



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



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, May 15, 2019**

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:** All Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Michelle Tackitt, Robert Warmbein.
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Not present at this time.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to amend the Agenda as follows: Letter to taxpayers under "New Business"; Hose Testing under "Fire Dept."; Justin's Milliken's check under "Fire Dept."; Joe Backus under first "Public Comments". Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Deputy D. Hureskin arrived to provide the Township statistics for 4/1-4/20/19 as follows: 2 tickets issued, arrests 3; complaints 19.
- **Public Comments/Hearing of Persons Present on Agenda Items:** Joe Backus was present and indicated that a tree had fallen on his house due to a storm. The tree did substantial damage to his home and he wanted the Township to supply some type of letter regarding the code for the township to provide to his insurance company. Krauss explained that he can't do anything about the issues. Another person indicated that the township can't do anything about building or structural matters.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Robert Krauss provided photos of various properties on which he is working for enforcement issues. Krauss indicated that he will be writing tickets if the issues are not corrected.
- **Fire Dept. Report:** provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz – 2 meetings; 3 calls (gas leak, controlled burn, structure). The Fire Dept. personnel are reviewing the calls for the previous week to determine what could be improved and what was done right. Nick Granke did the training last week. The following firefighters are in training for the Training Officer's Captain position: Nick Granke, Cori Walter, and Joshua Wisner with 2 more interviews to do.
  - Firefighter resignations: Motion by Green, supported by Warmbein, to accept the resignations of Ben Nelson and Justin Milliken from the Fire Dept., and to hold Milliken's final check at this time (He didn't complete his firefighter I & II classes). Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried. Green to contact Justin Milliken.
  - Fire Chief Nitz indicated that since Brittney Williams' classes were completed as of March, and she has missed four meetings since then, with no fire calls in over eight months, and he has attempted to call her on occasions, she has no interest in the Fire Dept. Research is being made, as she still has a fire pager belonging to the Fire Dept. worth \$500 and possibly fire gear of approximately \$2000 and other gear. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers to dismiss Brittney Williams due to lack of attendance and not responding to the Fire Chief's attempts to contact her. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried. It was also requested that she be sent a Certified Letter, Return Receipt Requested, indicating that she needed to return all the Fire Dept.-owned equipment. Ted will attempt to get her address as to where the letter is to be sent.
  - Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to change the status of Cori Walter from temporary to permanent employee, based on Nitz' recommendation. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
  - Motion by Green, supported by Tackitt, to approve boots (\$450); 2 sets of gear (\$4,000); Brass & Name Tags (\$500), for a total of \$4,950. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Green, Sommers, King, Warmbein), motion carried.

- **Hose Testing:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve Fire Catt hose testing at \$.32 per foot (7000' \$2,240.00) and \$1.95 per foot for all ladders. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 17, 2019. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:**
  - **Drain Maintenance:** Approx. 12 notices received. A log jam for #480 has already been cleared.
  - **John Edwards:** Request to remove dead ash trees. Several board members wanted to go see what action should be taken.
  - **Complaint letter from Mrs. Styburski re water on her property.** Green to write letter to let Mrs. Styburski know this is a civil issue; and perhaps she could contact the Drain Commissioner.
- **Approve Accounts Payable Monthly Expenditures Report:** After having reviewed the payables earlier in the day, motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve the expenditures as follows: General Fund \$13,815.8; Fire Dept. \$13,945.71; Ambulance \$2,277.59; Sewer Fund \$3,905.15; for a Grand Total of \$33,944.32. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Sommers, Tackitt, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Tackitt reported that the summer taxes would be out by July 1, 2019. Bank balances provided.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** Report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** Approved Planning Commission meeting minutes provided.
- **Cemetery Committee:** Sommers indicated the lawnmowers have begun mowing the cemeteries.
- **Road Committee:** Sommers provided information Larson Rd. issues. The Rd. Dept. will install a tube at the Road Dept.'s cost.
- **Website Committee:** Mike Metz indicated that, since Jack Dodds is moving away, there is a need for more volunteers to be a part of this committee.
- **Drains Committee:** No report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Letter to Taxpayers (Summer Taxes Insert):** A letter formerly sent with the tax bills is being edited and sent with tax bills again. The letter indicates several means to clean-up the township. Green will change one paragraph to reinforce the fact that the township has a Zoning Ordinance Book to which needs to be adhered, since a number of buildings/renovations, businesses being started, and other changes are popping up without proper permits or zoning applications in place.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** None. No response regarding Medic-1 Ambulance yet.
- **Anderson Tree Service:** A quote was received from Anderson for stump grinding. Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to not accept the bid of \$650 for stump grinding the oak tree only. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None

**Adjournment:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Green, to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk