

**WELDON TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 14, 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: Robert Aldrich, Scott Williams, Stephanie Randolph, Connie Stevens, Judy Kraus, Charles T. Kraus, Richard D. Crow, Dave and Chrissy Casey, Tyler and Whitney Moore, Harold and Nancy Casey, Chris and Amy Gavett, Dustin and Tristan Casey, John Schorr, Jessica Nuytten**

**Jessica Nyutten, Weldon Township Assessor, discusses her role and activity as the assessor for Weldon Township. She presents a letter from Benzie County Treasurer regarding a property at 7425 Second Street that went to tax sale. The property will be automatically transferred to the Township unless the Township objects to the transfer. Township has until December 31<sup>st</sup> to decide. Discussion. Board will discuss at December board meeting. Board will put Assessor's home mailing address on the township website.**

**John Schorr addresses the board and states the following points: there is a township problem where people need to be held accountable to do what is right; Trustee Meredith needs to hold people on board accountable when they do wrong; Bobeks are biased on the Stevens property; Zoning Administrator Meredith holds one person more accountable than another for infractions within the township; possibility of an affidavit by the people to remove the board; how problems are handled within Weldon Township; process for filing blight complaints anonymously; process of enforcing blight issues before a citation is written; a Special Use Permit.**

***Amendment: Sue Meredith asks John Schorr why he singled her out particularly.***

**CHANGES/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: C. Aldrich asks to add a reimbursement to Sally Bobek for flyers to be included in the tax bill, for \$67.20, to be added to the bills. C. Aldrich moves to approve Agenda as amended; G. Stevens seconds. All ayes, motion passed.**

**MINUTES OF OCTOBER BOARD MEETING: R. Hitesman moves to accept Minutes of October board meeting; G. Stevens seconds. All ayes, motion passed.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT: S. Bobek presents Treasurer's Report. G. Stevens moves to accept Treasurer's Report as presented; C. Aldrich seconds. All ayes, motion passed.**

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

Dave Casey raises a concern of selective enforcement in the community. Discussion of land use permit and dealings with Mr. Craig Meredith, Zoning Administrator. He feels Mr. Meredith goes out of his way to improperly harass him. Discussion.

Harold Casey believes he has been hassled by the Zoning Administrator, as well.

Stephanie Randolph believes the board has known there is a problem with the Zoning Administrator before he was employed by the JPC. She believes they have been harassed by Mr. Meredith several times.

**REPORTS:**

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:** Zoning Administrator's report is presented.

Discussion.

**JPC:** S. Bobek presents report on the meeting of the Joint Planning Commission. They have Ward Kuhn as their attorney. They are working on this budget for the next fiscal year. Weldon Township has not been asked to be part of the budget committee. She advises Weldon try to get out of the planning commission before the next fiscal year begins.

**NUISANCE ABATEMENT REPORT:** Nuisance Abatement Report is presented. Mrs. Murphy continues to clean up the property. Mr. Bobek's term ended November 1<sup>st</sup> for the township.

**LIQUOR INSPECTOR REPORT:** R. Hitesman gives liquor inspection report.

**BUDGET REPORT:** C. Aldrich presents budget report. Discussion.

**SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:** R. Hitesman discusses second township cleanup day for 2017. Discussion. R. Hitesman spoke to AR Roofing and Repair, from Lake Ann, regarding the township roof, which is leaking. The repair could be fixed by replacing a sheet of metal, at a cost of less than \$300. Tom Lipinski has agreed to repair damage to ceiling in the boiler room. G. Stevens moves to have roof repaired by AR Roofing and Repair, as soon as possible; S. Bobek seconds. S. Bobek raises a concern about asbestos being in the ceiling, and wants to make sure Mr. Lipinski knows about it. R. Hitesman reports that Mr. Lipinski is not concerned about there being asbestos. All ayes, motion passed.

Gary Sauer gives update on County Board of Commissioners. Road commission is compiling a list of roads being worked on in the county. Discussion of road millage. Matt will bring the list around to the villages and townships after the first of the year. Discussion of how millage monies are disbursed to different entities. The county is looking at replacing water valves and toilets at the jail, to save money on water usage. People have been appointed to Solid Waste, Betsie Valley Trails, and they are looking for more people to join the planning commission. They are looking at a new IT provider, IT Right, out of Bath, Michigan. The county is renegotiating with recycling provider American Waste. They wish to use 10-yard dumpsters rather than the 30-yard dumpsters they are currently using.

**CLERK COMMENTS:** C. Aldrich discusses Planning Commission Ordinance Effective Date, which will be January 4<sup>th</sup> of 2018. Mr. Figura will advise on the correct way to go about changing the documents and maps to reflect Weldon's withdrawal from the Joint Planning Commission. Clerk will report back further at the December meeting. C. Aldrich discusses the sign ordinance and how difficult it has been to get together with

the other clerks to make the changes to the sign ordinance. She has made herself available for a month, and people's schedules have not coincided to work together. C. Aldrich feels the planning commission can make the amendments and the entities adopt them, but the planning commission does not agree. Discussion. If the clerks cannot get together, perhaps Weldon can adopt the ordinance when their planning commission is in place.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Discussion of Notice to Appear for 14160 Lindy Road, Stevens Property, in District Court on November 27<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m. S. Bobek says she and Mr. Bobek are more than willing to sit down with Mr. Stevens to discuss the property to see if they can come to some agreement. If this goes to a formal hearing, the township attorney should be present. Discussion. Board asks if Mr. Stevens is amenable to meet with the board at a special meeting to discuss the blight issue. An agreed-upon date is Monday November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM, for a special meeting with Mr. Stevens. It is agreed between the board and Mr. Stevens that Mr. Bobek should attend as the nuisance abatement officer. Clerk will post meeting on the outer board and website. Discussion.

Discussion of process of approving monthly bills. Board will continue approving the bills by signature sheet; trustees have the time to review bills before the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Discussion of request by Benzie County Sheriff's Office for the Snowmobile Safety Program. C. Aldrich moves to approve \$450 to be paid to the Benzie County Sheriff's Office for the Snowmobile Safety Program; G. Stevens seconds. All ayes, motion passed.

Discussion of letter regarding a commercial generator loan program. Should the township hall be without power, a board member would bring a generator to the hall.

**BILLS:**

Craig Meredith, Day Use Park, Lawn Care	225.00
David Kane, Website Maintenance	60.00
Julie Lonn, Town Hall Cleaning	50.00
Gary Stevens, Cemetery Maintenance	150.00
Sally Bobek, Postage Reimbursement	55.59
Sally Bobek, Winter Tax Insert Reimbursement	67.20
Chris Bobek, Nuisance Abatement October	200.00
Richard Figura, Attorney At Law	526.50
The Pioneer Group	305.30
Carrot-Top Industries	762.80
Kidder Painting Services	2850.00
VISA	158.40
AFLAC	281.50
AcenTek	183.42
BS&A Software	666.00
Cherryland Electric	56.46
Republic Waste, Day Use Park	45.00
American Waste	1720.00
Jessica Nuytten, Assessor	1120.00
Board Salaries	<u>3075.00</u>

**TOTAL BILLS AMOUNT:**

**\$12,558.17**

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Betsie Valley District Library Board Meeting Minutes September 12, 2017**

**MTA Workshops December dates, Policy Matters. Discussion. Clerk will check if township has updated edition of workshop book.**

**Minutes Benzie County Road Commission October 26, 2017**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None.**

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

**TIME: 8:18 PM.**