

Agriculture Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes
September 20, 2012

Committee Members Present: Bob Puskas, Chair Cathy Blumig, Frank Hasner, Gary Randolph
Meeting called to order at 8:05pm.

F. Varacalli, Consultant

Motion F. Hasner made a motion to approve the May 17 minutes with corrections. C. Blumig seconded the approval of the May Minutes. All Members were in Favor. Motion Carries.

F. Hasner made a motion to accept the September Open Space Trust Fund Financial report as presented with a balance of \$10,130,011.44. G. Randolph seconded the motion. All Members were in favor. Motion Carries.

C. Blumig made a motion to open the meeting to public. F. Hasner seconded the motion and the meeting was opened to the public.

Mr. Chrin, 20 County Rd. 518.

Mr. Chrin asked the Committee to consider purchasing the development rights to his property at Block 11.01 lot 22 approximately 29 acres. And also the wooded lot adjacent to lot 22 that is approximately 50 acres by December 30, 2012. The Township purchased the development rights on contiguous lots in 2008 from Mr. Chrin. The Committee advised Mr. Chrin to fill out a Municipal Preliminary Incentive Grant application. Once received the Agriculture Advisory Committee would review the application and possibly recommend the purchase of the development rights to the Open Space Advisory Committee for their recommendation to the Land Use Committee and then the Full Township Council before the project is approved for preservation. The Committee advised Mr. Chrin that even if the project is approved to move forward with appraisals that the Township would not be able to close the deal by the end of 2012. This is due to the time it takes to order appraisals, go under contract, and preform a survey. These due diligence tasks take at least 2 -3 months at a minimum and the approval process 1-2 months. However, the Committee encouraged Mr. Chrin to fill out the application and submit for review at the October 20 Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting.

C. Blumig made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting. G. Randolph seconded the Motion. All Members were in favor. Motion Carries.

F. Varacalli updated the Committee on the ten Farm Outreach letters sent in August. One farm owner is interested. A meeting is scheduled for September to follow up.

F. Varacalli updated the Committee on the open spaces that leased for farming. F. Varacalli sent letters to the Lessee's in August requesting compliance with the requirements of the lease agreements.

C. Blumig made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss contracts and land deals. F. Hasner seconded the motion. All Members were in favor. Motion Carries.