

**LOCKPORT TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING**  
**June 10, 2019**

**Purpose of the meeting:** Regular monthly meeting of the Lockport Township Board.

**Members Present:** Mark Major, Melissa Major, Mike Friesner, Beccy Friesner, Tammy Babcock, Theresa Gherna-Ankney, David Cooper, Dale Hutson, Rhonda Wright

**Members Absent:** Doug Kuhlman

**Call to order:** The June 10, 2019 meeting was called to order by Supervisor Mark Major at 7:30 p.m., following the annual meeting.

**Approval of Agenda:** Mike made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Tammy seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

**Approval of Minutes:** Tammy made a motion to accept the May 13, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Mike seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**Approval of Minutes for Special Meeting:** Mike made a motion to accept the May 29, 2019 special meeting minutes as presented. Tammy seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**Public Comments:**

- A. County Commissioner Dennis Allen, 100 Amy Court, Centreville, thanked the Board for participating in the 2019 road repair match program. Repairs started today and two of the approved repairs have been completed.
- B. Ray Signorello, 56270 Buffalo Dr, asked if the Township purchased the previous Comfort Motel property on North Main and if so, does the Board have any plans for the property. The Township did purchase the property, however there are no future plans as of right now.
- C. Annie Signorello, 56270 Buffalo Dr, said that after last years road repairs to Tamarac Lane have caused water to pool at the Northwest corner of Buffalo Dr. There is no ditch at that corner. Mark will call the county road commission to see what possibly could be done to correct.
- D. Donna Grubbs, 17351 Birchleaf Ct, addressed the Board about their continued frustration with the new home construction on Birchleaf. The problems have only become worse since the last board meeting. They have documented and reported the problems to the Sheriff's Department, but nothing has been resolved. The original building permit was issued in 2014. Mark will contact SCMCCI to see how many extensions are allowed or if some other action to help complete the construction process is available.
- E. Jack Coleman, 17276 Kipker Rd, invited everyone to attend the Lincoln Day Dinner on June 14<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:00 p.m.
- F. Charles Ross, 17570 S River Rd, addressed the Board with his disappointment in the process to appoint a new trustee. He feels a couple applicants were qualified but overlooked. He feels the process should be done more closed door; however, this is not a legal option. He would like clarification on the process and what the Board is looking for in a candidate. Mark will check to see what the exact rules are and establish ground rules for interviewing and appointing candidates.

**Three Rivers Fire Department:** Assistant Chief Jeff Bloomfield gave the annual Three Rivers Fire Department report. For the 2018-2019 fiscal year the department responded to 3,210 calls of which 274 were in Lockport Township. They predict a large increase in calls for the next fiscal year.

**Enforcement Officer Report:** No report this month.

**Assessors Report:**

- A. Dale reminded the Board to review the special assessments prior to October for winter tax billing.

**Treasurers Report and Bills:**

- A. Mike reported the following monthly cash statement.  
Checking balance \$1,070.25 with \$21,918.63 transferred from SMB account and checks drawn in the amount of \$21,918.63. Outstanding checks are in the amount of \$529.92. Balance of accounts to date are checking account \$1,070.25; SMB savings account \$493,008.63 (\$92,000 for fire truck fund); Flagstar savings account \$253,733.75; Horizon Bank CD \$182,356.79; Kellogg Community Credit Union CD \$76,820.24; and Three Rivers Banking Center CD \$112,745.57 for a total of \$1,119,735.23. Tammy made a motion to accept the treasurers report as presented, file the report and pay the bills. Theresa seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.
- B. Mike reported that the property purchased under the first right of refusal program will become tax exempt if still owned on December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- C. The seller of the Ash Road property signed a quit claim deed so the Township will have to pay the 2019 property taxes due.
- D. An escrow account will need to be established for the insurance check of the fire at 58773 Pine Trail. Mark made a motion to open an interest-bearing account at Southern Michigan Bank in the amount of \$12,746 with Mark Major and Michael Friesner as account signers. Theresa seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Dave-Yes, Theresa-Yes, Mark-Yes, Tammy-Yes, Mike-Yes. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**MTA:**

- A. Tammy reported that the yearly membership has been paid and she is updating the member information.

**Mowing:**

- A. Tammy reported that the Township needs to hire a mowing company that has liability and worker compensation insurance policies. She sent six bid packages to local companies. Three packages were returned. Tammy made a motion to accept the bid from John Gavin in the amount of \$115 per mowing of the Township hall and Township cemetery. Mark seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Dave-Yes, Theresa-Yes, Mark-Yes, Mike-Yes, Tammy-Yes. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**Committee Reports:**

- A. Community Development- Mark and Theresa attended the meeting that was held at Fabius Township. Ordinances that are not being followed need to be reported and rectified.
- B. Intergovernmental Relations-Tammy reported there will be Manufacturer's Round Table held at TH Plastics on June 7<sup>th</sup>, Three Rivers Water Festival will be held June 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, Lake & Home Tour will be held July 13<sup>th</sup>, and the Pealer Street Bridge dinner will be held August 10<sup>th</sup>. Three Rivers Health reported that their CEO has been named in the top 60 Hospital CEO's in the country. A new Emergency Room group took over May 1<sup>st</sup>. The hospital expects to see a 25% increase in the OB due to Sturgis Hospital closing its OB department. Centreville Village reported they have purchased a GPS system for locating meters, water lines, etc. They have passed four ordinances. Marcus Gleaton has purchased the old Village Market and will have removed to make room for storage units. Park Township reported they have changed

ordinances with respect to construction on Fisher Lake. Joe Eichorn, current supervisor, is experience health issues so Ed English will be acting supervisor and Pat Henderson will be the clerk. Fabius Township have been experiencing recent noise problems. The City of Three Rivers reported the railroad crossings on West Michigan and Broadway will be repaired in July. They asked the State for help to demolish or refurbish the old hospital on Spring St. Grace Healthcare is looking to connect to the city sewer system. The county reported they have matched \$980,000 for road repair this year. All sixteen townships participated this year.

- C. ZBA-No report this month.
- D. Elections-Tammy reported she took the new equipment to Centreville for required system updating. Elections will be held November 2019, May 2020, August 2020, and November 2020.
- E. Nottawa Library-Mike reported during the month of May total patrons were 2,412, monthly circulation 5,477, OverDrive 351, Interlibrary loan 346, Hoopla 73, and people count 3,835.
- F. Centreville Fire Department-There were six calls for the month of May, with none in Lockport Township. They are still waiting on parts for truck 121. They will be holding an extrication demonstration and a Jenga game will be played during the Covered Bridge days. They have set a committee to start looking at what it would cost to replace the current fire station. Mark asked Vickie Allen, chairman of the Covered Bridge days, to provide information on this year's festivities. On July 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 p.m. there will children's activities along with fireworks that evening. On July 13<sup>th</sup> there will be children's activities, a pancake breakfast, a car show, an outdoor movie, duet karaoke, a historical tour, a golf outing, and a 5k run.
- G. Planning-No report this month.
- H. SCMCCI-No report this month.
- I. Three Rivers Library- Theresa reported the Assistant Librarian applied for and received a grant from Walmart for the purchase of two new computers. The City of Three Rivers has given the library \$400,000 towards the new building. The next meeting will be held June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and the November meeting was moved to November 21<sup>st</sup> and 6:00 p.m.
- J. Water Department- Mark reported the water board voted Joe Nowicki to be board president as Dave Cooper is now a Township Trustee and can no longer hold the position. They are still looking at cost to replace controls. There were seven shut offs with one property still shut off. Mark, Dave and Paul responded to watch the pumps and tower during the recent fire at Simpson's Enterprises. They estimate 400,000 gallons of water was pumped from the system. The board is still researching the need for an additional well.
- K. Website-Nothing to report this month.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business:

- A. Commissioner Allen gave an update on the new Commission on Aging building. Currently they have applications for 20 of the 48 units.

Adjournment: Theresa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Tammy seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

The next regular scheduled meeting is July 8, 2019 at the Township hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

Rhonda Wright  
Deputy Clerk

**Minutes Approved: 7-8-2019**