

**WELDON TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 12, 2017  
MINUTES  
Tuesday  
7:00PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**TIME: 7:00 PM**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Board**

**Ron Hitesman, Supervisor X Carrie Aldrich Clerk X ; Sally Bobek, Treasurer X ; Sue Meredith, Trustee X ; Gary Stevens, Trustee X .**

**GUESTS: Irene Dunham Thayer, Chuck and Judy Kraus, Ron Evitts, Chris Bobek, Kent Stevens, John Schorr, Fran Griffin, Mike MacGirr, Craig Meredith, Becky Sharp, Thomas Ullom  
Amiee Erfourth speaks regarding Benzie County Community Center.**

**Matt Skeels, Benzie County Road Commission Manager, speaks regarding the King Road Bridge which requires repair. The corrugated pan is recorded and it is affecting the surface of the bridge. The township's share of the cost could be up to \$5,000, as a maximum cost. R. Hitesman will discuss the bridge with the local road committee to see if they have funds the township could use for the repair.**

**Matt Biolette from Republic Waste speaks regarding single franchise hauler for trash collection and the procedure the township might go through to accomplish this. Discussion.**

**CHANGES/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: C. Aldrich asks the date on the agenda be changed to the 12<sup>th</sup>. She wishes to add Open Meetings Act training to the Correspondence. She also has received two bills, one from Cherryland Electric and one from Blarney Castle Oil Company that she would like to add to the bills. S. Bobek would like to discuss per diem costs under New Business. S. Meredith would like to discuss bills under New Business. S. Bobek moves to accept the changes to the Agenda as presented; C. Aldrich seconds. All ayes, motion passed.**

**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING: R. Hitesman moves to accept the September Minutes as presented; S. Bobek seconds. All ayes, motion passed.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT: S. Bobek presents the Treasurer's Report. Discussion of replies to letters regarding outstanding personal property taxes. She is going to send another letter and contact two of the parties once again, as her next step. Discussion of airport hangers and taxes on them as personal property. Frankfort also has this issue that they're working on. Weldon is going to wait and see how Frankfort's hanger tax collection works out before moving forward with court proceedings. G. Stevens moves to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented; S. Meredith seconds. All ayes, motion passed.**

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

**Mike MacGirr discusses Fire Department upgraded radio system they've received a grant for. Discussion.**

**John Schorr speaks about being disappointed with the way a township representative is treating residents. He feels the township board sits by while someone is going out of their way to cause emotional trauma to a handicapped person in the township.**

**REPORTS:**

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: Weldon Township issued a land use permit for Kit Keele. Weldon had no violation notices.**

**JPC: S. Bobek reports on the Joint Planning Commission. No Village members were present at the last meeting. The JPC has chosen Ward Kuhn as their attorney. The Colfax members discussed everything that is wrong, with no solution of what to do about it. Rob Aldrich was not notified he was needed as a representative for Weldon Township.**

**NUISANCE ABATEMENT REPORT: R. Hitesman presents Nuisance Abatement Report. Of the recent violation notice issued, nothing has been done, the fine has not been paid. Discussion of issuing another citation. Discussion of turning the issue over to Mr. Figura. R. Hitesman moves to turn the 14160 Lindy Road property blight issue over to the township legal advisor, Richard or Tim Figura, to determine what the township should do next; C. Aldrich seconds. Four ayes, G. Stevens abstains, motion passed. As to the property on 14400 Lindy Road, progress is slow. Abatement officer would like to issue a citation. Discussion. Property owner is willing to clean up and will make use of Township Cleanup Day. Abatement officer will wait on issuing a citation. Property on 6676 Weldon Road is still a blight issue, however it is still tied up in court. Discussion. The property has two names as owners. The 6676 Weldon Road property has other issues, with buildings built without a permit. S. Bobek moves to issue a violation citation to 6676 Weldon Road; C. Aldrich seconds. All ayes, motion passed. R. Hitesman will meet with abatement officer to find out the names of the two owners to go on the citation.**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Mike MacGirr presents Fire Department Report. Discussion. Fire Department is accruing funds to replace a firetruck in the future.**

**LIQUOR INSPECTOR REPORT: R. Hitesman presents Liquor Inspector Report. He inspected the new facility at Crystal Mountain. There were no difficulties.**

**BUDGET REPORT: C. Aldrich presents Budget Report. Discussion of areas where more money is needed in the budget, due to unforeseen improvements to the townhall. Also, the Clerk Printing and Publication category mistakenly had no money put into it. Discussion of potential roof repair by painter. Clerk moves to raise Clerk Printing and Publication category to \$1500, Township Contract Services to \$10,000 and Repair and Maintenance to \$15,000, bringing \$26,500 forward from general fund to cover expenses; R. Hitesman seconds. Clerk takes roll call vote: Ron Hitesman, yes; Sue Meredith, yes; Gary Stevens, yes; Carrie Aldrich, yes; Sally Bobek, yes. Motion passed.**

**SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: Supervisor has visited the Veterans Memorial. Weldon Township's donation has not been placed yet. The boiler inspector performed the county inspection on the boiler. The Conservation Resource Alliance met at the town hall last week. They are looking at performing bank stabilization along the river, upstream from the trestle. Township Cleanup Day is October 21<sup>st</sup>, 9:00-1:00 pm.**

**CLERK COMMENTS: C. Aldrich has received four letters of interest for the Planning Commission. Clerk will run the ad for an additional two weeks. Discussion.**

Discussion of the wifi at townhall constantly dropping. Dustin Computer Repair recommended a new wifi, which clerk purchased and Dustin installed. The internet company reported a fiber cable in this area has been cut, and it is taking a while to fix. Discussion of moving router into the main area of town hall.

C. Aldrich discusses whether the board should set procedure for Assessor to receive her mail and setting an appropriate response time to residents. Assessor has had trouble with her email. Discussion. Board would like assessor to get the mail once a week, respond to phone calls within a week, and come to the board meetings if we request it. Board would like the assessor to come to the next board meeting.

Clerk discusses Blarney Castle Oil credit for oil bought back, \$464, which they credited to the board's account. The fuel oil tank needs to be removed. Discussion of tree outside of town hall. It is diseased and needs to be removed.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Clerk presents Weldon Township Planning Commission Ordinance, prepared by Mr. Figura. Tim Figura suggests that board rescind Master Plan and Greater Weldon Township Planning Commission Ordinance Adoption, as it was done out of order of proper procedure. C. Aldrich moves to rescind Ordinance #09122017. Discussion. S. Bobek seconds. All ayes, motion passed. Discussion of Weldon Township Planning Commission Ordinance. S. Bobek moves to adopt Ordinance #10102017, Weldon Township Planning Commission Ordinance; G. Stevens seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

Board discussion of Sign Amendment prepared by the Joint Planning Commission, as well as a trailer amendment to the Ordinance. S. Bobek asks clerk to write the amendment to the board's planning and zoning ordinance. JPC has a timeline that the ordinance must be adopted in November. Shelley Greene will get together with the clerks of the three entities to coordinate the language of the ordinance changes. The board will potentially approve the changes at the next board meeting.

Discussion of Norman Fred, and placement of trash pickup at Day Use Park. It has been paid for at Mr. Fred's organization's expense for the past year, and now the township can pick up the cost if it wishes. Discussion. The cost would be from October 2017 through deer season. Mr. Fred believes the cost is approximately \$12/month. C. Aldrich moves that the board pay to have the trash pickup from October through deer season; S. Meredith seconds. Clerk takes roll call vote: Ron Hitesman, yes; Sally Bobek, yes; Sue Meredith, yes; Carrie Aldrich, yes; Gary Stevens, yes. Motion passed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Betsy Evans of the AES has asked the board to adopt a Resolution of Support for Planning and Zoning in Joyfield Township. Discussion. G. Stevens moves to not get involved with the Resolution for Planning and Zoning in Joyfield Township; S. Bobek seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

Sally Bobek questions the per diem paid to trustees if they are not attending the monthly meeting. The budget should show the trustees receiving a salary, not a per diem. R. Hitesman moves to change the wording for trustees from per diem to salary on the monthly meetings; S. Bobek seconds. Clerk takes roll call vote: Ron Hitesman, yes; Carrie Aldrich, yes; Sally Bobek, yes; Sue Meredith, abstains; Gary Stevens, abstains. Motion passed.

Sue Meredith discusses the way the board is approving bills. She would prefer going back to signing the bills individually, and not a single sheet approving the bills listed. Discussion. Board will rediscuss at the next meeting.

Discussion of moles at the cemetery. Clerk will look into mole control options for the spring.

**BILLS:**

Craig Meredith, Day Use Park, Lawn Care	200.00
David Kane, Website Maintenance	60.00
Julie Lonn, Town Hall Cleaning	50.00
Gary Stevens, Cemetery Maintenance	150.00
Chris Bobek, Nuisance Abatement August	200.00
Sally Bobek, Reimbursement	105.99
The Pioneer Group	64.80
Michigan Department of Treasury	711.32
United States Treasury	1943.52
Carrot-Top Industries	120.93
VISA	113.52
AFLAC	281.50
U.S. Postal Service	48.00
AcenTek	184.81
BS&A Software, Training for Assessor	205.00
Nye Plumbing and Heating	9994.54
Cherryland Electric	52.84
Blarney Castle Oil Company	114.91
Jessica Nuytten, Assessor	1120.00
Board Salaries	<u>3075.00</u>
<b>TOTAL BILLS AMOUNT:</b>	<b>\$18,796.68</b>

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Benzie County Road Commissioners Minutes August 24, 2017 and September 14, 2017

Betsie Valley District Library Board Meeting Minutes August 8, 2017

Benzie County Dispatch Smart911

Conservation Resource Alliance Biennial Celebration 2017

MTA Workshops November 1 & 2, regarding Strategic Planning and Township Finance.

Open Meetings Act and FOIA Workshop training, by Michigan State University

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** C. Bobek questions the water line removal at community garden.

Discussion of end-of-season party for the garden. Mr. Bobek discusses village workers' contract stating the village will supply boots for the workers. The boots ordered were \$750 a pair.

**ADJOURNMENT:** R. Hitesman moves to adjourn; G. Stevens seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

**TIME:** 9:04 PM