

HAYES TOWNSHIP BOARD of TRUSTEES
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
March 6, 2014

The Public Hearing of the Hayes Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Ethel Knepp at 7:30 p.m. at the Hayes Township Hall, 09195 Old US 31 N. The purpose of this hearing was to take public comments regarding the submission of a grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund to develop a boat launch at Camp Sea-Gull, Hayes Township Park.

Board members present were Marlene Golovich, Ethel Knepp, Rich Burnett, Douglas Kuebler and Robbin Kraft. Audience members were Tom Forton, Jim Rudolph, Paul Zardus, Warren Nugent, Jerry Simpson, David Zipp, Ed Bajos, **Bill Stewart, Jim Malewitz**, Bob Jess and John Campbell.

Supervisor Knepp explained the purpose of this meeting is to consider a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant application for a development grant for a boat launch and fishing pier at the Hayes Township Park, Camp Sea-Gull located on Lake Charlevoix.

Jim Malewitz, an engineer from Performance Engineering, presented two concept plans of the boat launch project and gave an overview of each plan. The first plan shows the road to the lake and boat launch going down the east side of the property and cutting over to the west side at the mid-point. The second plan shows the entrance to the park at the east property line and the road running parallel to the Boyne City Road and going down the west side of the property to the lake and boat launch. The plans show nine boat parking slips at the launch with two additional handicap spaces. Additional day parking is also designated on the plan. Both plans will also require twenty foot retaining walls due to the hilly topography. The launch will have approximately four feet of water at low water levels.

Plan #1 shows the entrance moved to the east for site distance per the Charlevoix Road Commission. The road to the lake skirts the wetlands and has a 5-6% grade but divides the park. The overflow parking would be quite a distance from the launch but close to the tennis courts and open grassy area.

Plan #2 would use the same entrance as indicated on Plan #1 but would run parallel with the Boyne City Road to the west side of the property and the road to the launch would have a 10% grade. Overflow parking would be closer to the launch and the road would not be near the wet lands. The plan would not divide the park but leave the east side open for future recreational development. This plan also adds an additional 800 feet to road construction costs.

Both plans show future plans for a fishing pier, kayak/canoe launch and restrooms. Plan #1 also indicates future parking for the future location of a trail head for the Boyne City to Charlevoix non-motorized trail.

Jim Malewitz also stated that lake bottom soundings for depth have been completed and we are waiting for spring weather to get an accurate topo survey. A riparian survey has also been ordered to make sure the launch and fishing pier do not trespass on riparian neighbors. A rough cost estimate still needs to be done.

John Campbell stated that plan #2 leaves more open space and can provide buffers on the west for the adjacent property.

Doug Kuebler asked where the future bike trail would go. Jim stated that the bike trail will go in the road right of way. Marlene said the Township should consider letting the bike trail run thru the park.

Paul Zardus, a neighbor on the west, stated that plan #1 is going down a very steep hill and the parking lot will be placed in the middle of what is now an old ball field. He stated he would hate to lose the future use of a ball field for a parking lot. As a homeowner next door he would also like to see the entrance moved further to the west. Paul asked why the entrance location is being changed from the existing location. The Charlevoix County Road Commission is recommending the change because the existing entrance is on a curve and may cause a potential hazard when turning in with a boat trailer. The siting of the entrance will be left up to the Charlevoix County Road Commission.

Paul Zardus also stated that the tennis courts are shot and the entrance could be moved closer to that area.

Jim Rudolph stated that costs for tennis court maintenance should be obtained. Marlene stated that those numbers could be obtained from neighboring Charlevoix Township.

Ethel Knepp asked if the projected costs were near \$400,000. Jim said they would be at least that amount.

Rich Burnett asked if that price include demolition costs of the buildings that are in the new roads way. Jim stated he believed some cost for demolition was included but that the Township had indicated they wanted to seek bids for selling the building materials.

Rich stated that having the overflow parking closer to the ramp was a good idea. He asked if the location of the utilities is being taken into consideration with either plan.

Road run off needs to be addressed via retention or via the use of rain gardens.

Jim Rudolph asked if a 20 foot truck with a 20 foot trailer can make the turn radius. Jim Malewitz answered yes.

The Parks and Recreation Committee is preparing RFP's to hire a firm to create a park master plan.

Dave Zipp asked how much money the Township has in the park fund. Clerk Golovich answered that the Township does not have a fund per se but a budget line item that will be addressed in the new budget year beginning in July 2014.

All audience and board members were polled to see which plan they preferred. Everyone preferred Plan #2 with some minor changes. Plan # 2 will be submitted to the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council and the Disability Network/Northern Michigan for review.

Doug Kuebler stated that sewer, water, electric and any other utilities should be included in this

plan. Jerry Simpson stated that the restrooms may have to be of the vault type.

Public Comment Period Closed 8:52 p.m.

Without objection this meeting was adjourned at 8:52. p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Marlene Golovich
Hayes Township Clerk

Minutes approved as corrected March 10, 2014