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## Village taxpayer information meeting

By Ron Cooper

Approximately 100 people met at the Fruitport Auditorium on Monday, July 7, 2011. Tom Steiner led the meeting and there were a lot of complaints heard in regard to the village council and the proposed master plan. Not many solutions were presented except to keep attending village council meetings.

One repeated complaint was that originally the council members had told this group that if they had been attending the council meetings, they would have had more input on the plan. But now they have attended three meetings, and the council has not allowed them an opportunity for input, and in practice, does not seem to want their input.

I was given a few minutes to comment on the possibility for a sewer system in the village. I believe that this is possibly our last opportunity for the foreseeable future to put sewer in, and I believe it is doable.

I offered to volunteer to help them if they want me to. There was not much reaction to that offer except for comments repeated from others that it couldn't be done.

I was just told by Roger Vanderstelt, the village president, that a committee has been formed with citizens from the village and council members that has had one meeting. It sounds like at least some of the master plan issues are being resolved.

## Fruitport Charter Township board actions

(June 13, 2011 meeting – condensed)

In the June 13, 2011 township board meeting, several items were discussed.

Clean up days cost the township \$4,041.57.

As of June 1, township employees changed from Blue Cross to Priority Health insurance.

A permit was granted to Westwind Golf Course to serve liquor between 7 a.m. and noon on Sunday.

Information from a local government law bulletin indicates changes in emergency management law.

Unfinished business included the resolution on the Sheringer Soccer Park. The terms of agreement received from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources include:

1. To appropriate all funds necessary to complete the project during the project period and to provide \$256,100 to match the grant authorized by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

2. To maintain satisfactory financial accounts, documents, and records to make them available to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for auditing at reasonable times.

3. To construct the project and provide such funds, services and materials as may be necessary to satisfy the terms of said agreement.

4. To regulate the use of the facility constructed and reserved under this agreement to assure the use thereof by the public on equal and reasonable terms.

5. To comply with any and all terms of said agreement including all terms not specifically set forth in the foregoing portions of the resolution.

Expenses to cover the Sheringer Soccer Park project will be paid as follows: \$230,000 from the Fruitport Soccer Club; \$213,900 from the Michigan DNR grant; and \$26,100 from the township's general fund, totaling \$470,000.

Motion by Whitlow, seconded by Dillon, carried unanimously, to deny a request for a streetlight at Kendra Road and Stillwater Trails. (There is a street light nearby that lights up the entrance at Kendra Road and Stillwater Trails.)

Motion by Markgraf, seconded by Dillon, carried unanimously, to approve the installation of a center island street light at Mt. Garfield Road and the entrance to Copper Sands. (There are no streetlights from the corner of Sheridan Road to the corner of Kendra and Mt. Garfield Road.)

Township Hall bathrooms will be reconstructed by Hoogewind Construction for \$16,300.00.

Township property on Cline Road (75 acres) is for sale at the price of \$300,000. It was previously listed for \$339,000.

Township hall lighting will be replaced with energy efficient lighting for a total cost of \$1,451.12.

Trustee Chuck Whitlow was appointed as alternate to the West Michigan Regional Water Authority. The supervisor and DPW director were previously appointed as representatives to the authority.

The federal Energy Policy Act of 2005 prohibits the manufacture or import of mercury vapor lights; thus, the lights are being phased out. Mercury vapor lights are still available, but Consumers Energy can no longer obtain supplies to maintain the light fixtures or supporting equipment. The township board voted to allow Consumers Energy to replace failed mercury vapor bulbs and fixtures with the nearest comparable light as long as supplies last.

# 2-1-1

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