

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP</b>  <b>Board of Trustees</b>  <b><u>Fire Services Meeting - Continued</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tuesday, April 21, 2015 – 3 PM</b>  <b>Yankee Springs Township Hall</b>  <b>284 North Briggs Road, Middleville, Michigan 49333</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MINUTES</b></p>	<p><b>FINAL MINUTES</b>  <b>Approved as amended</b>  <b>(page 2)</b>  <b>May 14, 2015</b></p>
<p>Meeting called to order at 3:00 PM by Supervisor Mark Englerth.</p> <p>Roll Call: <u>All Present</u>: Jerkatis, Lippert, Englerth, Rottschafer, Campbell</p> <p>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</p> <p>Staff Present: Alice Jansma, Sandra Marcukaitis, Jim Orr Constable  Others Present: Jim Stoneburner from Prairieville Township, David Middleton, YS Fire Chief; Kenneth Debri TTES  Visitors: 3</p>	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p> <p><b>ROLL CALL</b></p> <p><b>PLEDGE</b></p>
<p><b>AGENDA: Additions or Corrections</b></p> <p>Jerkatis commented adding items to the printed agenda distracts from the purpose of Special Meetings on Tuesdays. In this case, to resolve the Yankee Springs Townships' Emergency Services issues.</p> <p>Englerth's opinion is that as matters come up, decisions must be made. Englerth appreciates Jerkatis' frustration, but added that on the other hand, a decision needs to be made for business people to set their agenda, hire their employees and move forward (re: <u>lawn care, recycling container</u>).</p> <p>Motion by Jerkatis with support of Lippert to remove two items off agenda to move forward with emergency services and maintain focus on that. ROLL CALL: Jerkatis: yes, Lippert: yes, Campbell: yes, Rottschafer: no, Englerth: no. Yes: 3, No: 2. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p><b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS:</b></p> <p><b>Jim Stoneburner of Prairieville Township</b>-spoke of being a member of BPH (Barry, Prairieville, and Hope Townships). Orangeville used to be included but got out for financial reasons, as did Prairieville. Prairieville didn't have to go out and look for people. For ambulance service, they use whoever is closest. Ambulance service is paid per call. Stoneburner left a copy of their budget and explained their pay methodology. Englerth provided information regarding Irving Township has a \$111,494 annual expense among Freeport, Birch and Thornapple. There are various combinations and mix/matches of fire services in different Townships.</p> <p><b>Fire Chief David Middleton</b> provided details on a bicyclist accident on a remote trail and the department's response. He spoke in addressing undue criticism of his department and the negative effect on firefighters.</p> <p>Middleton also cited sawdust hazards to equipment from picnic tables being repaired in the fire barn.</p> <p>Other matters discussed were the former proposed Burn Ordinance, volunteer enlistment difficulties and the effective chain of command.</p>	<p><b>AGENDA: Corrections or Additions</b></p> <p><b>Motion to remove two items off agenda to move forward with emergency services and maintain focus. MOTION CARRIED.</b></p> <p><b>Jim Stoneburner of Prairieville Township</b></p> <p><b>Chief Middleton Comments</b></p> <p><b>Page 1 of 3</b>  <b>YST Bd. Of Trustees/Fire</b>  <b>Discussion 4-21-15</b></p>

Trustee Rottschafer expressed concern that fire department issues might be publicly misconstrued and that the Board is ~~not~~ **was** “kicking the can down the road.”

**Motion by Rottschafer with support by Campbell to approve Option #1 (\$192,480) making the fire station Thornapple Township’s responsibility, with Thornapple taking over the facility and Yankee Springs Township not getting involved with Thornapple’s services.**

Discussion: Rottschafer added that he thinks it’s a good idea to have a 3-member board to evaluate what Thornapple is doing so that “we don’t have innuendos”.

Clerk called for motion:

Option #1: Take YS Township out of the fire protection business and put current YS station under the control of Thornapple Township Emergency Service. Thornapple Township would be responsible for building and equipment care and maintenance. YS would continue to have a seat at the monthly emergency services committee meeting.

Discussion occurred regarding the motion on the floor.

Point of order was called by J. Lippert verifying that Option #1 was as stated in an email from Mike Bremer, Supervisor of Thornapple Township. Confirmed that Option #1 was stated by Mike Bremer via email.

**ROLL CALL: Campbell – yes, Rottschafer – yes, Jerkatis – no, Lippert – yes, Englerth – no. Yes (3), No (2). MOTION CARRIED.**

Discussion: A new contract would be written by Supervisor Bremer. Middleton encouraged taking the contract to the YS Township attorney to review it. Lippert agreed. Township Attorney reviews ALL contracts entered into.

**SCHEDULED COMMENT FROM SUPERVISOR:** Mark Englerth commented on the accident on the biking trail, and that he discussed the incident with the 911 Director and the DNR. He also gave his opinion of the capability of the mule vehicle used in the call.

All board members received the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter report from 911 dispatch. A CD of the tapes was also made available. Englerth continued, “One of the questions with the DNR and Phyllis is, “Could we do better?” “Did it make reasonable (time)? Should there be easier in roads to some of those locations?”

Englerth commented on finding out that the mule was not a “do all, be all” piece of equipment for that terrain.

Englerth redirected discussion to the fire services contract and formation of the 3-person board or committee to evaluate the fire service.

Rottschafer commented that he’d like to talk to certain individuals to get three people as was suggested last week and have them try and pull out how this whole thing will work out with Supervisor Bremer (Thornapple Township). It was his motion and he would like to chair it to work this out and give the board a final version of it. Lippert added that the current contract was a three year renewal which will end in April of 2016.

Rottschafer will come back to the next meeting with recommendations of people to be on the 3-person board. It isn’t something that can be done in 30 days. It will be thoughtfully

Motion and supported to approve Option #1

Discussion

Roll Call  
Motion approved:  
Option #1

*New contract to be written*

Comment Supervisor

*Mule capability rough terrain*

New fire services contract discussion

looked through and J. Lohrstorfer (YS Township Attorney) will be reviewing it before it is presented to the board.

Jerkatis commented that he would like to be in the 3-person fire commission. It was noted that it will have to be an open public meeting and will have to be posted. May 14th is the next regular board meeting. Rottschafer thought he'd be prepared with recommendations for it. Discussion occurred regarding quorum, and establishing another township "board".

Motion by Rottschafer that by May 14<sup>th</sup>, Jerkatis and Rottschafer will come up with a slate of people for the fire services board to develop a contract/business plan of how YS Twp. will develop the relationship with Thornapple and what it (YS Twp.) decides to do with the building, the fire equipment, money in the fire fund, fire equipment purchase fund etc.

Support by Lippert. **Roll Call:** Jerkatis-yes, Lippert -yes, Englerth- yes, Rottschafer- yes, Campbell- yes. All yes- (5). MOTION CARRIED.

**NEW/OLD BUSINESS:**

Discussion occurred for adding the lawn maintenance item back on the agenda- due to the next meeting being May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Jerkatis with support Rottschafer to rescind previous motion to remove lawn maintenance and recycle container off the agenda. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion occurred regarding lawn service. Clerk reviewed bids presented by:

DK Landscape on Proposal 1,2, and 3 totaled \$1,585.

M M Landscape \$1,680,

NW Moore \$742.50, and NTA Property Management of Middleville (M-37) was \$1,875.

All companies supplied a liability insurance certificate. It was noted that the far SE corner of the fire station is not included, only the fire station grounds.

Motion by Lippert to accept DK Landscaping. No support. MOTION FAILS.

Motion by Rottschafer with support from Campbell to accept bid of NW Moore for lawn maintenance. ROLL CALL: Jerkatis: yes, Lippert: no, Rottschafer: yes, Campbell: yes, Englerth: yes. Yes: 4, No: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion occurred regarding the recycling container, pricing increase, liability certificate needed and service.

Motion by Jerkatis with support from Rottschafer to authorize Supervisor Englerth to negotiate and/or potentially hire a new recycling hauler for the township. ROLL CALL: Jerkatis: yes, Lippert: yes, Englerth: yes, Rottschafer: yes, Campbell: yes. Yes: 5, No: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Rottschafer to adjourn at 4:25 p.m. Approved by all.

MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted:  
Deb Mousseau, 4-28-15

Janice C. Lippert, Clerk 4-29-15 draft  
Approved as amended: May 14,2015

Motion regarding fire services board formation, developing contract/business plan and handling of building, fire equipment, etc. MOTION CARRIED

**NEW/OLD BUSINESS:**

Motion to rescind previous motion to remove lawn maintenance and recycle container off the agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

**Lawn Service Renewal**

**DK Motion/Lost lack of support**

Motion to accept bid of NW Moore for lawn maintenance. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion to authorize Supervisor Englerth to negotiate and/or potentially hire a new recycling hauler for the township. MOTION CARRIED.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Page 3 of 3  
YST Board of Trustees  
4-21-15