

# Trustees recognize accomplishments of Land Bank in Township

by Marian McMahon  
January 18, 2019

MADISON TOWNSHIP – After years of effort, with the help of the Lake County Land Reutilization Corporation, the old, abandoned gas station on the corner of Hubbard and Chapel roads was demolished in 2018.

In appreciation of the help from what is commonly referred to as the Land Bank, the Board of Trustees passed and presented to LCLRC Director John Rogers, a resolution of thanks at the Jan. 8 trustees meeting.

The resolution recognized “the positive impact and influence the Lake County Land Reutilization Corporation has made upon Madison Township by ‘Revitalizing abandoned and/or blighted residential or commercial structures by acquisition for rehabilitation and/or demolition.’”

In 2018, two old structures were demolished with assistance from the Land Bank, including the abandoned gas station at 1991 Hubbard Road and an abandoned apartment complex at 1843 Green Road.

“The Board of Madison Township Trustees, on behalf of the residents of Madison Township, hereby recognize the Lake County Land Reutilization Corporation, and its staff, John M. Rogers, Esq. and Linda S. Fredebaugh, for their hard work and dedication in the demolition and remediation of abandoned and/or blighted properties in Madison Township, and look forward to working with them on future projects,” Trustee Ken Gauntner read from the resolution.

Rogers said they were nearly done with the gas station, apart from repairing the sidewalk and drives as needed when weather permits.

“They’re putting four wet wells onto the property, just to determine if there’s any (contaminants) in the water on that property,” he said.

The water that accumulates in the wells will be checked in three or four months. If the samples are good, then the Land Bank can proceed to put up the property for sale.

However, if there is contamination, then monitoring will need to continue.

The other eyesore the Land Bank dealt with was a property with some old apartments on Green Road. It was donated to the Land Bank because the owner found the cost to rehabilitate and rehab the apartments was too great.

The properties the Land Bank was responsible for demolishing, and the cost, over the past five years were:

2489 Dock Rd. at \$25,050

1893 Red Bird Rd. at \$19,574



6578 Lake Road West at \$12,059

1504 Yale Ave. at \$19,394

1517 Glenview Ave. at \$7,155

5585 Chapel Rd. in Stanton Park at \$9,502

1843 Green Rd. (5 units) at \$83,423

1991 Hubbard Rd., abandoned gas station at \$128,000

The total cost for the demolitions was \$445,860.

“John, I will say, I know you represent the western half of Lake County, but you have helped us a whole lot more on the eastern half than maybe we’ve gotten from other representatives that represent this side of the county,” Gauntner said. “So thank you.”

In other business:

- The trustees passed a resolution recognizing Police Chief Matthew A. Byers upon the successful completion of the Federal Bureau of Investigations National Academy, Session 274.

Byers reported for the month of December there were 1,016 calls for service generating 172 incident reports, 53 arrests, 36 crashes and 27 citations.

A resolution was passed recognizing Lt. Elizabeth Kirk for her exceptional service as acting chief of police from Oct. 1, 2018 through Dec. 14, 2018.

Trustees passed a resolution declaring it is necessary to pass a 3.9-mill police levy to replace 1982 1.9-mill permanent tax and a 1994 2.0-mill permanent tax and requesting that the Lake County Auditor certify the total current tax valuation of the Madison Township Police District and the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by the replacement of the older levies.

- The trustees passed the following resolutions:

To approve change order #1 with Ashview Enterprises, in the total amount of \$4,700; for the CDBG FY2017 Stanton Park Restroom Renovation, increasing the total contract amount to \$54,500.

To establish the rental rates of facilities located in Madison Township Parks.

Entering into an agreement with Lake County Board of Commissioners to provide FY2018 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding, in the amount of \$147,400, for the construction of public restrooms in Bill Stanton Park.

Entering into an agreement with Lake County Board of Commissioners to provide FY2018 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding, in the amount of \$102,600 for the renovation of the reception hall restrooms located in Bill Stanton Park.

- In honor and recognition of Trevor Baker upon earning the Eagle Scout Award from the Greater Western Reserve Council of the Boy Scouts of America.
- To re-appoint Mary Lou Holmes to the Madison Senior Center Board of Directors.
- To appoint Gerald Hollis as a member of the Madison Senior Center Board to fill the unexpired term of Cindy Girdler.
- Fire Department calls for 2017 were 2,940 and for 2018 there were 3,139. The majority of the calls were for EMS services.
- The Madison Township Administrative Offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 21 in observance of Martin Luther King Day.
- The next regular meeting of the trustees will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 22.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

John Rogers, director of the Lake County Land Reutilization Corporation, third from left,

accepts a special resolution of thanks from Madison Township Trustee Pete Wayman, Trustee Kenneth Gauntner, Fiscal Officer Terry Ditchcreek, and Trustee Max Anderson.