



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 11, 2017

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

- **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:** The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all present.
- **ROLL CALL BY CLERK GREEN:** All Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Michelle Tackitt, Robert Warmbein.
- **B.C. SHERIFF'S DEPT. REPORT:** Deputy Ryan Sullivan had arrived and presented the township statistics for the period of 11/1-11/30/2016, as follows: Complaints worked 21; Tickets issued 1; Arrests 0. He provide dialog regarding the recent activity in relation to the numerous thefts in this vicinity and other nearby locations, such as Three Oaks, Bertrand, Buchanan. He provided a new detective's phone number to call Chief Deputy Robert Boyce, 269-983-7141, ext. 7224. The Sheriff's Dept. has put on an additional car to patrol. He warned people not to confront these people that are involved in the thefts. Michigan goes by the Castle Doctrine, which relates to offenders entering one's home without permission.
- **SET/AMEND AGENDA ITEMS:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to move Robert Krauss' report to before the Fire Dept. report. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **HEARING OF PERSONS PRESENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None
- **ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT:**
 - Robert Krauss reported that he is still working on the three properties which are going to court on Friday, January 27. The outcome will be between the attorney and the property owner – 2 are located on California Rd., and the other on Pine St.
 - Robert has also been working with AEP to take down the dead trees on Wee-Chik along the property purchased by Weesaw and the John Edwards' tree line.
 - Robert also advised that he feels the State wants the Township to work on the list of dangerous properties at the local level that we provided them last month. He mentioned that he will contact the owners and get moving on this issue. Some improvement has been accomplished but more is needed.
- **FIRE DEPT:** Fire Chief Tim Williams reported 3 P.I.'s and 1 structure fire
 - Limited mileage reimbursement for Brittney Williams for attendance at Firefighter Classes in Berrien Springs. A board member indicated that the Township Board had not expected to pay for this mileage. Green stated that she felt the board should table this issue until the board had an opportunity to discuss it and write a policy as to how much and under the circumstances we would pay in the future for fire dept. mileage, which is different from Board Members' mileage. After further discussion to come up with a policy to be discussed further at a special meeting, motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to pay Brittney Williams the \$416 she was requesting for the period of from Sept. through Dec. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
 - Request that heating company evaluate value of installation of foam board to insulate attic due to heat loss. The roof is also not vented. Motion by Warmbein, supported by

Green to look into storage and venting the roof, via AEP or gas company. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- Williams requested removing petty cash item from agenda.
- Trimming of limbs on tree west of Township Fire Dept. by Schiller Tree Service. Tim Williams advised he had talked with Chad Sperry (on whose property the tree is located) and Chad said we could trim the tree. Williams said we should write up a permission document for Chad to sign giving us permission to trim the tree.

- **APPROVE PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Motion by King supported by Warmbein, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of 12/21/16, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- **CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED TO BOARD:**

- Sommers reported he has contacted the U.S. Census Bureau and will provide the information they require by 3/30/2017.
- SEMCO public hearing (no action taken)
- 1/17/17 Wind Turbine Newsletter provided

- **APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLES MONTHLY EXPENDITURES:**

Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve the Accounts Payables expenditures of 1/11/2017 as follows: General Fund \$7,671.42; Fire Dept. \$5,468.75, Ambulance \$2,211.27; Sewer \$2,811.81 for a Grand Total of \$13,110.00. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.

- **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer Report:** Treasurer Tackitt – bank balances and CD balances provided. Tackitt reported that she had surveyed a number of banks for better interest rates, due to a CD coming up for rollover. She ended up with New Buffalo Savings & Loan at .75% for 18 months, as they offered a better rate.
- **Building/Zoning Administrator:** Zoning Report provided by Bob Kaufman.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** No December meeting.
- **Parks & Rec. Committee:** The Parks/Rec Committee met Mon., Jan. 9. Minutes were presented by Sommers. The committee recommended several items to be considered by the board for purchase, e.g., new bench to replace old one at front of New Troy Park, plantings, holiday decorations and other incidentals and maintenance in both Mill Rd. and Weesaw Township parks.
- **Roads Committee:** Sommers reported there was no meeting. He learned that the Road Commission has cut 5 trees, including a tree in Tackitt's yard. A letter was received from Louie Csokasy regarding a meeting he wants to hold in the township hall on Wednesday 6/14, 5:30 p.m., 5 BCRC people to attend.
- **Website:** Mike Metz said nothing to report at this time. There will be a meeting next month. Minimal amount in the budget for website requested.
- **Drains Committee:** Sommers advised that there is nothing further to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Board of Review Resolutions/Newspaper Ad.** There were 3 resolutions pertaining to the Board of Review: 17-01 Accepting Letters of Protest from Twp. Residents ...; 17-02 Resolution to Provide for Alternate Starting Dates ...; 17-03 Resolution Updating State Required Poverty Level Income Motion by Sommers, supported by Tackitt, to adopt the three Board of Review Resolutions as presented. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, Tackitt, Sommers, King, Warmbein), motion carried. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein to place the ad for the Board of Review meeting in the Harbor Country News. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Green, Tackitt), motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Atty.Sara Bell Update:** No update from attorney.
- **Dangerous Buildings:** Discussed under Enforcement Officer

- **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Ezra Scott, District 9 Commissioner, introduced himself and provided his email address: escott@berriencounty.org. His cell phone is 269-240-0509, and he is presently working with Chris Quattrin, Drain Commissioner. He provided additional information and discussed drains issues.
- **ADJOURN:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to adjourn at 9:18 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green
Clerk