

Allegan Township Board Meeting

February 7, 2022

7:30 PM

- I. Call to Order
 - A. Pledge and Invocation

- II. Roll Call
 - A. Supervisor Steve Schulz, Trustee Mike Bender, Trustee Jim Connell, Treasurer Jane Waanders, and Clerk Brande Gillies were present.

- III. Approve Minutes of January 3, 2022 Meeting
 - A. Connell/Bender made motion to approve with minutes standing approved as read.

- IV. Reports
 - A. Professional Code Inspections (PCI)- Building Inspectors
 - 1. There were three permits pulled in January, with none for new homes. Fees totaled \$610.00.
 - 2. There were 80 permits pulled in 2021, with 30 for new homes.
 - B. Ted Heckman, Planning Commission – Chair
 - 1. At the last meeting, three members were sworn in, last meeting minutes were approved, and they reviewed 2021.
 - 2. Rezoning for 1256 Lincoln Road was discussed and passed onto township board for approval.
 - C. Ted Heckman, Zoning Board of Appeals
 - 1. Variance coming up for next meeting of ZBA on 2-14-22.
 - D. Max Thiele, County Commissioner
 - 1. The health department has 3,500 masks left for distribution. They can be picked up in the parking lot Monday – Wednesday from 9-12, or Thursday and Friday from 2-5. These masks can be disinfected by placing in a brown paper bag for five to seven days.
 - 2. Allegan township will be a distribution spot for Covid tests.
 - 3. The courthouse is now done and using the new entrance.
 - 4. The millage that passed will now allow Allegan County Transportation to go door to door county-wide. It is \$1.00 each way, and there are many handicap accessible vehicles.
 - 5. The new apportionment for our commissioner will include Allegan, Monterey, Trowbridge, Valley, and Cheshire townships.
 - E. Phillip Joseph – Running for State Representative of the 43rd District
 - 1. He is a republican, running as a strict conservative. He coached wrestling at Allegan for a couple of years, which gives him some familiarity with the community. He lives on Gun Lake, and is currently in sales.

F. Linda Teeter – Allegan County Legal Assistance

1. The center is continuing to grow, which saves time and efficiency on the court docket. All forms used come from the state.
2. They are asking the township to renew their contract for the coming year.
3. Connell asked if they have seen an increase in expungement cases. Teeter said yes, due to recent changes in the law. He asked if the center serves those who do not live in Allegan County. Teeter said that sometimes they help individuals who have a case here, but do not live in Allegan County.

V. Public Comment

- A. None

VI. Old Business

A. Public Hearing for Snow Farm Lane Special Assessment District

1. The regular meeting was closed and the public hearing was opened.
2. Several bids were taken for this project. The estimated total cost is \$110,000, but may be more due to publications and lawyer fees. At the next public hearing, the township will have the exact amount.
3. The township will charge 5% interest, with payments spread out over five years. However, it can be paid off anytime.
4. George Bush, Jr., at 3474 Snow Farm Lane, who voted no on the petition, expressed multiple concerns about this project: paying it back; that paving will limit the access to use his bulldozer because it requires crossing the road to get to his other parcel; driveway aprons (gravel? asphalt? a large drop at the driveway?); will there be gravel on the side of the road; why not widen the road the entire way instead of leaving it where it narrows to 12 feet; is there going to be a turn around; this will open it to the public; if due to dust control, that could be managed by slowing the speed limit on the road; can speed bumps be put in?
5. Ron Bonneau, at 3444 Snow Farm Lane, who voted no on the petition, expressed many of the same concerns as George Bush, Jr., as well as: the road should have weight restrictions; the speed is going to be worse once paved; what will it do to property taxes; he is paying way more for his frontage than Chris Moran and frontage percentage should be considered. Schulz replied that this would be up to the association to decide, not the township.
6. Chris Moran stated that the paving will be all the way from the main road to the driveway of 3490 up to the gate. There will be a commercial basecoat. There won't be gravel on the shoulders. Aprons will be blacktopped five feet in, but only for the house driveway. Schulz stated that the shoulders will have to be done, which will add to the expense of the project.
7. The only petition not returned was from Mary Collier, who declined to fill one out.
8. Connell stated that the township is a facilitator of this project. It is up to the association to come back to the township with a plan and a dollar amount, and then the township loans the money. Schulz stated that a cost for the shoulder material is needed. The next public hearing is March 7 at the regular board meeting.

9. The public hearing was closed, and the regular meeting reopened.

VII. New Business

A. Approve Rezone of 1256 Lincoln Road from R-3 to C-2

1. Connell stated this is recommended because the property has been assessed but not zoned commercial and needs to be corrected. The Planning Commission passed this on to the township board for approval.
2. Motion made by Bender/Waanders, which passed following an aye vote.

B. Approve Land Division Amendment

1. Schulz revised this and gave it to the township attorney to check and approve. The restrictions on length and construction of roads was adjusted. Connell stated this applies to roads connecting to parcels and that this revision cleans up messy verbiage.
2. Connell/Waanders made the motion to approve, which passed following an aye vote.

C. Set Budget Hearing for March 7, 2022 at 7:45 PM

1. Motion made by Connell/Bender, which passed following an aye vote.

VIII. Pay Bills

A. General Fund

1. \$10,524.89 was presented for payment.
2. Waanders/Bender made motion to approve all bills, which passed unanimously following roll call.

IX. Correspondence

- A. Schulz brought up the possibility of purchasing a sign for the township hall. Waanders stated she planned on discussing putting it in the 2022 – 2023 budget.
- B. Connell expressed frustration that the meetings feel like they are in a vacuum, and that there is no news reporter present at meetings anymore to report on it.
- C. Sam Martin shared that the update for the sewer district at Miner Lake should be coming next month. He sat with the Allegan County Health Department and got their support. They do want to see the plan. There may be alternative, cheaper options that are viable. He is getting the health department involved with the engineering firm.

X. Adjourn

- A. Schulz/Waanders made motion to adjourn which passed following an aye vote. The meeting closed at 8:50 PM.