

**POLKTON CHARTER  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING - MINUTES  
JULY 7, 2022, - 7:00 P.M.  
TOWNSHIP HALL, 6900 ARTHUR, COOPERSVILLE, MI.**

Board Members Present: D.Biller T.Costigan, J.Key, C.Langeland, R.Liszewski, J.Meerman and M.VandenBrink. Absent: None

Additional Attendees: Rochelle Reagan, her Legal Counsel, individuals, and several residents with comments regarding the Rollenhagen House.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited with Biller offering the invocation.

Supervisor Costigan called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** While this was not a public hearing, Rochelle Reagan, her Legal Counsel, individuals, and several residents voiced their thoughts and concerns on the proposed Rollenhagen House. Many repeated what has been said over the last several months and many neighbors of this proposed museum provided letters voicing their concerns. Langeland read several portions of letters as received. Below are several points that were brought up by those attending:

- Ms. Reagan re-explained her SLU request to have her historic home "The Rollenhagen House" at 6670 Leonard Street classified as a Museum or Community Center. She has already obtained a 501(c)(3) Status with the State of MI.
- Jan Everman, while this home is in historic Eastmanville, this home is in the midst of a neighborhood. Many of the houses here are historic and are being preserved by their owners. If a house becomes open for the Public, it will lose the neighborhood feel.
- Could there be just a Historical Marker?
- Could the 501(c)(3) be dissolved and the house sold, houses are better preserved when lived in.
- Shawn Eyestone, Attorney, states that Ms. Reagan would be happy to work with the neighbors as no one wishes to negatively affect the neighbors.
- Currently there are small events taking place at this location. By appointment only.
- Bob and Judy Vandongen, enjoy these historical homes as they bring value to Eastmanville.
- An asset given to the larger community thanks to Rochelle Reagan.
- Guy Vanderwagon was first in this home in 1968 when he was 14 yrs old. It was the hub of the community. In 1866 the area supervisor lived there and his son etched his name in a window where it remains today. Historical artifacts are in the home, many have been there for 100 yrs.
- Maureen McElroy does not want it to become a community center. There are issues with parking and road crossings.
- Grace Bosma has mixed feelings as she feels it would change the neighborhood dynamics and everyone's backyards. To have this home open only 3 months a year, what would happen in the off months?
- Ms. Reagan stated that up keep would happen as maintenance is extensive.
- Gordon and Bev Stroven would like to see this museum happen, it is already being used for family reunions, they do not believe parking or road crossings would be a problem.
- Ms. Reagan stated that she has had kids from Lamont Christian School the last 3-4 springs to help with yard work.
- Betty Kingma believes this is being made a much bigger issue than it should be. 90% of the people she has spoken with, do not understand why it would be denied.
- Ms. Reagan stated at a previous meeting that the neighbors were now fine with the idea, clearly there are still several concerns.
- The Planning Commission approved this SLU with a few contingencies, Ms. Reagan believes she has met all of those contingencies.

Public Comment was called to a close by Costigan at 7:45

**AGENDA:** Liszewski moved to approve the agenda as presented. Key supported. All Ayes; Approved.

**AGENDA**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** VandenBrink moved with support from Langeland to approve the Consent Agenda. Approved were: Minutes from the Regular Board meeting of June 2 with a few adjustments to the Fire Board Report. Bills to be paid along with the Treasurers draft report. Also viewed were PC minutes from June 21, Fire Authority from June 10 and June 14 with financials, SE & Sheridan Park minutes of June 6 and June 16 respectively and the ZBA minutes from June 30.

**CONSENT  
AGENDA**

**Bills Paid:** GF\$ (Ck#10847-108 ) Payroll (Ck#32 -32 ), 1 EFT PR Tax, and WF \$ (Ck#1555-1556).

**BOARD  
REPORTS**

**Treasurers Report:** by Liszewski: Presented adjusted financial report from May including interest and presented a draft financial report for June.

**PC Report:** Kevin from Fresh Coast was in attendance, items discussed included planning using the master plan, completing the proposed Master plan and clarifying several items within the ordinances. Working on the Solar Ordinance and Pole Style homes.

**Fire Authority Report:** by Biller: A 2017 emergency equipped SUV has been purchased for the Fire Department. A financial report was provided.

**Parks Committee:** Gravel to be added to the parking area and spread by Jim Key and his tractor, if cleaning of the handicap area is needed again, please let the office know. Treeworks is being set up to brush the North Bank Trail area from 80<sup>th</sup> into Coopersville. Electric and water piping are to the school house from the well. The parks committee would still like to pursue grants for the 40 acre woods adjacent to the school house property.

**ZBA:** Jesse & Betsy Meerman provided a revised site plan for a smaller (not as long with a narrower porch) building and received a requested front yard variance to meet the requirements for the proposed setting as suggested by GAAMPS for a new building to manufacture cheese from milk produced on the farm. The Meermans acknowledged that they must post an overflow parking area, with no parking on the road and acknowledged responsibility if at anytime damage occurs to their building from the water line as the building encroches the right of way.

Dana & Julie Kleinjans were approved for a 672 sq ft addition to an existing 1120 sq ft accessory building.

**ROLLENHAGEN HOUSE DISCUSSION:** At the June meeting, a request was made by legal council for the Rollenhagen House to change the designation of this house from Muesum to Community Center. Legal Counsel for the Township provided definition for both, Costigan read each description. With the Board hearing all the public comments and having the letters from the concerned neighbors and struggling to find answers to many questions which remain unanswered and based on the definitions as read, Biller stated that the description for a Community Center does not fit the original SLU request as presented. Biller further explained and moved that in accordance with the current Ordinance 8A.03, it is required of the Board to approve the denial resolution as prepared for the June meeting. All board members weighed in with their thoughts and concerns. Members agreed that this is indeed an Historic Home, as are several others in the neighborhood. Liszewski supported the motion by Biller, requesting in addition that the definition of a Muesum be added to the resolution prepared. A roll call vote was taken, All members voting, yes – DENIED.

**ROLLENHAGEN  
HOUSE SLU**

**BUDGET REPORTS:** Mid year reports were presented, balances of funds were verified.

**BUDGET  
REPORT TO  
DATE**

**NORTH BANK BIKE TRAIL (NBT):** A resolution of continued support along with a copy of the previous resolution of support from 2008 were presented to the Board. The North Bank Trail is on track to become the part of the largest trail system in Michigan. This resolution will support the Township’s interest in promoting active and healthy life styles, support the connections to various additional trail systems as well as fulfill ideas within the recreational plan. Furthermore, support will allow those on trail committees to pursue further grants for upgrades and completion of the trail. Liszewski moved to approve the resolution of support for the North Bank Trail as presented. Support from VandenBrink. A roll call vote was taken, All members voting, yes, Approved.

**NORTH  
BANK  
TRAIL  
(NBT)**

**TREWORKS BID:** As presented last month, a \$35,000 bid from Tree Works for grubbing and clearing the old RR trail bed from 64th Ave in the City to 80<sup>th</sup> Ave in Polkton Township. With property located within the City limits and with the NBT looking to offer funds toward this project, the cost for the township portion requested was brought down to \$18,000. Key moved to approve the funds to open the door for the NBT committee to begin the process for access into Polkton Township and the City of Coopersville. Support from Liszewski. A new categories and a budget amendment will be needed and presented at the August meeting. All Ayes. Approved.

**NBT  
CLEARING**

**GREAT LAKES ENERGY:** Great Lakes Energy has submitted an application to join the Metro Act. This application has been sent on to Legal Counsel for review and will be presented in August.

**GREAT  
LAKES  
METRO ACT  
APP.**

**BOARD DISCUSSION:** Needed are residents from Polkton Township interested in serving on the Coopersville Area District Library Board. Are YOU interested? Please give us or the library a call !!!

Are you driven to serve your community? If so, the Coopersville/Polkton Fire Authority is looking for a member from Polkton Township, please contact the Polkton Township Supervisor.

**Board  
Discussion**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Jessica Murphy remained the only one in the audience and she had no comments.

**Public  
Comment**

It was moved and supported to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Minutes written by: Connie Langeland, Clerk  
UnApproved