

ORANGE TOWNSHIP
265 West David Hwy
Berlin Orange Fire Station

1. **REGULAR MEETING OF THE ORANGE TOWNSHIP BOARD WAS CALLED TO ORDER ON FEBRUARY 10, 2009 AT 7:04 PM**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **PRESENT: Board Members:** Depotty, Bowerman, Green, First & Wittenbach
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None
5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Bowerman asked that lawn mowing contract and 5/3rd bank account be added under New Business. DePotty asked that the sewage treatment plant also be added under New Business. : *Motion to approve the agenda with above additions made by Wittenbach, with support from Green. Motion Carried*
6. **CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION:** Depotty presented information regarding the T-Mobile cell tower and communication from the County Board of Commissioners regarding their attorney's opinion letter concerning zoning and the animal shelter.
7. **MINUTES:**
Bowerman read the minutes of the January regular board meeting. *Motion to approve the minutes made by First with support from Green. Motion Carried.*
8. **TREASURERS REPORT:** Wittenbach read the treasurer's report. She reported having a delay in her receiving of some of the mail as it was sent to the wrong address. She also reported that some of it was tax money and that she did send letters to both the tax payer and Mortgage Company regarding this delay. The savings account at 5/3rd band is also over drawn as it was not closed thus incurring service fees. When a question of mistakes having been made by the previous treasurer arose it was felt by Bowerman and Wittenbach that most everything should be taken care of. *The issue regarding Ferris and township property should be ended. Motion to approve the financial reports made by Green with support from First. Motion Carried.*
9. **MONTHLY BILLS:** Bowerman read the bills. *Motion to pay the bills made by First with support form DePotty. Motion carried.*
10. **REPORTS:**
 - a. Berlin Orange Fire Department – The board discussed the possible options regarding the financing of Orange Township's share of the addition expense. It was agreed by the board that it is the intention of Orange Township to move forward with the addition however, this will be revisited again next month.
 - b. Zoning – Bowerman read the zoning report.
11. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Supervisor – Wayne Depotty ♦ Clerk – Vicki Bowerman ♦ Treasurer – Karla Wittenbach
Trustee – Dan First ♦ Trustee – Tom Green

- a. Gradall Agreement – DePotty explained that the Gradall agreement is only for culvert repair and the amount has a ceiling of \$1500.00. *Motion to sign the Gradall agreement with Ionia County Road Commission made by DePotty with support from First. Motion Carried.*
- b. Derelict Buildings - *Motion made by Wittenbach to follow the Planning Commissions recommendation and not pursue a derelict buildings ordinance with support from Green. Motion Carried.*
- c. Dust Control - *Motion made by Bowerman to follow the Planning Commissions recommendation and not pursue a dust control ordinance with support from First. Motion Carried.*

12. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Investment/Board Retirement – Bowerman voiced concern that elimination of this would be a lost of income money for board members. Issue tabled until next meeting.
- b. Public Safety & Emergency Response Cost Recovery – This ordinance was discussed and no action was taken.
- c. Brine Agreement – First indicated that the brine did help hold the gravel on the roads. *Motion to sign the Brine agreement with Ionia County Road Commission made by First with support from Wittenbach. Motion Carried.*
- d. Township Web Address – Depotty asked that an attempt be made to add the township web address to all correspondence.
- e. Lawn Mowing Contract – Getting new bids for lawn service was discussed. A citizen volunteered to level the old township hall lot and another citizen volunteered to mow this lot for the township. Bowerman will then advertise for bids regarding the two cemeteries.
- f. 5/3rd Bank Account – As discussed during the financial report, the savings account at 5/3rd bank has a negative balance. Bowerman and Wittenbach reported that there must be a minimum of \$1000.00 in the account to avoid monthly service fees and that it would also give an advantage to future CD rates. *Motion to move \$1500.00 from the general fund to 5/3rd Bank so that no additional fees are occurred made by DePotty with support form Green. Motion Carried.*

13. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a. Citizen reminded board of the importance of the upcoming census.
- b. Citizen remarked about the helpfulness of the newsletter.
- c. Citizen requested that the board review irregularities that occurred during board member transition period.
- d. Citizen asked about the rumble strips being reinstalled at the corner of David and Kelsey. DePotty indicated that [he received information from Ionia County Road Commission that](#) they will not be reinstalled unless it appears to become a safety issue.

14. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Fire Barn Addition
- b. Public Safety and Emergency Response cost recovery ordinance.
- c. Dust Control Ordinance
- d. Derelict Building Ordinance
- e. Gradall Agreement
- f. Budget
- g. Investment Policy

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15. **ADJOURNMENT:** *Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Green with support from Wittenbach. Motion carried.* Meeting adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
VICKI BOWERMAN
ORANGE TOWNSHIP CLERK

APPROVED: 3/10/2009

Supervisor – Wayne DePotty ♦ Clerk – Vicki Bowerman ♦ Treasurer – Karla Wittenbach
Trustee – Dan First ♦ Trustee – Tom Green