



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, July 21, 2021

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, Robert Warmbein. Members Absent: Michelle Tackitt
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present due to Coronavirus pandemic. Report provided indicated the following activity for Weesaw Township during the period of 05/01-05/31/2021: 27complaints, 0 tickets issued; 0 arrests.
- Tackitt arrived at 7:04 p.m.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to add 5 items as provided by Fire Chief Nitz under the Fire Dept, as follows: 1) Firefighter physicals, 2) pay Buchanan Twp. Fire for foam, 3) appoint new captain as Safety-Health Officer, 4) hire Dakota Conway pending background check, 5) Repair ladders from testing. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Jimmy's Lawncare Representatives** were present to voice their concerns regarding the skipping of mowing over the past few weeks. The Township had requested that they skip several weeks' mowings due to the considerable additional we are paying for mowing this year, and there wasn't enough additional funds put in the budget for the higher amount, since the former lawncare company's late notification of their not being able to continue mowing due to their lack of employees. Jimmy's Lawncare representatives indicated that when they skip mowing for a week during the growing season, it creates a problem with their mowing, since the grass had grown considerably due to the recent rains and it makes it hard on their equipment. They had been told by Township specifications to mow at 3" or higher, and that is their desire to keep the lawns beautiful. After board discussion and concerns expressed, Sommers told them to do what they had to do to make it look good in the future.
- **Public Comments:** None.
- **Accounts Payables/Receivable:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to add an additional \$840 to the General Fund amount for Atty. Senica's billing which came in late, making the amended amounts as follows: \$17,306.08 for the General Fund, Fire Dept. \$11,645.09; Ambulance \$2,501.34, Sewer \$4,739.08, for a Grand Total of \$36.101.59. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Sommers, Tackitt, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Not present
- **Fire Dept:** Meetings: Truck checks, wash hose from barn fire, safety meeting. 1) Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to pay the up to \$5500 for Firefighter physicals. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, Green), motion carried. 2) Billing from Buchanan Twp. Fire for foam. This amount was approved in Fire Dept. payables previously, thus no need to approve again. Nitz reported that the insurance company wants a report for the Smith barn (next door to the barn burn reported last month). Perhaps the insurance

company will pay up to \$500 for this incident. 3) Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to take executive action of Fire Chief Nitz to remove, Donnie Johnson II as Safety-Health Captain. Roll call vote, 4 ayes (Warmbein, Tackitt, King, Sommers – 1 nay Green), motion carried. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to appoint Amanda Bronson as new Health-Safety Captain. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, Green), motion carried. 4) Hire Dakota Conway. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to hire Dakota Conway pending a favorable background check as a firefighter. It will be necessary for him to take Firefighter 1 and 2 in the future. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried. 5) Repair ladders. Approximately \$140 for repairs. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers to repair the ladders and have them tested at up to \$140. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Tackitt, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.

- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Regular Board Minutes of June 16 and Special Board Meeting Minutes of June 21, and July 7, 2021, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** Nothing to report.

Other Township Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bank and CD balances provided. Tackitt is in the midst of her summer tax collection season.

Building Zoning Administrator: No report received.

Planning Commission: May Minutes Provided.

Cemetery Committee: None.

Website: When latest approved minutes are provided, the website will be up to date on minutes posted.

Drains' Committee: No report.

Parks Committee: Jack Dodds was in town and attended the meeting. He has provided the updated 5-year Parks Plan that he has completed, with a few changes to be made. It was a tremendous undertaking for which the board members are extremely grateful. The Parks Plan has to be up-to-date in order to apply for a grant. Jack Dodds provided a Parks Plan Approval Process 2021-22 for the board's review. A Resolution of Approval template is attached on page 2. Many thanks to Jack for all his hard work and synopsis of the steps that have to be taken for completion of this task. Sommers will contact Wightman to get a cost for the ADD compliant parking lot down the hill.

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Attorney Sara Senica Update:** Invoice received and paid.
- **At 8:28:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Tackitt, to extend the meeting to 8:45. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Review Zoning Fees:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to accept the Zoning Fees of 7/2021 as printed, except raise the land division price to \$150, per division. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** In the course of public comments, it became apparent that the Cadet Program was not acted upon and needed to be addressed. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve the latest version of the Cadet Program and Attorney Senica's waiver which she provided last month for review and approval. Each cadet should have a copy of the waiver signed and provided to the township. Roll call vote, all ayes, (Warmbein, Sommers, Tackitt, Green, King), motion carried.

- Query from an audience member regarding the setting of the Porta-John again this year. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to inquire about the cost to installing it for the months of August-October, for up to \$150/month. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, Tackitt, King, Green), motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion by Green, supported by King, to adjourn at 8:54 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green
Clerk