

# TOWNSHIP OF THORNAPPLE

Eric Schaefer, *Supervisor* / Debra K Buckowing, *Treasurer* / Cindy A. Willshire, *Clerk*  
 Curt Campbell, *Trustee* / Ross DeMaagd, *Trustee* / Kim Selleck, *Trustee* / Sandra Rairigh, *Trustee*

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## REGULAR MEETING ZOOM MEETING & IN PERSON July 12, 2021

1. INVOCATION
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	Buckowing: Present Campbell: Present DeMaagd: Present Rairigh: Present	Schaefer: Present Selleck: Absent Willshire: Present
<b>OTHERS PRESENT:</b>	Chief Randy Eaton, Amy Brown, Rob Ranes, Rachael Kruisenga, Clayton Kruisenga, Pattie Rayl, Katherine Schmidt, Patty Campbell, Greg Chandler	

**4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:** DeMaagd asked about the changes and Schaefer explained the policy needed further work as well as the sewer rate increase. To clarify this was not a discussion of the hook-up rate fees.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Buckowing – Motion to approve Printed Agenda with the removal of items 13 B. Procurement Policy and 13 E. Duncan Lake Sewer Rate increase and a change in item 10 A. to Resolution 10-2021.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Willshire
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by voice vote. 6 ayes, 1 absent, 0 no's.

### 5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Buckowing – Approve the consent agenda as presented.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Willshire
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by voice vote. 6 ayes, 1 absent, 0 no's.

**6. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT:** Rob Ranes who lives at 6827 Noffke Dr. stated that he was here with Rachael and Clayton Kruisenga. Ranes stated he had some information to present during the second public comment time.

**7. COUNTY REPORT:** Schaefer said that Getty was not present due to an injury and that the County Commission had not meet the previous week due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday so there was no new information to be presented at this time.

**8. RESERVED TIME:** Katherine Schmidt (Middleville DDA Director) Schmidt stated that she had come to introduce herself to the board members and to commend Schaefer on his work with the DDA. Schmidt also wanted to invite everyone present to come to the Shop Hop event being held in Middleville Village from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. this weekend. There will be art and food provided by unique local vendors. Also, the DDA, the

township and TAPRC are working on the upcoming Heritage Days. Also, the market and music concerts are being held every Friday evening during this time. Rairigh asked where the DDA office is located. Schmidt explained that it is across the street from where it was previously located. The office is now in the mix co-working space. Buckowing thanked Schmidt for all the ways she is pulling in folks through Facebook Live postings of the market and concerts being held on Fridays.

**9. CLERK’S REPORT:** Within consent agenda

**10. TREASURER’S REPORT:** Updated Investment and Depository Resolution 10-2021 – Buckowing explained that Resolution 10-2021 was essentially the same as the former resolution of 10-2018 but that Chemical Bank and Hastings City Bank had changed their names. Also, a couple of other financial institutions in Caledonia and Hastings have been added as well in case in the future they would like to do business with them.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Willshire - Motion to approve Resolution 10-2021 Thornapple Township Investment and Depository Designation.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Rairigh
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved with a roll call vote of 6 yes’s, 1 absent and 0 no’s.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Buckowing: Yes	Schaefer: Yes
	Campbell: Yes	Selleck: Absent
	DeMaagd: Yes	Willshire: Yes
	Rairigh: Yes	

**11. EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT:** Chief’s Run Report Summary – Chief Eaton reviewed the TTES Run Summary and pointed out that there were 27 turn overs from others which may be the most ever. They were up 141 calls compared with last year. Also, the chief reviewed the upcoming EMS stand-by events coming up which include the Barry County Fair, the 24-hour Bike Challenge in August as well as Heritage Days. Buckowing asked Chief Eaton if the stand-by fees had been updated recently. Eaton said he thought it had been reviewed last year. Buckowing also wanted to thank Joe Johnson for the Facebook Live postings he did at the Fireworks celebration.

**12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A. Barry County Fair Volunteer Sign Up** – Schaefer stated there were still volunteer slots available to fill the booth. T-shirts would likely arrive on Thursday and he would be happy to deliver them if they were needed before Monday by anyone. Schaefer said he plans to restock the cooler with fresh ice each day.

**B. DLSA Rate Study 2021** – DLSA will be having their next meeting on Tuesday, July 27.

**14. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Agenda Request Cemetery Plot & Transfer Fee Rates Resolution 09-2021** – Willshire stated that the Cemetery Committee had reviewed the rates and recommends an update.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Buckowing -Motion to approve Resolution 09-2021 Cemetery Plot & Transfer Fee Rates.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Rairigh
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved with a roll call vote of 6 yes's, 1 absent and 0 no's.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Buckowing:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Selleck:	Absent
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	Rairigh:	Yes		

**B. Agenda Request Procurement Policy** – Removed from printed agenda.

**C. Cemetery Road Work** – Willshire explained that the Cemetery Committee had received the quote but that Buckowing had wondered if it would be possible to get a bundle rate if the township hall parking lot and the TTES building parking lots were added to the job. DeMaagd said he didn't think there would be a volume discount but it's worth asking. The cost is mainly based on the crew driving to the project area each day. DeMaagd felt it best to go ahead and get this work scheduled before the end of the season. Buckowing asked to confirm that the committee had gotten several quotes and that this was the best one. Willshire confirmed. Chief Eaton asked if this was chip and seal. DeMaagd said there was only one company located in Traverse City that does chip and seal besides the road commission. This is not just spraying black on the top, but rather laying down more asphalt to the areas that need more thickness. The first pass is to fill in the lows, mill the highs and transitions and then put a thin coat of pavement overtop.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Buckowing- Motion to accept Quote 9165 from Stallard & Sons to top coat Leonard & Emma Dr. in Mt. Hope Cemetery, with the request about whether a multi-site discount is possible and could include the township and TTES building parking lots.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Schaefer
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved with a roll call vote of 6 yes's, 1 absent and 0 no's.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Buckowing:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Selleck:	Absent
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	Rairigh:	Yes		

**D. Duncan Lake Sewer Components** – Schaefer explained the township hasn't been very consistent about charging homeowners for components that were damaged by homeowner. Campbell stated the lids

cost \$106 each. DeMaagd asked how they are getting broken. Campbell said often by the mower hitting them if they are a little higher than the ground around it. Campbell wondered if this was allowing extra rain water and other items to get into the system and was creating issues. DeMaagd wondered if people could be pumping from their sump pump into the system because at one time that was code. Maybe it would be worth sending a notice to residents to remind them that they should not be pumping rain water into the system. Campbell felt this issue had already been addressed about 6 to 8 years ago when Tom Rook reviewed the system.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Schaefer- Motion to consistently enforce passing along cost of replacing Duncan Lake sewer components to homeowner.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Willshire
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by voice vote. 6 ayes, 1 absent, 0 no's.

E. Duncan Lake Sewer Rate Increase - Removed from printed agenda.

**15. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

A. Administration (Schaefer, Buckowing, Willshire) – Buckowing stated that there were some important items that need to be in place prior to a deadline of July 27 in order to ensure the township would be eligible to receive ARPA funds.

B. Cemetery (Willshire, DeMaagd, Rairigh) – Nothing further.

C. Middleville DDA Report (Schaefer) – Schmidt covered this during the reserve time.

D. Elections (Willshire, Buckowing, Schaefer) – No elections.

E. Emergency Services (DeMaagd, Schaefer, Rairigh) Nothing further.

F. Finance (Buckowing, Willshire, Rairigh) Nothing further.

G. Parks and Recreation Representative (Getty) August 21 will be the Heritage Days Run and the baseball and softball seasons have wrapped up for this year.

H. Personnel – Compensation (Willshire, Campbell, Schaefer) Nothing new.

I. Property and Public Utilities (Selleck, DeMaagd, Campbell) – Buckowing asked Campbell to look at a crack that has appeared in the lobby.

J. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Selleck) Campbell said he has seen the asphalt and gravel added to the shoulders to several roads in the township including 108<sup>th</sup> street.

**K. Duncan Lake Sewer (Campbell, Selleck, Schaefer)** Campbell said there is a meeting tomorrow with Peace Church to discuss upgrades & capacity growth to the system and offer a proposal. They hope to be able to come to the August township board meeting with a recommendation. July 27 is the next DLSA meeting and hope to know by then if Peace Church will be a part of the plan or not. Then they will decide what the recommendation to the board will be. They will also discuss the hook-up fees. It is open to the public.

#### **16. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

**A. Rob Raney** provided a handout to the board. He's been learning a lot about what goes into the cost of the hook-up fees. He had thought the \$8,450.00 fee had gone to \$25,000 in November 2020, however, he learned that the \$8,400.00 included a lot more. It included the availability fee and trunkage fee in that. Chris Morgan from Morgan Electric says you can assume the STEP components will be double what they used to cost. Reviewed cost that a new build would incur. In 2019 the total cost was \$12,000, but in 2020 it increased to a cost of \$35,000. Raney believes that, as a financial guy, it would make more sense to use the time value of money for only the 32 years the sewer system was in operation rather than to go back to 1960. Raney believes \$10,000 is more reasonable, but it would still come to a total cost of \$20,000 which is the same cost for an engineered septic system for a new house in another location. Currently, building on Noffke Dr. is not very attractive since you don't have lake access, you are on the equivalent of a gravel road and it floods. Raney thinks the township would want people to build on vacant lots so that the tax base increases. He understands the overall system is failing so the township doesn't really want people to build right now. Inevitably the new system will be installed, and the township is going to want more people helping to maintain it. He believes a new system will be more efficient and cost less. He said Caledonia Township total cost for hook-up on a lake is \$2,625.00. The City of Hastings total cost of hook-up is \$3,000.00. Gaines Township's cost is \$13,000.00. Campbell asked if he knew the cost of Gun Lake's and Crooked Lake's systems hook-up fees. Raney says he has not been able to get those numbers yet. Raney said he was not arguing, but rather just wanting to educate. He thanked the board for their time.

**B. Patty Rayl** – Just wanted to add that civil engineering firms can do a smoke test to find out what sump pumps are going into the sewer system.

#### **17. POLL OF MEMBERS:**

**Kim Selleck (Trustee)** – Absent

**Sandy Rairigh (Trustee)** – Asked if Schaefer had received her day of caring project to remove the cemetery flags in the fall. Schaefer confirmed he had.

**Ross DeMaagd (Trustee)** – None.

**Curt Campbell (Trustee)** – None.

**Deb Buckowing (Treasurer)** – Asked Schaefer if he would be sending out instructions regarding the fair pass so that those signed up would be able to get to the booth. Schaefer said he would be happy to do that.

**Cindy Willshire (Clerk)** – None.

**Eric Schaefer (Supervisor)** – Just a reminder that the Day of Caring deadline was July 27 and so far, he has 6 items. If there are any additional ideas, please let him know before then.

**18. ADJOURNMENT:**

**TIME: 7:55 P.M.**

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Buckowing – Motion to adjourn.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Campbell
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by voice vote. 6 ayes, 1 absent, 0 no's.



Amy Brown, Recording Secretary

Approved 8/9 /2021