

TOWNSHIP OF THORNAPPLE

Michael Bremer, *Supervisor* / Debra K Buckowing, *Treasurer* / Cindy A. Willshire, *Clerk*
 Curt Campbell, *Trustee* / Ross DeMaagd, *Trustee* / Jake Jelsema, *Trustee* / Sandra Rairigh, *Trustee*



269-795-7202 - Fax 269-795-8812 - thornapple-twp.org
 PO Box 459 - 200 E Main St. - Middleville, MI 49333

REGULAR MEETING TELECONFERENCE June 8, 2020

1. INVOCATION - Supervisor Bremer
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL

TIME: 7:02 P.M.

ROLL CALL:	Bremer: Buckowing: Campbell: DeMaagd:	Present Present Present Present	Jelsema: Rairigh: Willshire:	Present Present Present
OTHERS PRESENT:	Amy Brown, Catherine Getty, Dan Parker, Eric Schaefer, Greg Chandler, Chief Randy Eaton and Lynn Afendoulis.			

4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Campbell- Motion to approve the printed agenda as amended with item 14.d added offering a resolution 08-2020 and 09-2020 regarding lighting at Crane/Finkbeiner/M-37 intersection.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no votes.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer: Buckowing: Campbell: DeMaagd:	Yes Yes Yes Yes	Jelsema: Rairigh: Willshire:	Yes Yes Yes
------------------------	--	--------------------------	------------------------------------	-------------------

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Willshire- Motion to approve the consent agenda as printed.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Buckowing
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no votes.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer: Buckowing: Campbell: DeMaagd:	Yes Yes Yes Yes	Jelsema: Rairigh: Willshire:	Yes Yes Yes
------------------------	--	--------------------------	------------------------------------	-------------------

6. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT: Lynn Afendoulis introduced herself to the board. She discussed her previous work experience, most recently as the 73rd house district state representative starting 2019. She is now running for the 3rd congressional district in the 2020 election.

7. COUNTY REPORT:

County Commissioner Dan Parker:	Parker thanked Afendoulis for joining us. Then announced the Barry County Board will be meeting tomorrow to finalize the wording for the county jail bond to be placed on the November ballot.
Board Response:	Rairigh asked how many mils it would be. Parker replied, and during the 2 nd public comment, clarified that it will likely be .45 to .5 mils depending on the interest rate they can get on a 25-year bond.

8. RESERVED TIME: none.

9. CLERK’S REPORT: none.

10. TREASURER’S REPORT: none.

11. PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT: none.

12. EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT:

A. Motion to approve the expenditure of the remaining bond monies not to exceed \$4,200.00 to purchase a 16’ utility trailer with toolbox to transport the TTES UTV.

MOTION STATED:	DeMaagd- Motion to approve the above expenditure by TTES.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

B. Motion to approve a one-year membership to Cognito Forms for software to maintain current TTES maintenance and tool and safety checks at a cost of \$108 per year.

a. TTES has been using Brad Bender’s account up to this time. TTES has found the forms very useful. Also, they were able to electronically save all previous checklists for future use. This membership offers a 1 gigabyte of backup space and two administrator accounts and an infinite number of users. The administrator accounts can create new forms or checklists and has the ability to update existing forms. The user accounts can only complete forms. If the 1 gigabyte storage is used up, then they can either print off the old records or save them to a USB drive or other memory location.

MOTION STATED:	DeMaagd- Motion to approve above expenditure.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

C. Motion to move forward with the hiring process to employ Jordan Medrano, Joel Wilkins and Casandra Vugteveen. The next step will be to send them for screening at Pennock Occupational Medicine. Eaton also clarified that Medrano is awaiting approval on the National Registry. However due to the pandemic, testing is not available. Eaton is requesting we wait to finalize Medrano’s hiring until testing has been completed. Eaton clarified that these would be paid on call positions that are being filled.

MOTION STATED:	Buckowing- Motion to approve moving forward with the hiring process on the 3 people listed above.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Willshire
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

D. Summary

- a. Update on UV light – It may be 3 weeks yet before we receive the bulbs.
- b. TTES has resumed some in-person meetings with social distancing.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Server Update - The current quotes have expired, and we have not received an updated quote from Aanalytics yet. Campbell suggested tabling the discussion until the July meeting.

B. Letter of Support - The Village of Middleville has requested a letter from Thornapple Township stating their support of the annexation of TK School property into the village limits.

MOTION STATED:	Rairigh- Motion to approve a letter of support from the Thornapple Township Board (by the supervisor) to the Village of Middleville regarding the annexation of TK School property.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Buckowing
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

C. Computer replacement/upgrade – Bremer stated the supervisor and office administrator’s desktop computers are Windows 7. They have been having trouble connecting to the main printer this week. This issue was resolved for now, but it was a reminder that they need to be replaced. Bremer asked if there were any objections to contacting Aanalytics to get replacement prices for these two. Bremer will look at laptops vs desktops. Eaton asked about the possibility of a replacement for Klutman as well. Bremer stated he would get quotes for all three.

14. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Sam’s Club account – Buckowing explained the benefits to the township that a membership would offer for supply orders. She stated several price comparisons between Amazon and Sam’s had been done and feels the membership will save money. Also, Buckowing wanted to clarify that the cards would not be issued in any individual’s name, but rather issued to the township. The cost is \$45 per year, but currently they are offering a \$20 online rebate on the 1st online order.

MOTION STATED:	Willshire – motion to approve a one-year membership to Sam’s Club
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 yes, and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

B. 4th of July Celebration – Motion to provide \$500.00 to the local celebration if one takes place. Rairigh asked for a state revenue sharing update. Buckowing stated that estimates range from a 4% to 20 % decrease in revenue sharing for the year. Jelsema said unemployment at its highest level was 33.5% with 10-16% unemployment going forward. March and April sales tax collection saw a decrease of 30%. Bremer shared his opinion that the township is legally able to support the fireworks and it would be best to do so. Buckowing agreed it’s the township’s responsibility to share in the cost of the fireworks and

feels it is possible to do so based on fund balances. Buckowing stated she isn't sure if there will be a celebration, but if there is, she'd like to see the township contribute.

MOTION STATED:	Buckowing – motion to approve a \$500.00 donation to local 4 th of July celebration fireworks if one is held.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Willshire
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 yes, and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

C. M-37 improvements 2021 - Beginning around June 1, 2021 M-37 from Middleville to 92nd street will see M-DOT adding additional width to the shoulder so that it's 7 feet wide instead of 3 feet. Second, M-DOT will be replacing the deck on the Duncan Creek bridge. Third, the intersection at M-37 and 108th street will be widened, and they will add a left turn lane. Fourth, they will do something in the Caledonia area to improve the traffic flow. Fifth, they will do something at Cherry Valley to improve it as well. Sixth, they'll be installing a traffic light at the Crane/Finkbeiner intersection. Getty and Bremer have discussed the desire for pedestrian crossings and bike paths to be included in M-DOT changes to M-37 so that they are 'complete streets.' Getty stated she'd like to strongly encourage M-DOT to make the changes to 'complete streets' while they already have the streets under construction.

D. Motion to adopt Resolutions # 08-2020 and 09-2020 resolving "...to authorize Consumers Energy Company to make changes...in the Standard Lighting Contract between the Company and the Township..." regarding streetlighting at the Crane/Finkbeiner/M-37 intersection.

Bremer explained that there is currently one light above the middle of the intersection. However, M-DOT will be adding a traffic light there. Therefore, Consumers Energy will be removing the light and proposes to replace it with two lights. One on a pole at the northeast corner and a second on a pole at the southwest corner. The cost of installation is \$100 per light.

MOTION STATED:	Jelsema – motion to approve resolution 08-2020 and 09-2020
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Buckowing
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 yes, and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

15. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Administration (Bremer, Buckowing, Willshire) Buckowing stated tomorrow there will be a MTA webinar on COVID-19 to provide safety guidelines for residents visiting the township offices. Also, they'll be discussing July tax changes and absentee ballots information.

B. Cemetery (Willshire, DeMaagd, Rairigh) Willshire stated that the old water spouts left over from previous system remain and need to be removed. They are causing confusion with residents wishing to water their flowers or plants. Willshire felt that she could ask the sexton, Josh Wickham if he would be interested in this project and find out what the cost would be.

C. Elections (Willshire, Buckowing, Bremer) Willshire stated that Barry County would be coming tomorrow to perform an audit on the May 5th election (Caledonia School Bonds only.)

D. Emergency Services (Demaagd, Bremer, Rairigh)

E. Finance (Buckowing, Willshire, DeMaagd) Buckowing explained the draft of the annual audit has arrived.

F. Parks and Recreation Representative (Bremer) Bremer reported that they met last week Thursday. They had considered a shortened season or skills camp but have decided no summer youth baseball or softball season or camps. Bottles and cans are still being collected and can be donated. They are piling up! There is a drop off location at Harding's market. Parks and Recreation is reworking their 5-year plan and will be sending out a community survey soon. TPARC partnered with the TK Schools food distribution program to hand out sports equipment. Over 200 families received whiffle or 4-square balls. The food drives were held at Thornapple Kellogg Middle School, Yankee Springs Mobile Home Park, and Freeport. Also, the Fresh Food Drive will be held each Friday in June. The next one will be at the Methodist Church and they'll pass out sports equipment there as well. Not sure if Heritage Day will still be held the 3rd weekend in August. If not, they are considering holding a virtual 5k or 10k run.

G. Personnel – Compensation (Willshire, Campbell, Bremer)

H. Property and Public Utilities (Jelsema, DeMaagd, Campbell) Campbell asked if the township has heard back from Peace Church.

I. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Jelsema) Campbell found out that 108th street was closed and so he contacted Barry County Road Commission and found that they had replaced two culverts. One just West of M-37 and the second about 100 ft. West of Noffke Drive. Bremer stated Barry County Road Commission had just finished dust abatement treatments and thanked them for their work.

16. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

A. Parker clarified his response to Rairigh regarding the number of mils on the Jail Bond. He stated that on average it would be .50 mils but it’s likely to be closer to .45 mils if they can get a better interest rate.

B. Bremer asked Lynn Afendoulis if she stayed for the whole meeting? She replied yes, she had and appreciated the efficiency of the meeting.

17. POLL OF MEMBERS:

Jake Jelsema (Trustee) – To answer Bremer’s previous question to Representative Calley and Senator Bizon. Calley replied that the authorization to spend the funds are there. Jelsema thinks the funds will probably run with the Budget Implementation Bills which go to the governor with the State Budget due July 1.

Sandy Rairigh (Trustee) – none.

Ross DeMaagd (Trustee) – none.

Curt Campbell (Trustee) – none.

Deb Buckowing (Treasurer) – It’s great to be back working in the office with a full staff.

Cindy Willshire (Clerk) – none.

Mike Bremer (Supervisor) – none.

18. ADJOURNMENT:

TIME: 8:25 P.M.

MOTION STATED:	Willshire – Move to adjourn
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved with 7 yes voice votes.

Amy Brown, Recording Secretary

Approved ____/2020__