she would follow up with the Branch County Road Commission on the procedure.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. ZONING VIOLATION AT 401 SUNNY SHORES.** Miller stated that this issue was heard in court on July 15, 2014 at 10:30. The property owner was given 30 days to be fully compliant. The cottage is down and the shed has been moved. Zoning Administrator Russ Jennings confirmed that the property is now in compliance and the case is closed.
- B. MUTE SWAN MANAGEMENT RESOLUTION.** Sarah Schaefer representing the Michigan DNR, and Jim Strock offered information on the management process of the mute swan population. Schaefer stated the decision for moving forward with the swan management was left to local authorities. Permitting and costs for the management would be from the Michigan DNR. Funding has been budgeted at the State level and if the State funding ends, the local governments have no obligation to fund or continue the program. Schaefer also explained the 2 ways that the decision can be made at the local level. Either 70% of lakefront property owners need to approve the plan or the Township Board can pass a Resolution. Approval allows the Lake Associations the option of applying for the permit from the DNR. Mute swans are not a protected species, therefore, no authorization from the Federal Government is needed for their eradication. Swans would be killed with a single gun shot to the head. Carcass will then be removed and tested for disease. The written 5yr Resolution as presented is to address only the Chain of Lakes. The Township Board could list any additional lakes under their authority that they choose to include in the program. Such changes could be made at a later date. Kinderhook Township has decided not to make a Resolution at the current time. Omo stated he had not received any complaints about the swans. Omo also questioned if the Township attorney should review the Resolution. After a lengthy discussion Ron Sampsel moved to approve the Mute Swan Resolution subject to rewording of the Resolution to include listing lakes in the Townships authority (Long Channel, Loon Lake, Mud Lake, Long Lake, Coldwater Lake, Little Rose Lake and Bingham Rose Lake), supported by Shelly AcMoody. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- C. BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND LANDSCAPING.** Omo suggested the large rock in the landscape area be lowered. Miller said she would contact George Baker and have him adjust it. Miller also stated the exterior of the building had been cleaned, the doors painted and the landscape completed.
- D. Tree removal at Lockwood Cemetery.** Miller stated the only bid received was for \$3,150 and that a second bid would be needed. Tabled until next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT.** Miller made a resolution to approve the Special Assessment District for weed control in the Shady Oaks Subdivisions, supported by Omo.  
Upon a roll call vote, the result was as follows:  
AYE: Miller, Sabaitis, AcMoody, Omo, and Sampsel,  
NAY: None  
**RESOLUTION CARRIED**
- B. REQUEST TO SPLIT LOT #62 IN SHADY OAKS SUBDIVISION 2.** Adjacent property owners to this lot wish to purchase and split the lot as a pre-purchase contingency. The mobile home on the current lot would be removed. Omo moved to allow the adjacent

property owners to split Lot #62, Shady Oaks Subdivision 2 requiring the removal of the home on the property, supported by Sampsel. MOTION CARRIED.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Greg Gemmill asked about an assessment for weed control on Rose Lake. Miller stated that due to the limited properties, hiring a private weed control contractor would be the simplest way to handle the issue.

**REPORTS:**

- A. Zoning:** Russ Jennings reported 7 permits for July.
- B. Assessing:** Miller stated the July Board of Review took action on 10 parcels.
- C. DPW:** None
- D. County Commissioner:** Don Vrablic offered his monthly report. Information on tax proposals, scrap tire recycling and proposed changes in hand gun licensure were highlighted.
- E. Cemetery Sexton:** None

**Correspondence:** Sabaitis notified the Board of 3 DEQ Permits issued in the Township including 2 Erosion Control Permits to allow a seawall to be built and cleaning of the Tallahassee Creek Bed. One permit to allow a large water withdrawal from the Swan Creek Watershed.

**Adjourn:** Omo moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 P.M., supported by Sampsel, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted

Judy Sabaitis, Township Clerk  
Minutes prepared by Charlotte Knisely