



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 20, 2021 (Virtual Meeting)

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 due to pandemic. Report indicated the following incidents during the period of 11/01-11/30/2020: 15 complaints, 1 ticket issued; 2 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Green, supported by Warmbein, to add Fire Dept. Training to the Agenda and accept as amended. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Accounts Payable Report as presented to the Board Members in the following amounts: General Fund \$9,898.47, Fire Dept. \$4,358.73; Ambulance \$2,345.92, Other: None; Sewer \$3,887.73, for a Grand Total of \$20,490.85. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, King, Sommers, Warmbein [Tackitt absent]), motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss was not present. He had contacted but had not heard from Attorney Senica, thus he had nothing to report.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz, who reported 9 calls: 2 structure fires, 3 PI, 1 CO Alarm, 3 lift assist to Medic-1 – Green questioned when we started being called for lift assists, which adds substantially to our payroll. 2 Meetings for truck checks and SCBA training. Chief Nitz requested that firefighter Amanda Bronson be sent to officer training at \$300 (Benton Harbor City is sponsoring but held in St. Joseph). Covert training is free and he requested that we send 3 firefighters, 1 vehicle. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to pay for Amanda Bronson to attend training, and to send 3 firefighters to Covert or St. Joseph for training and pay for mileage. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **Fire Dept Other:** Nitz mentioned that we need to purchase 2 helmets for which there is \$700 in the budget. Tabled for now.
- **Cadet Program:** River Valley high School sponsors Firefighter 1 and 2 classes. It was mentioned that it is not covered by insurance company if person is less than 18 years old. Chief Nitz to provide information regarding the program.

- **WIX Credit Cards & Resolution:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to move forward with acquiring the WIX cards for the Fire Dept. per Resolution presented, and adopt said Resolution 2021-04 Fuel Card Policy Resolution, with option to revise in the future where necessary. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.

- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2020, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- **Correspondence:** A number of correspondence items were received:
 - **12/29/2020** - Letters of gratitude from Teri Nitz and Vicki Hauch for election bonus
 - **01/05/2020** - Audit proposal increase to \$9100 from Patrick Sage, Kruggel Lawton. Can they do it for \$9000 or less? Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve the audit proposal for up to \$9,000 or less. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.
 - Request by Joseph Sexton re sell of his father' cemetery lot back to Township for \$440 refund. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to buy back the cemetery lot for \$440. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Green), motion carried. Green will cut a check and forward to Mr. Sexton.
 - Richard Southwood request for refund of ½ month sewer. He says the property has been sold. The Township has not been notified of a property change of hands by any real estate company at this point in time. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to deny the refund of ½ month sewer billing, as was requested. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.
 - Kim Krestan complaint regarding property taxes. There are no retroactive tax refunds provided. She needs to talk with the Assessor regarding her complaint. Board members considering responding to her messages.
 - 2 complaints received regarding property on Browntown Rd.
 - Drain Maintenance Notice for Steven Lozmack property, Blue Jay #046. Sommers will call for cost of project.
 - Letter to Township Board from Elizabeth Palulis regarding a number of properties with blight issues.
 - Green to send another certified letter to owner of property on California Rd. regarding his delinquent Hardship status property.
 - Notification that GRSD has raised its rates from \$5.91/M gals. discharged to \$6.09/M gals. discharged.

Cemetery (New Troy) – there is still a tree down and needing some cleanup in the rear of the cemetery. It is a safety hazard. Warmbein has been slowly working on it, and handyman Green has hauled a number of trailer loads away to Sommers' property for burning.

Parks Committee: Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to appoint Terry Hanover to the Parks Committee. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Approve March 2021 Board of Review Resolutions:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to adopt the three (3) resolutions for the March 2021 Board of Review as follows: Resolution 2021-02 Accepting Letters of Protest from Township Residents . . . , Resolution 2021-02 Resolution to Provide for Alternate Starting Dates . . . , Resolutions 2021-03 Updating State Required Poverty Level Income Standards per Property Tax Poverty Exemption Guidelines . . . Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** Verbal information provided by Atty. Senica in that we will have to hold off on the police officer issue until she gets feedback from the Sheriff's office.
- **Zoning Fees:** Table issue, and speak with Kaufman about fees to residents regarding attorney consultation.
- **Public Comments:** Warmbein is attempting to get a 2nd quote for the Fire Dept. Safety Audit to be performed.

Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to pay Fire Chief Nitz for the Zoom fees in the amount of \$15.89. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.

Brief discussion of budget items. Warmbein suggested a budget workshop for February 3, 2021, 10: a.m., which was planned by the board members.

Adjournment: Motion by Sommers, supported by Green, to adjourn at 8:51 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green
Clerk



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119

Special Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)
Wednesday, March 9, 2021



CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting (Budget Workshop) was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 1:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY CLERK GREEN: Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein; Absent: Michelle Tackitt

Sommers mentioned that Green had requested the support packets for Clerk and the Treasurer from MTA. They have not responded.

BUDGET: Road Millage: The board went thru the roads millage spreadsheet and inserted amounts that we had received from BC Road Dept. and other amounts as apropos.

Lynn St. Assessment District: Green had contacted the bank and was informed that this assessment district had been paid off over a year ago. Green will contact the Assessor and see if there isn't one more year of assessment monies to be collected. The board assigned numbers to the line items. Lynn St. owes an amount to the General Fund so any monies received would probably repay the General Fund. Any amount over the debt would remain in the Lynn St. fund.

Cemetery Trust Fund: This account was assigned line item numbers as apropos. The board will look into the purchase of a columberian for the New Troy Cemetery to see if it is feasible and also if it is cost-effective.

Ambulance Fund: Numbers were assigned based upon present amounts. We have not been told there would again be an increase in the monthly payment amounts.

Other: Green will contact Olson Electric to see how much it would cost to replace the light fixtures in the Township Hall. The board went through the General Fund Budgets again and changed a number of amounts to bring it in line with revenues.

Public Comments: There weren't any audience members present.

Adjourn: Motion by Green, supported by King, to adjourn the meeting at 4:18 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk

Next Budget Workshop Scheduled: 03/22/2021, 9:30 a.m.



**WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119**

**Special Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)
Wednesday, March 22, 2021**



CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting (Budget Workshop) was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY CLERK GREEN: Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein; Absent: Michelle Tackitt

BUDGET: Road Millage: The board went thru the roads millage spreadsheet and inserted amounts that we had received from BC Road Dept. and other amounts as apropos.

Lynn St. Assessment District: Green had contacted the bank and was informed that this assessment district had been paid off over a year ago. Green will contact the Assessor and see if there isn't one more year of assessment monies to be collected. The board assigned numbers to the line items. Lynn St. owes an amount to the General Fund so any monies received would probably repay the General Fund. Any amount over the debt would remain in the Lynn St. fund.

Cemetery Trust Fund: This account was assigned line item numbers as apropos. The board will look into the purchase of a columberian for the New Troy Cemetery to see if it is feasible and also if it is cost-effective.

Ambulance Fund: Numbers were assigned based upon present amounts. We have not been told there would again be an increase in the monthly payment amounts.

Other: Green will contact Olson Electric to see how much it would cost to replace the light fixtures in the Township Hall. The board went through the General Fund Budgets again and changed a number of amounts to bring it in line with revenues.

Public Comments: There weren't any audience members present.

Adjourn: Motion by Green, supported by King, to adjourn the meeting at 4:18 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk

Next Budget Workshop Scheduled: 03/22/2021, 9:30 a.m.



**WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119**

**Special Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)
Tuesday, March 23, 2021**



CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting (Budget Workshop) was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY CLERK GREEN: Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein; Members Absent: Michelle Tackitt

BUDGET: Road Millage: This was a final budget workshop prior to the upcoming Annual Meeting on Saturday, 3/27/2021.

Final Review of Budgets: The board members present went through all the various work center budgets and made changes where apropos. There were not many changes to be made. The board also reviewed the other budgets, end-of-year documents and updated them as well.

Clerk will make the changes and have them ready for the Annual Meeting for review by the township citizens present at that time.

Public Comments: Comment regarding required posting of special meetings on the website. Clerk will attempt to ensure that this is carried out in the future

Adjourn: Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn the meeting at 4:09 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green
Clerk

Annual Meeting: Saturday, March 27, 2021; budget adoption, other budget documentation adoption meeting Wednesday, March 31, 2021.



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119

Special Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 31, 2021



CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL BY CLERK GREEN: Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein; Members Absent: Michelle Tackitt

Agenda Items:

- **Amendment(s) to FY 2020-21 Cost Center:** After review of the 2020-21 Budget vs. Actual report provided by Clerk Green, all cost centers were within budgeted amounts, thus none of the cost center numbers needed to be amended.
- **Adoption of FY 2021-22 Resolution #2021-07 General Appropriations Act:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve adoption of the General Appropriations Act #2021-07 as presented. Roll call vote, 4 ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green – Tackitt absent), motion carried.
- **Adoption of FY 2021-22 Resolution #2021-08 Fund Equity Transfers to Various Township Budgets:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to adopt Resolution 2021-08, Fund Equity Transfers to Various Township Budgets (to be attached to the FY 2021-22 Budgets packet). Roll call vote, 4 ayes (Green, Warmbein, King, Sommers – Tackitt absent), motion carried. A Fire Dept. spending limit of \$150 is addressed in this resolution.
- **Adoption of FY 2021-22 Budgets:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to adopt the FY-2021-22 Budgets which included a minor change in wording for the Cemetery Trust Fund under Expense (verbiage has now been slightly revised to read "Potential

Cemetery Land Clear, Layout, Fence, Columbarium, Land Purch.”), roll call vote, 4 ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Green – Tackitt absent), motion carried.

- **Approve FY 2021-22 Board Meeting Dates:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the meeting dates as presented. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Move Forward with Interview for Receptionist/General Office/Sewer Clerk:** Amanda Bronson has provided an employment application for this position. An interview was set for Tuesday, April 6, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in order to accommodate several board members who otherwise would not be able to attend.

Public Comments: No public. No comments

Adjourn: Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to adjourn the meeting at 12:04 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green
Clerk



**WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119**

**Special Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)
Wednesday, February 10, 2021**



CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting (Budget Workshop) was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL BY CLERK GREEN: Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein; Absent: Michelle Tackitt

Green queried as to whether Sommers would make contact with Attorney Senica relating to enforcement, part-time police officer, and such. He said he would call her, and indicated that the board members should put together a list of discussion items to provide to her prior to her arrival to meet with the board members so she can respond to all our concerns.

BUDGET: The board members entered proposed budget amounts in the following Cost Centers: 101 Township Boards, 171 Supervisor, 191 Elections, 209 Assessor, 215 Clerk, and misc. other items for the upcoming Fiscal Year. Green will update the budget figures prior to the next Budget Workshop. Green will also prepare and provide salary resolutions for the board members to adopt at the next board meeting for confirmation by the residents present at the upcoming Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 27, 2021, 1:00 p.m.

Public Comments: There weren't any audience members present. Green hasn't had time to write letter to the Omans regarding cemetery lots or Wesley Lane regarding the hardship he was granted.

Adjourn: Motion by King, supported by Warmein, to adjourn the meeting at 12:23 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk

Next Budget Workshop Scheduled: Wed., 2/24/2021, 9-12 noon.



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, February 17, 2021 (Virtual Meeting)

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, Robert Warmbein
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present due to pandemic. Report indicated the following incidents during the period of 12/01-12/31/2020: 23 complaints, 1 ticket issued; 6 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** King request to add Lights and security cabinet; Sommers requested to add Resolution 2021-06. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to add the above two items to the Agenda, and accept as amended. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Accounts Payable Report as presented to the Board Members in the following amounts: General Fund \$57,942.53 (includes annual County Drains billing of \$39,858.12), Fire Dept. \$14,912.19; Ambulance \$2,345.92, Other: None; Sewer \$4,818.06, for a Grand Total of \$80,018.69. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- **Added Agenda Item:** King reported initial price for replacement of Township Hall lights in the meeting room of \$100/ea.; bulbs of \$12.25/bulbs, would have to be rewired to accommodate new fixtures, this price is from 31 Electric, which is less expensive. Would need 15 fixtures for the 15 lights @ \$100/ea. Also, he checked on a fireproof gun case to store township documents which are permanent records. Largest size fireproof gun case is \$750/ea, @ 500-lbs.; fireproof at 1200-deg. for 75 min. These numbers are for information only, as he will attempt to get pricing from other vendors.

- **Added Agenda Item: Resolution No 2021-06, Primary Emergency Management Liaison Appointment.** Motion by Green, supported by King, to appoint Gary Sommers and Robert Warmbein as co-representatives as indicated in the resolution, and adopt Resolution 2021-06 as presented. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green, Warmbein), motion adopted. Green will forward the resolution and form as required, upon completion of the other form by Warmbein/Sommers.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss was not present. No response from Atty. Senica.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz, who reported 3 calls: 1 meeting. Chief Nitz reported 2 firefighters had Covid-19 and meetings were cancelled due to that fact. The proposed Cadet Program was discussed – the insurance and workers comp. need to be checked out, after which it should be sent to the attorney for review and final approval of the board. It was reported that that where would be no pay involved for the cadets. Motion by Green, supported by King, to table this issue for now. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes (Virtual) of Wednesday, January 20, 2021, and the Special Board Meetings (Budget Workshops) Minutes of Wednesday, February 3, and Wednesday, February 10, 2021, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:**
 - Letter from Robert Warmbein as Commander representative of the American Legion Weechick Post 518 requesting that the firefighters provide help as they have in the past in routing traffic, providing the fire trucks leading the parade and such activities for the scheduled Memorial Day parade and service at the cemetery, on Sunday, May 30, 2021 (COVID-19 permitting), beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Township Hall. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve the request. Voice vote, 4 board members voted ayes – Sommers, Green, Tackitt, King (exception Warmbein who abstained due his position with the American Legion who sponsors the parade and he felt this may be conflict of interest), motion carried.
 - Patrick Sage/Krugger Lawton: Agreed to do the audit for \$8500, as in the past several years.

Other Township Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Tackitt provided the bank balances as reported on the bank statements. The tax season is extended to 03/01/2021, and she will be open for tax payments from 9-5 on that day. They will become late after 03/01, and one must go to the County to pay after that date.

Road Dept. Sommers reported it has been reported that Jason Latham has been relieved of his position at BCRD. No further information as to the details.

Parks Committee: Sommers and King met with the newly-appointed member, Terry Hanover. It was suggested that Jack Dodds once again be a part of the Parks Committee. This request will be relayed to him.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Adopt Resolutions for Township Board Members Salary Increases:** There were 4 salary resolutions created and presented by Clerk Green for adoption as follows:
Resolution #2021-05A, Supervisor proposed increase to \$11,500.00. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve **Resolution 2021-05A** Supervisor salary increase to \$11,500. Roll call vote, 4 ayes (Warmbein, King, Tackitt, Green – Sommers, as Supervisor, abstained), motion carried.
Resolution 2021-05-B, Treasurer proposed increase to \$13,000.00. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve **Resolution 2021-05B** Treasurer salary increase to \$13,000. Roll call vote, 4 ayes (Green, Warmbein, King, Sommers – Tackitt abstained), motion carried.
Resolution 2021-05C, Clerk proposed increase to \$18,000.00. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve **Resolution 2021-05C** Clerk salary increase to \$18,000. Roll call vote, 4 ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, Tackitt, King – Green abstained), motion carried.
Resolution 2021-05D, 2 Trustees proposed increase to \$4,000 each. Motion by Sommers, supported by Tackitt, to approve **Resolution 2021-05D,** Trustees proposed increase to \$4,000 each. Roll call vote, 3 ayes (Sommers, Tackitt, Green – Warmbein, King abstained), motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Attorney Sara Senica Update:** Attorney Senica has requested that she meet with Sommers and Green, along with Sheriff Bailey, to discuss the police officer issue. Any questions or comments from board members should be jotted down and provided to Sommers so we can get answers. Attorney Senica also recommended that we go ahead and adopt the proposed International Property Maintenance Code Ordinance #23 (2020). We will hold off on this issue until after meeting with Attorney Senica.
- **Public Comments:** Nitz requested the extra desk for his office.

Adjournment: Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to adjourn at 8:44 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green
Clerk

Next Budget Workshop: 02/24/2021, 9:00 a.m.



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119

Special Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)
Wednesday, February 24, 2021



CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting (Budget Workshop) was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL BY CLERK GREEN: Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein; Absent: Michelle Tackitt

Sommers indicated that we must only work with essential business, thus he requested removing the following item from the Agenda: Parks Committee Appointment, Cadet Program Revised, as these were considered non-essential business matters.

BUDGET: The board members went through the General Fund worksheet and entered proposed budget amounts in the remaining General Fund Cost Centers that had not been addressed in previous Budget Workshops in the past few weeks. The board was able to complete the entire budget and Green will prepare some of the remaining budgets' spreadsheets and have them ready for the board members to work on them at the next workshop meeting. She indicated she had updated the Sewer Fund Cost Center Budget. Green will enter the numbers into the General Fund spreadsheet that we completed today and have them available at the next workshop for review. Salary increases were indicated in the apropos cost center.

Public Comments: There weren't any audience members present.

Adjourn: Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk

Next Budget Workshop Scheduled: Wed., 03/03/2021, 9:30 a.m.



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, April 21, 2021



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. Members Absent: Robert Warmbein
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present due to Coronavirus pandemic. Report indicated the following incidents during the period of 2/01-02/28/2021: 15 complaints, 0 tickets issued; 0 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Sommers requested to amend the Agenda, adding memo from BC Board of Commissioners, letter from Kim Krestan, ANR Pipeline. Motion by

Sommers, supported by Green, to add the requested items to the Agenda, and accept as amended. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- **Public Comments:** Metz had concerns about proposed sewer raises, which will be brought up later in the meeting, and is not being considered at this time. Will revisit in next April 2022-23 budget year.
- **Accounts Payables/Receivable:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve the Accounts Payable Report as presented to the Board Members in the following amounts: General Fund \$9,204.75, Fire Dept. \$4,196.64; Ambulance \$2,416.34, Sewer \$116.20, for a Grand Total of \$15,933.93. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried. In addition, new added revenues appropriated to applicable accounts: Phase 1 Sewer and Water customer paid off assessments in the amount of \$7,700.00.
- **Fire Dept:** 6 Calls – 3 grass fires, 1 illegal burn, 1 utility call, 1 stand-by (mutual aid-Buchanan Twp); Meetings: 2 truck checks; Training: PPE Presentation. Other: Fire Chief Nitz explained that per vendor, prices will be increasing 3-4%, and he wants to get the following items approved Prior to their increase: Scene Lights (2) \$1,180; Structure fire gloves (4) \$347.80; Firefighter hoods (6) \$269.70; FF boots (5) \$1,500; FF gear (2) \$4,973.90; Fire Helmets (2) \$541.90 for a total of \$8,813.30. Motion by Sommers, supported by Tackitt, to approve purchase the aforementioned items in the amount of \$8,813.30 prior to price increases. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Tackitt, King, Green), motion carried.
- Enforcement Officer Robert Krauss arrived during the Fire Dept. agenda item at 7:15 p.m.
- **Enforcement Officer Robert Krauss** stated that Sommers, Green, Attorney Senica, Sheriff Paul Bailey and Krauss had met on Monday for an explanation of Sheriff Bailey's offer to help out the Township with an officer to work with Enforcement Officer Krauss as needed. Sheriff Bailey is offering to help the township in criminal actions. Krauss indicated his activity of the past months. On 10/08/2020 citations were issued, and the court has not moved on those tickets, as civil infractions are not at the top of their priority list. Atty. Senica would like Krauss to move forward with writing tickets in order to get them in the system. He spoke concerning several properties on which he is working. During the meeting with Sheriff Bailey, he offered help to Krauss in delivering tickets to properties of apropos offending residents.
- **Adopt Ordinance No. 23 (2021) An Ordinance to Adopt the International Property Maintenance Code by Reference, in addition to the "International Property Maintenance Code of 2018" (IPMC):** Motion by Sommers, supported by Green, to adopt these two documents as presented and recommended by both Attorney Senica and Enforcement Officer Robert Krauss. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, King, Green, Sommers), motion carried (Warmbein absent). Green will publish a synopsis of the IPMC as required. Atty. Senica to provide said synopsis.

- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, March 17, 2021, and the Special Board Meetings Minutes of 03/23/3021, 03/31/2021, 04/06/3031, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:**
 - Regarding the Wesley Lane hardship issue, we need to talk with Mr. Lane. Robert Krauss will work with this issue. Kim Krestan barking dog. Little can be done about this problem.

Other Township Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Tackitt provided the bank balances as reported on the bank statements. The Summer Tax season begins as of July 1. Inserts to be in the tax bills must be in by the beginning of June.

Building Zoning Administrator: Report provided.

Planning Commission: Unapproved minutes provided erroneously. Green will put the correct approved minutes in the board members boxes.

Cemetery Committee: Still cleaning up limbs from storm. Sommers and a Fire Dept. person will be removing old cemetery flowers and wreathes from the New Troy cemetery.

B.C. Road Dept. Sommers reported that an Abonmarche engineer, Mr. Cook, is new managing director for 90 days.

Website: Mike Metz reported that he will come into the township hall and update the WIX website which requires payment. Green will provide township credit card information for this.

Parks Committee: Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 27, 7:00 p.m., as Jack Dodds will be in town on that date, and he is on that committee working remotely.

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Attorney Sara Senica Update:** See Zoning Enforcement item.
- **Employment Application:** Insurance company to provide information.
- **Sewer Increase:** No increase at this time. To be reviewed April 2022.
- **Tabled Issues:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to remove the following tabled items from the Agenda: Letter to Chad Sperry re delinquent sewer and Part-Time police officer. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** Metz stated that when he spoke with Attorney Senica via phone earlier during the meeting, she said it is not required to have a Public Hearing for the IPMC ordinance adoption, as it is a General Law Ordinance.

Adjournment: Motion by Green, supported by King, to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Wanda Green, Clerk



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119



Special Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 3, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY CLERK GREEN: Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein; Michelle Tackitt (Tackitt arrived slightly late)

Lawnmowing Bids: Supervisor Sommers received last-minute word from our past lawnmowing service that, due to their lack of mowing personnel, they were unable to continue mowing the township properties. Sommers contacted a number of lawn-mowing services, but only received one written bid. Due to a lack of other bids, the board members felt that perhaps we should get additional bids for other lawnmowing service to mow the properties.

Tackitt had arrived and since the entire board was present at that time and thus could amend the Special Meeting agenda, motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to add the following items to the Agenda: Request the Board members to help out while Clerk Green is on vacation, and a report on the Park Committee meeting of last Tuesday. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Board Members' help during Green's absence: Tackitt said she would come in and empty the lockbox to receive sewer billing checks 1-2 times per week during Green's vacation absence.

Park Committee Meeting: Sommers reported that last Tuesday, April 27, Gary Sommers, Art King, Jack Dodds (who is on the committee and attends the meetings virtually) had traveled here from his new residence out East, Terry Hanover, and Mike Metz were present. They reviewed the Park Plan developed by Marcie Hamilton in the past and will contact her again about grants. Also, Sommers was approached by a neighbor of the proposed park with a complaint regarding putting money into the park improvement, and felt repairing the roads was more important at this time, and also his proposed trail entrance off of Wee-Chik Road..

COVID-19 Proposed Policy: Sommers handed out a proposed policy that the Fire Chief Nitz had developed for the Fire Dept. for the board members to consider also adopting. Sommers requested that the policy be put on the May Regular Board Meeting Agenda for the member's consideration.

Public Comments: No public. No comments

Adjourn: Motion by Green, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green
Clerk

WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, Michigan 49113
Special Board Meeting
Monday, May 10, 2021

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 9:00 am.

Roll Call by Supervisor Sommers. Members present: Art King, Robert Warmbein, Gary Sommers. Absent: Michelle Tackitt, Wanda Green

Lawn Mowing Bids

Supervisor Sommers received last-minute word from our past lawn mowing service that, due to their lack of mowing personnel, they were unable to continue mowing the township properties. Sommers contacted a number of lawn mowing services but only received one written bid. Due to a lack of other bids, the board members felt that perhaps we should get additional bids for other lawn mowing services to the mow the properties.

A second lawn mowing bid was received on Saturday, May 8, 2021. The bid was opened on Monday, May 10, 2021 and it was higher than the first bid. Motion by Warmbein, support by King to accept the first lawn mowing bid from Jimmy's Lawn Care Service, 1451 US 12, Galien, MI 49113. Phone 269-545-9016 or 269-362-4552. The amount per mowing five Weesaw Township properties is \$1930, not including spring or fall clean up. Total for 25 mowings, without cleanups, is \$48,250. If season is dry mowings will be as needed. Insurance certificate was included---Section I Property, Section II Liability Inland Manne. Roll Call: King, yes, Warmbein, yes, Sommers, yes. Motion carried.

Motion by King, support by Warmbein to pay Skip Green \$15.50 per hour for rental of his mower until we get a lawn mowing contractor hired. Roll call: Warmbein, yes, King, yes, Sommers, yes. Motion carried.

Motion by King, support by Warmbein to pay Sommers \$15.50 per hour for rental of his mower until we get a lawn contractor hired. Roll call: Warmbein, yes, King, yes, Sommers abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by King, support by Sommers that the fallen oak trees on the north

end of the football field will be marked to designate limbs for firewood with the balance to be sold to Warmbein for \$300.00 Roll call: King, yes, Sommers, yes, Warmbein abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by Warmbein, support by King to hire Travis Munday part time as needed to support board members with tasks requiring more than one person, at a wage of \$14.00 per hour. Roll call: King, yes, Warmbein, yes, Sommers, yes. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at 10:13 am by King, support by Warmbein. Motion carried.

Note: A copy of the bids received for lawn mowing is attached to these minutes.

Gary Sommers - Supervisor



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 16, 2021



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, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein. Members Absent: Art King, Michelle Tackitt
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present due to Coronavirus pandemic. Report indicated the following activity for Weesaw Township during the period of 04/01-04/30/2021: 28 complaints, 3 tickets issued; 4 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers to accept the Agenda as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None.

- **Accounts Payables/Receivable:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to change the \$41,603.78 from the General Fund and instead make payable to the Road Assessment Cost Center and approve the revised Accounts Payable Report in the following amounts: General Fund \$16,144.42, Fire Dept. \$9,349.75; Ambulance \$2,416.34, Sewer \$3,292.65, Berrien County Road Dept. 41,603,78, for a Grand Total of \$72,806,94. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Not present
- **Fire Dept:** Calls: 1 mutual aid (Baroda), PI (helicopter called in); Training/Meetings: 1 Truck checks and CPR/AED/Narcan training. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein to pay the instructor \$250 for the CPR/AED/Narcan training. Invoice required. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.
 - Other: 8 microphones for the 800-mhz radios not to exceed \$400. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve up to \$400 for these 8 microphones. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, Warmbein, Sommers), motion carried.
 - Cadet Program: Motion by Sommers, supported by Green, to table this issue at this time until all have a chance to read and review the “Waiver of Liability and Covenant Not to Sue” provided by Atty. Senica. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
 - Chief Nitz requested 2 trucks to attend the Baroda fireworks on July 3, 2021. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve this request. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Regular Board Minutes of May 26, 2021, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** Nothing to report.

Other Township Reports:

7:40 p.m.: Tackitt Arrived

Treasurer’s Report: No bank balances report provided. Tackitt arrived and reported that the summer tax bills would be mailed out on July 1, 2021.

Building Zoning Administrator: No report received.

Planning Commission: May minutes not approved.

Cemetery Committee: The lowest bid was accepted for mowing the township properties. We will look into other means of mowing in the future, to determine what is more equitable, e.g., purchase of township mowers, other.

Website: No report.

Drains’ Committee: No report.

Parks Committee: Sommers provided the June 8 Park Meeting Minutes and referred the members to the 6 items listed on page 2 (suggested upgrades to the park).

Abonmarche will provide pricing of the 6 items indicated, and Marcy Hamilton will write a

grant at no charge. Jack Dodds is updating the Parks Plan at this time at no charge to the township. He indicated that a gift certificate for a nice meal would be appreciated. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to move forward to get pricing on the six items from Abonmarche. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Attorney Sara Senica Update:** Reported earlier in minutes.
- **Purchase:** New Chair for Assessor's Office: Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to spend up to \$225 for a new chair for the Assessor. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- **At 8:28:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Tackitt, to extend the meeting to 8:45. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Review Zoning Fees:** Tabled by Tackitt.

- **Public Comments:** Heard throughout the meeting. None expressed at this time.

Adjournment: Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green
Clerk



**WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119**

**Special Board Meeting
Monday, June 21, 2021**



CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 10 a.m.

Board Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein;
Members Absent: Michelle Tackitt

Others Present: Kellie Lindsey, Ted Hansen (SAFEbuilt); Angela Story (Assessor); Mike Metz (Planning Commission Chair)

Meeting called due to resignation of the Building/Zoning Administrator Bob Kaufman – scheduled to be effective July 21, 2021. Assessor Angela Story has agreed to take over the land divisions and combinations.

SAFEbuilt Presentation: Kellie Lindsey, Account Manager, SAFEbuilt explained what the company offers. They offer building/zoning administrator services; however, want to take over

all permitting and provide full-service permits. They would start with the zoning administrator at first, but want to provide all inspectors. Green was not in favor of them taking over the Electrical Inspections, as she is very happy with Ken Simpson, as he provides excellent service to the township and also works with other townships as well. His fee split is 80-20. SAFEbuilt wants to split 95-5 for their inspections. Kellie stated that we could keep Ken Simpson, since we are so happy with him, but that they would want do the balance of the inspectors – Mechanical, Plumbing, State Building Inspector. Green said she is happy with our present State Building Inspector Dave Rigozzi also, but the Township could not keep him, as he is State. Ken works for the Township as a contractor, not the State of Michigan. Angela Story stated she was happy that all building and zoning information would be provided to her, as she has had a rough time in the past with building information not being provided to her, so she can keep up to date with the SEV amounts for the township, and it makes it very difficult for her doing her job responsibilities. Questions were asked. The board members were interested in how much they would charge for this service. Kellie said she would get back to Gary and Wanda on Wednesday morning with the quotation. Kellie indicated that their inspection fees are the same as the State's fees, so it would not cost the township residents any more than it is now for the permits. She said we could keep Ken Simpson as our Electrical Inspector. There will be a 90-day-out clause in the contract should the Township wish out.

SAFEbuilt representatives left at 11:31 a.m.

The meeting continued with board members and Metz commenting. Gary asked Angela how much her fees would be for Land Division/Combinations. She said Bertrand Twp. charges \$200; Baroda Twp. charges \$150. We will need to raise our fees to become more in tune with her other townships and in order to cover our expense.

Mike Metz said the township board needed to update the Zoning Administrator's job description in the Zoning Ordinance, as it is not reflecting that we have an Enforcement officer, and other items need to be adjusted also.

Public Comments: Comments throughout the meeting.

Adjourn: Motion by Green, supported by Sommers, to adjourn the meeting at 12:13 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Wanda Green, Clerk



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119

Special Board Meeting
Wednesday, July 7, 2021



CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein
Members Absent: Michelle Tackitt

Robert Kaufman Resignation as B/Z Administrator: The meeting was called in that due to the resignation of Robert Kaufman as Building/Zoning Administrator, he has agreed to remain for a period, and he would be willing to share the job description/duties with candidates and also to evaluate the candidates and report back to the Board of his determination of the candidates potential proficiency to perform the position on an ongoing basis. There are presently 2 candidates – one of which is Green’s son, the other is Ken Hallen who would do it as a temporary basis. Another person provided a resume; however, it arrived after the deadline. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve Kaufman’s sharing of the B/Z Administrator’s job description, to evaluate the candidates and report back to the board of his evaluation as to their potential to perform the responsibilities. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried. Hiring would be at the discretion of the board.

Mike Metz and Robert Warmbein spoke in favor of Safebuilt taking over these responsibilities.

Acceptance of Late Candidates for BZA: Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to extend the deadline for accepting applications for the BZA and advertise in the Berrien County Record and the Harbor Country News with an extension date of no later than Monday, 7/26/21, 10:00 a.m. Green was not in favor, as the board had not verified with Kaufman that he would be willing to stay on until this additional process was accomplished. Roll call vote, 3 ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King), 1 nay (Green), motion carried.

Lawnmowing: Comments about lawnmowing issue: Due to the cost of the lawnmowing being considerably higher than last year, and the fact that the previous lawnmowing company not making us aware of their inability to perform this job for this season, we did not allocate enough funding in the budget to cover the mowing, thus we have to attempt to take measures to lower the 2021 mowing amount, such as looking at other possible companies, mowing only as needed, and such.

Cemetery Trees – Yellowing: Two white oaks in the cemetery are yellowing. Per King, the disease is called White Oak Wilt. Bugs are coming into where limbs have come down due to storms, etc., which cause this problem. It will take about 5 years for these trees to decline.

Public Comments: Comments throughout the meeting.

Adjourn: Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to adjourn the meeting at 11:11 a.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Wanda Green, Clerk



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, July 21, 2021



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 due to Coronavirus pandemic. Report provided indicated the following activity for Weesaw Township during the period of 05/01-05/31/2021: 27complaints, 0 tickets issued; 0 arrests.
- Tackitt arrived at 7:04 p.m.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to add 5 items as provided by Fire Chief Nitz under the Fire Dept, as follows: 1) Firefighter physicals, 2) pay Buchanan Twp. Fire for foam, 3) appoint new captain as Safety-Health Officer, 4) hire Dakota Conway pending background check, 5) Repair ladders from testing. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Jimmy's Lawncare Representatives** were present to voice their concerns regarding the skipping of mowing over the past few weeks. The Township had requested that they skip several weeks' mowings due to the considerable additional we are paying for mowing this year, and there wasn't enough additional funds put in the budget for the higher amount, since the former lawncare company's late notification of their not being able to continue mowing due to their lack of employees. Jimmy's Lawncare representatives indicated that when they skip mowing for a week during the growing season, it creates a problem with their mowing, since the grass had grown considerably due to the recent rains and it makes it hard on their equipment. They had been told by Township specifications to mow at 3" or higher, and that is their desire to keep the lawns beautiful. After board discussion and concerns expressed, Sommers told them to do what they had to do to make it look good in the future.
- **Public Comments:** None.
- **Accounts Payables/Receivable:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to add an additional \$840 to the General Fund amount for Atty. Senica's billing which came in late, making the amended amounts as follows: \$17,306.08 for the General Fund, Fire Dept. \$11,645.09; Ambulance \$2,501.34, Sewer \$4,739.08, for a Grand Total of \$36.101.59. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Sommers, Tackitt, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Not present
- **Fire Dept: Meetings:** Truck checks, wash hose from barn fire, safety meeting. 1) Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to pay the up to \$5500 for Firefighter physicals. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, Green), motion carried. 2) Billing from Buchanan Twp. Fire for foam. This amount was approved in Fire Dept. payables previously, thus no need to approve again. Nitz reported that the insurance company wants a report for the Smith barn (next door to the barn burn reported last month). Perhaps the insurance company will pay up to \$500 for this

incident. 3) Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to take executive action of Fire Chief Nitz to remove, Donnie Johnson II as Safety-Health Captain. Roll call vote, 4 ayes (Warmbein, Tackitt, King, Sommers – 1 nay Green), motion carried. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to appoint Amanda Bronson as new Health-Safety Captain. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, Green), motion carried. 4) Hire Dakota Conway. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to hire Dakota Conway pending a favorable background check as a firefighter. It will be necessary for him to take Firefighter 1 and 2 in the future. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried. 5) Repair ladders. Approximately \$140 for repairs. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers to repair the ladders and have them tested at up to \$140. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Tackitt, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.

- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Regular Board Minutes of June 16 and Special Board Meeting Minutes of June 21, and July 7, 2021, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** Nothing to report.

Other Township Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bank and CD balances provided. Tackitt is in the midst of her summer tax collection season.

Building Zoning Administrator: No report received.

Planning Commission: May Minutes Provided.

Cemetery Committee: None.

Website: When latest approved minutes are provided, the website will be up to date on minutes posted.

Drains' Committee: No report.

Parks Committee: Jack Dodds was in town and attended the meeting. He has provided the updated 5-year Parks Plan that he has completed, with a few changes to be made. It was a tremendous undertaking for which the board members are extremely grateful. The Parks Plan has to be up-to-date in order to apply for a grant. Jack Dodds provided a Parks Plan Approval Process 2021-22 for the board's review. A Resolution of Approval template is attached on page 2. Many thanks to Jack for all his hard work and synopsis of the steps that have to be taken for completion of this task. Sommers will contact Wightman to get a cost for the ADD compliant parking lot down the hill.

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Attorney Sara Senica Update:** Invoice received and paid.
- **At 8:28:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Tackitt, to extend the meeting to 8:45. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Review Zoning Fees:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to accept the Zoning Fees of 7/2021 as printed, except raise the land division price to \$150, per division. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** In the course of public comments, it became apparent that the Cadet Program was not acted upon and needed to be addressed. Motion by

Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve the latest version of the Cadet Program and Attorney Senica's waiver which she provided last month for review and approval. Each cadet should have a copy of the waiver signed and provided to the township. Roll call vote, all ayes, (Warmbein, Sommers, Tackitt, Green, King), motion carried.

- Query from an audience member regarding the setting of the Porta-John again this year. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to inquire about the cost to installing it for the months of August-October, for up to \$150/month. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, Tackitt, King, Green), motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green
Clerk



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 11, 2021



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 (ar @ 7:04 p.m.)
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present due to Coronavirus pandemic. Report provided indicated the following activity for Weesaw Township during the period of 06/01-06/30/2021: 34 complaints, 1 ticket issued; 1 arrest.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to accept the Agenda, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes motion carried.
- **Public Comments/Hearing of Persons present on Agenda Items:** None.
- **Accounts Payable:** Motion by Warmbein, King, to approve the Accounts Payable as presented (Tackitt arrived during this time at 7:04 p.m.), follows: General Fund \$15,266.57; Fire Dept. \$7,045.71, Ambulance \$2,566.34; Sewer \$509.00; for a grand total of \$25,287.62. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Sommers, Warmbein, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.

- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Robert Krauss was present and indicated that he has attempted to get in touch with Attorney Senica for the past 2 weeks, but has been unable to do so. He has talked with the attorneys for the Backus property which is under foreclosure. He was told that there is supposedly an active-duty military person living there, and they are attempting to have the people living there evicted. The COVID moratorium is in effect. It was questioned whether the attorney can send a letter to the holding bank. Sommers and Green will contact our attorney to see if she can contact Robert and provide direction for enforcement issues.

- **Fire Dept: Meetings/Training:** Truck checks, check Dale Seifert's well. Calls: 1 call
- **Additional:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to accept firefighter Matthew Johnson's verbal resignation effective as of July 29, 2021, when his equipment was returned. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Tackitt, King, Green, Warmbein), motion carried.
 Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to grant the request to take Fire truck #20 to the BCYF on Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to midnight – firefighters would be working as volunteers. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
 Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to purchase 4 Motorola green radios with the AFG grant, which is a 7% match, or \$574. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.
 Request to have another Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 3, 2021, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve the Fire Dept. Pancake Breakfast as requested. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve the Regular Board Minutes of July 21, 2021, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- **Correspondence:** Nothing to report.

Other Township Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bank balances provided. Tackitt is in the midst of her summer tax collection season.

Building Zoning Administrator: No report received. Sommers and Warmbein to be available for Bob Kaufman's interview of applicants for the Building-Zoning Administrator's position. Sommers reported concrete footings were poured for the Jerry/Diane Smith property without approval from the State. He will contact Dave Rigozzi about pouring the walls.

Planning Commission: June meeting minutes provided.

Cemetery Committee: Two Oak trees in the New Troy Cemetery reportedly have Oak Wilt. Sommers reported this to the soil conservation rep.

Road Committee: Several recently rebuilt roads are crumbling – Wagner and Mill Roads. 8:30: Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to extend the meeting to 9:00 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes motion carried.

Website: Website guru Mike Metz reported that a Parks page has been added for the Parks Plan's 30-day open comments. It will be monitored by the web committee.

Drains' Committee: The Holden Road tube is still lying dormant. Per Sommers, there is a hold up on installing it due to complications per BC Drains Commissioner Chris Quattrin.

Parks Committee: Mike Metz and Gary Sommers presented information relating to the 5-Year Parks Plan for the grant. It has to be published in the newspaper and available for comments. Metz had acquired copies of the Plan for comments and for the Township Board members. It is available at the Township Hall, FONT and on-line. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Green, to move forward with publication at a proposed amount of up to \$300 to pay the outstanding amounts for publication and other misc. items of the Parks Plan. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Green, Sommers, Tackitt, King), motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Attorney Sara Senica Update:** Nothing received.
- **Resolution 2021-09:** Annual Street Light Assessment District Review. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to adopt Resolution 2021-09 as presented (no raise in the assessment this year). Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Tackitt Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **Zoning Fees/Review/Address Land Division:** Motion by Green, supported by Sommers, to approve the Land Division split fees adopted last month in the amount of 90% for the Assessor and 10% to be retained by the Township, and to update the land division fees to indicate charging \$150 for the first land division and \$50 for any additional divisions completed in one transaction with one survey. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, Tackitt, Sommers, King, Warmbein), motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** The American Flags which are presently flying are looking very bad and need to be taken down or replaced. Motion by King, supported by Tackitt, to take the flag down since the annual patriotic holidays are very close to being over. Regarding Mill Road Park, the boards re curving up and look bad. Sommers to contact the jail crew to see if we can get a crew to maintain the park. Mike Metz reported that the Trail Blazers may be interested in working as volunteers to help clean up also. In-kind time should be recorded; however, the Mill Road Park is not considered in-kind.

Adjournment: Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 15, 2021



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 (arrived @ 7:07 p.m.)
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present due to continued Coronavirus outbreak. Report provided indicated the following activity for Weesaw Township during the period of 06/01-06/30/2021: 28 complaints, 2 tickets issued; 1 arrest.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to add the Center of the World Run, October 13, 2021, to the Agenda, under Fire Dept. report. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Patrick Sage, Senior Manager, Kruggel Lawton, CPAs:** Mr. Sage presented the Fiscal Year 2020-21 audit report – Unmodified opinion, materially accurate. He reported that the township is in a financial positive position. He provided information on the various township companies. It was a very favorable audit for the Township provided to the board members. He provided bound audit reports to all board members.
- 7:07 p.m.: Michelle Tackitt arrived during the Audit presentation by Mr. Sage.
- **Public Comments/Hearing of Persons present on Agenda Items:** None.
- **Accounts Payable:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Accounts Payable as presented, as follows: General Fund \$20,982.19; Fire Dept. \$6,880.43, Ambulance \$2,516.34; Sewer \$6,622.16, Sewer PH II Note Pmt. (Interest only) \$13,179.37 for a grand total of \$50,180.49. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Sommers, Warmbein, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Robert Krauss was not present due to his not having heard from the township attorney and having no new information regarding past tickets written, and thus not knowing what was happening with the tickets he had issued some time ago. There were questions from the audience concerning the blight in the township, such as can the blight be handled without going through the court system? King is looking into and will get back to the board with information.
- **Fire Dept:** There were 9 calls in the past month (long month due to the Berrien County Youth Fair during last month, thus scheduling the meeting one week earlier than usual): 1 grass fire, 2 PI accidents, 1 CO alarm, 3 utility calls, 2 other calls to man the fire house by the County. Training: Truck checks, Jaws/high voltage/new hot sticks/carbon monoxide meter training.
- **Other Fire Issues:** Send Amanda Bronson to Pump operation & driving training class @ \$300.
Send 3 firefighters (Adrianna Burkhard-Ayala, Jon Klettke, and Jason Wiedenman to Firefighter 1 & 2 Class @ \$750 total. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to

pay \$1,050 to pay for training for the two preceding firefighters' trainings. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.

- Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to pay up to \$2,000 to service the fire trucks. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, King, Green, Tackitt, Warmbein), motion carried.
- Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to pay up to \$1,050 for MIOSHA audit by Villa Environmental. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Warmbein, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.
- Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve a pancake breakfast at the township hall on Sunday, October 3, 2021, from 8:00-11:00 a.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- Other Information: A chain saw was purchased; regarding the recent MIOSHA investigation, no citations were issued and all is well.
- On Saturday, October 23, 2021, FONT will be hosting a 5k & 10k walk/run. They wish to use several fire trucks at certain locations to control traffic. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to approve this action. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried. It was reported FONT will make a donation for this activity to help with the funding of the Halloween party.
- Sommers reported that a \$14,500 grant written by Clerk Wanda Green was received from TC Energy Foundation, which will go towards making Fire Dept. MIOSHA compliant. We should keep receipts of expenditures for future confirmation of this spending.
- Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to table the Resolution for Approval of the Weesaw Twp. Fire Dept. to Participate in the Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Division (Amended Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Association Agreement), which is for mutual aid throughout the State of MI. Several board members were not in favor of voting on this without reading the agreement in its entirety. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Regular Board Minutes of August 11, 2021, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** Burnham & Flowers provided the insurance premium for the upcoming year. All board members and the Fire Dept. should quickly review and provide any updates to be made. Approve at the next meeting prior to December meeting.
- **American Rescue Funds:** Green provided necessary information and funds are expected shortly.

Other Township Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bank balances provided. Tax collection completed. Tackitt indicated that interest is charged at 1% per month for past-due taxes, and people can pay them to her rather than at the county office.

At approximately 8:40 p.m., motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to extend the meeting one hour. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Building Zoning Administrator: No report received. Sommers indicated that Kaufman had said he would talk with the three candidates for the position and he would recommend who he felt would be the best choice.

Green left the meeting at 8:54 p.m., prior to the conclusion of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk



**WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119**

**Special Board Meeting
Monday, October 11, 2021**



CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein
Members Absent: Michelle Tackitt

Zoning Administrator Position: The meeting was called to make a decision regarding the Zoning Administrator’s position, wherein Bob Kaufman had resigned effective July 15, 2021, and had continued past that date to help keep applications moving forward. The position had become too Bob Kaufman and his wife Renny were present to provide a proposal for continuing with the zoning department. After reviewing his proposal with the township board and his reasoning, he indicated that the time required was 8-10 hours per week for the zoning and his proposed rate is \$350/hour per week for a total per month rate of \$1400. Kaufman left at 10:38 a.m.

After Bob Kaufman and Renny left, Robert Krauss arrived at 11:04 a.m. Krauss indicated that he had contacted Attorney Senica and Dave Rigozzi regarding several properties in Glendora owned by Alek (Chicago resident). The attorney indicated she would keep informed about enforcement. Krauss will work with attorney closely. Krauss indicated he would be willing to take the Zoning Administrator’s position, as he has been doing that for Galien in the past.

Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to accept the resignation of Bob Kaufman Zoning Administrator effective November 1, 2021, and that we would appreciate his turning in his zoning records, cell phone, keys, any other township items, and outstanding timesheets, expressing the township’s ceaseless gratitude for the sixteen years of past service. Roll call vote, all ayes, (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.

After further discussion, motion by King, supported by Sommers, to hire Krauss as of November 1, 2021, for the Zoning Administrator’s position at a beginning salary of \$17.50/hr. + mileage.

Roll call vote, 3 ayes (King, Sommers, Green), 1 nay (Warmbein – due to his belief that Krauss has a lot on his plate presently.)

Public Comments: Resident Mike Metz had a number of remarks throughout the meeting. He said the township needed to come up with a corrected job description for the Zoning Administrator, and asked clerk to send updated fees to him for the website. Also, needs someone to take minutes for Planning Commission since Clerk will be out of town during that time.

Adjourn: Motion by Warmbein, supported by Green, to adjourn the meeting at 12:19 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk



**WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119**



**Special Board Meeting
Monday, October 18, 2021 (for Oct. Regular Board Meeting Items)**

CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 4:00 p.m. (Special Meeting called to conduct scheduled business of Regular Board Meeting of Wednesday, October 20, 2021, due to proposed absence of Clerk due to a family emergency)

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all in attendance.

Roll Call: Board Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers,
Members Absent: Michelle Tackitt, Robert Warmbein

Berrien County Sheriff's Department Representative Report: Report provided. Deputy Sheriff not in attendance.

Set/Amend Agenda Items: King requested to add Township Hall Lighting System. Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve adding this agenda item. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Public Comments: Mike Metz requested permission of the Township Board to call Atty. Sara Senica to ask about lot sizes being too small and inadequate setbacks. Motion by Sommers, supported by King to grant permission to allow Mike Metz to contact Atty. Sara Senica regarding the two zoning issues that have arisen regarding the lot sizing and setbacks. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers King, Green), motion carried.

Resident Jennifer Powell provided public comments regarding the excessive speed occurring between CA and Log Cabin Roads. She called the police department, and they put up a radar speed sign. She is concerned about pets and children. Sommers to contact the Berrien County Road Dept. regarding their placing the trailer sign.

Approve Accounts Payables Monthly Expenditures Report: Two checks were not on the Accounts Payable and were added to the totals as follows and revised payables: General Fund: Add S.E. Berrien Cty. Landfill S/B \$45.60; Fire Dept.: IN-MI Electric add \$171.68; making revised General Fund Expenditures total: \$19,275.60; Fire Dept. \$9,705.87; Ambulance \$2,631.34; Sewer Fund \$4,727.99; for a Grand Total of all expenditures of \$36,340.80.

Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer: No written report provided. Sommers reported there are three cease and desist orders being violated. Krauss to contact Rigozzi regarding these violation. Tickets to be issued, if necessary.

Approve Previous Minutes: Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve Regular Board Minutes of Wed., Sept. 15, 2021, and Special Board Meeting Minutes of Mon., October 11, 2021. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Other Township Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bank balances provided by Tackitt.

Planning Commission: Minutes provided by Clerk Green.

Cemetery Committee: Cemetery Lots Refund: 2 lots less \$10/ea. lot – sold at \$200/ea. or \$380.00 refund. Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to refund the \$380 to Julian Kubian for the two cemetery lots in the New Troy Cemetery. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried. In addition, Sommers will contact the lawn mowing people and asked them not to mow this week.

Road Committee: Sommers reported that maintenance of the roads is okay. They will tar and stone on Wee-Chik Rd., which is presently graveled, next year.

Website Committee: A meeting is in the planning.

Drains Committee: The annual drains bill received in the amount of \$43,500.44. Due February 2022.

Parks Committee: On 11/09 is the regular parks meeting with Marcie Hamilton, 7:00 p.m. Engineering for parks driveway by Wightman Associates. They will get back with us with price. Parks Committee member Mike Metz indicated that the amount that Wightman charges for engineering fees is \$100/hr. Motion by King, supported by Sommers to approve up to \$1000 for engineering of the park's driveway. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.

Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve up to \$500 for the park's additional bridge #2. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers King, Green), motion carried.

New Business: Snowplowing Bids: Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve placing ad in the Berrien County Record for snowplowing bids upon Green's return from her emergency trip to TX. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, King, Sommers), motion carried.

Unfinished Business: Attorney Sara Senica update – nothing at this time.

Fire Dept.: Fire Chief Ted Nitz reported that Collin Warner has to take the practical test retest. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve Collin Warner to the fire dept. pending a background report. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried. Chief Nitz also recommended Dakota Krieger to the Cadet program. Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to recommend Dakota Krieger for the Cadet Program. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Chief Nitz also requested to use up to 3 trucks for the Friends of New Troy 5k run. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to permit the Fire Dept. to utilize the trucks as requested. Voice, vote, all ayes, motion carried.

The Annual Halloween Party is scheduled for Saturday, October 30, 2021. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to permit the Fire Dept. to have the Halloween Party as planned.

Fire Dept. Report: 4 calls, truck checks and cleaning.

Chief Nitz requested \$360 from the budget for 9 air bottles to be hydro-tested (which is required every 5 years). Motion by King, supported by Green, to approve having the 9 air bottles hydro-tested as requested for \$350. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Green, King), motion carried.

Chief Nitz requested judges for the Halloween Party costume contest.

Added to Agenda Item; King provided information regarding replacing present ceiling lights with LED Lighting in the township hall meeting room, which will be more cost-efficient. Discussion ensued, and King will call around to get pricing and bring it back to the board next month for action.

Public Comments: None at this time. Heard throughout the meeting.

Adjourn: Motion by Green, supported by Sommers, to adjourn the meeting at 5:07 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green,
Clerk



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119



REGULAR BOARD MEETING

2021-2026 PARKS & RECREATION PLAN
PUBLIC HEARING

MINUTES

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

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.

- Supervisor Sommers appointed Jack Dodds to act as secretary recording the minutes of the meeting and the hearing due to the emergency absence of Clerk Wanda Green.
- **Roll Call by Jack Dodds, substituting for Clerk Green**: Members Present–Art King, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein. Members Absent–Wanda Green, Michelle Tackitt

- **Board Meeting Temporarily Suspended/Public Hearing Opened** : Gary Sommers opened the Public Hearing to hear comments on the Weesaw Township Parks and Recreation Plan, 2021-2026, at 7:02 p.m.

Initial written comments were read by Jack Dodds: The parks plan being considered at this hearing is one step in the development of Weesaw Township Parks that began over ten years ago. Along the way, our planning has benefited from all the insights and efforts of several Weesaw Township boards and the members of the ongoing Weesaw Township Parks Committee.

Most of all, our Parks plan presented here has been shaped by the many comments and suggestions from township residents and park visitors. The four park surveys conducted over ten years received over 360 responses and 160 written comments. The Parks Committee sifted all of this information, weighed decisions about what residents most wanted for our parks, and produced the plan before us.

Tonight's hearing is one more opportunity for input that will shape the final version of the plan to be submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and to support future township requests for parks and recreation grants. And so, what more needs to be said about our parks and recreation plan?

Mike Metz, Weesaw Parks Committee Member: Mike briefly described what a parks plan is, what it does, and how it compares to the township's five-year Master Plan. He emphasized that it points in a direction for improvements and provides support for grant applications.

Public Comments

Glen Pastryk, 12521 Cleveland Avenue, Buchanan, Michigan: Mr. Pastryk asked what the over-all intentions were for the plan, what it aimed to accomplish. Jack Dodds responded by reading the goals for the parks listed in Part 5 of the Plan. Pastryk then asked about the impact of the Plan and park improvements on the new portion of the the New Troy Cemetery, which is adjacent to the woodland section of Weesaw Park. Supervisor Sommers responded by describing plans for a columbarium to be erected near the park's rustic trail that will eventually circle Weesaw Park. Pastryk asked about the timber cutting that was once proposed for the park and was told by Sommers that the proposal was no longer being considered and that the park woodland would remain as it is.

Jim Pastryk, 4250 Lynn Street, Sawyer, Michigan: Mr. Pastryk asked for further description of the rustic trail and responded favorably to the intention to preserve the woodland section of the park and to develop the trail. Park Committee member Hanover summarized the initial stages of plan implementation, even before a request for a grant is made. Trustee Robert Warmbein indicated that he supported the Parks Plan and thought it would be good for the township to pursue the Plan through the award of a grant. Gary Sommers responded by identifying the priorities for park development as stressed by township residents over multiple surveys. He also itemized

costs, showing a total amount close to a spending objective \$150,000 (\$100,00 grant from DNR, \$50,000 matching township contribution).

Open-sided pavilion - \$45,000
Multi-sport court - \$36,350
4 benches - \$6,000
Playground equipment - \$60,000
Incidental costs - \$2,650

- **Resolution for Adoption of the Weesaw Township Parks & Recreation Plan, 2021-2026, Resolution # 2021-10:** Following public comments, Supervisor Sommers announced the resolution for adoption of the plan and asked Jack Dodds to read the resolution before the vote. Motion to adopt by Sommers; seconded by Robert Warmbein.

Discussion: Supervisor Sommers emphasized that while there is much in the plan to be pursued, the township has five years to achieve these goals.

Vote on Resolution 2021-10: Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried. By a quorum of members present, Resolution 2021-10, the Weesaw Township Parks and Recreation Plan, 2021-2026, is adopted.

- **Close Public Hearing/Reopen Township Board Meeting and Adjournment:** There being no further public comments, Supervisor Sommers called for the meeting to be adjourned. Robert Warmbein moved and Gary Sommers seconded the motion at 8:14 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk



**WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, November 17, 2021**



CALL TO ORDER: Sommers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all in attendance.

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

Berrien County Sheriff's Department Representative Report: Report provided. Deputy Sheriff not in attendance. Weesaw Township Activity for 09/01/2021-09/30/2021: Complaints 21, Tickets issued 0, Arrests: 0.

Set/Amend Agenda Items: Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to set the Agenda as is. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Public Comments: None.

Approve Accounts Payables Monthly Expenditures Report: There was a minor error in the totals, which had been corrected by Green prior to the meeting, thus motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the payables as amended and showing in the Board Members packet report as follows: General fund \$14,247.86; Fire Dept. \$4,347.32, Ambulance \$2,416.34; Sewer \$6,190.57, for a Grand Total of \$27,202.09.

Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer: Krauss provided a comprehensive written report, with results of Zoning applications approved: 3; Zoning Applications pending: 7; Code enforcement update as follows: 3 – citations issued to 3 properties, no response from bank on the other property; Pending Enforcement: 3; Discussion of other items of interest. (Report is filed under Code Enforcement/Zoning Administrator Reports in 2021 Zoning Records).

7:15 p.m. Tackitt Arrived

Continuation of Krauss: Krauss requested to purchase 20 regulation municipal civil infraction citation books at \$16.91 per book, or up to \$400. Motion by Green, supported by Warmbein, to approve the purchase of the books as requested by Krauss, up to \$400, as additional shipping charges may be required. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Warmbein, King, Sommers, Green), motion carried.

Fire Department Report: Fire Chief Ted Nitz reported 5 calls. 1 Structure, 1 PI Accident, 1 Fire Alarm, 1 Utility Call power line down, 1 Manned Station due to bad weather. There were 2 meetings – 1 truck checks 1 SEMCO gas training.

Nitz requested to upgrade the post office box to the \$72 per year box. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the larger post office box at \$72/yr. to accommodate magazines and larger parcels. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried. Nitz also requested to advertise sale of the old Husqvarna Fire Dept. Chain Saw that was purchased by the Fire Dept. years ago. It will be posted on the website, and any monies received for it will go back to the Fire Dept. Fund.

Nitz requested to hire Gregory Nelson as a new firefighter. He is already working for another Fire Dept., thus has training. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to hire Gregory Nelson pending favorable background check. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried. Chief Nitz requested to use up to three Fire Trucks for delivering the Thanksgiving baskets and Santa Claus. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve using the trucks to deliver the Thanksgiving baskets and Santa Claus to the Friend of New Troy. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Present were two gentlemen Frank DeLaTorre (N. Berrien Fire Plan Coordinator and Fire Chief Mike Mattix, Div. Leader, to explain more fully the MABAS (Mutual Air Agreement with State). After a lengthy discussion by the gentlemen with questions and inquiries from board members, motion by Warmbein, supported by King to table this issue until the next meeting. It was stated that we could opt out by resolution in the future, if we so desired. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Approve Previous Minutes: Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve Special Board Minutes of 10/18/2021 (for Regular Board Meeting items), and Wednesday, 10/20/2021 2021-26 Parks & Recreation Plan Public Hearing meeting minutes. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Snowplowing Bids: There being one bid from Seeder & Co., along with their insurance certificate, motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to accept the bid from Seeder & Co. in the amount of \$370.00 per plowing/servicing of all properties -- \$100 for township hall, \$70 for Wee-Chik Cemetery, \$70 for Glendora Cemetery, \$55 for \$Mill Rd. Park, \$75 (1/2 to Weesaw Twp. and 1/2 to FONT) for Community Center parking lot. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.

Other Township Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bank balances provided by Tackitt; winter taxes are being mailed.

Planning Commission: Minutes provided by Clerk Green.

Cemetery Committee: None

Roads Committee: The Weesaw Roads Plan was approved by the County and returned to the township. There was a virtual Road Dept. meeting today, which Warmbein, Sommers, and Green attended in various separate locations in the township hall.

Extend Meeting: at 8:30 p.m. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to extend the meeting up to 45 minutes to 9:15 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Bridges: One bridge on Log Cabin by DeRuiter's should be examined for critical bridge.

Website Committee: Proposal to add web address to township stationery (template) and to the township signs – the outdoor display cabinet and also the township sign on lawn. Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to add the website address as indicated. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Drains Committee: None.

Parks Committee: Sommers reported that the second bridge in the park has been completed. A bid for parking lot and driveway was received. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to attempt to secure another bid for the park driveway/parking lot. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried. Sommers will attempt to get another bid.

New Business: Assessor Angela Story requested that the township approve option 1 or option 2 of a recent requirement to post assessing records online: Option 1) Pay-per-hit. The township assumes zero cost. BS&A will charge \$2 per record payable by credit card. Taxpayers may look up their data for free. Option 2) Subscription option. The township incurs a cost of \$2,100 annually. Motion by Green, supported by Tackitt, to approve Option 1 at zero cost to township. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Unfinished Business: Attorney Sara Senica update – invoice received.

Public Comments: None at this time. Heard throughout the meeting.

Adjourn: Motion by Sommers, supported by Tackitt, to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green,
Clerk



**WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, December 15, 2021**



CALL TO ORDER: Sommers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all in attendance.

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

Berrien County Sheriff's Department Representative Report: Report provided. Deputy Sheriff not in attendance. Weesaw Township Activity for 09/01/2021-09/30/2021: Complaints 16, Tickets issued 1, Arrests: 1.

Set/Amend Agenda Items: Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to add Seeder & Co. removal of leaves from the New Troy Cemetery to the Accounts Payables in the amount of \$2,600. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Public Comments: None.

Approve Accounts Payables Monthly Expenditures Report: Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the payables (with the addition of Seeder & Co. \$2,600) as follows: General fund \$19,275.08 Fire Dept. \$21,707.62, Ambulance \$2,416.34; Sewer \$5,084.54, for a Grand Total of \$48,483.58. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, King, Sommers, Tackitt, Warmbein), motion carried.

Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer: Krauss provided a verbal report, a number of projects have arisen. He reported that the former Backus property was discovered to be unsecured. A Sheriff secured the door but it was discovered open again. The door was secured by the bank who is in charge of the property. Tackitt requested the address of the bank as the tax bill have been returned. Krauss will provide the address. He further advised that there had been a court order for the property beside the post office, which is 30 days, and the 30 days is up tomorrow (Dec.16). The township will probably need to bid out the clean-up. Krauss will speak with the attorney next week regarding the next step in this process. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to start the process to getting bids to clean up the property as soon as possible. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried. Krauss ordered ticket books at \$16.91 per book. Krauss will work on the property just down the street that is owned by the people who live in Grand Rapids as soon as he gets the ticket books in hand. Questions regarding properties in Glendora.

Fire Department Report: Fire Chief Ted Nitz reported 3 calls. Truck checks; no training this month.

1. Audit in January.
2. The new post office box number is 36.
3. Two sets of gear were received.
4. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve three fire trucks to deliver two Christmas baskets. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
5. Regarding codes and access to FEMA (SAM) from Clerk, Warmbein will come in and set up this for the Fire Dept.
6. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to accept \$40 for 4 obsolete radios, per Sunny Communications proposal of their value, with the radios to be donated by the purchaser to Cass County Dive Team. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
7. AFG Grant – Several townships went in together to get new air packs – 5% match. We are looking at 15; which would be \$6,750 total match. Motion by Warmbein, supported

by Sommers, to apply for the AFG Grant with the other townships with a matching amount of \$6,750. (Grant results in 6 months' time). Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Warmbein, Green), motion carried. West Shore Fire quote for air packs (if we don't get the air packs in the grant above). If we do get the grant, we can use the \$14,500 gas line grant for the \$6,750 matching amount.

8. MABAS Agreement – Green asked if we could get out of the Agreement, in the future if it was not a fit for the township. We can get out with a resolution. It was reported that there is free training provided. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to sign the MABAS agreement. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Tackitt, King, Sommers, Green [with reservation]), motion carried.

It being 8:30, motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to extend the meeting to 9:00 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Approve Previous Minutes: Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the minutes of November 17, 2021. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Other Township Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bank balances provided by Tackitt. 2022-23 Tax Agreement between Weesaw Township & Berrien County Board of Commissioners. Motion by Tackitt, supported by Sommers, to continue to pay \$2,033 for two years for this agreement – the amount will probably be higher in the second year. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.

Planning Commission: No meeting until January 24, 2022.

Cemetery Committee: None – D.J./Seeder & Company cleaned the cemetery of leaves.

Roads Committee: None

Website Committee: None

Parks Committee: None – The 5-year plan is in effect. It is in the works to apply for a \$150,000 grant, with \$50,000 from the Township and \$100,000 from the grant.

New Business: None

Unfinished Business: Attorney Sara Senica update – Nothing received.

Public Comments: Metz indicated that the gas company being a public utility can do what they want to do. They are not subject to the township rules.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green,
Clerk