



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



**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, April 20, 2022**

Special Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Gary Sommers at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor Gary Sommers.

The special meeting had been called so that Berrien County Commissioner, District 8, Teri Freehling could provide information and address the Township Board and interested participants who had shown interest about Broadband internet presentation. Mrs. Freehling provided a very comprehensive, understandable presentation of the project and what is entailed. She began by presenting various facts concerning speed test etc., and further stated that Weesaw Township is 82-83% unserved with high-speed internet. Comcast is basically in New Troy and vicinity, and it is substantially all that is served. It seems that Berrien County has been awarded \$6 million dollars to serve the entire county, with 22 townships, and other entities within the county, which makes the project much leaner. She informed that fiber is \$50,000 per mile. She indicated that the township board needs to provide a resolution of support to the SW MI Planning Commission. She also indicated that letters of support from residents should be provided to the township. There was a question/answer period, and Mrs. Freehling answered questions that were posed to her. It was a very informative, well-organized presentation. Good job to Mrs. Freehling, and others who asked questions and made statements.

The application is due by 7/01/2022.

After questions, the special meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.



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**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, April 20, 2022**

The Regular Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Gary Sommers at 7:15 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:  
01/02/2022-02/28/2022: Activity within the Township: 20 Complaints, 0 tickets, 1 arrest

- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to amend the Agenda with additions of the following: Appoint a Broadband Committee after Road Committee agenda item; also add the following to the Parks agenda item: Engineering, purchase 4x4x8 posts, repair bridge in parks area. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** Resident Ken Hallen asked about roads plan. Robert Krauss mentioned the premature failure of roads, blacktop needing repair on Wagner Rd.
- **Accounts Payables Report:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers to accept the Accounts Payables report as presented as follows: General Fund \$13,805,40; Fire Dept. \$7,489.82; Ambulance \$3,113.00; Sewer \$5,280.86, for a total of \$29,689.08.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Regarding the burned-out house on California Rd. Krauss indicated that there is nobody to clean up the property. Contact Robert if we know of anyone who will clean up the mess. Parking on tree lawn: Nothing we can do about it.
- **Fire Dept. Report:** A verbal was provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz: 4 calls last month. He has put up fire tape again at the burned-out house. Request to hire Jeff Starbuck as firefighter.
- Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve using the Fire Trucks for the Memorial Day Parade. The parade begins at 2:00 p.m. at the Township Hall. Refreshments will be served at the American Legion after the Memorial Day observance. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to add Jeff Starbuck as a firefighter pending background check. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried
- Request to purchase gas detection extrication gloves, for up to \$1700. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Green, to purchase the gloves as indicated. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green, Warmbein), motion carried.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to correct the minutes of March 16, 2022, as amended under the Fire Dept. Report to change the paragraph indicating that the \$1800 from the grant fund should be changed to "to the AFG grant". Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.,
- Motion by Warnbein, supported by Sommers, to approve the balance of the minutes – Special Board meeting minutes of Wed., March 30; TU, April 5; and TU, April 13, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Tackett indicated that if the board wishes to place an insert in the tax bill, it should be provided by next the next meeting.
- **Clerk's Update:** Green indicated that she has begun the process of training a deputy to hopefully take over as Clerk in the future.

- **Planning Commission Minutes:** Chair Mike Metz requested approval to purchase “Intro to Planning” in the amount of \$123.00. It is an on-line version. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to purchase this on-line version. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, Tackitt, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.
- **At 8:34:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to extend the meeting to 9:30 p.m. Voice, vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Cemetery Committee:** Report by Sommers. Still working on getting second bid for removal of dying trees in New Troy Cemetery.
- **Roads Committee:**
  - COVID Money: work with SW MI Planning Commission/Broadband Committee;
  - Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to put the COVID money into revenue loss for short time until we find out what we would have to put into broadband and make final decision later. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Tackitt, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
  - Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to appoint the following to the Broadband Committee: John Sullivan, Robert Warmbein, Mike Metz, Teri Manning, Ken Hallen, James Pelletier, Brett Brown, + 1 member to be named. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Website Committee:** Maintenance. Google account for parks. Mike Metz took ownership of the parks page.
- **Drains Committee:** Drain Maintenance Notice – Garfield #173.
- **Parks Committee:** The person did not call back regarding the driveway and parking lot. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to pay an engineer up to \$1000 to make a drawing with specs for driveway and lower parking lot in Weesaw Park. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Green, Sommers, Warmbein, King), motion carried.
- Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to purchase 4 treated posts for the trail size 2”x4”x8’ at \$25/ea. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Sommers, Warmbein, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- Parks’ Rules Signs – This had already been ordered. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to table at this time.
- A tree fell on the Weesaw Township parks bridge and damaged the railing. Needed to purchase to repair are 2 2x4x8 and 2 2x6x10. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to purchase lumber as needed for the repairs at an amount of up to \$250. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, King, Sommers, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.
- **9:30 p.m.:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to extend the meeting to 10:00 p.m. Voice vote, 3 ayes, 2 nays (Green, Tackitt), motion carried.

**New Business:**

- **Approve Farmland & Open Space Preservation for Jerry A. Koebel, Sr. (Living Trust).** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve this document for Mr. Keobel. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Approve Purchase of 10 marker posts from Art King:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to purchase 10 posts from Art King for \$30. Roll call vote, 4 ayes (1 abstention – King), (Ayes: Tackitt, Sommers, Green, Warmbein), motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** No report.
- **Public Comments:** None.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Green, to adjourn at 9:39 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green  
Clerk