



Ovid Township Hall
Branch County, Michigan
July 13, 2020, 7:00PM
Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Greg Gemmill called meeting to order at 7 pm, and proceeded to take roll call attendance.

Members present: Greg Gemmill, Supervisor; Shelly AcMoody, Treasurer; Jim Snivley, Trustee; Larry Omo, Trustee; Amy Havasy, Clerk.

Members absent: None

Others present: Teresa Collins, Robert Hawley – Zoning Administrator, Melissa Lane, Andy AcMoody, Larry and Vanessa Weikart

Approval of agenda – Shelly AcMoody made a motion to approve the agenda with additions, supported by Larry Omo. MOTION CARRIED

Approval of minutes from June 8, 2020 regular board meeting. Amy Havasy made a request to amend the minutes to show that item 4 under REPORTS, needs to change the report that was read by Greg Gemmill from “cemetery sexton” to “county commissioner”. Larry Omo made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction, supported by Jim Snivley. MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurers Report – Amy Havasy informed the board that there three additional payments not included in the original report; Marana in the amount of \$832.30, Krista Kinde in the amount of \$500, Spectrum Printers in the amount of \$491.49. She also received an invoice from the Branch County Road Commission for \$3,146.68 and Business Impressions, Inc for \$88.76 that she would like to pay. Shelly AcMoody informed the board of the auditor’s suggestion on getting roll call vote approval of the treasurer’s report in the future. Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report with five additional payments by Greg Gemmill, supported by Shelly AcMoody. MOTION CARRIED Greg Gemmill also made a motion to accept the change in recording of the treasurer’s report, supported by Amy Havasy. MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

A. JUNK VIOLATION REPORT

- a. Demeritt & Matthew – 552 Warren Rd –Per Greg Gemmill, sent citation on May 27, 2020. A court date has been set for 7/22/2020.

- b. Gallup – 469 Pinecrest – Per Greg Gemmill, a survey is to be done on the road, waiting for that to be completed before taking further action. Will continue to monitor.
- c. Lynd – 333 S. Centennial Rd – Per Greg Gemmill, continuing to work and waiting for a permit, will continue to monitor.
- d. Russell & Cox – 105 S. Behnke Rd – Per Greg Gemmill, citation was sent, no court date set yet, will continue to monitor.
- e. Griffin – 475 Woodlawn Dr – Per Greg Gemmill, talked to resident and will continue to monitor.
- f. Mills – 548 Sassafras Ln – Per Greg Gemmill, citations sent in the past, property would be brought in to compliance, only to revert to previous state. Greg Gemmill requested board approval on sending citation letter. Larry Omo made a motion to accept Greg’s request, supported by Jim Snivley. MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTE LIMIT)

Larry Omo inquired about the property at Central and Centennial. It has been noticed that some work has been done. Greg Gemmill stated that Zoning may need to be involved, will continue to monitor.

Zach Stempien - Candidate for Branch County Prosecutor. Zach is a Coldwater resident, where he currently serves as Chief-Assistant Prosecutor. Zach explained his credentials and why he is running for Branch County Prosecutor. Zach has a Law Degree, and a degree in Organizational Administration. He has served on the Branch County Planning Commission, has previously practiced law with Haas Caywood PC.

Andy Welden – Candidate for State Representative. Andy is a resident of Jonesville, where he is a farmer and small business owner. Andy explained his credentials and why he is running for State Representative. He has served as the Scipio Township Supervisor, and has been Hillsdale County Commissioner and Chairman.

NEW BUSINESS

A. CANDIDATE FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – ADAM STOCKFORD

Adam Stockford, he is currently resident of Hillsdale, where he serves as Mayor. Adam explained his credentials and why he is running for State Representative. Adam has degrees in Politics and Criminal Justice, and has also worked as a Hillsdale City Councilman and was on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

B. CANDIDATE FOR BRANCH COUNTY TREASURER – STEVE RUTZ

Steve Rutz, he is currently a resident of Branch County, where he is a local business owner and works as a Financial supervisor. Steve explained his credentials and why he is running for office of County Treasurer. Steve has a Masters in Accounting and a Bachelors in Business. He was the former Director of Finance for the Branch-

- Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency, has had experience as a Corporate Controller, and has worked in Public, Private and Government Accounting.
- C. LAND SPLIT – LARRY AND VANESSA WEIKART – IYOPAWA ISLAND ROAD
The Weikart’s are looking to do a 50/50 split on their lakefront property. Greg Gemmill made a motion to grant the land split, Larry Omo supported. MOTION CARRIED
- D. RESOLUTION – TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF AN EMPLOYEE TO ENCOMPASS BOARD MEMBERS –
Greg Gemmill submitted resolution for an amendment of the Township pension plan to clarify the definition of an Employee to encompass all Board Members, it defines what the term “Eligible Employee” is for retirement contribution purposes, supported by Jim Snivley. By roll call vote, Shelly AcMoody - yes, Greg Gemmill - yes, Larry Omo - yes, Jim Snivley - yes. The Clerk could not vote as the resolution was made to encompass her appointment. RESOLUTION PASSED.
- E. DISCUSSION ON DUMPSTER TO DISPOSE OF OLD CHARRED LEDGERS, WASHLER INC – Greg Gemmill made a motion for the board’s approval of the cost of approximately \$175 for the renting of a dumpster. The charred items are from the building fire. Larry Omo expressed concern of resident’s signatures not being totally destroyed. Amy Havasy will look in to the possibility of Shred-It being able to shred all items. Greg Gemmill made a motion to revisit the discussion at the August meeting. Supported by Amy Havasy. MOTION CARRIED
- F. MATURATION OF CD 337
Shelly AcMoody made a motion to transfer CD 337 to Flagstar Bank upon its maturing in July. Supported by Greg Gemmill. MOTION CARRIED
- G. OFFICE FURNITURE DISCUSSION
Shelly AcMoody made a motion to approve the purchase of a table and chair, totaling \$683.37, to place under the service window, which would aid in the assisting of residents during the Covid-19 restrictions. Larry Omo supported. MOTION CARRIED.
- H. COVID-19 PLAN DRAFT DISCUSSION
Shelly AcMoody asked for board approval of a Preparedness and Response Plan for the Township. Shelly AcMoody will act as the Workplace Coordinator, with Amy Havasy as her backup. They will revise the plan and present it in the August meeting. Shelly AcMoody made a motion to table the discussion until August, supported by Greg Gemmill. MOTION CARRIED

Reports:

1. Sheriff – Greg Gemmill read the report submitted by the Sheriff.
2. Assessing – Melissa Lane -in June, the assessor informed the board that the July BOR will have to be opened up for assessment appeals, to take place July 21, 2020. The Clerk has made the notice public on the township website and posted at the Hall.
3. Cemetery Sexton – Greg Gemmill read the cemetery sexton report.
4. County Commissioner – Greg Gemmill read the county commissioner report.
5. DPW – No report

6. Lakeland Fire Dept. – No Report submitted.
7. Zoning Administrator – The Zoning administrator presented the Zoning report.

Public Comment (3-minute limit)

Andy AcMoody expressed concern regarding Solar Farms and the issues/processes of having a public meeting with the current restrictions that are in place. He is also concerned if these coincide with the townships Master Plan, and inquired about the possibility of putting a moratorium on the all alternative energy possibilities, due to Covid-19 setbacks. The Board will look in to this and address it at a future meeting. McKenna

Larry Omo up an issue with a streetlight at Iyopawa Island. Greg Gemmill will call Consumers about the issue.

Correspondence:

Greg Gemmill stated that he had two correspondence.

Amy Havasy stated that she had five correspondence.

Motion to Adjourn by Larry Omo, supported by Jim Snivley. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Havasy, Clerk