



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



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, January 15, 2020**

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:** Deputy Preston Huddleston was present with the following statistics for the period of 11/01-11/30/2019: 22 complaints, 2 tickets, 3 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to add the following item: Board members to voice their November election intentions.
- **Public Comments:** Brenda Cook was present and had questions regarding drains and Galien River, to wit, maintenance for Galien River? Holden Rd. Bridge logs blocking river creating erosion? Must farmers get permits to install tile? Is dredging allowable? Did anyone attend the flood mapping meeting last evening? How many drains do we have? Sommers responded to questions as much as possible. **TACKITT ARRIVED: 7:10 p.m.** King responded to tile recorded in NRCS office. Sommers further added that there has been spot cleaning in the Galien River. Sommers will contact the Drain Commissioner regarding some of her concerns. He also indicated that the Drain Commissioner Quattrin will be here on Tuesday, Jan 21, for a 10:00 meeting to present two additional drains' resolutions.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Robert Krauss provided a verbal report. He indicated that there have been break-ins in the Township. Robert provided a ticket to our Attorney Sara Senica, who went to court about it on January 3, and a 30-day judgment was handed down for the ticket. He has not had an opportunity to work on the other complaints, and will also revisit other complaints from the past, where homeowners that begun work on the alleviating the complaints; however, some of the complaint issues have once again begun to go back to their previous negative appearance.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz. 1 call, which turned out to be a PI – stolen vehicle; Quarterly safety meeting, truck checks. The air packs were purchased and are working great. Good purchase at a great savings to the Fire Dept. He reported a problem regarding high water in a manhole in the parking lot. Sommers will call the County Road Dept. to report the problem.
- **Other Fire Issues:** Regarding the renovation talked about last month, due to this being a municipal building, Sommers and Warmbein feel that the Fire Dept. should get a bid

from Aaron Wheeler to do the renovation of the Fire Dept. office area for next year's budget. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, that a bid be requested from Aaron Wheeler for the renovation along with a drawing to be provided to the Township for approval. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- **Credit Card Resolution:** Sommers indicated that the township credit card resolution should be updated so that WEX Cards could be authorized for the Fire Dept., and verbiage sent to our attorney for edit and approval.
- **Training:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve two training classes for ice rescue which would be under \$190, with eight firefighters attending. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Tackitt, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the regular board meeting minutes of Wed., December 18, 2019, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** None
- **Approve Accounts Payable Monthly Expenditures Report:** Since the payables had been reviewed earlier in the day, motion by Warmbein, supported by King, as follows: General Fund \$14,766.70; Fire Dept. \$7,053.98, Ambulance \$2,277.59; Sewer \$3,711.96; for a grand total of \$27,810.23. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Green, Sommers, Warmbein, King), motion carried.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bank balances provided. CD's rolled over. Since the Treasurer's and Assessor's computers are older machines having Windows 7, they are in need of being replaced. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to spend up to \$1500 for two computers and software for the Treasurer and Assessor. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** Report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** No meeting, no minutes. Green will look into purchasing the marijuana webinars.
- **Parks/Recreation:** The surveillance cameras are being installed in Weesaw Township Park Jan. 20 or 21. Green will send off request for reimbursement of grant monies at that time. Metz will provide photos of project.
- **Cemetery:** The clean-up of the cemeteries was discussed at a meeting with the lawnmowers today and the clean-up has been done, and the board voted to extend the contract for two more years at the same prices.
- **Website Committee:** Mike Metz indicated we needed to forward the minutes to Jack Dodds to put onto the website. Green will do so. Jack is also working on the historical background for how Weesaw Township got its name, which he will provide to the township upon completion, to be placed on the website.
- **Drains Committee:** Sommers indicated that Christopher Quattrin will be here Tuesday, Jan. 21 to present drain resolutions.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **March Board of Review:** Clerk Green had updated the resolutions: 2020-01 Accepting Letters of Protest for March 2020 Board of Review; 2020-02 Resolution to Provide for Alternate Starting Dates . . . ; and 2020-03 Resolution Updating State Required Poverty Level Income Standards Per Property Tax Poverty Exemption Guidelines . . . ; Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Board of Review Resolutions 2020-01, 2020-02, 2020-03 as named above. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **2020 Township Board Election Intent:** Sommers queried the township board as to each member's intent for the 2020 Election Cycle: Warmbein – yes, he will run again as Trustee; King – no, he will not run; Sommers – yes, he will run again as Supervisor; Tackitt – yes, she will run again as Treasurer; Green – no, she will not run as Clerk, but intends to run for another position, health permitting.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** Nothing new, received invoice for payment.
- **Tree Marketing Program:** Warmbein provided MI Forestry Co. handout to review and be signed by Sommers if township is interested.
- **Extend Meeting:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to extend the meeting until finished. Voice vote, all ayes motion carried.
- Tackitt left meeting at 8:30 p.m.
- **Public Comments:** None.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Green, supported by King, to adjourn at 8:34 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk



**WEESAW TOWNSHIP  
New Troy, MI 49119**

Special Board Meeting  
Wednesday, January 21, 2020



**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

**Set/Amend Agenda Items:** No changes.

**AGENDA ITEM:**

**Drain Commissioner Christopher Quattrin:** Maps, other documents handed out by Mr. Quattrin. Other Interested Parties present: Robert DeVries; Abonmarche representative; Brenda Cook, Mr./Mrs. Krauss; Mike Metz. The special meeting was called to discuss the Robbins Drain and the Sober & Becker Drains. Two resolutions to be presented by

Commissioner Quattrin. The representative from Abonmarche showed a drawing of the Sober & Becker Drain, which is between Snow and Browntown Rds., built in 1906. A culvert pipe has rusted and requires replacement. It was discussed as to what percentage each governmental entity directly involved would be expected to pay. Weesaw Township's share is one-third (1/3) percent, or \$41,500 (the drain is also in Lake Charter Township and a small portion in Baroda Township, in which they will also share a percentage) There were questions from the residents present as well as the Township Board members. There was other discussion regarding this drain. Mr. Quattrin advised Sommers to talk with John Gast/Lake Township Supervisor and Jason Latham/Berrien County Rd. Dept. Director regarding this issue to try to negotiate a more equitable amount for Weesaw Township.

**TACKITT ARRIVED AT 11:00 A.M.**

Sommers presented questions regarding problems existing with the 827 Blue Jay Drain, which were not addressed after a tour of the area a while back (where the tube problems remain present on Jerry Smith's property). Mr. DeVries said he would look at the problem to see what should be done to alleviate this problem. Mr. Quattrin advised that he is currently renegotiating a lower interest rate for the Blue Jay drain, which should prove to be a savings over the remaining years of the assessment (about 13 years).

Sommers handed out paperwork of township drain costs for the past 16 years. He also explained to Mr. Quattrin that we need to cap Weesaw Township's drain bills to no greater than \$50,000 annually, with the 2019 drains bills due the end of February 2020 being \$49,061.95. For a number of those drain assessments, this would be the final payment; thus, they will fall off the drains' assessment roll for next year. Mr. Quattrin said he will make every effort to keep our drain assessment under \$50,000. Drain Commissioner Quattrin suggested that we need to discuss our situation with our County Commissioner Ezra Scott also.

**Robbins Drain:** Robert DeVries spoke to the condition of this drain. The water is not flowing, and a clay tile needs to be replaced. The assessment is scheduled to be 4 years, of which the first year is 2019, and the remaining 3 years would be on the roll over the next 3 years. There are 30 parcels located in Weesaw Township. Weesaw Township's assessment is 20%. Another drain needing work is the Nimitz-Rantz drain.

Sommers read a resolution by the Farm Bureau about the drains that he had received at their meeting.

**Sober & Becker Drain:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to table the Sober & Becker drain resolution until they (Weesaw Township board officials) have had an opportunity to speak with Berrien County Road Dept. and Lake Township about the issue. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.

**Robbins Drain Resolution:** Motion by Tackitt, supported by Warmbein, to adopt the Robbins Drain Resolution in the amount of \$14,927 over three additional years. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, King, Sommers, Green, Warmbein), motion carried.

**Public Comments:** Heard throughout the meeting

**Adjourn:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to adjourn the meeting at 12:41 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green  
Clerk



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



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**(Rescheduled February Meeting)**  
**Wednesday, February 26, 2020**

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, Michelle Tackitt, Robert Warmbein. Members absent: Art King
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present (possibly due to change in meeting date). Report received via Facsimile for the period of **12/01/2019-12/31/2019**) with the following Weesaw results: 24 complaints, 7 tickets, 4 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve the Agenda as presented.
- **Public Comments:** No public comments.
- **Tree Marketing Program Update:** Sommers indicated that he would give opportunity to Terry Hanover and Mike Metz to speak towards this issue; and explained that the Township Board had purchased the land east of the New Troy Cemetery, for additional cemetery land, to establish trails, recreational area, natural area, and for other purposes conducive to township needs/wants. Messrs. Hanover and Metz, along with other comments, indicated their concern with the marks on the trees as an indicator of their possible future harvesting. Sommers stated that 3 forestry service have been in to look at the trees. Possibly 3-4 acres or more will be laid out as cemetery land. It is the intention to bring in forester Brett Kuipers/Michigan Forestry Co., and another service to present ideas and thoughts at a special meeting in the future for residents to attend to make comments. Another forestry representative, Mr. Stuart Postema's (Lake Effect Property Services) specialty is trails and will present information regarding trails to specification (ADA compliant, safety issues). Messrs. Hanover and Metz spoke to not cutting the trees. Motion by Sommers, supported by Green, to table this issue until after April 15. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Robert Krauss provided a verbal report on the issues on which he has been working. He provided photos of three properties. He has not heard anything back from our attorney regarding the debris and rubble on the Glendora property 2 parcels west of the Township Hall (owner lives nearby Grand

Rapids area). The property was reportedly under judgment order to be cleaned up 02/01/2020. To date, there has been no activity on clean-up and he has had no response from our attorney. He explained we may have to have properties cleaned up and put the amounts on owners' tax bills. He will work with the Township Board as to how we want to proceed. We could also talk with our attorney about making these violations have more teeth, rather than just a minor \$50 fine to the violator.

- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz. 4 calls (power line down, 2 smoke investigations, barn fire.) Nitz indicated there was an officers' meeting to discuss the budget; truck checks. He will contact Comcast regarding the internet being down in the future. **Other:** Nitz indicated that Donnie Johnson II had purchased new LED lights (\$343.73), which, to his credit, were on sale, so indicated by Sommers, for 3 bays in the Fire Dept. area without authority. Nitz indicated that Johnson was reprimanded as he had not sought approval beforehand, and told not to purchase without approval in the future. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve reimbursement in the amount of \$343.73 to Donnie Johnson II for the LED lights. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Tackitt, Warmbein, Green), motion carried. Fire Chief Nitz was told to delay any purchase of boots until after April 1 budget is finalized.

Request for Donnie Johnson II and several others to attend the Indianapolis FDIC in April. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to table this issue until the March meeting. Green to review payables to see how much this cost last year. Nitz requested that Sommers contact Milt Sluder regarding a problem with a drain over in the Fire Dept. parking area.

Green requested of Fire Chief Nitz that the Election Inspectors be allowed to park their cars in the Fire Dept. parking area, so that the election workers don't take up the electors' parking area on March 10, for the Presidential Primary. Nitz said it was fine. Nitz also gave permission for the election workers to use the kitchen area for their meals. Nitz questioned a millage increase for the Fire Dept. Sommers said it must be justified.

- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve the regular board meeting minutes of January 15, 2020, and the Special Board Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2020, and January 21, 2020. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** GRSD Sewer Authority – Sewer Service Contract to be signed by Sommers. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to table this contract until Sommers has an opportunity to speak with Mr. Histed at GRSD. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

**Kruggel Lawton Audit:** Motion by Tackitt, supported by Warmbein, to approve the engagement letter at \$8,850 (\$8,600 for audit, and \$250 for the F-65 preparation/submission), and other incidentals as laid out in the contract). Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Green, Sommers, Warmbein), motion carried.

- **Approve Accounts Payable Monthly Expenditures Report:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers to approve the Accounts Payable in the amounts of General Fund \$62,961.28; Fire Dept. \$6,761.16; Ambulance \$2,277.59; Sewer Fund \$8,762.46; for a Grand Total of \$80,762.49.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bank balances provided. The winter tax season is wrapping up. Tackitt will be taking taxes on the last collection day, March 2, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** Report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** Mike Metz advised that the Master Plan is due for updates (required every 5 years), and funds should go into the budget to pay for this required update. Metz will speak with someone from the Southwest MI Planning Commission, who provided that service the last time it was updated. Marcy Hamilton was who we dealt with at that time.
- **Parks/Recreation:** The \$2500 grant monies were received for the surveillance cameras installed in the Weesaw Township Park. Metz indicated that the cycling is not working and they do not follow, and that the camera people need to be called since they are under warranty. Gary will call the company from whom we purchased the cameras for service.
- **8:30 p.m. – Time being up for the time-limited meeting:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Green, to extend the meeting to 9:30 p.m.
- **Cemetery:** A proposal was received from Lawnscape Services LLC for the lawnmowing services this year. In addition to the prior amounts, they are offering an extra optional clean-up if necessary, for the New Troy Cemetery in the amount of \$350, which would be following the normal fall cleanup (\$750), only at the request of a board member. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to accept the terms of the new contract as laid out therein. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- **Road Committee:** No meeting. As a note, Elm Valley is full of potholes. Probably nothing will be done until spring. Sommers will pass the problems along to Don Geisler for attention. Sommers indicated that the BCRC missed time schedule due to the inclement weather in the fall. The 6-year road plan was provided by Sommers.
- **Website Committee:** Mike Metz provided a historical report on how Weesaw Township got its name which was compiled by Jack Dodds to put onto the website. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Green, to table this issue to next meeting, so several board members have time to read the report. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Drains Committee:** Sommers reported Drain Commissioner, Chris Quattrin report is indicated in the minutes, Sober Decker Drain pending. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to table this issue until the next regular board meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **March Board of Review:** Information provided regarding the March Board of Review.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** Written info provided to board members.

- **Review Zoning Fees:** Kaufman indicated that Land Division prices has increased at the County level. Green provided a list of zoning fees we currently charge, and felt we should review our prices as they are extremely low and do not begin to cover the amount of time going into these zoning issues. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to table the zoning fees until we poll other townships to get an idea of what their charges are. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Hearing for 2-year, 1 mill Road millage:** Sommers explained that our attorney has recommended that we set a Public Hearing to hear comments from residents. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to set the public hearing for TU, March 17, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. Green will send ad verbiage to the Berrien County Record for publication of the Public Hearing tomorrow. Roll call vote, all ayes, (Warmbein, Sommers, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- **Approve Election Inspectors, etc:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve the election inspectors, as follows: Walter Brody, Wanda Green (if needed), Vicki Hauch, Ruth Heidinger (Chair), Beverly Koch (Receiving Board), Jeannine Krieger, Lori Pastryk (Receiving Board), Ruby Schaffer.
- **Other:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to increase the election inspectors/ chairperson salaries by \$.50/hr. as follows: Election Inspectors \$10.50; Chair \$11.50; Approve purchase of sub sandwiches and water – up to \$50; Approve 2 receiving board members' stipend of \$15/ea.; and also approve training hours, hourly wage, and mileage (\$.575) training at the updated rates listed above. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** Sommers indicated the first budget workshop will be Wed., March 4, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk



**WEESAW TOWNSHIP  
New Troy, MI 49119**

**Special Board Meeting  
Wednesday, March 4, 2020**



**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

Sommers indicated potential improvements for the Township properties, as follows: Clear the trees for laying out the cemetery on Township property located on Wee-Chik Rd. (approx. 3-4



acres). He has contacted Burkholder Excavating for a price. He also inquired of Burkholder regarding putting in a driveway and parking lot in the Weesaw Park.

**OTHER AGENDA ITEMS:**

**Hire Gail Grosse, Receptionist, Office Duties:** Motion by Green, supported by King, to hire Gail Grosse to work for the township 2 days per week, 6 hrs. per day, contingent upon a satisfactory background check and a 90-day probationary period at an hourly rate of \$11.00 per hour. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, King, Warmbein, Green), motion carried

**Additional Election Inspector:** Motion by Green, supported by King, to approve Alyson Tackitt as an additional Election Inspector for the March 10, 2020, Presidential Primary election. Her salary will be \$10.50 per hour, for election inspector and must attend election training (at \$10.50/hr.), with mileage to training reimbursed, contingent upon attending election training on March 5, 2020. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Green), motion carried. Alyson is 16 yrs. old and eligible to work on the elections at that age.

**BUDGET WORKSHOP:**

**FY 2020-21 Budget:** The board members present started with the General Fund budget worksheet and went through it line item by line item affixing budget amounts to each cost center line item. The board agreed to raise the salary of new employee Gail Grosse by \$.50 per hour after her 90-day probationary period has expired assuming her work is satisfactory. In addition, the board also provided an additional \$250 annually to Assessor Angela Story, bringing her salary up to \$11,500/year.

**Public Comments:** Heard throughout the meeting. The next Budget Workshop will be held on Sat., March 7, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green  
Clerk



**WEESAW TOWNSHIP  
New Troy, MI 49119**

**Special Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)  
Saturday, March 7, 2020**



**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; Members Absent: Michelle Tackitt

The four Board Members who were present proceeded to go through the various township budget worksheets for assessment districts and other township enterprises to produce a viable FY 2020-21 budget for each of these cost centers.

Budget vs. Actual reports were reviewed and tentative budgets were created for the following: Roads Millage, Lynn Street Water District (scheduled to be paid off in December 2021), Sewer Phases 1 and 2 (no income presently being collected from Phase 1 Sewer, as has been paid off for a number of years), Fire Dept., Ambulance. Baldwin Rd. assessment has also been paid of for a number of years, thus no income is being collected.

In addition, we are required to have a General Appropriations Act Resolution created, so we require information from Assessor Angela Story to create this document. Sommers to speak with her at the Board of Review next week to ascertain what the collection percentages for the various township enterprises are. We also need to review the Budget vs. Actuals reports for all these companies to ensure that we are not over in expenditures, to determine if we need to make editing to the budgets prior to the end of the fiscal year.

**Public Comments:** There wasn't any public present. During the course of the lengthy meeting, several voters came in to request Absentee Voter ballots for the upcoming Presidential Primary, to such requests, Clerk Green immediately provided.

**Adjourn:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn the meeting at 1:40 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green  
Clerk



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

**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Tuesday, March 17, 2020**



**CALL TO ORDER:** The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Gary Sommers.

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

Sommers indicated that this was a Public Hearing which had been published in the newspaper which was called to determine if the Board should entertain putting a 2-year, one mill, millage on the 2020 taxes, since it was brought to the attention of the Board by the Berrien County Road Dept. ("BCRD") at our annual roads meetings in 2018 and 2019 that the Township could levy up to 3 mills for local roads' maintenance/improvement, according to MCL 247-670a. Questions were asked by the public, with an ensuing discussion. It was indicated that we could lose \$47,000 in matching funds from BCRD if we are not able to match funds.

This issue had been run by Attorney Sara Senica, and she suggested we hold a public hearing to get the general views of the public. She updated and provided resolution verbiage to the Township Board for Resolution 2020-04, entitled 'Weesaw Township Board Resolution Pursuant to MCL 247.670a; 1 (One) Mill, 2 (Two) Year, Property Tax Levy for the Maintenance/Improvement of Local Roads so Designated by Weesaw Township within the

Township of Weesaw For Levy Beginning with Tax Year 2020 Winter Taxes". The board listened to comments from the few who were present at the public hearing. There were comments from Fire Dept. personnel regarding the extensive wear and tear on the fire trucks due to a number of the local roads' poor condition.

Since the Township Board can levy up to three mills, and our present road millage ended with the winter 2019 tax collections, our proposal is to levy one mill for two years, which would be a renewal of what has been in place for the past six years. In addition, as indicated previously, if we do not have a road millage in place, we will lose the BCRD matching funds which are \$47,000. If there is no road millage, our road rebuilding will stop on our local roads due to lack of funds.

**Public Comments:** Heard throughout the meeting.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green  
Clerk



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

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, March 18, 2020**



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 at 7:02 p.m.)
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present. Report received via facsimile for the period of 01/01-01/31/2020) with the following Weesaw results: 21 complaints, 7 tickets, 2 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to remove the following items from the Agenda (since the Township has been advised to only cover essential items on agenda due to the COVID-19 pandemic): Parks, Cemetery, Road Committee, Building/Zoning Administrator and any other item not necessary. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** No public comments.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Accounts Payable in the following amounts: General Fund \$9,121.71, Fire Dept. \$4,252.49, Ambulance \$2,345.92, Sewer \$3,713.11, Lynn St. Water Assessment Loan \$88.32

(interest only), for a Grand Total of \$19,521.55. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Tackitt, Green).

- **Tree Marketing Program Update:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to again table this item until after April 15, 2020. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Not present.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz. 2 meetings; 2 calls – one barn/storage fire, 1 PDA traffic control. Training: update on Coronavirus and review NFPA, Part 74. Regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, Nitz indicated that they are taking standards and measurements. They do not have respiration masks on hand. For lift assists, Medic-1 has indicated that they will provide masks if needed. He also mentioned that they had to have emergency repairs on one of the trucks, in the amount of less than \$500 – for air dryer on brakes. FDIC has been cancelled.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of February 26, 2020, and Special Board Meetings minutes of March 4 and March 7, and Public Hearing minutes of March 17, 2020, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried
- **Correspondence:** None

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bank balances provided. Tackitt has settled with the county. 2 CD's have matured. She has put the proceeds in a savings account at 5<sup>th</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Bank.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** No report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** Minutes provided. Mike Metz advised that unless there are matters pending, due to COVID-19, he will postpone the Mon., March 23 Planning Commission meeting.
- **Parks/Recreation:** Remove from Agenda.
- **Cemetery:** Remove from Agenda.
- **Road Committee:** Remove from Agenda.
- **Website Committee:** Motion by Green, supported by Tackitt, to approve the historical presentation "Historical Mysteries, How Weesaw Township Got Its Name" investigated and created by Jack Dodds to be placed on the website. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Drains Committee:** Sommers reported he spoke with Drain Commissioner, Chris Quattrin, and Mr. Quattrin told Sommers he should talk with Jason Latham/Berrien County Road Dept. about lowering the amount we have to pay for the Sober-Decker drain. Mr. Quattrin is in favor of lowering the cost to the township for this drain.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **FY 2020-21 Regular Board Meeting Schedule:** The following are the dates for the Regular Board Meetings for 2020-21: (All meetings are 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. of the month, except August meeting is the 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. In addition, the Annual meeting will be held on March 27, 2021, 1:00 p.m.)

April 15, 2020	October 21, 2020
May 20, 2020	November 18, 2020
June 17, 2020	December 16, 2020
July 15, 2020	January 20, 2021
August 26, 2020 (4 <sup>th</sup> Wed.)	February 17, 2021
September 16, 2020	March 17, 2021

Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the 2020-21 meeting dates schedule as presented above. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- **American Legion Weechick Post 518:** Motion by Green, supported by Tackitt, to approve the Memorial Day Parade for Sunday, May 24, 2020, to begin lining up at the Township Hall at 1:30 p.m., with the parade starting at 2:00 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Rob Buono/Granor Farms (aka GF Grains):** Mike Metz read a section from GAAMPS regulations paperwork that the Planning Commission is not involved in the process of approving the distribution of spirits as requested by Mr. Buono. After discussion and questions, motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve the Resolution for the on-premises license application resolution provided by Mr. Buono; verbiage and vote outcome as follows: At a Regular Board meeting of the Weesaw Township Board of Trustees (all members present) called to order by Supervisor Gary Sommers on March 18, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., moved by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, that the application from Rob Buono, Granor Farms, which is located at 3480 Warren Woods Rd., Three Oaks, MI 49128, be granted license as indicated in Form LCC-106 (10/15) provided by Mr. Buono. Roll call vote, 3 ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, Tackitt); 2 nays (King, Green), motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** No input.
- **Resolution 2020-04:** Pursuant to MCL 247.670a, 1 mill, 2-year Property Tax Levy, for the maintenance/improvement of local roads, motion by Sommers, supported by Green, to approve the Resolution as to levying the millage beginning with tax year 2020. Roll call vote, 2 ayes (Sommers, Green), 3 nays (King, Tackitt, Warmbein), motion failed.
- **Review/Update Zoning Fees tabled last month:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to table this issue due to Clerk's not having the time to poll other townships.
- **GRSD Contract:** Sommers indicated that he has spoken with Mr. Histed, and the fee are the same as they have been, they wanted to have the form on hand. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve the rates as presented. Voice vote, all ayes motion carried.
- **General Appropriations Act Resolution:** Green provided a sample resolution for the board members to read over prior to adoption of the budget.
- **Public Comments:** Sommers indicated he had received an email from a lady about medical marijuana. Metz indicated that the Master Plan will be updated after the census is completed. The Final budget workshop to work on the FY 2020-21 Budget will be TU, March 24, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk



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

**Special Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)**  
**Tuesday, March 24, 2020**



**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; Members Absent: Michelle Tackitt

The four Board Members who were present proceeded to peruse the Fire Dept. budget, as Fire Chief had edited it again. After discussion, motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers to add the additional \$5,000 to the budget. As discussed in the past, all purchases must be approved by the Board prior to spending. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried. The board members proceeded to update the Fire Dept. budget and backup sheets.

The Board did minor editing to the General Fund budget and reviewed the other companies' budgets for any final changes.

Green indicated that we are over budget for 2019-20 in the General Fund within the BCRC cost center (per Budget vs. Actual report), due to the fact that we have not yet received the amount owing from the State of MI. We had to pay BCRC for the portion of Gardner Rd. that was destroyed due to rain storm damage, and was covered by the State of MI through the grant that the Township received from the State to rebuild this portion of the road. We paid BCRC for the road repairs that were made, and are supposed to receive repayment from the State of MI for this outlay of funds. However, we are still awaiting those funds. Green will contact Kruggel Lawton Auditors as to how to handle this spending overage in this cost center. In addition, Sommers has contacted the Road Dept. a number of times to request that they use the balance of the State grant that we received in the amount of \$11,000 to do ditching on this portion of Gardner Rd., so that we don't have this type of damage in the future (since the road continues to be under water when there are heavy rains).

The Board reviewed and suggested changes to Resolution 2020-06 "Fund Equity Transfers to Various Township Budgets" (specifically the General Fund and Fire Dept. budgets). This resolution will be ready for adoption on April 1, 2020, at the budget adoption meeting when we will also adopt the various budgets along with the General Appropriations Act Resolution #2020-05.

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

**Adjourn:** Motion by Green, supported by King, to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk



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

**Special Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 1, 2020**



**CALL TO ORDER:** The Special Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Sommers at 1:00 p.m. The board members were socially spread apart according to government directives.

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

1. **Amend FY 2019-20 Budget:** Green provided a written explanation to the board members of a deficit and budget amendment to the BCRD Cost Center in the General Fund, along with the budget amendment to the Budget Vs. Actual Report (copy attached to budget). This explanation was written due to the unexpected, dangerous Coronavirus pandemic which put the Township Board totally off-guard in making the amendment as desired in a timely fashion. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to amend the FY 2019-20 General Fund Budget as follows: To move \$9,000 from the 101 Township Board making that budgeted amount now \$84,894, and moving the \$9,000 to 466 B.C.R.D. Cost Center making the budgeted amount now \$87,200. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green – Tackitt absent), motion carried.
2. **Adopt Resolution 2020-05 General Appropriations Act:** This resolution had been provided to the Board previously to read and edit as needed. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to adopt the Resolution 2020-05 General Appropriations Act as presented. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, Sommers, Warmbein, King – Tackitt absent), motion carried.
3. **Adopt Resolution 2020-06 Resolution to Attach This Document as an Addendum to Fiscal year 2020-21 General Fund & Fire Dept. Budgets – Fund Equity Transfers to Various Township Budgets:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Green, to adopt Resolution 2020-06 as presented. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Sommers, Green – Tackitt absent), motion carried.
4. **Adopt FY 2020-21 Budgets:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King to adopt all the various township's companies' budgets, as presented: Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, Sommers, King, Warmbein – Tackitt absent), motion carried.
5. **Approve Regular Board Minutes of Wednesday, March 18, 2020:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the minutes of March 18, 2020, as presented, a copy of which to be forwarded to Rob Buono of Granor Farms for verification of approval of a

license for a tasting room on his property. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Sommers, Green – Tackitt absent), motion carried.

6. **Adopt Road Millage Verbiage and Resolution 2020-07 for 1 one-mill, 2-year millage** to be placed on the August 4, 2020 Primary Election Ballot: Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Road Millage Verbiage and to adopt Resolution 2020-07 Resolution to Adopt Millage Ballot Language for the Renewal of the 2018-19 Road Millage. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, King, Warmbein, Green – Tackitt absent), motion carried.
7. **Replacement of Tree (on Township lawn)**: Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to table this item to another meeting. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
8. **Resident Roads Complaint**: Sommers requested to provide 2 pages of Road-related documents to a resident who had questions. It was suggested that he provide the information and talk with the resident.

**Public Comments**: No public in attendance. The board members were favorable to posting a township hall closing until further notice due to Coronavirus pandemic.

**Adjourn**: Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn the meeting at 2:43 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green  
Clerk



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

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, April 15, 2020**



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. Report received via facsimile for the period of 02/01–02/29/2020 with the following Weesaw results: 22 complaints, 0 tickets, 0 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items**: Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to accept the Agenda as is. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments**: No public comments.



- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Accounts Payable Report in the following amounts: General Fund \$3,523.82, Fire Dept. \$2,493.94, Ambulance \$2,345.92, Phase II Sewer Note Payment \$26,674.37, Sewer \$4,006.97, for a Grand Total of \$38,045.97. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Sommers, Green [Tackitt absent]).
- In addition to the above payables, motion by King, supported by Warmbein to approve salaries for the Township Board members and Assessor in the following amount: \$4,541.92. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, King, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.
- **Tree Marketing Program Update:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to again table this item until a later date. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Not present. No enforcement due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz. Meetings cancelled to pandemic. Truck checks performed. 5 calls grass and illegal burns. No trainings. Nitz requested tabling the Schultz Custom Builders office bid until a later date. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers to approve up to \$6,900 for the following items: 1) Gear replacement \$5000 (2 sets); 2) Boot replacement @ \$1200 (4 sets) 10 yr. required replacement; 3) Sniffer Repair \$450 – calibration & repair; 4) Bottle testing \$250 (9 bottles @ \$25, hydro testing 5-yr requirement. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Green, Sommers, King), motion carried.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of March 18 (already approved at April 1, meeting due to Granor Farms request for liquor license); approve Special Board Meetings minutes of March 24 and April 1, 2020, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried
- **Correspondence:** Coronavirus updates provided to board members.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** No bank balances provided. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to table all committee reports where no action was required. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** Written report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** No Planning Commission meeting minutes.
- **Parks/Recreation:** Sommers spoke regarding 3 trees that are in the way of the recently-installed tiles in the Weesaw Park, and need to be removed to prevent root damage to the tiles. Sommers' indicated that his helper will take the wood and provide voluntary work on removing the trees on upcoming week-ends. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, that we approve the removal of the 3 pine trees south of the south tile line as indicated by Sommers. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Cemetery:** Sommers explained that Al Schaeffer would like the tree stump removed in the New Troy Cemetery from the tree that fell a while back. It was suggested that Mr.

Schaeffer help pay for the removal of the stump, since he has brought up this issue several times in the past.

- **Road Committee:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, that both the Road and Website Committees be tabled. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Website Committee:** Tabled with above.
- **Drains Committee:** Sommers reported that he spoke with Drain Commissioner Quattrin and there is no rush on the Sober Decker Drain at this time. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, that this item be tabled. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Approve Purchase of American Flags for upcoming Holidays Display:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Green, to purchase 25 American Flags for display on the telephone poles. He w Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.
- **Approve FEMA Funds for Township:** Warmbein indicated that the Fire Dept. should save receipts for equipment that is applicable to FEMA Funds. We should be a part of this program. He also indicated that we should send an email and notify EOC website that we have forwarded an application. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the process to apply for FEMA funds for the township. We should also see if there is anything due from the State too. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** No input.
- **Review/Update Zoning Fees tabled last month:** Table again.
- **Public Comments:** Nitz indicated that he saved \$500/each on gear, and \$200/pair on the boots.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk



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

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, May 20, 2020 (Revised)**



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. Report received via facsimile for the period of 03/01-03/31/2020 with the following Weesaw statistics: 34 complaints, 2 tickets, 11 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to accept the Agenda as is. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** No public comments.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Accounts Payable Report in the following amounts: General Fund \$10,613.72, Fire Dept. \$5,935.32, Ambulance \$2,345.92, Phase II Sewer Note Payment 25,674.37, Sewer \$4,468.23, for a Grand Total of \$49,037.56. Roll call vote, 4 ayes (King, Warmbein, Sommers, Green [Tackitt absent]), motion carried.
- **Tree Marketing Program Update:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to again table this item until a later date, as we need to continue to postpone this program until normality is back due to the Covid-19 pandemic and we then can go forward with this issue. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss presented a verbal report to the board members. Tickets have been issued for several township violators. However, everything has stopped due to the pandemic. The courts are waiting until things are back to normal. Krauss has spoken with Atty. Senica regarding the judgment against the property owner several doors west of the Township Hall and she has requested a copy of the judgment, as it could not be found by the court. Back in February, the property owner said he'd have the property cleaned up by May. Another property on Elm Valley also needs to be cleaned up. Krauss contacted the state inspector to try to get some help, and found out that state inspectors don't inspect houses. He found a number of violations. The owner is presently staying at another place. The authorities took 22 dogs out of the house, and this is the second time this has happened. It is being treated as an emergency. Our attorney gave permission for Krauss to take care of the matter. He is presently working with the family. Regarding the Kim Krestan issue letter addressed to the board, Krauss will pen a letter to her and run it by Green. He also indicated that the courts are working very slowly due to the pandemic.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz. Meetings: Truck checks; Calls 1 PIA, 1 water issue, 1 illegal burn, 1 mutual aid (Buchanan Twp.), 1 fire alarm. Training: 800 pager training by D.J. Nitz report several incidents during the month concerning the Fire Dept.
- Tackitt arrived at 7:45 p.m. during the following discussion.

- Other Fire Dept. items to be approved for purchase: 1) Decon case wipes purchase by Nitz \$300; 2) Computer software (2) \$540; 3) Schutze bid for new construction/office expansion \$1,540; 4) Jaws repair \$2,300 (a bolt was too tight and caused damage to jaws); 5) Hose/ladder testing \$2,700; 6) Tourniquets (10) \$120, 7) Active 911 Subscription for firefighters \$160 = Grand Total of \$7,600.00. Chief Nitz is also requesting a donation of \$1,600 towards repair of the jaws from a colleague of his. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to approve \$7,600 for the costs of the aforementioned items. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of April 15, 2020. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** 1) Coronavirus updates provided to board members previously; 2) Adopt COVID-19 Preparedness & Response Plan of May 20, 2020, per Governor Whitmer directive. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to adopt the “COVID-19 Preparedness & Response Plan of May 20, 2020”, as provided to all board members by Clerk Green. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Tackitt, Sommers, Warmbein, Green), motion carried; 3) Krestan correspondence (already discussed previously), 4) MTA Annual Membership Dues. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein to approve the MTA annual dues fees in the amount of \$1,675.93. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Green, Warmbein, King, Tackitt), motion carried.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer’s Report:** No bank balances provided.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** Written report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** No Planning Commission meeting minutes.
- **Parks/Recreation:** Table placement of Port-a-Potty to next month. Lawnsapes informed King that the tree that was lawnmower damaged in the park last year has been ordered.
- **Cemetery:** It was mentioned that there are several broken headstones in the cemeteries that need repairing. The former repair person has retired and we need to find someone else who does this type of repairs.
- **Road Committee:** Sommers reported there are several township roads that are graveled and waiting to be repaved.
- **The set timeframe for township meetings being imminent:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to extend the meeting time by 30 minutes. Voice vote, all ayes motion carried.
- **Website Committee:** No information available.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Phase 2 Sewer:** Green to contact Paul Bristol/USDA regarding additional annual sewer payments, per his letter to Township Board.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** No input.

- **Budgeting Reminder:** Since State Revenue Sharing has been substantially cut back, all township departments need to be mindful of spending.
- **Computer Bids from Dell:** Provided for replacement of three computers – Assessor, Treasurer and Receptionist. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Green, to approve up to \$2,700 for three Dell computers (3 @ \$719/ea.) complete with home/student software (3 @ \$149.99/ea.). Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.
- **Review/Update Zoning Fees tabled last month:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to table again this month. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to amend the Fire Dept. office remodel motion to pay one-half up front and one-half upon completion of the job. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, Warmbein, Sommers, King, Tackitt), motion carried.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Warmbein, 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, June 17, 2020**



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 (arrived 7:02 p.m.), Robert Warmbein. Members absent: None
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present. Report received via facsimile for the period of 04/01-04/30/2020 with the following Weesaw statistics: 25 complaints, 0 tickets, 1 arrest.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to insert Michigan Townships Par Plan dividend and computer invoice to following New Business agenda item, and approve the Agenda with those changes. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** No public comments.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Accounts Payable Report as presented in the following amounts: General Fund \$57761.05, Fire

Dept. \$9,626.63, Ambulance \$2,393.42, Sewer \$5,037.46, for a Grand Total of \$75,818.47 (of which \$42,812.00 was the rebuild of two sections of Wagner Rd. and one section of Pardee Rd.) Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Warmbein, Sommers, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.

- **Tree Marketing Program Update:** Tabled for past 4 months: Warmbein indicated that he had talked with Brett Kuipers and he wants to move forward with public comments. Kuipers is a forester from Grand Rapids area. Discussion of various proposals by board members. Warmbein will try to coordinate to set up a meeting with the forester and a trail builder at about 10:00 a.m. or so in the future. There was discussion and questions from board members. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, that Warmbein coordinate a meeting with a forester and the trail builder to meet with the board and the public around August 29 to consider this project. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss was unable to be present.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz, reported 5 calls. Truck checks; hose testing performed during month; 1 probationary firefighter is resigning. 800 MHz radios training. Nitz indicated that the contractor is waiting for a rainy day to do the construction on the new office area. Fire Chief Nitz indicated that the Skinners/Glendora Rd. had indicated that they would permit helicopter landing on their property if needed, with insurance stipulations. There is shooting happening on Union St. (Green to search for old ordinance to provide to Nitz relating to this subject).
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of May 10, 2020 with one misspelled word, indicated by Green, corrected. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** 1) Coronavirus updates provided to board members previously.; 2) Due to ongoing complaints of ordinance complaints, Green updated letter to forward with tax bills to township homeowners regarding a township “clean-up” campaign. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve inserting the “draft” letter in with the summer tax bills. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer’s Report:** Bank balances and CD balances provided. Summer taxes are being readied to send out.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** Written report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** No Planning Commission meetings have been held recently, thus no minutes.
- **Parks/Recreation:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to not place the Port-a-Potty this summer, due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Cemetery:** Sommers reported that lightning struck a pine tree in the New Troy Cemetery, and the limb knocked over a stone. The limb debris was cut up and removed. Now another limb has come down from possibly the same tree. Sommers requested that handyman Skip Green see if he can clean up the downed limb and pick

- up brush and limbs by the trees that have been placed there by the lawnmowers. The board needs to think of what we should do with the damaged and fallen headstones.
- **Road Committee:** Sommers reported that the first coat of prime and double sealcoat had been done for 2 sections of Wagner. and 1 section of Pardee Rds. Another coat will be performed when appropriate. Approve Berrien County Road Dept. Township Road Agreement for Contractor applied chloride application (Larson and Elm Valley Rds.). Motion by Green, supported by Warmbein, to approve the chloride contract in the amount of \$2,254.00 and forward the contract to Berrien County Road Dept. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.
  - **The set timeframe for township meetings being imminent:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to extend the meeting time by 30 minutes. Voice vote, all ayes motion carried.
  - **Website Committee:** No information available.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Tabled Last Month: Phase 2 Sewer—Green was to contact Paul Bristol/USDA re extra sewer payments:** Not contacted yet. Motion by Green, supported by King, to again table this issue. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Extend Meeting:** Being 8:30 p.m., motion by Sommers, supported by King, to extend the meeting to 9:00 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Approval to Purchase Blue Spruce Tree (Twp. Hall Lawn):** Since one of the blue spruce trees in the Township Hall lawn had died last year, motion by Sommers, supported by King, to replace the tree with another @ \$129.99. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, Tackitt, Green, King), motion carried.
- **Hire Alivia Green as Receptionist/Sewer Clerk helper:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to hire high school student Alivia Green to help Clerk Green as needed at a salary of \$11.00/hr. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, Tackitt, King, Green), motion carried.
- **Approve Locks for Surveillance Cameras in Parks:** There were two sets of locks (locks identically keyed), for the board to evaluate and choose the appropriate one to use. After viewing the locks, motion by Tackitt, supported by Warmbein, to purchase the 8 Master Locks @ \$8.00/each or \$64 total. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Tackitt, King, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **Letter to Sperry:** There was an amount owing on a sewer billing when the property was sold, which should have been discovered with the realtor's title search. Green provided a letter to send, King will contact the realtor about this sewer issue.
- **MI Townships Par Plan Dividend:** Sommers reported a dividend received from Michigan Townships Par Plan has been issued in the amount of \$2,044.39.
- **Computers Purchase:** Sommers indicated that Green was able to negotiate a price of \$2,044.39 for the 3 Dell computers/software (discussed last month), which was a substantial savings over last month's price.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** No input.
- **Review/Update Zoning Fees tabled last month:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to table this issue again this month. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- **Public Comments:** None.

**Adjournment:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk



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

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, July 15, 2020**



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. Members absent: None
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present. Report was not received this month.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Agenda as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** Jerry Zelmer/Union Street was present to speak to the shooting of guns in New Troy within the residential areas. Township Board members have received complaints about gun fire too close to residential areas. Krauss spoke to this issue, and asked Mr. Zelmer to find out the police officer to whom he speaks in the future, so Code Enforcement Officer Krauss can follow up with the officer. Fire Chief Nitz spoke with the DNR regarding fireworks. He noted he was advised there is a 5-day period in which one may shoot off fireworks around a holiday.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve the Accounts Payable Report as presented in the following amounts: General Fund \$13,145.41, Fire Dept. \$4,092.90, Ambulance \$2,345.92, Sewer \$3,756.9, for a Grand Total of \$23,341.22. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.
- **Tree Marketing Program Update:** Warmbein indicated that on Saturday, August 29, 10:00 a.m., Brett Kuipers (a forester) would be present to present an informational meeting at the Weesaw Township Park area regarding the trees for harvesting.



Warmbein is still working with another gentleman who is knowledgeable about the trails, thus would be able to provide information regarding this issue.

- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss was present and has been unable to contact our attorney regarding enforcement issues still pending. He has left message; however, her office is not open at this item. No update due to courts not being open for business. He can't write tickets at this time. The courts are backed up through September. A judgment was rendered for the property a couple of doors down from the Township Hall, however, the written judgment has been misplaced by the court.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz, reported 3 meetings – move air compressor, truck checks, pump operations; 5 calls – 1 grass fires, 1PI, 1 CO alarm, 2 utility calls calls. 2 firefighter resignations – Nick Granke and Justin Milliken.
  - A. Purchases for approval: Bio Care – 8 physicals. The price has gone up to \$3,900, and budgeted was \$3,000.
  - B. (2) 2-3/4-2-1/2 adapters \$300; (1) 5” 300; (1) high-voltage stick \$525 from Moses Fire Equip. Total \$1,125.00. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to approve \$5,025 for items A & B above. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Tackitt, Sommers, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.
  - C. Purchase of Class A Shirt; badges and brass; replacement patches, up to \$1,000. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve item C for up to \$1,000.00. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Warmbein, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.
  - D. Credit Cards for fuel purchases. The credit card policy is required to be updated. Since this item was not placed on agenda, this issue will wait until next month for review and any action to be taken.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of June 17, 2020. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** None.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bank balances and CD balances provided. Tackitt would like to appoint her daughter Alyson as her Deputy Treasurer. After board inquiry regarding the possibility of her being bonded due to her being underage, motion by Green, supported by Warmbein, to table this issue until next month's meeting after speaking with the insurance company and revisit the issue next month. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** Written report provided by Kaufman. A paragraph in the report regarding BZA workload should be looked into by the Supervisor.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** No Planning Commission meetings have been held recently, thus no minutes. Next meeting will be Monday, July 27, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
- **Parks/Recreation:** No report.

- **Cemetery:** Sommers reported that there is still a headstone that was knocked over by a fallen tree limb.
- **Road Committee:** Sommers reported that the final coat for Wagner Road and Pardee Roads had been applied. Other roads have been worked on.
- **Website Committee:** No information available.
- **Drains:** Warmbein and Sommers met with John Gast, and it looks like our part of the Sober/Becker Drain will be much less than originally thought.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Tabled Last Month: Phase 2 Sewer:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein to table this issue and bring back up after elections have been completed.
- **Letter to Chad Sperry re. delinquent sewer:** Olson was going to follow up to see who was going to pay this. King will speak with Mr. Olson again.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** No input
- **Motion by Sommers, supported by King to extend the meeting time to 9:00 p.m. 8:30 p.m.:** Tackitt had another meeting to attend and left this meeting.
- **Tues., August 4, Primary Election:** Approve Election Inspectors for August Primary; Ruth Heidinger (chair), Lori Pastryk, Ruby Schaffer, Vicki Hauch, Walter Brody, Peg Cullen. Approve Wendie Shafer's help with election tasks, approve Lori Pastryk and Vicki Hauch for Receiving Board Members, \$10.50/hr. for election inspectors; \$11.50/hr. for chair, stipend of \$15.00 for 2 Receiving Board members. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve the foregoing items as requested. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Green (Tackitt had left meeting), motion carried.
- **Approve Resolution #2020-08:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to adopt Resolution #2020-08, "Resolution Establishing Receiving Board for the 2020 Election Cycle in Weesaw Township..." Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **More Election Action:** Approve purchase of sub sandwiches (Wal-Mart) and water for election workers: Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve purchase of sub sandwiches and water for the August primary election. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, Sommers, King, Warmbein), motion carried.
- **Review/Update Zoning Fees:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to table this issue until the December meeting.
  
- **Public Comments:** question and comments.

**Adjournment:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn at 8:50 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 26, 2020**

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. Members absent: None
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Representative was not present. Report indicated the following incidents during the period of 06/01-06/30/2020: 29 complaints, 1 ticket issued; 3 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Agenda as amended: Request to add the following items: Millage Request Report after Public Comments; Kruggel Lawton Correspondence; Deputy Treasurer bonding under Treasurer report; Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Accounts Payable Report as presented in the following amounts: General Fund \$17,451.08, Fire Dept. \$6,294.80; Ambulance \$2,379.42, Sewer \$4,292.01, for a Grand Total of \$30,417.31. Roll call vote, all ayes (Green, King, Sommers, Tackitt, Warmbein), motion carried.
- **Tree Marketing Program Update:** A Special Meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, August 29, 2020, 10:00 a.m. at the Weesaw Township Park (adjacent to the Friends of New Troy), California Rd., to meet with a forester, Mr. Brett Kuipers, and a potential trails builder person (this individual has not yet been confirmed) to hear their presentation regarding marketing of some trees in the park area. Other interested persons have been notified of the meeting.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss was not present.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz, reported 3 meetings, safety meeting, truck checks, critical incident debriefing; Training: Pump training/drivers' training; Calls: 3 auto accidents with one being 1 mutual aid for tankers; 1 grass fire.
  - Purchases requested for approval: New fire hose 1-3/4", \$2000; pump testing \$500. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to approve \$2,000 to purchase 800-ft. 1-3/4" fire hose; and approve \$500 for pump testing.

Roll call vote, all ayes, (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.

- **2020 Tax Rate Request:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve and have Sommers and Green sign this form indicating 2020 millages as follows: Allocated operating .8302; Ex Voted Fire 1.0; Ex Voted Roads 1.0. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried. A copy of the signed form will be provided to Assessor Angela Story for tax purposes.
- **Deputy Treasurer Bonding:** Last month Treasurer Tackitt wanted her daughter Alyson to be her deputy. She had requested information from the B.C. Treasurer which was provided by the Berrien County Treasurer, as well as information was received from MTA, regarding Deputy Treasurer Bonding. MTA provided verbiage from MCL 41.77, which indicated (under item 5) that bonding is required for the deputy treasurer. One of the board members will check with our insurer about bonding criteria for her daughter, a minor, for this position.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of July 15, 2020 as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** Messages were received from township residents Katy Harington regarding internet availability, and Kim Krestan regarding enforcement issues. It was indicated that, per our enforcement officer at last month meetings, enforcement complaint issues should be addressed to the sheriff department for response. This information will be relayed to Kim Krestan for future enforcement issues. No immediate information regarding increasing internet district. In the past this has been the responsibility of Xfinity, not the township. Information regarding Granor Farms tasting room licensing provided by State of MI.
- It was indicated by a resident that it is the understanding that a \$75 ticket was issued to a violator for burning garbage (considered an illegal burn in New Troy). Also, a written complaint was received.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bank balances provided.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** No report received.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** Draft minutes provided. No meeting held this month.
- **Parks/Recreation:** No report.
- **Cemetery:** Sommers reported that he had been in contact with the mowers to indicate that they should not mow this week due to weather dryness thus lack of need to mow.
- **Road Committee:** No meeting.
- **Website Committee:** No information available.
- **Drains:** Sober and Becker Drain Resolution. Sommers and Warmbein met with others apropos entities regarding payment of this drain and were able to negotiate an agreement to pay less than indicated initially – a revised amount of \$8,170.13 (which will be approx. \$1,535 per year for 5 years). Motion by King, supported by Warmbein,

to approve the Berrien County Sober and Becker Drain #476 Resolution, 08/26/2020, as revised by Jeannine Totzke. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Tackitt, Green), Resolution dated August 26, 2020, adopted. Green will forward the Resolution signed by Supervisor Sommers to B.C. Drains Dept.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Tabled to later date: Phase 2 Sewer:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to table this issue and bring back up after elections have been completed.
- **Letter to Chad Sperry re. delinquent sewer:** King will again contact Olson Realtors regarding payment of this billing.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** Atty. Senica provided a written recommendation/authorization for Clerk Green to destroy the “Emily” FOIA ballots from the 2016 Presidential Election, which have since been burned.
- **Street Light Assessment:** Each August the township board must adopt a resolution to approve the annual assessment for Street Lights. Clerk Green indicated that after reviewing the assessments vs. revenues received on the tax bills, she didn’t believe it would be necessary to raise the assessments this year, but to leave them at \$27/each as has been for the past few years. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to adopt Weesaw Township Street Lights’ Assessment District Annual Review for 2020, Resolution #2020-09, leaving the assessment at \$27/each for the upcoming year. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, King, Tackitt, Warmbein, Green), Resolution adopted as presented. Green will make Assessor Story aware of this fact.
- **Continue to Table the Review/Update Zoning Fees:** Table issue until at least latter part of this year.
- **Public Comments:** A number of comments/complaints regarding trash being brought in and dumped on New Troy properties.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Green, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk



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



**Special Board Meeting**

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

6:00 p.m. A Special Board Meeting had been called so that Patrick Sage could provide an audit report to the Township Board members. Board Members present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Robert Warmbein. Absent: Michelle Tackitt.

Patrick Sage provided financial information to the board members present. He scanned through the audit report and presented highlights. Questions were asked and answered by Mr. Sage. He spoke as to the fund balance and other revenues, and gave a favorable opinion of the audit.

The Special Meeting was closed at 6:56 p.m. in order to allow for the Regular Board Meeting starting time.

---

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, September 16, 2020**

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. Report indicated the following incidents during the period of 07/01-07/31/2020: 11 complaints, 0 tickets issued; 0 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to amend the Agenda as follows: Add to Agenda Patrick Sage/Kruggel-Lawton, auditors report before Accounts Payable; Galien River Sanitation District rate increase. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None.
- **Patrick Sage/Kruggel Lawton, CPAs:** Patrick provided an overview of the FY 2019-2020 Audit, unmodified opinion to the attendees. He reported business as usual with no budget exceptions, obligations are being met, with a healthy fund balance.
- 7:05 p.m. Tackitt arrived. Patrick Sage left at 7:06 p.m.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Accounts Payable Report as presented in the following amounts: General Fund \$15,631.92, Fire Dept. \$6,024.36; Ambulance \$2,207.42, Other: Lynn St. Water Loan Payoff 3,634.27; U.S.D.A. Phase II Sewer Note Payment: \$13,426.87; Sewer \$6,469.57, for a

Grand Total of \$47,894.41. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Tackitt, Green), motion carried.

- **Tree Marketing Program Update:** There was a Special Meeting held at the New Troy Park on Saturday, August 29, with only board members Sommers and Warmbein in attendance to provide tree marketing information to interested residents, in addition to the forester, Mr. Kuipers, that they had invited to provide information to audience members. A number of other people, both residents and non-residents, attended expressing disapproving comments regarding the potential marketing of the trees. Letters were received from some of the attendees (not all of them residents), which Sommers provided to the board members. Sommers indicated no decisions have been made at this point; Warmbein felt we may need to cut a few large trees out to allow small trees to grow to maturity. Green provided information that the Board had adopted a Resolution, at the behest of Brett Witkowski, Berrien County Treasurer, upon the property's being made available for tax sale. This Resolution was required to be provided to Mr. Witkowski prior to our purchase of the property indicating that a portion of the land conducive to being utilized as cemetery land – along with other verbiage indicating other township uses for the land would be wetlands, park land and trails. Green felt that at some point in time the board would be obligated to use the 3-4 acres of land apropos for future cemetery usage due to the required adopted resolution. At the aforementioned Special Meeting, the forester, Mr. Kuipers, had provided other ideas as a forest-favorable compromise. Sommers explained that the board had not made any decisions at this point in time.
- **Question of Payment of time and mileage expenses to Mr. Kuipers:** Warmbein indicated he had not received a billing from Mr. Kuipers, located in Holland, MI, at this time, thus we will take this up at next month's meeting.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss was not present.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz, reported 1 trucks check meeting, 1 jaws Training; Calls: 3 fire alarms.
- **Approve 3 firefighters for Rapid Intervention Training (RIT):** Amanda Bronson, Travis Munday, and Donnie Johnson II – will Train firefighters how to get out of situations in which they are trapped; 2 days, about 16 hrs. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve \$900 (\$300/ea. firefighter) for training, plus mileage reimbursement to/from Berrien Springs. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Warmbein, King, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **2 Proposed Firefighters hire:** Jonathon Klettke and Jason Wiedenman (background checks received by Green and provided to Safety Committee for review). Motion by Warmbein, supported by Green, to hire the two firefighters. Roll call vote, all ayes (King, Tackitt, Warmbein, Sommers, Green), motion carried.
- **Proposed Halloween Party Discussion:** Fire Chief Nitz indicated they wanted to have a party that meets the governor's mandates: Costume judging, candy distribution, hayride, with social distancing, masks. Discussion only, no action taken.
- **Patriot Tour:** On October 13, 2020, Nitz requested that one fire truck be made available for several firefighters to be a part of the tour beginning in Galien, to Three Oaks, New Buffalo, Bridgman and back. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to

support the parade by approving the use of one fire truck for the Patriot Tour. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- **Introduction of Jeff Starbuck:** Fire chief Nitz introduced Jeff Starbuck, representative of Dinges Fire Service, who resides in Bridgman, MI, and will be primary vendor for fire department goods.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of August 26, 2020, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:**
- A former resident has initiated a legal action against the township regarding a grinder pump that was installed on her property in the past. The issue is in the hands of the township attorney at this point. Green has contacted the attorney in an attempt to get an explanation of the course she has communicated with this person regarding this issue.
- GRSD raised their rates up to \$5.91/M to the township. This was to be effective as of 01/2020; however, they just made the township aware of this, thus due to their error in not making us aware sooner, the rate takes effect as of this month.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bank balances provided. Summer tax season has ended. Taxes paid late 1% penalty will be added accumulating 1% per month late.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** No report received.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** No meeting held this month.
  - We have had 2 persons come forward interested in filling the open position on the Planning Commission: Linda Kanoski and Kenneth Hallen. Both provided prior experience information. Ken requested to be on the Planning Commission quite some time ago. Sommers indicated that both are very good candidates. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to appoint Ken Hallen to the Planning Commission for a 3-year term. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Parks/Recreation:** No report.
- **Cemetery:** No report.
  - **Cemetery Rules:** Since residential household trash and cemetery sod were being discarded in the cemetery trash barrels, it was requested that trash containers be removed from the Township Cemeteries, making it necessary to make a minor amendment to Addendum 2 "Weesaw Township Cemetery Rules" of the Cemetery Ordinance to Rule No. 9, copy available upon request. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to amend Rule 9 of the "Weesaw Township Cemetery Rules", effective immediately. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, King, Green, Warmbein, Sommers), motion carried. Rule #9 Now reads as follows: "Caretakers/family members of loved ones' cemetery plots, should remove old decorations and/or other refuse from cemetery by providing personal containers and/or trash bags. (Due to household trash being discarded, trash cans are no longer available in the cemetery.)"



- **Road Committee:** No meeting. Per Sommers, roads recently repaired are looking pretty good.
- **Website Committee:** No information available.
- **Drains:** Drain Maintenance Notice to Blue Jay 046 received. Cost unknown at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **CONTINUE TO TABLE: Phase 2 Sewer:** bring back up after elections have been completed.
- **TABLED: Letter to Chad Sperry re. delinquent sewer:** King will contact Olson Realtors regarding payment of this billing.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** Received billing from Atty. Senica.
- **Sewer Customer Lori Wallace:** Requested discontinuation of sewer billing. Sommers will contact GRSD to see if they can let us know if her residence is hooked up to the sewer line.
- **CONTINUE TABLE: Continue to Table the Review/Update Zoning Fees:** Table issue until at least latter part of this year.
- **Public Comments:** Questions concerning what are the tree marketing plans from Linda Kanoski. It was indicated that the township was offered \$16K for approx. 110 trees. At 8:29, motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to extend the meeting for 15 minutes. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Other Public Comments:** Complaint regarding repeated discharge of firearms – called Sheriff 6 times. Can we get an ordinance to stop this nuisance? Other complaints: Squealing tires, reckless driving, trash and derelict cars.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wanda Green, Clerk



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

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, October 21, 2020**



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 08/01/2020-08/31/2020: 24 complaints, 2 tickets issued; 1 arrest.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to accept the Agenda as is. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Accounts Payable Report (Revised) as presented to the Board Members in the following amounts: General Fund \$13,733.52, Fire Dept. \$24,249.02; Ambulance \$2,345.92, Other: Berrien County Rd. Dept. \$42,812.00; Sewer \$424.39, for a Grand Total of \$83,564.85. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried (Tackitt not in attendance).
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss was not present at this time.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz, and reported 1 truck checks meeting; Command board, 800-mz radio training. 5 calls: 1 fire alarm, 1 utility, 1 possible bomb scare at Mill Rd. Park. Nitz explained the bomb scare, turned out not to be a bomb. Sheriff Paul Bailey was contacted and took charge of the scene.
- **Other Fire Dept Matters:**
  1. 5K & 10K Run: FONT activity. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, for the use of several fire trucks for the 5-10k run sponsored by FONT. Roll call vote, 4 ayes (Warmbein, King Sommers, Green), motion carried.
  2. Cadet Program By-Laws Presented: The Township Board had not been presented with the By-Laws of the Cadet Firefighter Program prior. Motion by Green, supported by Warmbein, to table this item until after the board had an opportunity to read the by-laws, and to check with our insurer concerning the program. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
  3. Switch fire extinguisher company: Nitz recommended that in the interest of a savings, that we try a new vendor for monthly inspections of the fire extinguishers, motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to try a new vendor suggested by Nitz for inspection of the fire extinguishers. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
  4. Nitz requested that the Fire Station be utilized for the annual Halloween Party. After considerable discussion, motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to allow only trick or treating from 5-7 p.m. with the party at the Township Hall be outside the township hall (no costume judging, no hayride, only outside activities). Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.
  5. Nitz requested the purchase of \$500 for 5 gauges on 20x30 pump panels. Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve \$500 for 5 gauges (5 @ \$100 each) for pressure in hoses. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.

- **Enforcement Officer Robert Krauss** had arrived during the Fire Dept. Report period. Krauss informed that 4 citations had been issued, which are now waiting for hearing in court. They were served by Krauss on October 8, 2020, and our attorney signed off on the tickets. The courts are far behind on scheduling court dates; thus, nothing has been scheduled to date for these citations.
- Tackitt arrived at 8:15 p.m.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve the Special Board Meeting and Regular Board Meeting Minutes of September 16, 2020, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:**
- Correspondence was received from Berrien County Rd. Dept. to have a virtual annual Road Dept. meeting for TU, 11/10/2020 at 10:00 a.m. A Special Meeting will be posted for this meeting at the Township Hall.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bank balances provided. Tackitt informed that nothing was going at this time. No bank balances provided in the packet, but she will provide them to the board. Winter taxes will be mailed out 12/01/2020.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** Report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** Provided.
- **Parks/Recreation:** One of the redbud tree died in the Township lawn due to potential lawnmower damage to the trunk, and the Vines' have replaced it. The tree trunk is now also protected to prevent future lawnmower damage. A big thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Vines for their thoughtfulness and generosity.
- **Cemetery:** No report.
- **Road Committee:** No meeting. Per Sommers, repairs are being made to roads.
- **Website Committee:** No information available.
- **Drains:** No information.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Burnham & Flower Insurance Renewal:** The insurance packet was provided to the Board Members by Clerk Green.
- **Resolution 2020-10 to Establish a Position for a Part-Time Police Officer in Weesaw Township:**  
This resolution will be reviewed by the Township Board Members and taken up again at next month's meeting.
- **Ordinance #23 (2020) An Ordinance to Adopt the International Property Maintenance Code by Reference:** The Board will review this information and take it up again next month. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to table the International Property Maintenance Code Ordinance so the board has time to read it. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **8:30 p.m., due to time-limited meetings:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to extend the meeting to 9:30 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

- **Potential Part-Time Police Officer Krauss:** At this time Robert Krauss spoke as to being employed by the Township as the Part-Time Police Officer and the Resolution and adopting the Int'l Property Maintenance Code Ordinance above. Some of his comments, among others, were: Auto insurance would need to be looked into; an 800-mz. radio would be required for him to assume the role of Police Officer; the township would need to purchase/assume ownership of his automobile, which is a former police car with 101k miles. Green suggested that the township contact Atty. Senica about having an employee closed session with Robert suggesting after 7:00 p.m. or on Thu., Fri., or Sat. to meet with Krauss concerning his potential role as part-time police officer.
- **11/03/2020 Election:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by Tackitt, to approve the election inspectors for the upcoming November 3, election as follows: Ruth Heidinger (Chair), Lori Pastryk, Ruth Schaffer, Vicki Hauch, Peg Cullen, Walter Brody, Teri Nitz; hygiene person Alivia Green; and to also purchase sub sandwiches and water for the election inspectors for up to \$75. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.
- **Snowplowing Bids:** Last year's specifications and newspaper ad were provided by Green. Motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to approve publication of the edited ad in the Berrien County Record, and place the edited specifications on the Township Website for potential snowplowing vendors, and post a Special Meeting notice for the bid opening on 11/10/2020, 11:30 a.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to continue to table the 3 prior tabled issues cited in the paragraphs below. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **CONTINUE TO TABLE: Phase 2 Sewer:** bring back up after elections have been completed.
- **CONTINUE TO TABLE: Letter to Chad Sperry re. delinquent sewer:** King will contact Olson Realtors regarding payment of this billing.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** Received billing from Atty. Senica.
- **CONTINUE TO TABLE: Continue to Table the Review/Update Zoning Fees:** Table issue until at least latter part of this year.
- **Public Comments:** Mr. Zelmer was in the audience again regarding the incessant shooting going on in New Troy. He was favorable to having a part-time police officer.

**Adjournment:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn at 9:14 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk



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



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, November 18, 2020**

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 pandemic. Report indicated the following incidents during the period of 09/01/2020-09/30/2020: 17complaints, 0 tickets issued; 4 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by King, supported by Tackitt, to add the following items to the Agenda: GRSD Bills (after Accounts Payable); Fire Dept. Consultant; Ambulance. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by King supported by Tackitt, to approve the Accounts Payable Report as presented to the Board Members in the following amounts: General Fund \$13,538.47, Fire Dept. \$11,567.93; Ambulance \$2,345.92, Other: Phase 2 Sewer Note Payment: 13,426.87; Sewer \$368.58, for a Grand Total of \$41,247.77. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried (Warmbein not in attendance). **Added to Agenda:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to pay the Sewer's GRSD billings which came in too late to add to the above payables in the amount of \$6,833.97 (2 months). This amount will be indicated on the December Accounts Payables. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss was not present. He put together and provided a Weesaw Township Police Dept. Policy & Procedure Manual for the board members to review and study in order to get back with Krauss relating to the part-time police officer's position.
- **Fire Dept Report:** Verbal report provided by Fire Chief Ted Nitz, and reported 3 meetings (Hot Stick & confined spaces training, Truck checks, Safety meeting). 8 calls: 1 structure, 1 grass, 3 PI, 1 CO Alarm, 1 utility call, 1 lift assist w/Medic 1. Nitz requested to bring Santa to FONT. Motion by Tackitt, supported by Sommers, to approve using the truck to deliver Santa to/from FONT. Voice vote all ayes, motion carried.
- **Other Fire Dept Matters:**
  6. **Added to Agenda:** The Fire Dept. received a bid from Villa Environmental Consultants to do a MIOSHA Part 74 Audit for the Fire Dept. area. The bid was

\$1,100. It was suggested that we attempt to also get another bid. Green will look up the past consultant's fees – Harwood – to see how much it was at that time.

- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2020, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** A drain maintenance notice was received from the Berrien County Drain Commissioner for Pierce Lewis & Jennings #406 Drain. No amount was indicated. The Township's share is usually in the 20% ballpark. Another correspondence by a resident who was upset by a police officer pulling over a vehicle and doing a search on her property. A copy of this complaint was provided to Enforcement Officer Krauss, along with the board members.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bank balances provided. Tackitt informed that the winter tax bills will be out by December 1. Added to agenda: Ambulance CD. Tackitt inadvertently neglected to move monies from the Ambulance Fund CD when it came up available to transfer monies. She wanted to know what to do. It was agreed by the board to move monies as needed to the checking account from the Ambulance CD amount.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** Report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** Provided.
- **Cemetery Committee:** Leaf clean up. Sommers indicated that Pat Williams/Lawnsapes will clean the leaves from the cemetery during the timeframe of 11/20-11/30, but before snow falls @ \$750/cleaning. Any other clean-ups will be \$350/each.
- **Parks/Recreation:** No report. Sommers requested a price for the downed tree in the Weesaw park from a timber purchaser. He was told payment of \$100, and Sommers felt that was too low.
- **Road Committee:** There was a Berrien County Road Dept. virtual meeting scheduled, which Warmbein and Green only attended. The hand-outs were forwarded by the Road Dept. and provided to the board members by Green. The Township also received a copy of the Road Dept.'s 3-year plan. Sommers indicated that the road plan had been changed, and he would make the Road Dept. aware of this in order to set the record straight.
- **Website Committee:** No information available.
- **Drains:** No information.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **IN-MI Power Street Lights Contract Approval:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers. to approve the two contracts indicating that the Township street lights are being changed out from all mercury and sodium vapor street lights to the new LED heads at no charge to the township.
- **Township Hall Closings:** Notice provided by Green as to closing of the Township Hall as to her only responsibilities during the upcoming holiday weeks (Treasurer's schedule

will continue as presented by Tackitt): Thanksgiving: Open Monday, 11/22 9:00-4 only during that timeframe; Christmas week: Open Monday, 12/20 only; New Year's week: Possibly Monday only, (To be determined depending upon her family's visit schedule.)

- **Continued Table:** Phase 2 Sewer & Letter re delinquent sewer.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** Verbal information provided by Atty. Senica per below:
- **Revisit in the Future:** Atty. Senica verbally via phone conversation with Green suggested our tabling to a future meeting: Resolution 2020-10 to Establish a Position for a Part-Time Police Officer in Weesaw Township & Ordinance 23 (2020) An Ordinance to Adopt the International Property Maintenance Code by Reference. This will be taken up at a future meeting.
- **Open Snowplowing Bids:** There was one bid received from Seeder & Co. Motion by Green, supported by King, to accept the bid as received, as follows: Twp. Hall/Fire Sta. \$96.25; Weesaw Cemetery \$68.75; Glendora Cemetery \$72.75; Mill Rd. Park \$45; Old New Troy School (to be split between FONT & Township) \$73.00.
- **Burnham & Flower Insurance Renewal:** After Township Board reviewing the policy, motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve the figures as follows: Michigan Twp. Par Plan Package \$19,136 (option 1 unlimited coverage), plus \$36 for Add Casualty Limited Terrorism Coverage; plus \$29 for Add Property Limited Terrorism Coverage for a total of \$19,201.00.
- **Clerk Requests Hazard Pay for Election Workers:** Clerk Green requested hazard pay for her 8 election workers for the highly stressful recent election. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve an amount of \$150 to each of the eight election workers for a grand total of \$1,200.00. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried. Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve \$1,000 stipend to Township Clerk Green for hazard pay. Green was not in accord with this motion. Roll call vote, 3 ayes (Sommers, King, Tackitt – Green abstained), motion carried. Green will contact MTA to ensure this can be done, as she is not sure of its legality.
- At 8:30 p.m., motion by Sommers, supported by King, to extend the meeting to 9:15 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Demolition Permit Form Approval:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to approve the use of the new Demolition Permit Application as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **CONTINUE TO TABLE: Phase 2 Sewer:** bring back up after elections have been completed.
- **CONTINUE TO TABLE: Letter to Chad Sperry re. delinquent sewer:** King will contact Olson Realtors regarding payment of this billing.
- **Public Comments:** None.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Sommers, supported by King, to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Wanda Green, Clerk



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



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, December 16, 2020**

Per extended MDHHS Epidemic Order in effect until December 20, 2020, an outdoor meeting was called per guidelines, with only essential agenda items being brought before the Township Board and public present.

Outdoor parking lot meeting called to order by Supervisor Gary Sommers at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all present.

- **Roll Call by Clerk Green:** All Members Present: Wanda Green, Art King, Gary Sommers, Michelle Tackitt, Robert Warmbein
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to only discuss agenda items indicated by green lettering on the Agenda (essential items), and to table all the remaining items until the January Regular Meeting. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Accounts Payables:** Motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve the Accounts Payable as amended by Clerk Green (there was a \$2.00 mistake which she had corrected), in the following amounts: General Fund \$10,585.93, Fire Dept. \$4,075.29; Ambulance \$2,345.92, Sewer \$10,420.01, for a Grand Total of \$27,427.15. Roll call vote, all ayes (Tackitt, Warmbein, Sommers, King, Green), motion carried.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November, 18, 2020, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Temporary Hardship Housing Permits due in January:** Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to approve sending a letter to the California Rd. property owner as written. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Tackitt, supported by Warmbein, to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green  
Clerk