



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, May 20, 2020 (Revised)

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. Report received via facsimile for the period of 03/01-03/31/2020 with the following Weesaw statistics: 34 complaints, 2 tickets, 11 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to accept the Agenda as is. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** No public comments.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Accounts Payable Report in the following amounts: General Fund \$10,613.72, Fire Dept. \$5,935.32, Ambulance \$2,345.92, Phase II Sewer Note Payment 25,674.37, Sewer \$4,468.23, for a Grand Total of \$49,037.56. Roll call vote, 4 ayes (King, Warmbein, Sommers, Green [Tackitt absent]), motion carried.
- **Tree Marketing Program Update:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to again table this item until a later date, as we need to continue to postpone this program until normality is back due to the Covid-19 pandemic and we then can go forward with this issue. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss presented a verbal report to the board members. Tickets have been issued for several township violators. However, everything has stopped due to the pandemic. The courts are waiting until things are back to normal. Krauss has spoken with Atty. Senica regarding the judgment against the property owner several doors west of the Township Hall and she has requested a copy of the judgment, as it could not be found by the court. Back in February, the property owner said he'd have the property cleaned up by May. Another property on Elm Valley also needs to be cleaned up. Krauss contacted the state inspector to try to get some help, and found out that state inspectors don't inspect houses. He found a number of violations. The owner is presently staying at another place. The authorities took 22 dogs out of the house, and this is the second time this has happened. It is being treated as an emergency. Our attorney gave permission for Krauss to take care of the matter. He is presently working with the family. Regarding the Kim Krestan issue letter addressed to the board, Krauss will pen a letter to her and run it by Green. He also indicated that the courts are working very slowly due to the pandemic.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz. Meetings: Truck checks; Calls 1 PIA, 1 water issue, 1 illegal burn, 1 mutual aid (Buchanan Twp.), 1 fire alarm. Training: 800 pager training by D.J. Nitz report several incidents during the month concerning the Fire Dept.
- Tackitt arrived at 7:45 p.m. during the following discussion.

- Other Fire Dept. items to be approved for purchase: 1) Decon case wipes purchase by Nitz \$300; 2) Computer software (2) \$540; 3) Schutze bid for new construction/office expansion \$1,540; 4) Jaws repair \$2,300 (a bolt was too tight and caused damage to jaws); 5) Hose/ladder testing \$2,700; 6) Tourniquets (10) \$120), 7) Active 911 Subscription for firefighters \$160 = Grand Total of \$7,600.00. Chief Nitz is also requesting a donation of \$1,600 towards repair of the jaws from a colleague of his. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to approve \$7,600 for the costs of the aforementioned items. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of April 15, 2020. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** 1) Coronavirus updates provided to board members previously; 2) Adopt COVID-19 Preparedness & Response Plan of May 20, 2020, per Governor Whitmer directive. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to adopt the “COVID-19 Preparedness & Response Plan of May 20, 2020”, as provided to all board members by Clerk Green. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Tackitt, Sommers, Warmbein, Green), motion carried; 3) Krestan correspondence (already discussed previously), 4) MTA Annual Membership Dues. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein to approve the MTA annual dues fees in the amount of \$1,675.93. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Green, Warmbein, King, Tackitt), motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- **Treasurer’s Report:** No bank balances provided.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** Written report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** No Planning Commission meeting minutes.
- **Parks/Recreation:** Table placement of Port-a-Potty to next month. Lawscapes informed King that the tree that was lawnmower damaged in the park last year has been ordered.
- **Cemetery:** It was mentioned that there are several broken headstones in the cemeteries that need repairing. The former repair person has retired and we need to find someone else who does this type of repairs.
- **Road Committee:** Sommers reported there are several township roads that are graveled and waiting to be repaved.
- **The set timeframe for township meetings being imminent:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to extend the meeting time by 30 minutes. Voice vote, all ayes motion carried.
- **Website Committee:** No information available.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Phase 2 Sewer:** Green to contact Paul Bristol/USDA regarding additional annual sewer payments, per his letter to Township Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** No input.
- **Budgeting Reminder:** Since State Revenue Sharing has been substantially cut back, all township departments need to be mindful of spending.
- **Computer Bids from Dell:** Provided for replacement of three computers – Assessor, Treasurer and Receptionist. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Green, to approve up to \$2,700 for three Dell computers (3 @ \$719/ea.) complete with home/student software (3 @ \$149.99/ea.). Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.
- **Review/Update Zoning Fees tabled last month:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to table again this month. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- **Public Comments:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to amend the Fire Dept. office remodel motion to pay one-half up front and one-half upon completion of the job. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, Warmbein, Sommers, King, Tackitt), motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk