



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



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, August 26, 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, Robert Warmbein. Members absent: None
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present. Report indicated the following incidents during the period of 06/01-06/30/2020: 29 complaints, 1 ticket issued; 3 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Agenda as amended: Request to add the following items: Millage Request Report after Public Comments; Kruggel Lawton Correspondence; Deputy Treasurer bonding under Treasurer report; Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Accounts Payable Report as presented in the following amounts: General Fund \$17,451.08, Fire Dept. \$6,294.80; Ambulance \$2,379.42, Sewer \$4,292.01, for a Grand Total of \$30,417.31. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, King, Sommers, Tackitt, Warmbein), motion carried.
- **Tree Marketing Program Update:** A Special Meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, August 29, 2020, 10:00 a.m. at the Weesaw Township Park (adjacent to the Friends of New Troy), California Rd., to meet with a forester, Mr. Brett Kuipers, and a potential trails builder person (this individual has not yet been confirmed) to hear their presentation regarding marketing of some trees in the park area. Other interested persons have been notified of the meeting.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss was not present.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz, reported 3 meetings, safety meeting, truck checks, critical incident debriefing; Training: Pump training/drivers' training; Calls: 3 auto accidents with one being 1 mutual aid for tankers; 1 grass fire.
  - Purchases requested for approval: New fire hose 1-3/4", \$2000; pump testing \$500. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to approve \$2,000 to purchase 800-ft. 1-3/4" fire hose; and approve \$500 for pump testing. Roll call vote, all ayes, (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- **2020 Tax Rate Request:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve and have Sommers and Green sign this form indicating 2020 millages as follows: Allocated operating .8302; Ex Voted Fire 1.0; Ex Voted Roads 1.0. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried. A copy of the signed form will be provided to Assessor Angela Story for tax purposes.

- **Deputy Treasurer Bonding:** Last month Treasurer Tackitt wanted her daughter Alyson to be her deputy. She had requested information from the B.C. Treasurer which was provided by the Berrien County Treasurer, as well as information was received from MTA, regarding Deputy Treasurer Bonding. MTA provided verbiage from MCL 41.77, which indicated (under item 5) that bonding is required for the deputy treasurer. One of the board members will check with our insurer about bonding criteria for her daughter, a minor, for this position.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of July 15, 2020 as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** Messages were received from township residents Katy Harington regarding internet availability, and Kim Krestan regarding enforcement issues. It was indicated that, per our enforcement officer at last month meetings, enforcement complaint issues should be addressed to the sheriff department for response. This information will be relayed to Kim Krestan for future enforcement issues. No immediate information regarding increasing internet district. In the past this has been the responsibility of Xfinity, not the township. Information regarding Granor Farms tasting room licensing provided by State of MI.
- It was indicated by a resident that it is the understanding that a \$75 ticket was issued to a violator for burning garbage (considered an illegal burn in New Troy). Also, a written complaint was received.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bank balances provided.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** No report received.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** Draft minutes provided. No meeting held this month.
- **Parks/Recreation:** No report.
- **Cemetery:** Sommers reported that he had been in contact with the mowers to indicate that they should not mow this week due to weather dryness thus lack of need to mow.
- **Road Committee:** No meeting.
- **Website Committee:** No information available.
- **Drains:** Sober and Becker Drain Resolution. Sommers and Warmbein met with others apropos entities regarding payment of this drain and were able to negotiate an agreement to pay less than indicated initially – a revised amount of \$8,170.13 (which will be approx. \$1,535 per year for 5 years). Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Berrien County Sober and Becker Drain #476 Resolution, 08/26/2020, as revised by Jeannine Totzke. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Tackitt, Green), Resolution dated August 26, 2020, adopted. Green will forward the Resolution signed by Supervisor Sommers to B.C. Drains Dept.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Tabled to later date: Phase 2 Sewer:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to table this issue and bring back up after elections have been completed.
- **Letter to Chad Sperry re. delinquent sewer:** King will again contact Olson Realtors regarding payment of this billing.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** Atty. Senica provided a written recommendation/authorization for Clerk Green to destroy the "Emily" FOIA ballots from the 2016 Presidential Election, which have since been burned.
- **Street Light Assessment:** Each August the township board must adopt a resolution to approve the annual assessment for Street Lights. Clerk Green indicated that after reviewing the assessments vs. revenues received on the tax bills, she didn't believe it would be necessary to raise the assessments this year, but to leave them at \$27/each as has been for the past few

years. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to adopt Weesaw Township Street Lights' Assessment District Annual Review for 2020, Resolution #2020-09, leaving the assessment at \$27/each for the upcoming year. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, King, Tackitt, Warmbein, Green), Resolution adopted as presented. Green will make Assessor Story aware of this fact.

- **Continue to Table the Review/Update Zoning Fees:** Table issue until at least latter part of this year.
  
- **Public Comments:** A number of comments/complaints regarding trash being brought in and dumped on New Troy properties.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Green, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk