



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 15, 2022

The Regular Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Gary Sommers at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Roll Call by Clerk Green: All Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Michelle Tackitt, Robert Warmbein;

Berrien County Sheriff Dept.: No representative present. Report provided by Office of the Sheriff: for the period of 04/01-04/30/22; activity within the Township: 22 Complaints, 1 ticket, 5 arrests.

- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to set the Agenda as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** Home Owner Evelyn Vines, questioned zoning applications.
- **Accounts Payables Report:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Accounts Payables expenditures as presented as follows: General Fund \$22,089.63; Fire Dept. \$4,558.04; Ambulance \$2,550.50; Berrien County Rd. Dept. \$42,880.50; Sewer \$6,830.99; for a Grand Total of \$78,899.66. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss was not present to provide a report.
- **James Pelletier, Chair, Broadband Internet Committee:** Mr. Pelletier provided both verbal and written reports regarding the past month's (broadband activity). He indicated that letters of support from township residents should be mailed to the township hall emailed to either the township at weesawtownship@comcast.net or to the broadband email at weesawtownshipconnect@gmail.com indicating one's name, address, current internet situation, any challenges one may have faced with one's present service, and why broadband access is of utmost importance. This show of support is very important in the process. Next broadband meeting is July 5, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
- **Update of Water/Sewer Hook-ups Request by Lowell West:** Sommers indicated that he had spoken with Atty. Senica and she will provide paperwork for Mr. West's signature in the near future. The future happenings are in the attorney's hands at this point in time.
- **Fire Dept. Report:** Verbal report by Fire Chief Nitz. 2 grass fires (farm equip – baler); training: Truck checks, Marathon Gas Pipeline training);
- Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to approve the fire Dept to have approval for extra use of fire trucks as indicated in the following list: Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Requested Approval for Extra Use of Fire Trucks

May	Memorial Day Parades
June	Flag Day – Car show (Police & Fire Depts.)
July	Baroda Fireworks
August	Berrien County Fair/Berrien Springs
October	Halloween Party (fire station)
November	Thanksgiving Baskets Delivery
December	Christmas Basket Delivery
Extras:	New Troy 5k run
	Three Oaks Apple Century Ride
Also, to include:	Training that takes place at other locations within Berrien County,

	Fire & Police Locations Funerals to include public officials or first responders only. (Per the Chief's and Safety Committee's discretion and approval)
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The Safety Committee requested that the Fire Dept. provide a reminder to the Board of approaching usage of any trucks by the Fire Dept. outside the norm.

- Since the Fire Dept's. policy in the past has always been to approve school training for new firefighters only after a year's service on the department, and since it would be a deviation from this policy, thus at the positive recommendation of Fire Chief Nitz regarding Caleb Inman for Firefighter I and II training, motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve Caleb Inman to attend Firefighter I and II school although he has not been with the Fire Dept for one year yet. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to approve purchase of the following itemized list:

Caleb Inman schooling, (in Benton Harbor School & Book)	
(Class \$500+ \$135 for book)	\$ 635.00 (10 weeks)
Truck 2260 Winch Cable	500.00 (for pick-up truck)
Helicopter land zone kit	500.00 (5 coned w/lights)
Bio-Care physicals for all firefighters	5,000.00
Computer Software (documentation & lesson plans)	500.00 (can be done at home)
Thermo camera (w/batteries & charger)	1,500.00
for a total of \$9,635.00. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Warmbein, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.	

Approve Previous Minutes: Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the minutes of May 18, 2022, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- Treasurer's Report:** Tackitt provided bank balances, and reported that she is getting ready for summer tax season. Also, a cashier's check was sent to Berrien County Road Dept. as requested by Clerk Green.
- Planning Commission Minutes:** The unapproved minutes were provided erroneously last month.
- Cemetery Committee:** 1 pine tree in Weesaw Cemetery needs a quote for removal. The Oak trees that were seemingly in trouble are looking fine for now, so this removal has been abandoned.
- Roads Committee:** Sommers reported an update on the road in Glendora. Kevin Stack and Sommers met with Alex's helper. Nothing to be done at this time. B.C.R.D. will have the engineering department look at the problem area.
- Website Committee:** Mike Metz indicated no update at this time.
- Drains Committee:** Work orders received from the Drains Commission. Sommers will look into costs regarding these projects.
- Parks Committee:** Sommers reported a notification of dogs not on leashes in Mill Road Park, and attacked another dog.
- 8:30 p.m.,** motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to extend meeting to 9:00. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- Continue Parks Committee Report:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve purchase of 4 (four) "Park Rules" signs (proof provided by Jack Dodds), to be amended, leaving off "6' maximum" for dog leash, 24" wide by 30" tall, at a cost of \$93.40 (no freight), fully justified (aligned), up to a cost of \$400. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, Green), motion carried. Signs to be placed in the township parks.
- Park's Parking Lot & Driveway:** \$1000 already approved. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to give Abonmarche Engineering the okay to proceed with specifications to Mr. Runkle/Abonmarche. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

New Business:

- Election – Adjust hourly rate for Election Chair, Election Inspectors, Health Assistant:** Green requested that the election workers hourly rate for the August Primary be adjusted. Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to increase the Election Chair to \$16.00/hr.; election inspectors to \$14.00/hr. and the Health Assistant to \$12.00/hr., with same amounts for training, incl. mileage reimbursement at current rate. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Green, Tackitt, Sommers), motion carried.

At 9:00 p.m., motion by Sommers, supported by King, to extend the meeting to 9:15 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** No report. Report presented earlier by Sommers.
- **Shembarger Asphalt Bid Revisit:** Same bids as previously. They can provide the work around the end of this month or first part of July at a price of \$2,025 for Weesaw Township Hall parking lot, and \$940 for Fire Dept. area for a total of \$2965 for both areas. Motion by King, supported by Green, to approve \$2,965 for both the Township Hall area and the Fire Dept. area parking lots. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Green, King, Sommers, Warmbein), motion carried. Sommers indicated that traffic must stay off the newly-sealed parking area for 24-hrs., and Nitz indicated that the weekend is better for the Fire Dept.
- **Public Comments:** Nitz indicated that they would be taking truck 2230 to Maiden Lane and 2260 to the Baroda fireworks.

Adjournment: Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to adjourn at 9:14 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green
Clerk