

Regular Meeting of the Crystal Lake Township Board

1651 Frankfort Highway, Frankfort MI 49635

January 18, 2022

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Amy Ferris at 7:03 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Agenda:

Ferris moved to accept the agenda as amended to remove the guest speaker from Benzie Bus and to reformat Unfinished Business as #14 and adjust the subsequent numbers accordingly. Sullivan supported. Roll was called: All ayes. Agenda accepted as amended.

The Benzie Road Commission Report and a Resolution to Support Paving the Betsie Valley Trail will be postponed to the February Board meeting.

Conflicts of Interest: There were no conflicts of interest declared.

Minutes:

- December 21, 2021, Regular Board Meeting
 - On page 3, second bullet, replace "Ferris confirmed that was true." with "Application materials will be available on line to download."

Ferris moved to accept the minutes of the December 21, 2021 meeting as amended. Popp seconded. All ayes. Minutes approved as amended.

- January 4, 2022, Special Board Meeting

Ferris moved to accept the minutes of the January 4, 2022 meeting as presented. Popp seconded. All ayes. Minutes approved as presented.

Correspondence:

- Ferris shared with the Board the following correspondence:
 - Benzie Bus reports and brochures.
 - An invitation from the Aquatic group to attend a Zoom Meeting on January 25th.

Commissioner Miller Report:

- Commissioner Miller shared the County is working hard on the Broadband expansion survey. The survey will be available until the end of the month and he encouraged people to complete this. He shared a broadband coverage map which shows Benzie County is underserved.
- Commissioner Miller also shared that the County is considering revitalizing the Headlee Amendment, but this may not be the best time.
- Commissioner Miller shared that the Health Department will be funded and should be receiving money in March. He said that they work hard and are doing a great job.

Public Comment: Marble shared that she is committed to the Poverty Exemption Policy and hopes the Board will come to an agreement and pass this policy.

Clerk's report:

- Sullivan presented the warrant report.

Sullivan moved to accept the warrant report as presented. Popp seconded. Roll was called; All ayes. Warrant report was approved.

Treasurer's Report:

- Popp presented the financial reports and asked the Board if anyone had any questions. There were no questions.

Committee Reports

Assessment and Board of Review:

- Ferris shared with the Township Board the updated Policy and Guidelines for Poverty Exemptions. The Board discussed the policy and came to agreements on it.
- The following amendments were made to the updated policy:
 - Page 5, Paragraph 5 – Add to the paragraph: "If you want it considered by the March Board of Review, you must have all documents in before the March appeals start."
 - Page 7, Item C under Income shall exclude – "returns" should be "refunds".
 - Page 7, Asset Test – remove "as instructed" and replace with "in addition to Form 5737".
 - Page 8, Item B, c – Change dollar amounts from \$1,200 to \$1,400; \$800 to \$900; and, \$4,000 to \$5,000.
 - Page 8, To qualify for exemption – Change dollar amounts from \$4,000 to \$6,000; \$1,000 to \$1,500; and \$10,000 to \$12,500.

Ferris moved to accept the Poverty Exemption Policy with amendments made. Northway seconded. Roll was called. All ayes. Motion was approved.

Information Technology:

Discussion on I.T. will be postponed until more is known about the broadband expansion.

Planning and Zoning:

- Ferris shared that the Zoning annual report is on the website and that Kucera has done an excellent job.
- The Planning Commission will be holding a Special Meeting on solar panels and amendments to the policy. During that meeting, if anyone has questions on the RV Park expansion, they may ask those questions during the Public Comment section of the agenda. The meeting will be held on January 26 at 7 p.m.

Unfinished Business:

- Ferris shared that Halliday has secured the dates of May 7 and August 6 for the 2022 Clean Up days.

Ferris moved to accept the two clean up days for May 7 and August 6, 2022. Sullivan supported. All ayes. Motion was approved.

- Sullivan shared that the debit/credit card discussion will be postponed.

New Business:

- Ferris presented to the Board the bill for the Township's Underwriters Insurance. There were question that the Clerk presented, but she has not yet gotten answers to them. The renewal of this policy will be postponed until those questions are answered.
- Ferris shared with the Board MTA's Conference on April 25-26 if anyone was interested in attending. She believes attendance can also be done via Zoom.
- Ferris also shared the new Congressional Districting Map. Sullivan shared that new voting cards will have to be sent to all CLT voters identifying the new congressional districts. Com. Miller said some townships will now be split into several districts.

Public Comments:

- Marble thanked the Board for approving the Poverty Exemption Policy.
- Miller shared that he was proud of a great Board meeting.

Board Comments:

- Northway thanked Marble for her invaluable discourse.
- Nielsen would like to see a consent agenda to shorten the duration of the meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Sue Sullivan, Clerk, and Sondra Halliday, Deputy Clerk, reporting.