



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, October 16, 2019

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. Absent: Michelle Tackitt
- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Berrien County Deputy was not present. Report had been provided via facsimile: Statistics for period of 8/01/19-08/31/19 were as follows: 28 complaints, 1 ticket issued; 0 arrests.
- **Set/Amend Agenda Items:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to set the Agenda, as is. Voice vote, all ayes motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** None
- **At 7:09 p.m., in appreciation & recognition of Firefighter Dale Brueck, a brief recess was called for refreshments to honor Dale:** Sommers commented on appreciation of the 54 dedicated years Dale had provided to the Township as an esteemed member of the Fire Dept. Fire Chief Ted Nitz spoke and provided a plaque to Dale on behalf of the Fire Dept. *and Township Board*; a fire-themed blanket was made and donated by Kelly Nitz; an American Legion certificate was read and presented by Lyle Mensinger and Robert Warmbein of the New Troy American Legion; a cake was purchased and provided by Clerk Wanda Green, and another cake baked and provided by firefighter Travis Munday's wife. Many people were present to honor Dale. At 7:30, the board meeting was resumed.
- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer:** Krauss provided an update of various enforcement issues. He will be ticketing several properties, of which the nearby former block building is one. It will be necessary to hand deliver the tickets to the Grand Rapids area for this enforcement issue. He is also checking on the horses on CA Rd. He is awaiting Bob Kaufman's response to him regarding another ongoing issue.
- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to approve the regular board meeting minutes of Wed., September 18, and Special Meeting Board Meeting minutes of Tue., Sept. 24; Thur., Oct 4; 2019; and Closed Session Minutes of Thur., Oct. 4, 2019, as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
- **Correspondence:** None
- **Approve Accounts Payable Monthly Expenditures Report:** Since the payables were reviewed earlier in the day, motion by King, supported by Sommers, to approve the Accounts Payables, as presented: General Fund \$13,600.53; Fire Dept. \$5,690.46; Ambulance \$2,277.59; Sewer Fund \$3,406.44, for a total of \$24,975.02. Roll call vote, all ayes (Warmbein, King, Sommers, Green) [Tackitt Absent], motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer absent. She provided the bank balances in her written report.
- **B/Z Administrator Bob Kaufman Report:** No report provided.
- **Planning Commission Minutes:** Minutes provided. The paragraph regarding marijuana was read by Sommers, "Lots of discussion on marijuana, but still unsure of laws; much has not been decided yet. There are inconsistencies between the 2016 law for medical marijuana and the 2018 law for recreational marijuana. A court case which will be settled in September or October will give more information."

- **Parks/Recreation:** Sommers reported that in Weesaw Township Park the camera project has begun, the electric poles are installed, next is power to the poles, and the meter, and then the cameras will be installed.
Tables are still in the building. It was decided to leave them here until spring. Tiles have been installed (provide GPS copy to Sommers and scan to file).
- **Cemetery:** Sommers has asked the mowers to skip mowing when there is little or no growth. They will mulch rather than rake the cemetery leaves in their upcoming cemetery clean-up.
- **Road Committee:** No meeting. Sommers informed that Pardee has been ground up from Browntown to north of Sawyer Rd.; cross tubes are being installed also.
- **Website Committee:** Along with Mike Metz, Firefighter/Captain Donnie Johnson II is now on the website committee. They want to set up a fire dept. picture page with pictures of the firefighters.
- **Fire Dept. Report:** 1 meeting: truck checks; 1 training: 2 hrs. extrication; 6 calls: Mutual aid, tree in roadway, lawn mower fire, possible gas leak, 2 utility calls
 - **Other Fire Dept. Matters:**
 - Recommendation by Fire Chief Nitz to rescind last month's training officer appointment: Per Fire Chief Nitz's recommendation, motion by Warmbein, supported by Sommers, to rescind the last month's motion for appointment of Nick Granke as Training Officer. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.
 - Recommendation by Fire Chief Nitz to appoint Josh Wisner as Training Officer: Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to appoint Josh Wisner as Training Officer effective today contingent upon a one-year probation. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, Warmbein, King, Green), motion carried.
- It being 8:30 p.m., motion by Sommers, supported by King, to extend the meeting to continue until agenda items are completed. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.
 - **WEX Fuel Cards:** Motion by Sommers, supported by Warmbein, to table the WEX Fuel Cards issue until the Credit Card Policy has been reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Snowplowing Bids:** Green provided specifications and copy of the bid ad. Motion by Warmbein, supported by King, to place the ad in the Harbor Country News per the specifications provided. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried. Green to provide both electronic copies to Mike Metz for the website.
- **Approval of Holiday Closings:** Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to approve the holiday closing dates as provided. Thanksgiving: Closed from 11/26 through 12/1/19. Christmas-New Year's Break: Closed 12/19/19 through 1/6/2020. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Atty. Sara Senica Update:** None.
- **Tree Marketing Program:** It was discussed by board members to have a log buyer look at the 25+ acres fronting Wee-Chik Road to see if there are any trees that would be worthwhile to market. Due to concerns by a resident, it was again reiterated that the subject property is not being planned to be clear cut. Warmbein has met with one interested logger and has another one coming next week.
- **Status of Surge Protection:** Sommers will speak with Jerry from Wolverine Electric to get a price to install this type of protection in the township hall.
- **Approve New Computer Purchase:** Since the Clerk's computer was damaged beyond repair in a recent electrical storm and the one she is currently using is a loaner and does not work properly, discussion of purchasing a new Dell Computer. Motion by King, supported by Warmbein, to spend up to \$900 for the new Dell computer. Roll call vote, all ayes (Sommers, King, Warmbein, Green), motion carried.
- **Public Comments:** Resident Metz once again expressed concern about harvesting trees from the property which was discussed previously.

Adjournment: Motion by Green, supported by Sommers, to adjourn at 9:07 p.m. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Green, Clerk