

**BURT TOWNSHIP**  
**Board Meeting**  
**March 4, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Burt Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Harold Koviak on March 4, 2010 at 2:00 pm at the Burt Township Hall, Cheboygan, Michigan.

**Attendance:** Harold Koviak, Shirley Reimann, Art Pillen, Gene Hodulik, Donna McDougall

**Absent:** None

**Guests:** Katie Parker-Ebbers, Mary Street, Linda Socha, Gary Street, Leo Chenevere, James Larson, Jim Betancourt, Marilyn Bonnett, Lorraine Ostwald, Iver Thornburg

Agenda – Harold Koviak

Additions to Agenda:

New business: Fire report

Public Comment – none

**Minutes:**

**MOTION:** Moved by Hodulik, supported by Pillen to accept the minutes of January 7, 2010, as published.

**APPROVED**

**Bills:**

**MOTION:** Moved by Hodulik, supported by Pillen to approve payment of the bills totaling \$10,954.18.

**APPROVED**

**Old Business**

Jim Parker, 10240 Brutus Road, Brutus, MI 49716

Supervisor Koviak reported there is no update on the Parker litigation and Attorney Tim MacArthur has not moved forward at this point.

ACM Tech, Inc.

Koviak said no new information on cable TV on the west side of the lake.

Board of Review

**MOTION:** Moved by Pillen, supported by Hodulik to reappoint the following individuals to the Board of Review: Renee Kinney, Bert Ebbers, Gary Quick, Edward Reimann

**APPROVED**

**New Business**

## Zoning Amendments

Gary Street, Planning Commission Chair, presented the board with proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments.

Includes the following:

Definitions: Accessory structure  
Road Right of way  
Setback

### Section 2. Amendment of Article III, Section 3.09

l) A building eave may extend up to twenty-four inches into the required setback, provided the foundation is in compliance with the required setback.

m) The impervious area directly associated with a public trail crossing a property, which connects to a larger trail system, shall be excluded from the lot coverage calculation, due to the overall public benefit.

### Section 3. Amendment of Article VI, Section 6.12, subsection 1

1. No principal use structures or accessory buildings shall be allowed except for steps meeting the side yard setback for the district in which they are located. Satellite dishes and television antennae are not considered accessory structures and thus are not subject to this regulation.

Gary Street noted that this change is necessary because in some places, the 75 ft front setback is the only location people can get reception.

No comments from the Board.

## Resolution of Support for the Burt Lake Trail Project

Art Pillen said that when the initial Master Plan survey was conducted, safety and recreation were priority issues for residents. In view of that information:

**MOTION:** Moved by Pillen, supported by Hodulik to support the efforts of Burt Township and Mullet Township to pursue funding to construct a consistent, hard surface on the nearly 18-mile trail extending from Topinabee to Maple Bay Campground on Burt Lake.

Discussion:

Mr. Larson said that survey was invalid. (**CORRECTION: Mr. Larson said “the survey did not reflect the views of all residents.”**)

Gary Street explained that the Michigan Trust Fund grant comes from oil and gas royalties and can be used for recreational purposes only.

Leo Chinavere said his grandson was bike riding on Riggsville Road and was nearly hit by a car so safety is an issue.

Gene Hodulik noted that in the summer people do not pay attention to the posted speed limits.

Roll call vote taken:

Koviak – yes, Reimann – yes, Pillen – yes, Hodulik – yes, McDougall – yes

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

## 2009-2010 Audit

Nieland & Kosanke quoted a bid of \$3720 for the 2009-2010 audit. The last audit in 2007-2008 was \$3575.

**MOTION:** Moved by Pillen, supported by Reimann to contract with Nieland & Kosanke for the 2009-2010 audit for \$3720.

**MOTION APPROVED**

Assessor

CPA firm Nieland & Kosanke along with MTA has advised townships to change assessors from contract labor to employees of the township as they are assuming duties normally held by Supervisors.

**MOTION:** Moved by Pillen, supported by Hodulik that township assessor Fred Lindroth be made an employee beginning April 1, 2010, at a yearly salary of \$13,881.00.

**MOTION APPROVED**

2009-2010 Budget

**MOTION:** Moved by Hodulik, supported by Reimann to amend the 2009-2010 budget as follows:

Decrease Public Improvement from \$10,000 to \$2000

Decrease Legal & Professional Fees from \$10,000 to \$8,000

Decrease MTA Convention from \$4,000 to \$500

Decrease Township Hall from \$20,000 to \$14,500

Increase Roads from \$25,000 to \$40,000

Increase Parks and Recreation from \$15,000 to \$19,000

**MOTION APPROVED**

**MOTION:** Moved by Reimann, supported by McDougall to transfer \$400.00 from the General Fund to the Liquor Fund.

**MOTION APPROVED**

MTA Meeting

Shirley Reimann and Art Pillen attended the MTA meeting in January. Reimann reported that beginning this summer the full amount of Cheboygan school tax will be collected in the summer.

Gypsy Moths

Art Pillen attended a meeting regarding spraying for gypsy moths and tent caterpillars. Cost for residents is \$21/acre if enough residents can make up 1,000 acres. The pesticide is safe for lakes, fish, or wildlife. Mullet Township is interested in doing this also. The spraying needs to be done in May. The township will not be involved in collecting monies for this as it is a private enterprise. Pillen will get more information and it will be advertised on the website. Hodulik said gypsy moth spraying was last done in 1993 through a state grant and was very effective.

Broadband Access

Art Pillen attended a meeting with representatives from Merit Network (non-profit organization) who is installing fiber optic throughout northern Michigan through grants from the stimulus fund. Companies could then purchase access for highspeed internet connection. Linda Socha said Cheboygan County is very much in favor of this and will adopt a resolution at their next meeting in support. This will make internet affordable and available to everyone in Cheboygan County and is needed for economic development.

Resolution in support of the Merit Network Round 2 ARRA Application

**MOTION:** Moved by Hodulik, supported by Pillen to support the Merit Phase 2 Application for continued expansion of their middle mile network throughout the Northern Lower Third of Michigan.

**MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution in support of the Northern Michigan Broadband Cooperative

**MOTION:** Moved by Hodulik, supported by Pillen to provide an annual membership fee to the Northern Michigan Broadband Cooperative, which will become the Northern Michigan Broadband Authority, of \$100, so that the Authority can continue to work on behalf of the Northern Lower Third of Michigan in the future.

**MOTION APPROVED**

Municipal Retirement Systems, Inc.

Gary Quick has requested Pension Plan Partial Surrender for hardship.

**MOTION:** Moved by Hodulik, supported by Pillen to approve a Pension Plan Partial Surrender for Gary Quick.

Roll call vote taken:

Koviak – yes, Reimann – yes, Pillen – yes, Hodulik – yes, McDougall – yes

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Fire Report

Iver Thornburg attended the Pellston Fire Department meeting on January 21, 2010. Ten runs were made to Burt Township.

**MOTION:** Moved by Reimann supported by McDougall to hold a Public Budget Hearing for the proposed 2010-2011 budget on April 1, 2010, at 6:30 pm.

**MOTION APPROVED**

Public Comment – none

Next meeting is on April 1, 2010, 7:00 pm; Budget Hearing at 6:30 pm.

**MOTION:** Moved by Hodulik, supported by Pillen to adjourn.

**APPROVED**

Adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna McDougall, Clerk