



**WEESAW TOWNSHIP**  
**New Troy, MI 49119**



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, November 18, 2020**

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Gary Sommers at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all present.

- **Roll Call by Clerk Green:** Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Michelle Tackitt Members absent: Robert Warmbein
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present due to pandemic. Report indicated the following incidents during the period of 09/01/2020-09/30/2020: 17complaints, 0 tickets issued; 4 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by King, supported by Tackitt, to add the following items to the Agenda: GRSD Bills (after Accounts Payable); Fire Dept. Consultant; Ambulance. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by King supported by Tackitt, to approve the Accounts Payable Report as presented to the Board Members in the following amounts: General Fund \$13,538.47, Fire Dept. \$11,567.93; Ambulance \$2,345.92, Other: Phase 2 Sewer Note Payment: 13,426.87; Sewer \$368.58, for a Grand Total of \$41,247.77. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried (Warmbein not in attendance). **Added to Agenda:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to pay the Sewer's GRSD billings which came in too late to add to the above payables in the amount of \$6,833.97 (2 months). This amount will be indicated on the December Accounts Payables. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss was not present. He put together and provided a Weesaw Township Police Dept. Policy & Procedure Manual for the board members to review and study in order to get back with Krauss relating to the part-time police officer's position.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz, and reported 3 meetings (Hot Stick & confined spaces training, Truck checks, Safety meeting). 8 calls: 1 structure, 1 grass, 3 PI, 1 CO Alarm, 1 utility call, 1 lift assist w/Medic 1. Nitz requested to bring Santa to FONT. Motion by Tackitt, supported by Sommers, to approve using the truck to deliver Santa to/from FONT. Voice vote all ayes, motion carried.
- **Other Fire Dept Matters:**
  1. **Added to Agenda:** The Fire Dept. received a bid from Villa Environmental Consultants to do a MIOSHA Part 74 Audit for the Fire Dept. area. The bid was \$1,100. It was suggested that we attempt to also get another bid. Green will look up the past consultant's fees – Harwood – to see how much it was at that time.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2020, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- **Correspondence:** A drain maintenance notice was received from the Berrien County Drain Commissioner for Pierce Lewis & Jennings #406 Drain. No amount was indicated. The Township's share is usually in the 20% ballpark. Another correspondence by a resident who was upset by a police officer pulling over a vehicle and doing a search on her property. A copy of this complaint was provided to Enforcement Officer Krauss, along with the board members.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bank balances provided. Tackitt informed that the winter tax bills will be out by December 1. Added to agenda: Ambulance CD. Tackitt inadvertently neglected to move monies from the Ambulance Fund CD when it came up available to transfer monies. She wanted to know what to do. It was agreed by the board to move monies as needed to the checking account from the Ambulance CD amount.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** Report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** Provided.
- **Cemetery Committee:** Leaf clean up. Sommers indicated that Pat Williams/Lawnscaapes will clean the leaves from the cemetery during the timeframe of 11/20-11/30, but before snow falls @ \$750/cleaning. Any other clean-ups will be \$350/each.
- **Parks/Recreation:** No report. Sommers requested a price for the downed tree in the Weesaw park from a timber purchaser. He was told payment of \$100, and Sommers felt that was too low.
- **Road Committee:** There was a Berrien County Road Dept. virtual meeting scheduled, which Warmbein and Green only attended. The hand-outs were forwarded by the Road Dept. and provided to the board members by Green. The Township also received a copy of the Road Dept.'s 3-year plan. Sommers indicated that the road plan had been changed, and he would make the Road Dept. aware of this in order to set the record straight.
- **Website Committee:** No information available.
- **Drains:** No information.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **IN-MI Power Street Lights Contract Approval:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers. to approve the two contracts indicating that the Township street lights are being changed out from all mercury and sodium vapor street lights to the new LED heads at no charge to the township.
- **Township Hall Closings:** Notice provided by Green as to closing of the Township Hall as to her only responsibilities during the upcoming holiday weeks (Treasurer's schedule will continue as presented by Tackitt): Thanksgiving: Open Monday, 11/22 9:00-4 only during that timeframe; Christmas week: Open Monday, 12/20 only; New Year's week: Possibly Monday only, (To be determined depending upon her family's visit schedule.)
- **Continued Table:** Phase 2 Sewer & Letter re delinquent sewer.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** Verbal information provided by Atty. Senica per below:
- **Revisit in the Future:** Atty. Senica verbally via phone conversation with Green suggested our tabling to a future meeting: Resolution 2020-10 to Establish a Position for a Part-Time Police Officer in Weesaw Township & Ordinance 23 (2020) An Ordinance to Adopt the International Property Maintenance Code by Reference. This will be taken up at a future meeting.
- **Open Snowplowing Bids:** There was one bid received from Seeder & Co. Motion by Green, supported by King, to accept the bid as received, as follows: Twp. Hall/Fire Sta. \$96.25; Weesaw Cemetery \$68.75; Glendora Cemetery \$72.75; Mill Rd. Park \$45; Old New Troy School (to be split between FONT & Township) \$73.00.
- **Burnham & Flower Insurance Renewal:** After Township Board reviewing the policy, motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve the figures as follows: Michigan Twp. Par Plan

Package \$19,136 (option 1 unlimited coverage), plus \$36 for Add Casualty Limited Terrorism Coverage; plus \$29 for Add Property Limited Terrorism Coverage for a total of \$19,201.00.

- **Clerk Requests Hazard Pay for Election Workers:** Clerk Green requested hazard pay for her 8 election workers for the highly stressful recent election. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve an amount of \$150 to each of the eight election workers for a grand total of \$1,200.00. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve \$1,000 stipend to Township Clerk Green for hazard pay. Green was not in accord with this motion. Roll call vote, 3 ayes (Sommers, King, Tackitt – Green abstained), motion carried. Green will contact MTA to ensure this can be done, as she is not sure of its legality.
- At 8:30 p.m., motion by Sommers, supported by King, to extend the meeting to 9:15 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Demolition Permit Form Approval:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve the use of the new Demolition Permit Application as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **CONTINUE TO TABLE: Phase 2 Sewer:** bring back up after elections have been completed.
- **CONTINUE TO TABLE: Letter to Chad Sperry re. delinquent sewer:** King will contact Olson Realtors regarding payment of this billing.
  
- **Public Comments:** None.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk