



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



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, June 17, 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 (arrived 7:02 p.m.), Robert Warmbein. Members absent: None
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present. Report received via facsimile for the period of 04/01-04/30/2020 with the following Weesaw statistics: 25 complaints, 0 tickets, 1 arrest.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to insert Michigan Townships Par Plan dividend and computer invoice to following New Business agenda item, and approve the Agenda with those changes. 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 as presented in the following amounts: General Fund \$57761.05, Fire Dept. \$9,626.63, Ambulance \$2,393.42, Sewer \$5,037.46, for a Grand Total of \$75,818.47 (of which \$42,812.00 was the rebuild of two sections of Wagner Rd. and one section of Pardee Rd.) Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Sommers, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- **Tree Marketing Program Update:** Tabled for past 4 months: Warmbein indicated that he had talked with Brett Kuipers and he wants to move forward with public comments. Kuipers is a forester from Grand Rapids area. Discussion of various proposals by board members. Warmbein will try to coordinate to set up a meeting with the forester and a trail builder at about 10:00 a.m. or so in the future. There was discussion and questions from board members. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, that Warmbein coordinate a meeting with a forester and the trail builder to meet with the board and the public around August 29 to consider this project. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss was unable to be present.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz, reported 5 calls. Truck checks; hose testing performed during month; 1 probationary firefighter is resigning. 800 MHz radios training. Nitz indicated that the contractor is waiting for a rainy day to do the construction on the new office area. Fire Chief Nitz indicated that the Skinners/Glendor Rd. had indicated that they would permit helicopter landing on their property if needed, with insurance stipulations. There is shooting happening on Union St. (Green to search for old ordinance to provide to Nitz relating to this subject).
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of May 10, 2020 with one misspelled word, indicated by Green, corrected. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** 1) Coronavirus updates provided to board members previously.; 2) Due to ongoing complaints of ordinance complaints, Green updated letter to forward with tax bills to

township homeowners regarding a township “clean-up” campaign. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve inserting the “draft” letter in with the summer tax bills. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer’s Report:** Bank balances and CD balances provided. Summer taxes are being readied to send out.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** Written report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** No Planning Commission meetings have been held recently, thus no minutes.
- **Parks/Recreation:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to not place the Port-a-Potty this summer, due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Cemetery:** Sommers reported that lightning struck a pine tree in the New Troy Cemetery, and the limb knocked over a stone. The limb debris was cut up and removed. Now another limb has come down from possibly the same tree. Sommers requested that handyman Skip Green see if he can clean up the downed limb and pick up brush and limbs by the trees that have been placed there by the lawnmowers. The board needs to think of what we should do with the damaged and fallen headstones.
- **Road Committee:** Sommers reported that the first coat of prime and double sealcoat had been done for 2 sections of Wagner. and 1 section of Pardee Rds. Another coat will be performed when appropriate. Approve Berrien County Road Dept. Township Road Agreement for Contractor applied chloride application (Larson and Elm Valley Rds.). Motion by Green, supported by Warmbein, to approve the chloride contract in the amount of \$2,254.00 and forward the contract to Berrien County Road Dept. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.
- **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:**

- **Tabled Last Month: Phase 2 Sewer—Green was to contact Paul Bristol/USDA re extra sewer payments:** Not contacted yet. Motion by Green, supported by King, to again table this issue. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Extend Meeting:** Being 8:30 p.m., motion by Sommers, supported by King, to extend the meeting to 9:00 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Approval to Purchase Blue Spruce Tree (Twp. Hall Lawn):** Since one of the blue spruce trees in the Township Hall lawn had died last year, motion by Sommers, supported by King, to replace the tree with another @ \$129.99. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, Tackitt, Green, King), motion carried.
- **Hire Alivia Green as Receptionist/Sewer Clerk helper:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to hire high school student Alivia Green to help Clerk Green as needed at a salary of \$11.00/hr. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, Tackitt, King, Green), motion carried.
- **Approve Locks for Surveillance Cameras in Parks:** There were two sets of locks (locks identically keyed), for the board to evaluate and choose the appropriate one to use. After viewing the locks, motion by Tackitt, supported by Warmbein, to purchase the 8 Master Locks @ \$8.00/each or \$64 total. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Tackitt, King, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **Letter to Sperry:** There was an amount owing on a sewer billing when the property was sold, which should have been discovered with the realtor’s title search. Green provided a letter to send, King will contact the realtor about this sewer issue.
- **MI Townships Par Plan Dividend:** Sommers reported a dividend received from Michigan Townships Par Plan has been issued in the amount of \$2,044.39.

- **Computers Purchase:** Sommers indicated that Green was able to negotiate a price of \$2,044.39 for the 3 Dell computers/software (discussed last month), which was a substantial savings over last month's price.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** No input.
- **Review/Update Zoning Fees tabled last month:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to table this issue again this month. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk