

Regular Meeting of the Crystal Lake Township Board

Meeting held at 1651 Frankfort Highway, Frankfort MI 49635
May 14, 2019

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Amy Ferris at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Ferris, May, Nielsen, Popp and Sullivan were present, constituting a quorum.

Agenda: Ferris moved that the agenda be approved as amended to remove the topic of Amendments under the Treasurer's Report, Cemetery collections, and the 425 Proposal, and to have only discussion and no action regarding Policies or the Benzie Conservation District; Sullivan seconded; all ayes. Motion passed.

Conflicts of Interest: There were no conflicts of interest.

Minutes:

- Sullivan moved the April 9, 2019 minutes of the Regular Board Meeting be approved as presented; Popp asked that the section on Assessment be corrected to eliminate the reference to updating "once a year", that the word "observe" in the second Cemetery section be corrected to "absorb", that the contract date in the Fire Services section be corrected to "2019-2020" and that the second paragraph of the Planning & Zoning section be corrected to read that "Popp will prepare a cover letter"; Sullivan accepted the corrections to her motion; Ferris seconded; all ayes. Motion passed.
- Ferris moved that the minutes of the April 24, 2019 Special Board Meeting be approved; Popp seconded; all ayes. Motion passed.
- Ferris moved that the minutes of the May 8, 2019 Special Board Meeting be approved; May seconded; all ayes. Motion passed.

For the Good of the Community: Ferris provided information regarding a Planning & Zoning Workshop, a County discussion regarding blight, recent poverty statistics, and an invitation from the Benzie Historical Society.

Guests: None.

Correspondence: A report from the Benzie Shores District Library [reminder that we will need to renew our CLT liaison to the Library at the June Board meeting]; a Progress Report from the Betsie Valley Community Center; and flood plain maps from FEMA.

Public Comment:

- Greg Wright expressed his appreciation for the good work done in the Cemetery.

Clerk's report:

- Sullivan presented the Warrant Report and moved that the bills for the General Fund be approved for payment as amended at Popp's request to include payment to Brickhouse for \$215.00; Popp seconded; roll was called; all ayes. Motion passed.
- Sullivan moved the outstanding bills for the Cemetery Fund be approved for payment; Popp seconded; roll was called; all ayes. Motion passed.
- Sullivan reported that the May 7, 2019 election went smoothly with 179 CLT voters supporting the Frankfort-Elberta school millage and 43 opposing it; and the election workers once again provided excellent service.
- There will be an August 6, 2019 election on whether to allow or prohibit marihuana establishments to locate in CLT; this election is the result of a citizen petition drive.

Financial Reports:

- Popp presented the monthly financial reports for the General, Cemetery, Fire and Road Funds, explaining that these are basically the same as profit and loss reports.

Reports**Roads:**

- Bruce Walton, member of the Road Committee, reported that after examining the local roads considered for possible graveling, he and the rest of the Road Committee recommend that nothing new be done to them, just regular maintenance and brining as necessary, since adding gravel would cost more but not fix many of the problems; he said CLT should not expect to get much from the proposed new gas tax, since the county only expects to get \$100,000.00 to spread over many municipalities, leaving only about \$7, 440.00 for CLT; the cost to repair asphalt roads has almost doubled since the CLT road millage passed in 2015; they expect to use the last of the millage funds to cover repairs planned for this summer; he and the rest of the Road Committee recommend the Township plan to request a new 5 year millage to finish what was started in 2015; if the millage is to be on the ballot in 2020, public hearings should be held perhaps in September 2019 and March 2020; more specifics will be discussed at the June meeting.
- Brining: Ferris moved that the Board authorize the Supervisor to sign the contract with the Benzie County Road Commission and have the township charged at a rate of \$522.50 per mile with the township responsible for 50% + 10% of the cost for brining .39 miles on East Cox Road, .89 miles on Esplanade,

.28 miles on Maple Arch, and .25 miles on Marquette Court twice in 2019; Nielsen seconded; roll was called; all ayes. Motion passed.

Airport: Richard Bayer reported that there has been an increase in fuel sales; all 10 single hangars are set with yearly leases and there are 4 on a waiting list; the map meeting with MDOT went well; Prein & Newhoff have been retained as the new consultants; the Courtesy car has been repaired; more efficient LED lights have been installed and runway lights repaired; the Airport hosted the Township Clean-Up Day on May 4, 2019; and a plane which was diverted to Frankfort while losing power over Lake Michigan on May 12th was still missing.

Assessment: Upcoming Board of Review dates for 2019 are July 16 at 10:00 a.m. and December 9 at 9:00 a.m.

Building & Grounds: (B&G)

- Parking lot: Ferris reported that she is working on getting the cave-ins by the driveway fixed; they are the result of drainage problems which the County says CLT has to repair; the person who knocked over the handicap parking sign will put in a new one now that the snow has been removed.
- Maps: She is in the process of getting some antique maps of CLT framed, the originals will go to the Historical Society and copies will be kept here.
- Conference tables: Estimates indicate they could cost about \$1,000.00 each; specific options will be presented at a later date.

Enforcement: Larry Gilbert reported that he has investigated a total of 12 properties about blight complaints, 4 of which are now in compliance and he continues to work with the other 8, including 1 which involves court action to determine legal responsibility; he has permission to go on site and is working with DEQ on possible ground contamination issues in one case.

Information Technology: The current budget covers anticipated costs for Eclipse Communications to host the Township's IP address.

Newsletter: Popp moved that the draft of the summer newsletter be approved, eliminating the reference to "the sale of" marihuana establishments, and substituting her language for the Clean-Up and Tax sections instead of Ferris'; Nielsen seconded; May, Nielsen, Popp, Sullivan voted yes; Ferris voted no. Motion passed.

Policies: Ferris will send out digital copies of changes made on chapters 1-4 at the May 1, 2019 meeting; Board and Policy Committee members will meet at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 to review those and chapters 5-8.

Planning & Zoning:

- Zoning Administrator Tom Kucera reported that he has been working primarily on ZBA issues and complaints regarding docks in the Mollineaux Road area;

- The ZBA will meet again on May 23 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Campbell property and May 30 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Casey Road property;
- Dick Lutz has resigned from the ZBA due to health reasons; Ferris moved that Alan Marble be approved to fill the remainder of Lutz' term; Nielsen seconded; all ayes. Motion passed. Dick Lutz' expertise was acknowledged and will be missed.
- The Planning Commission continues review of the Ordinance sections on temporary permits for RVs/campers and will soon begin discussions on use of solar power and issues regarding "tiny homes".

Unfinished Business:

- Benzie Conservation District: Tad Peacock and Jane Perrino renewed the District's request for a commitment from CLT of \$2,000.00 a year for the next 3 years to support their Aquatic Invasive Species Program; they explained that the District is a local government entity and not a non-profit, that what they are proposing is a fee-for-services arrangement, and they distributed a proposed Memorandum of Understanding; Popp said she was waiting for word from the auditor before she could support the proposal; Ferris moved that the Board approve the request to provide Benzie Conservation District with \$2,000.00 a year for 3 years to support its Aquatic Invasive Species Program; there was no second; motion failed. The issue will be reviewed after hearing from the auditor.
- Charter Franchise Agreement: Sullivan moved that the Board renew the cable television franchising contract between CLT and Charter for another ten years (2019-2029) and not request the collection of a franchise fee percentage from Charter cable television customers in CLT; Ferris seconded; roll was called; Ferris and Sullivan voted yes; May, Nielsen, and Popp voted no. Motion failed. Popp moved that the Board request a 30-day extension to approve the contract, that legal advice be sought, and a Charter representative be invited to attend the June 11 Board meeting to answer questions about resident services; Sullivan seconded; roll was called; all ayes. Motion passed. The issue will be discussed further at the Special Workshop and Meeting on May 22, 2019.

New Business: Sullivan moved the Board schedule a public hearing to be held before the regular Board meeting on July 9 at 6:00 p.m. regarding the August 6 ballot question about marihuana establishments in the Township; May seconded; roll was called; all ayes. Motion passed.

County Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Linda Farrell reported that the new Resource Officer for Frankfort schools has been hired; that Central Wellness provides great services; that there will be a Beatles concert on the roof in Beulah on July 25; there will be blood drive and 20 pound propane tanks will be filled for \$7.00 in Inland Township; and there will be a program at the Veterans' Memorial at 1:00 pm on Memorial Day.

Public Comment: D. Michael said Charter had earlier demanded \$80,000.00 before agreeing to lay cable an extra ½ mile in Benzonia, but had recently offered to lay the same section of cable for free.

Board Comment: None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Sue Sullivan, Clerk, reporting.