

**WELDON TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
May 9, 2017
PROPOSED MINUTES
Tuesday
7:00PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

TIME:

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, Mike MacGirr, Mike Fruge', John K. Schorr, Kent Stevens, Charles Kraus, Becky Sharp, Irene Dunham Thayer, Chris Bobek, Debra Franke, David Schaffer, Rob Aldrich

CHANGES/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Clerk asks that two bills be added to the agenda, from Pioneer Press and Cherryland Electric. Clerk needs to add David Schaffer to the Public Input section of the Agenda. S. Bobek moves to accept agenda with amendments; G. Stevens seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

MINUTES OF APRIL BOARD MEETING: S. Meredith corrects Minutes to reflect The Maples hopes to move residents in May 28th, instead of March 28th, as written. With that change, G. Stevens moves to accept Minutes of April board meeting; S. Bobek seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

MINUTES OF APRIL ASSESSOR INTERVIEWS: S. Meredith moves to accept Minutes; C. Aldrich seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: S. Bobek presents Treasurer's Report. She has sent a certified letter to the residents who had tax monies incorrectly applied. She asks for another month to wait for a response before taking other action to get the money returned. Rather than getting QuickBooks, the treasurer would like to continue using Excel, which the county prefers. The board has no objection. C. Aldrich moves to accept treasurer's report as presented; G. Stevens seconds. Discussion. All ayes, motion passed.

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

Dave Schaffer speaks regarding county's solid waste and recycling department and presents the 2016 Annual Report.

Rob Aldrich speaks regarding the Community Garden. He would like to purchase an irrigation kit priced at \$165, a collapsible hose and a timer. He feels he may need an additional roll of fencing and various items to build a gate. All items he feels would be less than \$400. Discussion. S. Bobek moves to allow Rob Aldrich to spend up to \$400 for purchasing equipment for the garden; S. Meredith seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

Mike MacGirr speaks regarding the fire department and invites any questions. Discussion.

Michael Fruge' speaks regarding blight complaint. Discussion. For clarification, a blight complaint does not need to be signed by a resident, but can be signed by the ordinance officer, to protect the anonymity of the complainant. John Schorr discusses private property concerns. Discussion of contact options by unnamed resident. General discussion.

Chuck Kraus publicly compliments Robert Aldrich for his work on community garden.

REPORTS:

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: C. Meredith presents Zoning Administrator's Report. Discussion of work performed at the Day Use Park.

JPC: S. Bobek reads JPC report into the record. Summary: Amendments to the ordinance are being reviewed and likely to be voted on next month. S. Bobek met with Gene Houghton and Eugene Allen to try to lower JPC budget. The JPC chair encouraged members to continue meeting monthly to perform their best job they can do. If they run out of money, the chair stated they could ask the entities for more later in the year. S. Bobek states she has been an ardent supporter of the planning commission, but is concerned damage cannot be overcome. Carrie Aldrich was accused last month of giving erroneous figures at budget meeting and not providing monthly budget reports, of which both statements are untrue. JPC also complained about how taxes and checks are figured by Carrie. C. Aldrich was not present to defend herself. When S. Bobek stated the board would have liked to have heard from Peg Minster, her answer was she "refuses to get down in the mud with Weldon." Some members of the JPC are convinced the problems are with Shelley Greene, and money is not the issue. They also complained that Sally Bobek and Sue Meredith should have let them know sooner that there were problems. However, when items of concern were brought to them recently, the board of JPC stated the items were entity issues and not to be discussed at JPC meetings.

C. Aldrich states she will attend the next JPC meeting. She gives the Joint Planning Commission a budget statement and checkbook balance which is reconciled with the bank each month.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT REPORT: Chris Bobek discusses his work as Nuisance Abatement Officer. R. Hitesman discusses positive comments he has received about abatement officer. G. Stevens questions process of when a letter should be sent to a resident. Discussion.

LIQUOR INSPECTOR REPORT: R. Hitesman presents Liquor Inspector Report. Discussion.

BUDGET: C. Aldrich presents budget report. She and Sally Bobek reconcile the check register every month, and it is balanced. The election costs were just over \$900 and are reimbursable by Benzie Central Schools.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: R. Hitesman discusses meeting with boiler companies. There was a leak in the roof in the mechanical room. Rick Damore looked at it but has not reported back. Ron met with the Village President and the Colfax Supervisor, as mandated by the Joint Planning Commission and the Master Plan. They discussed potentially putting a public dumpster in the Village, at a shared cost to the three entities. Discussion. Eugene Allen discusses village water main system, and whether Weldon would be willing to hire a worker during the time the Village's workers will be engaged putting in the new water lines. Discussion. E. Allen will provide S. Meredith with a breakdown of the estimated cost for the new water system. R. Evitts presents paper titled Opinions of the Attorney General regarding proper use of public money. Work is hoped to start in June.

CLERK COMMENTS: Weldon Cleanup Day is May 20th, 2017, and American Waste is fine with working 9-1. Notice is in the paper for the next two weeks, as well as on township website. Discussion of continuing email addresses through Acentek when canceling Wifi services. At this time, the board will continue with email addresses through Acentek. Clerk discusses need for a new router for township, for security and droppage issues. Clerk has three choices she has priced out. R. Hitesman moves to approve a \$79.99 router for the township; S. Bobek seconds. Clerk does a roll call vote: Gary Stevens, yes; Sue Meredith, yes; Ron Hitesman, yes; Sally Bobek, yes; Carrie Aldrich, yes. Clerk gives election report of 13% turnout of voters. The total cost of the election was \$953.60, reimbursable by the Benzie Central Schools. There will be an August election, with three countywide proposals. The board has until May 16th to put an issue on the ballot. Discussion. The board has no proposals to put on the ballot. Clerk discusses changes in the Nuisance Abatement Ordinance, and has posted a summary in the Record Patriot, with full copy of the Ordinance available at the township. The effective date of the changes is June 10th, 2017.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Discussion of presented boiler quotes and repair quote. Board will review quotes and discuss at next month's meeting.

Sheryl Baker has had pension disbursement check disbursed, without going through MetLife/Brighthouse Financial. Clerk is working with Brighthouse to see what if anything the township needs to do.

Sally Bobek contacted DNR regarding Day Use Park and Brian Bury. Mr. Bury says a picnic table needs to be 200 feet from the river. Discussion.

Discussion of assessor interviews and board impression of applicants. Joel Bremer is no longer available as an applicant. S. Bobek moves to hire Jessica Nyuten at \$10 a parcel for Weldon Township; G. Stevens seconds. Discussion. Clerk takes a roll call vote: Sally Bobek, yes; Carrie Aldrich, yes; Ron Hitesman, yes; Sue Meredith, yes; Gary Stevens, yes. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Crystal Enterprises has presented an Application for Transient Activities Permit for a 5k/10k/Half Marathon on May 28, 2017. Discussion. C. Aldrich moves to approve the Application for a Transient Activity Permit; G. Stevens seconds. All ayes, motion passed. Discussion of need for resolution regarding medical marijuana and MTA's recommendation that the township does not need to have a resolution to not allow medical

marijuana activities in Weldon Township. The board agrees that Weldon Township wants no medical marijuana activity to be allowed in Weldon Township.

Discussion of Foreclosed Property Notice by Benzie County Treasurer, in Section 19.

Because Ron Hitesman may have a vested interest in the property, he will recuse himself from any vote. G. Stevens moves to notify County Weldon is not interested in the property; S. Bobek seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

C. Aldrich and S. Bobek would like to purchase flowers for flower boxes at town hall. G. Stevens moves to allow up to \$75 for purchasing flowers; S. Bobek seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

S. Bobek discusses Weldon Cleanup Day pay, as paid in the past to the trustees.

Discussion. The trustees will no longer receive pay for being present on site for the Weldon Township Cleanup.

C. Aldrich moves to adopt the Joint Planning Commission's Ordinance #030811 as Weldon Township's Ordinance #040917; G. Stevens seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

CURRENT BILLS:

Craig Meredith, Day Use Park, lawn care	187.00
Dave Kane, Monthly Website Fee	60.00
Julie Lonn	50.00
Gary Stevens, Cemetery Care	300.00
AcenTek	216.54
AFLAC	281.50
Benzie Pumping Service	225.00
VISA	1,856.17
Sally Bobek, Reimbursements	247.09
Election Inspectors	910.50
Chris Bobek, Postage Reimbursement	15.00
Ron Hitesman, Reimbursements	203.72
Fortress Security, monitoring	252.00
Planning & Zoning News	300.00
Blarney Castle Oil Co.	467.02
Pro-Tech Mechanical Services, Boiler Inspection	400.00
Pioneer Press	27.00
Cherryland Electric Cooperative	66.77
Carol Merrill, Assessor	1,120.00
Board Salaries, plus per diems	<u>3,275.00</u>
TOTAL	\$10,460.31

G. Stevens moves to pay the bills; C. Aldrich seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Department of Treasury, Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements
Benzie County Road Commission Minutes March 9, 2017
Betsie Valley District Library Minutes February 14, 2017
Brighthouse Life Insurance Company, regarding MetLife

Consumers Energy Business Efficiency Programs

PUBLIC COMMENT: Debra Franke states she brought up, at the JPC meeting, that Weldon members should have notified the JPC sooner that Weldon was unhappy. Chuck Kraus discusses JPC meeting report and C. Aldrich's intent to correct any innuendo that may have resulted from those comments. He is encouraged by meeting of township supervisors and village president. He encourages board to do the right thing for the entire community, not just Weldon Township. Craig Meredith discusses repainting township, as well as other small repairs. Discussion. Painting and repairs will be put on agenda for next month.

ADJOURNMENT: G. Stevens moves to adjourn; C. Aldrich seconds.

TIME: 9:25 P.M.