

Regular Meeting of the Crystal Lake Township Board

1651 Frankfort Highway, Frankfort MI 49635

July 19, 2022

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Amy Ferris at 7:02 PM.

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 (7.19.22) as presented. Northway supported. Roll was called: All ayes. Agenda accepted as presented.

Ferris noted that there were no amendments to the agenda, but the following documents were added: Correspondence from Fire Chief Cederholm and Mr. Nelson, an updated warrant report, and a resolution under Elections.

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

Minutes:

- June 21, 2022, Regular Board Meeting

Ferris moved to accept the minutes of the June 21, 2022, Regular Board Meeting as presented. Popp supported. Roll was called. All ayes. Minutes accepted.

Correspondence:

- Ferris shared with the Board correspondence from Fire Chief Cederholm regarding safety issues at Dollar General after receiving a citizen complaint.
- Ferris shared correspondence from Mr. Nelson, who has an issue with the cemetery regarding placement of memorial monuments.

Guests:

- Jane Perrino from Benzie Conservation District shared they will be asking for an 8-year millage of 1.25 mil to continue their work protecting our natural resources and water sources.

Commissioner Miller's Report:

- He shared that it has been business as usual for the county.

- Commissioner Miller shared an informational handout regarding the millages that the county is asking for on the August Ballot including: Animal Control Services, School Resource Officers, Conservation District, Drug Enforcement, EMT and Advanced Life Support, Jail Operations, and The Maples.

Public Comment:

- Township residents from "Crystal Lake" (Broadway, Linden & Vine Street area) voiced their concerns and would like the Crystal Lake Township Board to enforce the ordinance regarding the public beach. Those concerns include:
 - There is a documented court order authorizing the public beach for local residents.
 - Lakeside homes are blocking access to the public beach.
 - The road is a platted road in the township for accessing the public beach.
 - The back lot homes, at their own expense, had the area surveyed and marked.
 - They feel the Township is not doing their part in enforcing the ordinance.
 - An illegal dock has been installed.
 - Back lot residents feel they have lost their rights to the public beach.
 - The area is not kept up and they would like permission to mow, etc.
 - Many residents and their guests have been told to leave the public beach area by lakeside lot owners.
 - The Road needs to be brined for dust control.
 - Public access signs are continually removed.
 - A Michigan Supreme Court finding said there should be no docks, moorings, or camping at public accesses.
- One or two lakeside property owners spoke to their right to use their property as they choose.

Clerk's report:

- Sullivan presented the warrant report.

Sullivan moved that the warrant report be approved for payment as presented. Popp supported. Roll was called. All ayes. Warrant report was approved.

- Sullivan shared with the Board the list of Election Inspectors and Receiving Board for the upcoming August primary election.

Sullivan moved that the Election Inspectors and Receiving Board be approved for the August election. Popp supported. Roll was called. All ayes. Motion was approved.

- Sullivan reported that over 250 absentee ballots have been sent.
- She also noted that an outside group has been sending out absentee ballot applications completely filled out and shared that if anyone received one of these to let us know and not fill it out.
- Popp shared that the Township has now received the credit cards.

Treasurer's Report:

- Popp presented the June 2022 financial reports and asked the Board if anyone had any questions.
- A corrective action plan regarding line-item overages in the budget was submitted to the state. Ferris thanked Popp for doing that.
- Popp asked for guidance on the 2013 Civil Infraction Notices and Citations Ordinance. Ferris said there was advice from the lawyer to revise this ordinance and that it is a work in progress.

Committee Reports

Airport:

- Popp shared the Airport Reports and there were no questions.

Buildings and Grounds:

Brian Halliday shared with the Board that the following has been done:

- Roofs were replaced on the sheds in both cemeteries.
- For election security a new ballot box will be installed.
- A surveillance camera was installed with 6 TB of memory.
- Electrical remediation will begin in the building next week.
- Upcoming projects will include cemetery roads, which are being damaged by erosion.

Planning and Zoning:

Kucera shared the following:

- The expansion of the RV Park has been approved.
- Ordinance appeals have been resolved.
- Currently there are 20 permits approved, mostly for sheds, storage, etc.
- There are several enforcement issues at Crystalaire. A resident of this area shared that information about the public beach area is attached to every deed. Ferris will contact the attorney for advice on this issue.
- Grant Sowa, Township Enforcement Officer, spoke to the importance of obtaining all the facts, checking EGLE and DNR, and using appropriate channels for resolution, not confrontation; said he needed clarification from the Board regarding enforcement.

Ferris moved that she would contact the attorney for investigation and guidance of enforcement on this issue, as well as enforcement in general. Northway supported. Roll was called. All ayes. Motion approved.

Unfinished Business:

- The July 21, 2022, Special Meeting will be rescheduled, due to auditor having COVID.

Public Comments:

- A survey paid for by some of the residents in Crystallaire was shared with the Board.
- One resident wanted explanation of what "grandfathered in" means and said there is no one that is "grandfathered in" at Crystallaire.
- There is a homeowner with a dock that has 32' of presumable frontage and CLT ordinance requires 50 feet.
- Riparian rights were given to the front lot homes at Crystallaire.
- Lakeside Road was platted in 1925 as a Crystal Lake Township Road.

Board Comments: Ferris apologized for missing a Board of Review meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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

DRAFT