

Allegan Township Board Meeting
September 8, 2020
7:30 PM

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

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

- III. Approve Minutes of August 3, 2020 Regularly Scheduled Meeting and August 31, 2020 Special Meeting
 - A. Connell/Waanders made motion to approve with minutes standing approved as read.

- IV. Reports
 - A. Professional Code Inspectors (PCI) – Building Inspector
 - 1. There were seven permits pulled in August with two for new homes.
 - 2. Fees totaled \$2,427.00.
 - B. Ted Heckman, Planning Commission Chair
 - 1. Will look at a parcel regarding a special use next week.
 - C. Ted Heckman, Zoning Board of Appeals
 - 1. Last month looked a variance request for set-back on 122nd Avenue that was approved.
 - 2. Supervisor Schulz noted in October they will look at a set-back variance on Beechwood Drive.
 - D. Max Thiele, County Commissioner
 - 1. Spoke about the sale of a County building on North Street.
 - 2. Talked about monies needed for retirement of county employees and that they are at 92% of their funding needed.
 - 3. When questioned by Trustee Connell regarding the “establishing Separate Tax Limitations for Allegan County, the Townships, and the Intermediate School District”, Thiele mentioned the proposed request on the November 3, 2020 ballot regarding resetting of tax millage to amount established for the County to the maximum set in 1965.
 - 4. Connell voiced his concern about the homeless staying in our County Parks.
 - E. Fire District
 - 1. Did not have a meeting.

- V. Public Comment
 - A. There was none.

VI. Old Business

A. ORV Update (Resolution)

1. Board was given a proposed resolution for use of ORV's on township roads with Schulz noting both Trowbridge and Watson Townships have approved it so far and Valley might likewise.
2. Schulz also commented this is to move the talk forward and anticipates other townships perhaps signing resolution.
3. Bender/Waanders made motion to approve which passed following roll call.
4. Audience member Matt Campbell appreciated the fact we signed it but still has concerns about it actually happening with Schulz responding that now we need to wait and see what Townships are interested and then meet with the Road Commission and the Sheriff's Department.

B. Miner Lake Sewer

1. Schulz had hoped Miner Lake Association president Sam Martin would be present but decided to question township board members as to what they would like to see in order to proceed sewer with Treasurer Waanders saying her opinion is Miner Lake Association should take the lead with other suggestions made of getting more signatures by doing a survey of property owners around the lake.
 - a. Right now a sheet of fifty names have been given but Waanders explained there are over 200 parcel owners and we need to see more in favor of the project.
2. The last study was done over 12 years ago and there are now a couple of engineering firms vying for this project.
3. Trustee Bender said he will get together with Sam and let him know what the board would like to see from the Association.

C. Gypsy Moth Concern

1. Schulz doesn't have any companies that have gotten back with him yet.

D. Safe Routes to School Update

1. Cones have been removed from work area and it (sidewalk) looks great.

E. Allegan Metal Finishing Contamination

1. Schulz requested information from EGLE regarding field work done the week of August 24th and received from EGLE the response "...field work was completed last week. It will take about 30 days or so to get results back; then the data can be shared once EPA releases it with their approval."

VII. New Business

A. State Revenue – May & June–2019 (\$66,186.00) May & June – 2020 (\$55,687.00)

1. It was quite a drop of about \$11,000.00.

B. Resource Recovery Program Agreement

1. Waanders explained we are a part of the Allegan County Recycling Program and have just completed a five-year contract with them.

2. This new contract is for ten years as State of Michigan updated their state law.
 3. Two years ago our township, by voter approval, increased from \$25.00 to \$36.00 which was a five year contract with third year to be collected this winter.
 4. In two years when it comes up again for bid, it will be for \$50.00 because of the cost.
 - a. If it is rejected by voters it will go back to \$25.00 or we would also have the choice to drop out of the program.
 5. After some discussion, Connell/Waanders made motion to table until next month to make decision which passed with an aye vote.
 6. Bender questioned when it would go up to \$50.00 if approved and learned it would be in 2022.
- C. Auditor Contract Renewal
1. Gabridge Company has been our auditor and Schulz noted it is a very reasonable cost for three years and we have saved a significant amount of money from the previous auditor.
 2. Clerk Evans noted we have just completed six years with them and this past year's amount was \$4,400.00.
 3. Evans/Waanders made motion to renewal with Gabridge which passed with an aye vote.

VIII. Pay Bills

A. General Fund

1. \$12,852.28 in bills were presented for payment with motion by Connell/Waanders to approve which passed following roll call.

IX. Correspondence

- A. Evans read an e-mail from County Clerk – Register Bob Genetski thanking township for use of meeting room for previous week's recount.

X. Other Items of Interest or Concern

- A. Schulz noted we do not have anyone from Allegan County News attending our meetings with Ryan Lewis leaving.

1. He made a call to the paper and learned they don't have any idea right now if someone will be covering us.
2. He would like to see township coverage in the paper regarding 90 acres off of Sherman Street which City would like to annex to be able to put up some high density housing.
3. He feels we could have a battle on our hands and would like public to know what is proposed for the area.
4. Bender questioned if being a charter township could help us and learned our lawyer said "not necessarily so."

XI. Adjourn

A. Waanders/Connell made motion to adjourn with meeting closing at 8:53 PM.