

**WELDON TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING**

March 17, 2016

MINUTES

Thursday

7:00PM

CALL TO ORDER:

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE:

Board

Ron Hitesman, Supervisor X Carrie Aldrich Clerk X ; Sheryl Baker, Treasurer X ; Sue Meredith, Trustee X ; Gary Stevens, Trustee X .

GUESTS: Chris Bobek, Sally Bobek, Fran Griffin, Marlene Wood, Gary Sauer, Ron Evitts, Craig Meredith

CHANGES/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: C. Aldrich suggests changing date of meeting from Tuesday to Thursday on the Agenda, and add approval of fireworks permit for Crystal Mountain to New Business. R. Hitesman moves to approve changes; S. Meredith seconds. No discussion. All ayes, motion passed.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING: S. Meredith suggests one word change on the first page, under Treasurer's Report, to be "presented." With that change, G. Stevens moves to accept Minutes of the February board meeting, C. Aldrich seconds. No discussion. All ayes, motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: S. Baker presents Treasurer's Report. G. Stevens moves to accept treasurer's report; R. Hitesman seconds. No discussion. All ayes, motion passed.

GUEST/ PUBLIC INPUT (up to 5 minutes per guest)

Marlene Wood, recycling coordinator for Benzie County, presents Annual Report for 2015. She discusses some of the report in detail. Please feel free to contact her with any questions. She will be happy to come back. The Board thanks Marlene for her excellent work, as she is soon to be retiring.

Gary Sauer reports from Board of Commissioners regarding AES presentation. He felt the general reaction has been negative, but the presentation helped. There will be a three-year contract, with a 60-day out. S. Meredith comments there was too much vagueness of how many representatives Benzie County would have. All of Benzie County needs to be equally represented. Discussion. Hopefully, the new construction of The Maples will be open by the 1st of May. Discussion.

REPORTS:

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: C. Meredith presents zoning administrator's report. He met with a gentleman on Third Street and delivered a land use permit for a shed to him. The

gentleman will have to go before the building department for a building permit. He has 90 days to resolve his land contract issue with Mr. Pelkie, to get a construction loan to begin work on the property. As regards to fencing around the airport, the JPC did grant a special use permit to the the Village to put fencing around the areas which are not fenced. Marv is trying to keep the driveway on the lower part in. He will meet with Matt Steels to get that resolved. In Colfax Township, Dave Casey wants to put in a retail commercial firearm sale business. He would also like to manufacture AR15's, putting scopes on or removing barrels, panting stocks, and reloading ammunition. He will be attending the next JPC meeting to attempt to get that resolved. Bob Anderson would like to meet with the JPC to change the front part of his property from C1 to RR2. At the CRA Meeting, it was decided that two culverts will be put in. People on Partridge Trail will be able to access their homes through the canoe livery, during the work on Haze Road.

JPC: S. Meredith was unable to attend the last JPC meeting. Dave Casey has requested to be back on the Agenda for April 7th. Monday March 21st, Networks Northwest will do a presentation about workforce housing at the township hall. Next, a developer will come in to talk about workforce and affordable housing in Benzie County. Discussion. S. Bobek asks if Weldon Township has presented their contribution to the Capital Improvements Plan. C. Aldrich will send Weldon's letter to the Joint Planning Commission.

BUDGET: C. Aldrich presents the final budget report for 2014-2015 fiscal year.

INVESTMENT REPORT: C. Aldrich presents Certificate of Deposit paperwork for treasurer and clerk to sign. Treasurer will turn paperwork into Honor Bank.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: R. Hitesman attended a meeting at Benzonia Township regarding a potential broadband program. Mr. Hitesman contacted Crystal Mountain to ask if they had an interest in being a disbursement center for the program. Crystal Mountain was very receptive. There will be a broadband presentation and discussion on April 5th at the Garden Theatre in Frankfort, Michigan.

The Board has received a contract from American Waste. Their billing rates are going to be \$43.00 per compacted yard of waste. They need Weldon to sign and return the contract. Discussion. Marlene Wood has been in contact with the manager at American Waste. She feels the price is fair and it would be more efficient to have it compacted at the site. She feels Weldon should have the cleanup day as close as possible to the site they have had it in the past. S. Meredith states we need to ask Village for approval to have the cleanup day at the same site. Marlene Wood says she will go to the meeting at the Village.

Mr. Hitesman met with Fortress Security for a bid adjustment on their proposal. Discussion. C. Aldrich moves to use Fortress Security for the security system at the township hall; G. Stevens seconds. No further discussion. All ayes, motion passed. R. Hitesman will contact Fortress Security to get things started. C. Aldrich thanks Ron for all of his work on the security system bids.

R. Hitesman has contacted the County Road Commission. Money has been approved for resurfacing Lindy Road, beginning in the middle of May. The Board of Review met this week.

They had 16 units of property they discussed. One poverty exemption and two veterans' exemptions were approved. Mr. Hitesman thanks everyone that came and helped.

CLERK COMMENTS:

Tom Lipinski discussed with the clerk regarding receiving extra money on his bill for using his own materials. He has since declared that this will not be necessary. Discussion.

Dick Figura asks the township to review our Noise Ordinance language to make sure it complies with Michigan Law. Clerk has reviewed the ordinance, and the language the township uses is appropriate. Discussion.

Michael Morin, from Michigan PAR Plan, would like to do a Risk Control visit with Weldon on March 29, 2016. Baird, Cotter and Bishop would like Weldon to set a date for their annual audit. Clerk will work out a date with Angie Roelofs from Baird, Cotter & Bishop, P.C.

Michelle Thompson, Benzie County Treasurer, has sent an email regarding tax disbursement by Benzie County for airport properties. The Benzie County Treasurer has refunded the funds to the airport for the incorrect taxation. Weldon may have to return some money at the end of the tax year, once Michelle knows how much of the taxes were sent to Weldon.

Clerk emailed Mr. Figura regarding language policy for Board of Trustees on recent policies. The language "Board of Trustees" is fine, just a bit old-fashioned. He also stated, as long as there is a record that the board voted on the bills, signing one document to approve a list of bills is fine. If there is a bill the board does not want to pay, they need to note on the list if there is a bill they don't agree with. Discussion. Clerk will add a column for a check mark by each bill, so board members can initial by an item they don't want to approve.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Production Industries has requested a 50% tax exemption for 12 years. Discussion. Clerk will contact Mr. Frost, inquiring if he wishes to go forward. If so, she will set up a public hearing and put notice in the Record Patriot.

NEW BUSINESS:

Request from Crystal Mountain to shoot fireworks on July 3, 2016. R. Hitesman moves to approve the request; G. Stevens seconds. Discussion. All ayes, motion passed.

Discussion of work to be done on Day Use Park, painting door, remarking parking lot lines, possibly reseal. Discussion. C. Meredith will get three quotes for work.

C. Aldrich moves to accept proposed budget for 2016-2017; G. Stevens seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

CURRENT BILLS:

Craig Meredith, snowplowing, reimb.	136.39
Craig Meredith, Day Use Park	150.00
Julie Lonn, Cleaning and Recycling	12.50
Blarney Castle Oil Company	324.30
Cherryland Electric Co-Op	105.58
AFLAC	286.05
Visa	131.02
The Pioneer Group	117.98
Acentek	131.14
Ron Hitesman, reimbursement lightbulbs	5.87
Carrie Aldrich, reimbursement postage	7.86
Tom Lipinski	31.60
Jane Hitesman, Per Diem, Deputy Clerk	45.00
Election Inspectors Wages, 3-8-16	966.30
Kent Stevens, Board of Review	156.00
Sally Bobek, Board of Review	117.00
Board Salaries	2,105.69
Carol Merrill, Assessor	1,120.00
Village of Thompsonville	9,416.14
TOTAL	15,364.41

G. Stevens moves to pay bills; R. Hitesman seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

**Conservation Resource Alliance activities update
Annual Report – Benzie County Building Code and Safety Enforcement
2016 MTA Capital Conference flyer
Betsie Valley District Library Board Meeting Minutes February 9, 2016
Betsie Valley District Library Board Meeting Minutes January 13, 2016
Board of County Road Commissioners Meeting Minutes February 11, 2016
Board of County Road Commissioners Meeting Minutes January 28, 2016
MTA Township Focus information**

PUBLIC COMMENT: C. Meredith discusses video quality of different security companies' cameras. Dave Casey has asked when we will deal with the nuisance issue on Weldon Road. Discussion. After April 1st, Chris Bobek, Nuisance Abatement Officer, will follow through.

**ADJOURNMENT: G. Stevens moves to adjourn; C. Aldrich seconds. All ayes, motion passed.
TIME: 8:30 p.m.**