

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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 PO Box 459 - 200 E Main St. - Middleville, MI 49333



REGULAR MEETING ZOOM MEETING & IN PERSON December 13, 2021

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

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:	Buckowing: Campbell: DeMaagd: Rairigh:	Absent Present Present Present	Schaefer: Selleck: Willshire:	Present Present Present
OTHERS PRESENT:	Catherine Getty, Chief Eaton, Amy Brown, Laura Bouchard, McKenna Wigger, Emily Vlietstra, Kayla Massalink, Patricia Rayl joined via zoom.			

4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Willshire -Motion to approve the printed agenda as amended with the addition of 12 B. Resolution 15-2021.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by voice vote. 6 ayes, 0 no's and 1 absent.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Buckowing: Campbell: DeMaagd: Rairigh:	Yes Yes Yes Yes	Schaefer: Selleck: Willshire:	Yes Yes Yes
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5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Willshire-Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by voice vote. 6 ayes, 0 no's and 1 absent.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Buckowing: Campbell: DeMaagd: Rairigh:	Absent Yes Yes Yes	Schaefer: Selleck: Willshire:	Yes Yes Yes
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6. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT: None

7. COUNTY REPORT:

County Commissioner Catherine Getty:	Commissioner Getty provided a copy of the memo from the ARPA Committee to the Barry County Board of Commissioners which outlines the 7 recommendations for the first round of funding to be dispersed for various projects throughout the county. It will be provided at the meeting tomorrow morning and reviewed with the hopes of a final decision in March.
Board Response:	Schaefer thanked Commissioner Getty for the information.

8. RESERVED TIME: None

9. CLERK’S REPORT: Included in consent agenda

10. TREASURER’S REPORT: Included in consent agenda

11. EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT:

A. Chief’s Run Report Summary – Chief Eaton reviewed the included TTES Monthly Report. There were 168 calls in the month of November. Hospitals are closing their ER’s. Borgess and Bronson in Kalamazoo were closed at the same time at one point. Metro has closed for a few hours on a couple of days. He emphasized a continued increase in the number of calls over last year. Willshire asked what the majority of calls were. Eaton stated that about 80% are EMS calls and about 40% of them are covid related. On a couple of calls they talked them into taking a helicopter rather than a 45-minute transfer trip. There is one person out with covid right now creating staffing shortages. Fire calls within Barry County are up 6.5%. Mutual aid calls are up 18%. Ambulance calls are up 84.6% over last year.

B. Fire Extinguisher Inspection/Service Quote – Chief Eaton reviewed the Fire Pros quote # 1995284 for \$806.00 that was included in the board packet. 10 extinguishers are due for a 6-yr maintenance, one H2O Extinguisher is due for hydrostatic service and one new 20 lb. ABC extinguisher is to be added to an ambulance.

MOTION STATED:	Willshire – Motion to approve Fire Pros Quote # 1995284 in the amount of \$806.00.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 6 yes votes, 0 no’s and 1 absent.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Buckowing: Absent	Schaefer: Yes
	Campbell: Yes	Selleck: Yes
	DeMaagd: Yes	Willshire: Yes
	Rairigh: Yes	

C. Replacement of 2 AED – Chief Eaton reviewed the Stryker quote # 10453478 for \$4,059.20 for the replacement of 2 AED’s that was included in the board packet. He stated the lifespan recommendation by the FDA is 8 years. The battery could be replaced for \$350 but since it is beyond its lifespan, he recommends replacing them. The lead time is six to eight weeks, and he would like to get the order placed as soon as possible. Willshire asked Eaton which GL# this would go under. He stated he’d like a 50-50 split with 206 and 303 and under vehicle maintenance since they are equipment standard on the vehicle. Rairigh wondered if the one at the township hall needed to be replaced and if it would be better to order them all together. Schaefer suggested that this one was out of date and could be brought up at the next board meeting for possible replacement.

MOTION STATED:	DeMaagd – Motion to approve Stryker quote # 10453478 in the amount of \$4,059.20.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 6 yes votes, 0 no’s and 1 absent.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Buckowing:	Absent	Schaefer:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	Rairigh:	Yes		

D. Summary - None

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. ARPA Funds Status: Received \$257,275.50 so far.

B. Resolution 15-2021 – Schaefer explained that this was on the agenda for last month’s meeting but was sent to the attorney and some changes were made. Schaefer asked Willshire if she would like to explain further. Willshire explained that the original resolution presented included both parcels. This revised one only lists the 1.67acre parcel. Schaefer asked if the township attorney had reviewed it and Willshire stated that they had. DeMaagd asked if the owners would reprocess the other parcel or if this would be the end of it. Willshire said it was up to them and she didn’t know at this point. DeMaagd asked if it was the one with the house. Willshire said yes. Campbell wondered why the township board needs to approve the split. Willshire explained that in August they split the parcels and this resolution was in the board packet last month and that the township attorney rewrote it so that it is just the one parcel and not both of them. Campbell said he doesn’t have an issue with it, he was just curious about why the township is involved. Willshire explained that if it gets approved it goes to the State of Michigan tomorrow.

MOTION STATED:	DeMaagd – Motion to adopt Resolution 15-2021 Resolution for a Partial Termination of a Farmland Development Rights Agreement with a Pre-Existing Structure.
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MOTION SUPPORTED:	Selleck
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 6 yes votes, 0 no's and 1 absent.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Buckowing:	Absent	Schaefer:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	Rairigh:	Yes		

13. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discontinue TAPP Program – Chief Eaton reviewed the enclosed TAPP Write-off History which showed 2018 to 2021 memberships numbers, revenue, and write-offs. A total of \$6,535.91 was the cost to TTES to run the program for 46 months. Eaton stated that Life Ambulance, Rockford, and Life Care (Kalamazoo area) all have a programs, but they also have much larger pools of membership with which they are operating. The TAPP program has about 178 memberships in a population of 10,000. DeMaagd asked if there would be an issue with Carveth Village. Rairigh and Willshire both responded that it may, but they will have the opportunity to look to others for the same service. Laura Bouchard, Deputy Treasurer suggested the board might want to consider sending out a 30-day notice to members. The board felt the current membership agreement ended on December 31 and it was the best cutoff. Bouchard felt that giving them some notice would be good.

MOTION STATED:	Rairigh – Motion to discontinue the TAPP Program as of January 1, 2022.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Willshire
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 6 yes votes, 0 no's and 1 absent.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Buckowing:	Absent	Schaefer:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	Rairigh:	Yes		

B. Agenda Request 800mhz Radios and presentation of quotes – Chief Eaton explained the need to upgrade the radios being used because of communication issues that have been taking place. For example, if there is a mutual aid call for firefighters and TTES responds, they could be traveling to the site under lights and at high speed only to arrive to find out that the situation has been addressed and support was no longer needed. If they had the radios, they would have received notification right away from responders on scene rather than there being a delay for the information to travel back to central dispatch and then on to them. Eaton recommends taking funds from the ARPA account to cover the cost of \$117,874.42. Eaton stated that there is deadline on the discount and that they needed to be ordered by the end of the year. Schaefer wondered if they could purchase them now and then apply for grants to

cover the cost. Eaton stated that the AFG (Assist Firefighter Grant) is awarded around June but that you can't use the grant funds for something already purchased. Bouchard spoke on behalf of the Treasurer and herself to propose that the funds not come from the ARPA monies since the board hasn't had the chance to discuss what to do with the ARPA funds yet. They suggest the funds be taken from the Equipment Fund instead. Bouchard said she understood that this might not work for this grant, but if they could get a list of equipment that TTES would like to get, then they could work on seeing what other grants could be used and could save the funds ahead of time. Schaefer asked Bouchard if there were enough funds in the Equipment Fund for the purchase. Bouchard said yes, there is \$133,000. She said that is what is in the bank, but she hasn't seen what, if any, was budgeted. The ambulance came out of there. Selleck asked what the Equipment Funds come from. Bouchard explained they come from taxes collected. Selleck asked if they would be replenished, and Bouchard told him it would. Rairigh stated she thought they should wait to discuss with Jennifer Heinzman and look for opportunities to get matching grant funds to extend the purchasing power of the ARPA funds. Rairigh also said the ARPA funds have a lot more latitude for what it can be used for versus the 403 account can only be used on equipment. Bouchard asked Eaton if they have thought about making a list of equipment that needs to be purchased so as a board, they could include those items in a discussion on what to do with the ARPA funds. Eaton said he felt that since the ARPA funds were a result of the covid pandemic, they would be spent on Emergency Services items. Campbell stated that there was still about \$390,000.00 in the 403 GL account with more than half of it sitting in a money market. Eaton said there was an article in the Reminder recently that spoke to this issue. Eaton stated that the radios sale would be ending soon and felt it was important to take advantage of that savings. Willshire asked about the grant and if he still had it in mind to apply for funds for something else. Rairigh asked if he was going to request it for the command vehicle. Eaton said he was working on getting the grant application completed and that the deadline was this Friday. With the staff shortages he wasn't sure he would be able to make the deadline but was hopeful.

MOTION STATED:	Willshire– Motion to approve the purchase of 800mHz radios and accessories as outlined in Digicom Global Inc. quote #'s 3368, 3388 and 3386 and programing of units paid to the state of Michigan for a grand total amount of \$117,874.42 to be purchased with funds from GL account 403.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 6 yes votes, 0 no's and 1 absent.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Buckowing:	Absent	Schaefer:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	Rairigh:	Yes		

C. Resolution 16-2021 – Duncan Lake Sewer Schaefer introduced Resolution 16 and explained it was the first step in the process of securing funding for the improvement to the Duncan Lake Sewer Project. Rairigh asked if the township was authorized to provide funding for this project. Selleck said that he

didn't think the resolution obligated the township to spend the funds, but rather that it gives a 45-day window for bonding. Campbell said that funds would be needed to be able to start construction work and that usually the season runs April to October for construction. DeMaagd asked Schaefer who is being informed in the resolution, Schaefer said the residents are. It was his understand that if ten percent of the residents did not want the bond to occur, they could stop it from happening. However, he said that it is not likely to occur. Selleck explained that ultimately the township is the owner on record of the sewer system so that if something catastrophic occurred where the special assessment area didn't pay the cost, then it would revert back to the township.

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to adopt Resolution 16-2021 Resolution to Purchase, Acquire and Construct Capital Improvements and to Publish Notice of Intent to Issue Municipal Securities.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Selleck
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 6 yes votes, 0 no's and 1 absent.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Buckowing: Absent	Schaefer: Yes
	Campbell: Yes	Selleck: Yes
	DeMaagd: Yes	Willshire: Yes
	Rairigh: Yes	

14. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Administration (Schaefer, Buckowing, Willshire)

B. Cemetery (Willshire, DeMaagd, Rairigh)

C. Middleville DDA Report (Schaefer) – Schaefer said they just got done with Christmas on the River that was held Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Friday night TTES did some singing. Saturday, they had a beautiful parade. They are planning for Summer Musical Festival.

D. Elections (Willshire, Buckowing, Schaefer)

E. Emergency Services (DeMaagd, Schaefer, Rairigh) – DeMaagd asked if the choir were eager to volunteer for it. Eaton said yes, there were about 14 people and they seemed to be having a good time.

F. Finance (Buckowing, Willshire, Rairigh)

G. Parks and Recreation Representative (Getty) Teams are already practicing and utilizing the Max Effort in Caledonia and the gyms at TK Schools.

H. Personnel – Compensation (Willshire, Campbell, Schaefer)

I. Property and Public Utilities (Selleck, DeMaagd, Campbell)

J. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Selleck) – Campbell mentioned that he had seen a news story about a shortage of snowplow drivers and wondered if Barry County also was seeing issues. Schaefer asked Rayl, Middleville Village Manager, if she knew of any local issues in regard to that. She did not. She stated that they are planning a number of upcoming projects for this new year.

K. Duncan Lake Sewer (Campbell, Selleck, Schaefer)- Campbell asked if there was a meeting last week. Schaefer said Rob Raney had met with Peace Church members and presented them with information. They have some time this week to think about that information and if they so choose, to present the proposal to the DLSA at the meeting scheduled for the end of the week.

15. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Members of the public stated they were thankful to have been able to attend the meeting.

16. POLL OF MEMBERS:

Kim Selleck (Trustee) – Wished everyone a happy holidays! Hope all have a great time with family and be safe.

Sandy Rairigh (Trustee) – Merry Christmas everyone! Nothing further.

Ross DeMaagd (Trustee) – Thinks there are things that Eaton brings to the board that he thinks he should have latitude to spend without board approval. Schaefer asked if he meant there should be a NTE amount. DeMaagd said no, if it's in the budget let him do what he needs to do without micromanaging him.

Curt Campbell (Trustee) –

Deb Buckowing (Treasurer) – Bouchard said she was sure Deb would wish everyone a Merry Christmas as well.

Cindy Willshire (Clerk) – Merry Christmas to everyone!

Eric Schaefer (Supervisor) – Thank you to all and looking forward to next year.

18. ADJOURNMENT:

TIME: 8:09 P.M.

MOTION STATED:	Willshire
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by voice vote. 6 ayes, 0 no's and 1 absent.



Amy Brown, Recording Secretary

Approved 1/10/2022