

THORNAPPLE TOWNSHIP BOARD

Regular Meeting, Monday, September 9, 2019

1. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bremer at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall, followed by the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by those present.
2. Present: Mike Bremer, Deb Buckowing, Curt Campbell, Ross DeMaagd, Jake Jelsema, and Cindy Willshire. Absent: Sandy Rairigh (excused). Also present: Lindsey Austin, Brian Campbell, Polly Campbell, Chief Randy Eaton, Luke Froncheck, Catherine Getty, Dan Parker, Josh Offringa, Deputy Chief Rod Preslar, Eric Schaefer, and Stephanie Skidmore.
3. **MOTION** by Buckowing, support by Campbell to approve the Printed Agenda as Amended with the addition of 12B. Turnout Gear Conversation; 15C. Health Department Permit for TTES; 15D. Fall Fest Conversation and removal of 18. Closed Session. **MOTION APPROVED** with 6 yes voice votes.
4. **MOTION** by Campbell, support by Buckowing to approve the Consent Agenda as Printed. **MOTION APPROVED** with 6 yes voice votes.

First Public Comment

5. Lindsey Austin, 8075 W. Irving Road, was concerned about whether the Township reviewed after a variance was granted to ensure to meet the conditions of the variance. Ms. Austin expressed her concerns about a variance that was granted near her residence and will submit a written letter detailing her issues.
6. Catherine Getty on behalf of the TK Bond "Vote Yes" community group provided the board members with an overview of the upcoming "no mill" increase bond proposal facing Thornapple Township Voters in the November 2019 election.

County Report

7. Commissioner Parker reported on the activities of the Barry County Commissioners, including discussing the status of broadband expansion in Barry County; overview of Blue Zone; and that the Board of Commissioners submitted a letter of support for the Thornapple Township Trail Expansion grant application.

Reserved Time:

8. Walt Eavey and Bob Hinklin did not attend the meeting.
9. Jim Dull, Barry County Drain Commissioner, did not attend the meeting. Bremer stated that he spoke with Dull regarding this matter. The Barry County Road Commission filed a petition with the Drain Commission to work on the rain water run off along Noffke Drive and other issues that are pressing. Bremer is not certain as to the timeframe of repairs. Campbell expressed concern whether the Drain Commission and the Road Commission will inform the Noffke Drive Association of the work that is going to be done. The Association felt that they were told things previously that may have not been completed. Bremer encouraged Campbell to write a letter to the Drain Commission and the Road Commission detailing his concerns.

Public Hearing

10. Public Act 256 and fireworks in the Township

Bremer recessed the Board Meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Bremer opened the Public Hearing at 7:26 p.m.

Lyndsey Austin, 8075 Irving Road, expressed her support of approving a fireworks ordinance that would require residents to obtain a permit prior to shooting off fireworks in the township except for the days excluded in Public Act 256.

Bremer closed the Public Hearing at 7:31 p.m.

Bremer opened the Board Meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Clerk's Report

11. Resolution No. 11-2019 regarding establishment of cost recovery rates per Thornapple Township Ordinance No. 01-2003. **MOTION** by Buckowing, support by Willshire to adopt Resolution No. 11-2019 regarding establishment of cost recovery rates per Thornapple Township Ordinance No. 01-2003. Roll call vote: Bremer, yes; Willshire, yes; Buckowing, yes; Jelsema, yes; DeMaagd, yes; Campbell, yes; Rairigh, absent. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Treasurer's Report

12. None.

Emergency Services Report

13. Motion to approve additional revenues be placed in the Capital Projects line of the Emergency Services budget. Eaton stated that an additional \$30,000.00 came in and he feels that it should be placed in the Capital Projects general ledger line for future purchases. **MOTION** by Buckowing, support by Willshire to redirect tax revenue of \$31,000.00 from 206 and 303 to 403 Capital Improvements. Jelsema expressed concern as to why the Board would restrict this money and felt that the revenue should be left until the end of the fiscal year. Buckowing stated that this revenue is not generated until December and not moved until the first week of March. Bremer questioned whether this MOTION was premature. **Buckowing WITHDREW her MOTION with Willshire's SUPPORT. MOTION** by Buckowing, support by Willshire to wait until February 2020 to determine how to distribute tax dollars for Emergency Services. **MOTION APPROVED** with 6 yes voice votes.
14. Turnout Gear Conversation: Eaton stated that six individuals are starting Fire School this fall and he is estimating that TTES will need 10-11 new sets of turnout gear due to Fire School and soon to be expired gear. Based upon Board Consensus, Eaton will obtain quotes for new turnout gear and will bring information to the October board meeting.

Planning and Zoning Report

15. Ordinance No. 01-2019 An Ordinance Amending Article XXI: General Provisions, of Thornapple Township, Michigan; and when ordinance shall become effective. Getty provided an overview of the changes to Section 21.14: Swimming Pool Regulations; Section 21.18 Recreational Vehicle

Parking in All Residential Zoning Districts; Deletion of Section 21.37 Solar Energy Systems; Addition of Section 21.37 Solar Energy Collectors; Section 21.41 Outdoor Furnaces; Section 19.69 Commercial Ground-Mounted Solar Energy and Solar Farm Special Use Standards. Board members discussed the process if there was a noise complaint from a solar energy system. Campbell and Getty discussed the classification of short term recreational vehicle parking and the process if a complaint arises. **MOTION** by Campbell, support by Buckowing to approve Ordinance No. 01-2019 amendments as proposed by the Planning Commission. Roll call vote: Bremer, yes; Willshire, yes; Buckowing, yes; Jelsema, yes; DeMaagd, yes; Campbell, yes; Rairigh, absent. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Unfinished Business

16. Budget Amendments: None.
17. Fireworks: Jelsema expressed concern whether the Township (without a designated Constable or Police Force) could enforce a Fireworks Ordinance. Eaton stated that he believes that the Barry County Sheriff's Office or the State Police could enforce an Ordinance, however, if it's not on the books, why would they drive out to a violator. DeMaagd stated that he is uncertain about the details of the PA 256 and doesn't feel that it is something the Township can enact. The Board will reach out to Jeff Sluggett or the MTA for their thoughts on this matter and the route that the Township should take.
18. Petition for maintenance and improvement of a drain (Duncan) thru the Barry County Drain Commissioner's Office: Discussed at Reserved Time.

New Business

19. Appoint Diane VanderWerp as Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals: **MOTION** by Campbell, support by DeMaagd to appoint Diane VanderWerp as an Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals. **MOTION APPROVED** with 6 yes voice votes.
20. Memorial Day Parade Commitment: **MOTION** by Jelsema, support by Willshire to contract with the Memorial Day Parade Committee for \$300.00 for the 2020 season with funds to come from the Community Promotions General Ledger account. Roll call vote: Bremer, yes; Willshire, yes; Buckowing, yes; Jelsema, yes; DeMaagd, yes; Campbell, yes; Rairigh, absent. **MOTION CARRIED.**
21. Health Department Permit for TTES: Buckowing stated that the TTES employees are hosting a Pancake Breakfast on September 28th from 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. in order to fundraise for additional items they would like to purchase. In order to host this Pancake Breakfast, TTES will be required to obtain a Health Department Permit at the cost of \$144.00. **MOTION** by Buckowing, support by Willshire to approve the \$144.00 expenditure for a health permit for the TTES event with funds evenly taken out of the 206 and 303 community promotions general ledger accounts. Roll call vote: Bremer, yes; Willshire, yes; Buckowing, yes; Jelsema, yes; DeMaagd, yes; Campbell, yes; Rairigh, absent. **MOTION CARRIED.**
22. Fall Fest Conversation: Buckowing stated that this event will be held on October 12, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the Riverbank. **MOTION** by Buckowing, support by Willshire to authorize the expenditure of no more than \$100.00 from the Community Promotions General Ledger account to set up the Township's table and supply candy for the Fall Fest Activities. Roll call vote: Bremer, yes; Willshire, yes; Buckowing, abstain; Jelsema, yes; DeMaagd, yes; Campbell, yes; Rairigh, absent. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Committee Reports

23. Administration: The committee stated that the Office Coordinator position has been filled by Denise Piering on September 3rd and she has been adjusting well to the position.
24. Cemetery: None.
25. Elections: Willshire stated that both Thornapple Kellogg and Caledonia Schools will have ballot proposals on the November 2019 election.
26. Emergency Services: None.
27. Finance: None.
28. Parks and Recreation Representative: Bremer stated that TAPRC's Flag Football season has started with 94 children participating. In addition, TAPRC will be running a Fall Adult Woman's Volleyball league. In addition, the annual 5k/10k run/walk held on August 17, 2019 was a success and the committee is looking at adding a river component to the event next year.
29. Personnel – Compensation: Next committee meeting will be held on September 10, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.
30. Property, Public Utilities: Campbell stated that the new front door was installed that is handicapped accessible and it was identified that painting needs to be done under the front awning. Campbell is reaching out to painting companies for quotes.
31. Roads and Highways: None.

SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

POLL OF MEMBERS:

Jake Jelsema, Trustee: Jelsema stated that he will not be at the next board meeting on October 14th since he will be on his honeymoon.

Sandra Rairigh, Trustee: Absent.

Curt Campbell, Trustee: None.

Ross DeMaagd, Trustee: None.

Deb Buckowing, Treasurer: Buckowing reminded the Board that the Patriot's Day Commemoration Service will be held on September 11, 2019 at noon. Buckowing stated that Summer 2019 property taxes are due by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, September 16th.

Cindy Willshire, Clerk: None.

Mike Bremer, Supervisor: Bremer stated that the first FY 2020/2021 Budget Conversation will be held on October 23, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

MOTION by Buckowing, support by Willshire to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION APPROVED** with 6 yes voice votes.

Adjournment of meeting by Supervisor Bremer at 8:52 p.m.

Cindy A. Willshire, Clerk

Approved_____