



WEESAW TOWNSHIP
New Troy, MI 49119
Wednesday November 20,2024



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

- **Call Meeting to Order 7:00 p.m.**
- **The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
- **Swear in of new board**

- **Roll Call by Clerk Burcham:** Members Present: Art King, Gary Sommers, Michelle Tackitt, James Pelletier, Erika Burcham. All Present
- **Kaufman Report:** Air quality testing was completed the previous week. Report and invoice were provided to the board. Motion by Sommers with support from Pelletier to approve the invoice for the air quality testing. Roll call: Sommers- Yes, Pelletier- Yes, Tackitt- Yes, King- Yes, Burcham- Yes. Motion carried.

- **Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. Rep:** Report was provided, officer was on site to answer any questions for the board and public. 28 incidents with 1 arrest.

- **Set or Amend Agenda:** Motion by Burcham with support from Sommers to accept the agenda as presented with addition to the planning commission area with resignation letter from Roger Kugler. Voice vote: all aye, motion carried.

- **Supervisor Gary Sommers:** Sommers went over board meeting rules and what the expectations are.

- **Robert Krauss, Code Enforcement Officer/Zoning Administrator Report:** Absent/ no report

- **Public Comments/Hearing of Persons present on Agenda Items:** No comments at this time.

- **Accounts Payable:** King and Sommers spent the afternoon going through the accounts payables. They did not find any discrepancies at that time. The general fund had a total spending of \$225,235.60. The fire department had a total spending of \$21,077.98. The sewer had a total spending of \$17,524.62. Motion by King with support from Burcham to accept accounts payable for the total amount of \$263,838.20. Roll call: Tackitt- Yes, Sommers- Yes, Pelletier- Yes, King- Yes, Burcham- Yes. Motion carried.

- **Broadband Internet Update:** No new updates at this time. It was explained that once the lines go in that there will then be a sign up for internet. As of right now there is no sign up.

- **Fire Dept:** Chief Nitz updated the board. The fire department had three calls for the month, one was mutual aid, two were grass fires. The department had one meeting which was their monthly truck check. There were three trainings held for the month. The training was on the jaws, radio communication, and the last training was on the tanker. Chief brought six subjects to the board for approval. Department brought two new employees to the board. Both are fully trained and certified, bringing the board to a total of 16 fully trained and certified. The department has two that will be going to the next available training. Last four hires all also work for Galien Township and plan to stay on board there as well. Motion by Burcham with support from Sommers to hire both new employees pending background checks. Chief then brought the need for a new radio. The department had two that needed to be repaired, ended up only one could be repaired. Need board approval to purchase a new radio, which would be a

refurbished radio from Sunny Communications. Motion by King with support from Burcham to spend up to \$2,000 on the purchase of one new radio. Roll call: Tackitt- Yes, Burcham- Yes, Pelletier- Yes, Sommers- Yes, King- Yes. Motion carried. Nitz explained that he has had the purchase of box lights in his budget for some time, looking for board approval to go ahead with the purchase. Motion by Tackitt with support from Pelletier for the purchase of six box lights for a total of \$1,400 for all. Roll call: King- Yes, Pelletier- Yes, Sommers- Yes, Tackitt- Yes, Burcham- Yes, motion carried. Next item was the fence in the cemetery that was damaged during the Halloween party. Board was presented two bids. One bid was from Fence Masters in the amount of \$1,394.00 and the other bid was from Schuell Fence in the amount of \$2,410.05. Motion by Sommers with support from Pelletier to accept the bid from Fence Masters in the amount of \$1,394.00. With half of the payment coming from the general fund account since this happened during a community event. Roll call: Tackitt- Yes, King- Yes, Pelletier- Yes, Sommers- Yes, Burcham- Yes, motion carried. Jeff Starbuck purchased struts and cribs for the fire department, want board approval to repay Jeff in the amount of \$2,100. Motion by Tackitt with support from Burcham for the township/ fire department to purchase the equipment from Jeff in the amount of \$2,100. Roll call: Tackitt- Yes, Burcham- Yes, Pelletier- Yes, Sommers- Yes, King- Yes, motion carried. Last item brought to the board for approval would be the purchase of new equipment for the new truck to make sure that it is outfitted to the best of their ability. Nitz explained that after all was paid and calculated the department had around \$20,000 of grant money left over. Chief asked for board approval of new equipment in the amount of \$16,035 with the leftover grant money. Motion by King with support from Pelletier to purchase new equipment with grant money in the amount of \$16,035. Roll call: Pelletier- Yes, Tackitt- Yes, Sommers- Yes, King- Yes, Burcham- Yes, motion carried. Last thing that Chief Nitz stated was that the department had purchased challenge coins that they will be selling to the public in the near future in hopes of raising funds for next year.

- **Approve Previous Minutes:** Motion from Sommers with support from Burcham to approve previous meeting minutes as presented to the board. Voice vote: all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Sommers with support from Pelletier to extend meeting to 9:00 p.m. Voice vote: all aye, motion carried

Treasurer's Report: Tackitt provided to the board and the public her banking report. She explained that she will be presenting a new report in the future with a clearer set up for everyone. Motion by Burcham with support from Sommers to accept the treasurers report as presented. Voice vote: all aye, motion carried.

Parks Committee Update: Sommers presented the board and the public with a brief update on the park since we are coming to the winter months so projects are projected to start slowing down.

Motion by Sommers with support from Burcham to extend meeting to 9:30 p.m., Voice vote: all aye, motion carried.

Planning Commission: Planning chair Mike Metz informed the board that they have been working on updating the ordinance/ zoning book. They have also been working to include short term rentals and solar ordinances. Metz asked for board approval to set up a sales meeting with MECENA to get estimate on updating our ordinance/zoning book. Motion by Sommers with support from King to set up a sales meeting. Voice vote: all aye, motion carried.

Cemetery Committee: Update from Sommers on the landscaping and there was discussion around the columbaria niches.

Motion by Sommers with support from Burcham to extend meeting to 10 p.m. Voice vote: all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Burcham with support from Pelletier to accept columbaria rules and regulations addendum pending publishing requirements. Voice vote: all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Burcham with support from Tackitt to accept columbaria nitch pricing as presented to the board dated 10/24/2024. Voice vote: all aye, motion carried.

Road Committee: Nothing to present

Website Committee: Nothing to report at this time.

Drains Committee: Nothing to present

NEW BUSINESS:

Burcham brought to the board the want to purchase Christmas lights for the town hall. Motion by Burcham with support from Tackitt for the purchase of outside Christmas lights for the hall.

Committees- Sommers set up a break down of committees and explained that he would like to see going forward that during meetings that if the committee just brought any updates and things for board approval to take up less time. Peg Cullen volunteered to be apart of the planning commission to fill a seat. Motion by Sommers with support from Burcham to approve Peg Cullen to the planning commission. Motion by Burcham with support from Sommers to accept the new committees as presented. Voice vote: all aye, motion carried.

Snow plow bid- Board only had one bid for snowplowing of the town properties from Seeder and Company. Motion by Sommers with support from King to accept bid from Seeder with a breakdown of \$470 for a complete plow to be completed at four inches. It was stated that if there is damage to the asphalt that Seeder is to inform Sommers immediately, they are not to repair. Roll call: Tackitt- Yes, Sommers- Yes, King- Yes, Pelletier- Yes, Burcham- Yes, motion carried.

Adjournment:

Motion by Sommers with support from Tackitt to adjourn meeting at 10:05 p.m. Voice vote: all aye, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Township Clerk,