



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



**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, April 19, 2017**

- **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was 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. Member Absent: Michelle Tackitt was expected to arrive late.
- **BERRIEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT. REPRESENTATIVE:** There was not a representative from the Sheriff's Dept. present. The Sheriff's monthly report had not been received either.
- **SET/AMEND AGENDA:** Sommers requested that the following items be added to the Agenda: 1) ADA for Park; 2) Letter to owners of Band Bldg.; 3) Purchase of Trees; 4) Purchase Bench. Motion by Green, supported by King, to amend the Agenda with the four items added. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **HEARING OF PERSONS PRESENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None
- **ROBERT KRAUSS, CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:**
  - Krauss had performed further inspections, and reported that an attorney had gotten involved with a property on Cleveland Avenue. Krauss also requested that if any complaints arose on Thurs.-Sat. that residents please attempt to call him at 269-369-2784 while the activity was happening, so he could actually see the disturbance while it was in process. Since he is not a police officer, he would not be able to write a ticket; but the complainant could do so and he could deliver the ticket. He also mentioned getting our ordinances updated by the Board. Green requested receiving verbiage if he can make it available. There is a difference in handling code enforcement as a police officer. Krauss will look into the guidelines in proceeding with his policing for the township. He will report back to the board.
- **RESIDENT VICTOR PALULIS, "Spring Cleaning":**
  - Mr. Palulis mentioned this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary he initiated on 4/25/15 requesting a spring clean-up in New Troy. He also stated that there needed to be more working with the Sheriff's Dept. Other items mentioned were shooting, repairs to Pardee Rd. relating to gravel, chloride, pot holes. His talk went well over the time allotted.
- **FIRE DEPT.:** Assistant Chief Daryl DeRossi reported 5 calls: 2 crashes, 2 power lines down, 1 stand-by for Berrien County Dispatch. He requested \$45 admission for Donnie Johnson II to attend the FDIC Convention in Indianapolis, IN. plus mileage (approx. 178 miles one way). Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the \$45 admission fee plus mileage for the firefighter to attend the FDIC Convention as requested. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of Wed., 3/15/17; and Special Board Meeting Minutes of Tues., 3/21 and 3/28/17 as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried

- **APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLES:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Accounts Payables in the following amounts as presented: General Fund \$14,690.42; Fire Dept. \$4,607.66; Ambulance \$2,211.27; Sewer \$4,926.26; Other- Lynn St., Ph 2 Sewer \$88,471.90; for a Grand Total of \$114,907.51.
- **CORRESPONDENCE:** email from Culverhouse re cemetery – Green to respond. Hop Head Farms

**OTHER TOWNSHIP REPORTS:**

- **TREASURER’S REPORT:** Tackitt was not present.
- **BUILDING/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:** Zoning report provided.
- **PLANNING COMMISSION:** February meeting minutes provided.
- **PARKS, RECREATION & CEMETERY COMMITTEES:** Several minor changes were suggested to the letter relating to the parks and was tabled last month. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to send the letter written by resident Jack Dodds to the attorney to get her input prior to sending it out to the owners of the former school Band Building. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Sommers, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.

**ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA PREVIOUSLY:**

- 1) **ADA Accessible Compliant nature trail (bridge) for the Weesaw Park area** Green suggested that we contact Disability Network, S.W. MI. (Joanne). Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to contact an ADA official to do an evaluation of the park as relating to ADA compliance. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
  - 2) **Letter to Owners of Band Bldg.:** Response earlier.
  - 3) **2 Redbud Trees:** Eastern 5-6’, 7 yrs. old. \$120 each. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to purchase 2 trees for up to \$300, including planting. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, King, Sommers, Warmbein), motion carried.
  - 4) **Purchase Bench:** It was suggested that we clean and seal the concrete where the bench will be installed at the front of Weesaw Park. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to purchase an 8’ green bench from Belson Outdoors for the front of the Weesaw Park for an amount of up to \$1150, including shipping. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **Roads Committee:** Minutes provided. Sommers provided an update. A letter was received from B.C.R.C. relative to upcoming road work. Louis Csokasy has retired from B.C.R.C. Larsen Rd is in poor condition. The gravel that was installed is working itself into the road due to excessive rain. Notice from B.C.R.C. regarding roads to be repaired -- Hills Rd., Warren Woods Rd.
  - **WEBSITE COMMITTEE:** Mike Metz reported a meeting with Jack Dodds and himself. They made aesthetic changes. They may need to have the Township members on the committee meet soon. Wix may be coming up again soon.
  - **TOWNSHIP DRAINS COMMITTEE:** Sommers reported 3 drains of concern: 1) Wagner Rd/Cleveland Ave; 2) Pardee Rd – by Hauch’s new home -- Pletcher Drain; 3) Glendora Rd. – Tile collapsed by Heidinger’s home.
  - **NEW BUSINESS:**
    - **PA116 Farm Preservation:** Shirley Busick, 1739 Browntown Rd., Buchanan presented documents for this program. Sommers signed the document and it will be sent to the Government as required.
    - **Auditors Kruggel Lawton CPA Proposal:** This item was tabled so board members can read the engagement letter in depth prior to approval.
    - **Adopt Resolution 2017-07:** Resolution to approve Green’s writing a grant to purchase surveillance cameras for the Township Hall/Fire Dept. areas. Motion by Art King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the grant as written. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, Sommers, King, Warmbein), motion carried.
    - **Trees/Stumps Removal. Other work performed:** 3 Schillers' Nursery Estimates for tree work: Estimate #15 Remove 4 trees, dig out stumps, at New Troy Cemetery @

\$1120.00. Motion by Sommers, supported by Green, to approve Estimate 15 as presented by Schillers. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.

- Estimate #16: Cut down balance of tree that broke off in the wind in New Troy Cemetery at a cost of \$450.00. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve Estimate #16 as presented by Schillers. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- Estimate #17: Cut down tree at Weesaw Township Park for a cost of \$230. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve Estimate #17 as presented by Schillers. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Green, Sommers, Warmbein), motion carried. All 3 estimates include clean-up, covered with dirt, stumps removed and grass seed planted.
- Lynn Street Water Assessment Loan: Request to approve prepayment on this assessment district. Matter tabled until Special Meeting.
- Paint Posts at Log Cabin Lift Station: A request has been made to pain the posts at the Log Cabin Lift Station, as their appearance is very poor. GRSD quoted a price, but it was suggested that the Township maintenance person do the work at \$12.50/hr. GRSD said to purchase paint comparable to Rustoleum along with a like primer. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, that maintenance man Skip Green do the painting for time and materials. Roll call vote, 3 ayes (Sommers, King, Warmbein – Green abstaining, due to Skip’s being her husband), motion carried.
- Approve Purchase of Lateral File: Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve the purchase of a lateral file for Green’s office at a cost of up to \$400. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, Sommers, Warmbein, King), motion carried.

▪ **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Atty. Sara Bell**: No report received.

**Tabled Item**: Last month Burnham & Flower fire insurance was tabled. Tabled again this month.

**Thank you**: Sincere Thank you’s expressed to the following volunteers for helping clean up the cemeteries on 4/1/17: Jack & Judy Dodds, Skip & Wanda Green and granddaughter Alivia, Art King, Elizabeth Palulis, Gary & Carolyn Sommers, Jerry Vitek, Robert Warmbein.

**Set Hourly Wage Increase**: Skip Green has worked as custodian/maintenance man since 12/05/2007, without an increase. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to increase the Custodian/Maintenance employee’s hourly pay from \$12.00 to \$12.50 per hour. Roll call vote, 3 ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King – Green abstained due to his being her husband), motion carried.

**Phase1/Phase 2 Sewer Invoice Division**: It is the suggestion to change the division of invoices in the Phase 1-Phase 2 be revised to be in accord with the actual number of REU’s for these assessment districts: Motion by Sommers, supported by Green, to change the percentages for Phase 1 from .3333 to .25 (42 REU’s) and for Phase 2 from .6667 to .75 (134 REU’s). Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

**Survey 28 Acres of recently–purchased property for Cemetery/Park Land**: Abonmarche quoted \$1600 to survey this property plus \$1100 to stake every 100-ft. This issue was tabled until a Special Meeting. No action taken. Tabled.

- **PUBLIC COMMENTS**: Comments from Ezra Scott, County Commissioner, who was present in the audience.

- **ADJOURN**: Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to adjourn at 9:50 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green  
Clerk