

**WELDON TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING**

April 13, 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: Fran Griffin, Debra Franke, Irene Dunham-Thayer, Shelley Greene, Catherine Fruge', Charles Kraus, Judith Kraus, Michael Fruge', Eugene Allen, Gary Sauer

CHANGES/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: S. Bobek would like to change language of ownership of the township CD to include her name and remove Sheryl Baker's, in Unfinished Business. The board needs to recontract with the blight officer, and she would like to discuss Day Use Park in New Business. C. Aldrich needs to add Quickbooks Desktop 2017 to Clerk's Comments. In Unfinished Business, she wishes to add pension disbursement and surrender fee for Sheryl Baker. R. Hitesman moves to approve agenda with changes; C. Aldrich seconds. All ayes, agenda is approved.

MINUTES OF MARCH BOARD MEETING: R. Hitesman moves to approve March Board Meeting Minutes; S. Bobek seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

MINUTES OF MARCH BUDGET MEETING: G. Stevens moves to approve Minutes of Budget Hearing; S. Meredith seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

MINUTES OF APRIL ELECTION COMMISSION MEETING: R. Hitesman moves to approve Election Commission Minutes; C. Aldrich seconds. Discussion. All ayes, motion passed.

MINUTES OF APRIL SPECIAL MEETING OF THREE ENTITIES: S. Bobek moves to accept Special Meeting Minutes; S. Meredith seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Sally Bobek presents treasurer's report. She presents Benzie County Tax Collection Report for anyone to review. Benzie County emailed her regarding summer taxes being misapplied on a property. Discussion. Discussion of administrative fees to be paid to Weldon Township from tax account, per Baird, Cotter & Bishop. Treasurer will retain \$2,000 in tax account, per Baird, Cotter & Bishop. Discussion of correcting date on Treasurer's Report to March. C. Aldrich moves to accept the treasurer's report, with the correction; R. Hitesman seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

GUEST/ PUBLIC INPUT (up to 5 minutes per guest) Kristi Morrow discusses Benzie Central Schools sinking fund being voted on at May 2 2017 Special Election. Discussion. Robert Aldrich discusses community garden plans. He presents potential costs of fencing. Discussion of using Craig Meredith's hose for water, for this summer. Discussion of using water from trailer behind township, and paying that water bill. Discussion of Apple Fence possibly putting up garden. S. Bobek moves to allow up to \$450 for purchase of supplies for the community garden fence; S. Meredith seconds. All ayes, motion passed. Gary Sauer discusses The Maples. They hope to have people able to move in May 28th. The recycling coordinator has received a scrap tire grant, and will be offering that program in Thompsonville, Frankfort and Almira. A new medical examiner has been hired, in conjunction with Manistee County. Discussion. Shelley Greene discusses special meeting regarding Joint Planning Commission. She discusses her role with the Joint Planning Commission. Discussion of Joint Planning Commission and concerns Weldon has. She does not wish to continue as Secretary of Planning Commission if Weldon withdraws. Discussion. Becky Sharp discusses Weldon establishing their own planning commission if they withdraw from the JPC. Michael Fruge' asks the Board if it will make a decision tonight regarding withdrawing from the JPC. Discussion. Eugene Allen discusses reducing costs of budget for JPC.

REPORTS:

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: Craig Meredith presents zoning administrator's report. He has given a permit to Richard McNeil. He is waiting for a Wayne Weber permit to come back regarding a pole barn. He is waiting for Mark Pellegrino from Howell, Michigan, to return his completed Land Use Application. He has received a permit application from a gentleman on Aylsworth Road for a house. He did give a permit for the bus stop across from the township hall. R. Hitesman moves to accept the zoning administrator's report as presented; C. Aldrich seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

JPC: S. Bobek presents ordinance amendments for the Joint Planning Commission. Discussion. She discusses meeting regarding budget for the year for the Joint Planning Commission.

LIQUOR INSPECTOR REPORT: R. Hitesman gives liquor inspector report.

BUDGET: C. Aldrich discusses the money in the elections budget. She would like to move \$2500 over to the contingency fund from the elections fund. R. Hitesman moves to move \$2500 from the election budget to the contingency fund; S. Bobek seconds. All ayes, motion passed. Discussion of fire fund disbursement coming from tax account and not routing through the general fund.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: R. Hitesman discusses issues with front door being resolved. Board of Review had six people who sent in petitions. The Board attended Medical Marijuana Workshop this past month. Frank Post from Emergency Management

held a program regarding procedures in case of catastrophe. He and treasurer attended MTA conference in Lansing. He has been contacted by Benzie Bus regarding if it would be possible to insert a paper in the tax bills for the township.

CLERK COMMENTS: C. Aldrich presents Cemetery Survey Report. She discusses cleanup day notices, which say May 18th instead of May 20th. Clerk will put notice in paper correcting the date, and the date has been put on the township website. American Waste has sent their price for handling the cleanup date, which is \$42/compacted yard. G. Stevens moves to approve contract with American Waste; C. Aldrich seconds. All ayes, motion passed. Clerk discusses Quickbooks 2014 needing to be updated at a cost of \$219.95. S. Bobek moves to authorize purchase of Quickbooks payroll update; G. Stevens seconds. All ayes, motion passed. Clerk asks how to handle employee taxes for previous contract employees. In the future, taxes will be taken out of hourly wage, not raising the hourly wage to compensate for taxes. Discussion of Nuisance Abatement Ordinance. R. Hitesman moves to remove Chapter 3, Section 4 and Section 5A from the Nuisance Abatement Ordinance; S. Bobek seconds. All ayes, motion passed. Clerk reports Coli Communications has installed new Wifi for the town hall, with faster megabytes per second for uploading and downloading information.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Rob Aldrich announces there are extra garden plots available, if anyone is interested in gardening with one.

C. Aldrich discusses her feelings on the Joint Planning Commission. G. Stevens supports her statement. Gary Stevens discusses Section 11 of JPC Ordinance, the stages for withdrawing from the Joint Planning Commission. G. Stevens moves to proceed with the next steps to withdraw from the Joint Planning Commission; there is no second. G. Stevens withdraws his motion. Discussion. R. Hitesman moves to stay in the Joint Planning Commission for a two-month period. At that time, the board will move forward with removing from the Joint Planning Commission. R. Hitesman withdraws his motion. Discussion. R. Hitesman moves that in two months' a decision will be made to remain within the Joint Planning Commission or not. R. Hitesman withdraws his motion. R. Hitesman declares assessor interviews will be conducted on April 15th, 1-5 pm. Discussion.

Discussion of Sheryl Baker's liquidation of her pension. Clerk will contact Ms. Baker to have her contact MetLife directly.

G. Stevens moves that Sally Bobek and Carrie Aldrich will be the signatories on the Investment CD with Honor Bank; S. Meredith seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chris Bobek is asked to perform as Nuisance Abatement Officer for another year. Discussion. The nuisance abatement officer will talk to property owners. If nothing is cleaned up, he will send a letter on township letterhead. The next step after that would be a violation notice. At some point in that process, before a civil infraction violation is written, he will talk to property owner and offer help with how to clean up the property. C. Aldrich

moves to hire Chris Bobek as nuisance abatement officer for the upcoming year; R. Hitesman seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

Crystal Mountain has submitted an application for a fireworks permit. G. Stevens moves to approve Crystal Mountain's Fireworks Permit for July 3, 2017; S. Meredith seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

Discussion of furnace for township hall, which needs repair or replacement. Township will get at least three bids for a new furnace, and it will be discussed at the next meeting.

DEQ has granted Benzie County a scrap tire pickup on July 22, 2017 in Thompsonville. Discussion.

Anonymous Nuisance Complaint given to Nuisance Abatement Officer. Discussion.

Discussion of need for a new flag for outside of township. Clerk will order a new flag.

Clerk presents Voting System Resolution, to apply for grant. County Clerk will apply for the grant on behalf of the township. Discussion. S. Bobek moves to approve Resolution to Approve Weldon Township Grant Agreements With The State of Michigan For A New Voting System, Resolution #04132017; G. Stevens seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

Discussion of brining through the Benzie County Road Commission. R. Hitesman moves to approve monies for brining from the Benzie County Road Commission at a cost of \$3,453.15; S. Bobek seconds. Discussion. Clerk takes a roll call vote: Gary Stevens, yes; Sue Meredith, yes; Ron Hitesman, yes; Carrie Aldrich, yes; Sally Bobek, yes. Motion passed.

Discussion of email from Jacob Bird regarding Medical Marijuana Processing Facility.

Discussion of process if medical marijuana were allowed to happen in any form in Weldon Township. Clerk will prepare a resolution to not allow commercial medical marijuana in Weldon Township and present it to the board at the next meeting. Discussion of joint zoning ordinance language regarding medical marijuana.

Discussion of Day Use Park, planting flowers and putting in picnic tables. S. Bobek will look into what is allowed to be placed at the Day Use Park and discuss next month.

CURRENT BILLS:

Craig Meredith, Day Use Park, and reimbursement	180.86
Dave Kane, Monthly Website Fee	60.00
Julie Lonn	54.13
Joint Planning Commission, Zoning	7,676.76
AcenTek	220.16
AFLAC	281.50
Cherryland Electric CoOp	60.08
VISA	75.35
United States Treasury, quarterly taxes	1,933.68
State of Michigan, quarterly taxes	547.12
Blarney Castle Oil Co.	467.02
Village of Thompsonville, Water Billing	336.00
Pioneer Group, Ads	561.00
Pioneer Group, yearly subscription	35.40
Board of Review Payroll	322.00
Ron Hitesman, Liquor Inspector quarterly payment	500.00

Carol Merrill, Assessor	1,120.00
Board Salaries, plus per diems	<u>3,475.00</u>
TOTAL	\$17,906.06

G. Stevens moves to pay the bills; S. Bobek seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

**Department of Treasury, Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements. Discussion.
Benzie County Road Commission Minutes March 9, 2017
Betsie Valley District Library Minutes February 14, 2017
Brighthouse Life Insurance Company, regarding MetLife operating under name
“Brighthouse Life Insurance Company.”**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Eugene Allen asks for a copy of the treasurer’s report.

ADJOURNMENT: G. Stevens moves to adjourn; C. Aldrich seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

TIME: 9:54 PM