

Webber Township

2286 W. Springtime St.

Baldwin, MI 49304

November 10, 2022

Regular Meeting

Call to Order: 6:02 p.m.

Roll call: Kelly McCune, Dan Cousar, Kathy Young, Ernie Wogatzke present. Pat Williams is absent.

(Pledge recited at Public Hearing prior to the commencement of the regular meeting)

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Kathy Young, supported by Kelly McCune to approve the agenda. All present, in favor of, 1 absent, motion carries.

Approval of the Minutes: Motion made by Kathy Young, supported by Dan Cousar to approve the minutes of October 13, Public Hearing, October 13, regular meeting, and November 9, 2022 Finance meeting. Roll call vote: Kelly McCune yea, Dan Cousar yea, Pat Williams absent, Kathy Young yea, Ernie Wogatzke yea. 4 yea, 1 absent, motion carries. **Addition correction: Trustee Cousar questions bills paid to Spectrum Health and Life EMS. Clerk states that is from the assault on our park employee (7-7-22). Clerk states that an insurance claim has been filed, and reason for payment was a denial to treat for unrelated issue due to outstanding balance. Much discussion surrounding this issue. Clerk questions responsibility of the twp. Regarding its employees. Trustee Cousar concerned that the wrong route was taken.*

Approval of Accounts payable:

Motion by Kathy Young, supported by Kelly McCune to approve the **General Fund**. Roll call vote: Kelly McCune yea, Dan Cousar yea, Pat Williams absent, Kathy Young yea, Ernie Wogatzke yea. 4 yea, 1 absent, motion carries.

Motion made by Kelly McCune, supported by Dan Cousar to approve the **Fire Fund**. Roll call vote: Kelly McCune yea, Dan Cousar yea, Pat Williams absent, Kathy Young yea, Ernie Wogatzke yea. 4 yea, 1 absent, motion carries.

Motion made by Dan Cousar, supported by Kelly McCune to approve the **Sewer/Water Fund**. Roll call vote: Kelly McCune yea, Dan Cousar yea, Pat Williams absent, Kathy Young yea, Ernie Wogatzke yea. 4 yea, 1 absent, motion carries.

Motion by Dan Cousar, supported by Kathy Young to approve the **Refuse Fund**. Roll call vote: Kelly McCune yea, Dan Cousar yea, Pat Williams absent, Kathy Young yea, Ernie Wogatzke yea. 4 yea, 1 absent, motion carries.

Department Reports:

Fire: Chief Al Dailey gives the monthly run report. He is asking the board to approve \$510.77 for a hose for the Brush Truck. Motion by Kathy Young, supported by Dan Cousar to approve the purchase of a hose for \$510.77. Roll call vote: Kelly McCune yea, Dan Cousar yea, Pat Williams absent, Kathy Young yea, Ernie Wogatzke yea. 4 yea, 1 absent, motion carries.

Sewer/Water: Sam Philipp reports that the pumps are clean. The fencing at the Water Tower is done. He's had a meeting with the State about water/sewer classification with the GEO prison being closed. We will stay at the same level with the prospect of the prison re-opening early 2023. Sam reports that Consumer's energy backed over a fire hydrant, causing damage. They will be inspecting that to see just how much damage is done.

Cemetery: Nikki Hughes gave a report. The trees and brush pile have been removed from behind the Cemetery to the north and ready to burn this winter. Bill will be seeding that area. A lot of fire wood is available for the needing wood. A letter of apology has been sent to a family for a mix-up caused by a grave being sold twice. The township will move the vault. We are looking at placing markers on graves with no headstones, and markers marking sections. Water system has been drained and winterized. A question arises from moving a vault that was plastic, no one wanted to move/remove a plastic vault. Should we allow plastic vaults in our cemetery?

Co. Road Comm.: Gary Truxton said that the county will come & finish Springtime St. (Shoulder work)

Co. Comm.: Bob Sanders reports that they received an emergency grant for the 800mghz radios. And a \$7500 snowmobile grant.

Sheriff Dept.: N/A

Co. Park/Rec: Ernie Wogatzke gave a report.

Grant Writer: Nothing to report

Zoning Admin: Chris Jacobs gave a report of land use permits issued, violation letters sent, and he is signed up for the Citizens Planner classes.

Planning Comm.: Trustee Cousar reports, October 17th was the public hearing for the watercourse ordinance, with positive results, it will now be sent to the county. October 24th, was another public hearing for removing the 24 ft. requirement for a dwelling, planning commission voted that down and is not making the recommendation to the board. Public hearing set for November 18th for recreational Marijuana retail, @ 6:00 p.m. No official reasons for voting it down, just comments from individuals (planning members) as they were voting. In the future, they will look to give the board reasons for denying a recommendation.

LCEDA: Their event was held at the Marquette Trails Golf Course, hosted by Chris Balulis on November 1, 2022.

DDA: N/A

Ongoing Business:

Answers to last month's questions.

Discussion of adding on another item. Add on decision for Public Hearing Special Assessment. Motion made by Kathy Young, supported by Kelly McCune to add on the decision for the Special Assessment Public Hearing (Jeanne Drive). All in favor, motion carries. Motion by Kathy Young, supported by Kelly McCune to accept the special assessment for road maintenance/plowing on Jeanne Drive. Roll call vote: Kelly McCune yes, Dan Cousar abstain,

Pat Williams absent, Kathy Young yea, Ernie Wogatzke yea. 3 yea, 1 abstain, 1 absent, motion carries.

Adopt a resolution for public comment procedures. Supervisor Wogatzke reads the proposed resolution. Public becomes disruptive, the supervisor calls the sheriff's office. Motion made by Kathy Young to adopt a resolution for public comment. There is no support. Motion fails.

LCRC: since the LCRC will finish the shoulder work on Springtime St., the money will be put towards another road.

Projects for 2023 (summer) are needed by December 1, 2022. Previous discussion was to continue Merrillville Rd. Cost would be \$147,000.00 total, our share would be \$73,981.50. The money is in our budget. Motion by Dan Cousar, supported by Kelly McCune to continue the Merrillville Rd project. Roll call vote: Kelly McCune yea, Dan Cousar yea, Pat Williams absent, Kathy Young yea, Ernie Wogatzke yea. 4 yea, 1 absent, motion carries.

New Business:

Solicit Bids for the ZBA and Board of Review.

Fire Assessment was approved. Request starting a fire advisory committee. Public Hearings are set for January 12, and February 9, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m., respectively. Chief states that he would have to educate any committee member on the needs, and how things work, when they have already done the leg work.

Solicit bids to install electric in the maintenance building. Motion made by Dan Cousar, supported by Kelly McCune to solicit bids for the electric in the maintenance building. Roll call vote: Kelly McCune yea, Dan Cousar yea, Pat Williams absent, Kathy Young yea, Ernie Wogatzke yea. 4 yea, 1 absent, motion carries.

Fiber optics for Webber Twp. Fiber has come down to M-37. Cost to the get it to the fire department is \$775.00 then, a monthly fee of \$271.00. To the Twp Would be another \$775.00, with a monthly cost of \$409.00.

Public Comment: Concerns about paying a medical bill for an employee hurt on the job. Question regarding what the criteria for road upgrades is. Christmas Parade December 2, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.

Adjourn: Motion by Kathy Young, supported by Kelly McCune to adjourn. All in favor, motion carries.

Adjourned: 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Young, Clerk