

**LOCKPORT TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING**  
**October 14, 2019**

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

**Members Present:** Mark Major, Tammy Babcock, Theresa Gherna-Ankney, David Cooper, Doug Kuhlman, Dale Hutson, Rhonda Wright

**Members Absent:** Melissa Major, Mike Friesner, Beccy Friesner,

**Call to order:** The October 14, 2019 meeting was called to order by Supervisor Mark Major at 7:00 p.m.

Mark lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda:** Tammy made a motion to amend the agenda presented to add **Building Committee to XI. New Business**. Dave seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

**Approval of Minutes:** Tammy made a motion to accept the September 9, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Dave seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

**Public Comments:**

- A. Del Eastes, 56824 Bow Dr, would like to know when Mike and Mark will be driving around Tamarac to inspect the road conditions. He would like to ride along with them. Mark will check with Mike and let him know a date.
- B. Annie Signorello, 56270 Buffalo Dr, wanted to know if the County Road Commission will be spreading gravel along the road edges. The road edges have been cut back two foot to allow for water drainage.
- C. Bob Adler, 17369 Arrowhead Dr, all the roads are bad in the Tamarac Subdivision and that water is still standing after the two-foot cut back.
- D. Tony Mayer, 17342 Birchleaf Court, asked why the County Road Commission stopped short of Buckhorn Rd with pea stoning. This was probably due to materials running out on the county equipment.
- E. Bill Armstrong, 17271 Mackinaw, asked Mr. Mayer about the trees lying in his side yard. He is worried about property values in the area. Mr. Mayer indicated the trees were just cut and placed there last week. He will be cutting up and removing soon. He did thank the Board for having the County Road Commission do the two-foot cut back on the side of the roads.
- F. Donna Grubbs 17351 Birchleaf Court, asked for an update of the construction project at 17342 Birchleaf Court. Mr. Mayer said the construction is coming along nicely. He plans to have construction completed in the Spring of 2020. He will be working on finishing the inside this winter. Now that the window wells have been placed, he will be starting to back fill the property. Mark asked Mr. Mayer for monthly updates via e mail or by attending monthly township meetings. Mr. Mayer said he would be willing to provide updates.

**Enforcement Officer Report:**

- A. Doug provided the Board with the 2019 Zoning Administration Permit Log. Year to date 36 permits have been requested with one forwarded to the Planning Commission and two incomplete applications. Thirty-three have been approved.
- B. Doug provided a copy of an e mail from Bert Hovenkamp regarding the township owned property on Wilbur Road. He is requesting permission to finish cleaning up the left-over remnants, to seed, mow and maintain the property. He would also like to meet with the

board about possibly leasing the property. Theresa would like him to do something with the property, but should wait to see what MDOT has planned for future improvements at the US 131/Wilbur Road intersection. Tammy would like him to maintain the property for now with a legal agreement in place. Doug will contact the township attorney to have an agreement prepared for maintenance only, no sale or lease of the property at this time.

#### Assessors Report:

- A. Dale reported there will be a Board of Review meeting on December 10 at 11:00 am for hearing only cases of hardship and veteran exemption requests.

#### Treasurers Report and Bills:

- A. Mark reported the following monthly cash statement.  
Checking balance \$1,099.31 with \$48,517.49 transferred from SMB account and checks drawn in the amount of \$54,348.49. Outstanding checks are in the amount of \$2,210.85. Balance of accounts to date are checking account \$1,099.31; SMB savings account \$287,459.31 (\$92,000 for fire truck fund); Flagstar savings account \$254,914.66; Horizon Bank CD \$184,251.92; Kellogg Community Credit Union CD \$77,684.98; Three Rivers Banking Center CD \$113,490.12, Southern Michigan Bank CD \$50,215.99 and SMB escrow account \$1.34 for a total of \$969,117.63. Tammy made a motion to accept the treasurers report as presented, file the report and pay the bills. Theresa seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

#### 425 Agreement:

- A. Mark reported the owner of 57332 North Main Street, Jamie Clark, would like to hook up to the City of Three Rivers water and sewer system. The township attorney advises that the township can do one of three things:
  - 1. Do nothing and the property owner would need to file a petition with the State to have property annexed to the City.
  - 2. Provide the needed services for which we do not offer a sewer system. The property could be hooked up to the water system for an approximate cost of \$50,000.
  - 3. Enter into a 425 agreement with the City of Three Rivers. Since we do not offer a sewer system, the attorney recommends this option.Tammy made a motion to enter into a 425 agreement with the City of Three Rivers for the property located at 57332 North Main Street for 50 years with one 50-year extension for the most mills possible paid each year from the City to the Township. Theresa seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Dave-Yes, Tammy-Yes, Mark-Yes, Theresa-Yes. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

#### Committee Reports:

- A. Community Development-Theresa attended the meeting and reported the City of Three Rivers gave updates on the Memory Island bridge replacement and the new library.
- B. Intergovernmental Relations- Tammy attended the meeting and reported the Chamber of Commerce is planning a trip to Greece in 2020 and their annual dinner had record attendance this year. St. Joseph County said they are again offering the enhanced retirement plan to qualified employees. The Village of Centreville reported their DDA now has a full board. Park Township had a bell dedication ceremony last month. They have passed a fireworks ordinance and will be paving the township hall parking lot. The City of Three Rivers will be having a developer from Kalamazoo look at the old hospital building. Fabius Township is talking with the county regarding the road conditions.
- C. ZBA-No report this month.
- D. Elections-Tammy reported that she was finally able to send the accuracy test results to the county just prior to the meeting. There have been problems with sending the results in the last week. She did have the township computer at her office updated to Windows 10.

- E. Nottawa Library-Mark reported during the month of September total patrons were 2,455, monthly circulation 4,988, Interlibrary loan 343, OverDrive 372, Hoopla 87, and people count 2,834. Lockport patrons were 384. Upcoming events include Storytime on Thursdays at 10 am, Junior DIY Tuesdays at 4 pm, Yoga on Tuesdays at 10 am, Ancestry.com work day on Saturday November 16 from 10 am to noon, and a Library open house will be December 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- F. Centreville Fire Department-Mark reported there were nine calls for the month of September, one of which was in Lockport Township. Truck and pumper maintenance have been completed. There will be a meeting in October to discuss different financing options for new equipment.
- G. Planning-Charles Ross reported there was a brief meeting for discussion of one option on a property.
- H. SCMCCI-Ed Schrader reported they have possible candidates for plumbing inspectors. The part time clerk in Tuscola County has accepted the full-time position. Firekeepers Casino has started construction of a second hotel and The Mill in Vicksburg will soon kickoff an estimated five-year project. The board was advised that authorities were called and a complaint filed against an individual in violation of the Do Not Trespass Order at the Athens office. The Finance Committee met with the inspector who felt SCMCCI's payment per inspection was inadequate, less than industry rates. When asked directly what he wanted for compensation, he had no thoughts, ideas, suggestions of specific amount in mind. They approved an increase of \$5 in commercial permit application fee and a \$3 and \$5 increase in inspector pay for residential and commercial inspections respectively. The Board reviewed a tentative budget and indicated by consensus that it shall include the new inspection/inspector rates, and a 4% increase for staff. The next meeting will be November 30 at 5:30.
- I. Three Rivers Library-Char reported during public comment, Anna Smith, suggested that the Board consider hiring Bobbi Schoon as the permanent director. On October 9, the library staff attending training. The budget has to be adjusted to cover the entire cost of the library's Michigan Room collection of newspaper articles and records due to the entire collection being sent for copying. The process has been completed and the cost is able to be covered. New construction updates include asbestos concerns for additional window and door abatements (\$10,000 or more), an additional \$600 or more for re-testing the air quality, change orders are coming for vinyl in the teen area, drinking fountains, and replacing some doors to make them all the same size, and some pipes were not abated (\$10,000 estimated cost). Fundraising will continue along with a Library Book Sale (this was held October 5<sup>th</sup>). They are working on establishing a list of specific needs with dollar amounts to present to the community, as well as promoting a matching-funds program. For the month of September, 9,014 people entered the library. The next meeting will be October 22 at 6 pm.
- J. Water Department-Mark reported the bond has been paid off and payments will be adjusted to reflect this in the December billing. The Tamarac homeowner's association would like to see a gate or a chain installed at the wellhouse. Since the new gravel driveway has been installed, traffic has increased in the area. The water board will discuss at their next meeting. Dave made a motion to accept the water charge increase resolution as presented. Tammy seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Theresa-yes, Tammy-yes, Dave-Yes, Mark-Yes. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.
- K. Website-Tammy suggested the 2020 census information be included on the website. She will forward to Melissa.

Tammy said in order to go from two precincts to one, the board will need a resolution. She will contact the township attorney to have prepared and will call for a special meeting once she receives.

Old Business: No old business.

**New Business:**

- A. Theresa would like to see a building committee established. The committee would make recommendations to the Board regarding township properties. Theresa made a motion to establish a building committee with herself and Dave Cooper as committee members. Dave seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mark-Yes, Tammy-Yes, Theresa-Yes, Dave-Yes. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

**Adjournment:** Theresa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. Dave seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

The next regular scheduled meeting is November 11, 2019 at the Township hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

Rhonda Wright  
Deputy Clerk

Minutes Approved: