



Milton Township

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Minutes for Milton Township Board of Trustees Regular Board Meeting Milton Township Hall - 32097 Bertrand St., Niles, MI Tuesday November 13, 2018 7:00P.M.

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm and the pledge was recited.

Members Present: Supervisor Robert Benjamin, Treasurer Susan Flowers, (Arrived 7:03pm) Clerk Steve Sante, Trustee Eric Renken, Trustee Kelly Sweeney

Also in attendance: Catherine Kaufman, Township Attorney

Community Reports:

Ex-Officio: Sweeney reports that the P.C. approved a rezoning of the parcel at 71403 Brush Road from agricultural to residential. Sweeney went on to report that the Kreager re-zoning request was passed by the P.C. and had been forwarded to the Cass County Planning Commission. In December the P.C. will be reviewing the Master Plan.

Karen Shirk, whom is the President of the P.C., indicated that the future land use plan was reconsidered. After discussions with Williams & Works it was sent back to the Board of Trustees with no revisions.

SMCAS: Flowers reports that Josh Kay, whom is the Operations Manager for SMCAS, received his credentials.

B.O.R. Benjamin reports that the township received its AMAR review and the township did fairly well. Only one item was noted in the review. Going forward applications to the BOR must be date and time stamped when received.

Visiting Officials

Karen Shirk and Connie Gard spoke for the Smith's Chapel Historical Society. They spoke of the significant number of upgrades made to the property by the committee.

Sheriff Behnke introduced Deputy Shields, whom has been patrolling the township as part of the law enforcement program. He also indicated there would be a Christmas program at the Animal Control Center on December 1 from 10am to 12pm. The event is to raise money for the animals.

Public Comment: None

B.O.T. Comments: Benjamin questioned Renken on a sound system for the Great Hall. Renken indicated there was no movement, as the board expressed no interest in the project.

Approval of Agenda:

The agenda was approved with the following two additions:

Broadband Project
QuickBooks

Approval of past minutes

Motion: Flowers made a motion to approve the 10/9/18 minutes as presented

Second: Sweeney

Discussion: None

All Voted Yes

Motion Carried

Old Business:

Law Enforcement:

Renken indicated the new speed sign had been deployed on Bertrand Street.

Benjamin indicated that all fees collected, except for court costs, from traffic tickets go to the library system by state law. The township is not receiving any fees from the increased law enforcement patrols.

Appointing Township Supervisor:

This agenda item was tabled, as the Township Attorney indicated the appointment has to be made within thirty days of the resignation.

Hidden Hills Development:

The board briefly described the Hidden Hills Subdivision

Motion: Sweeney made a motion to approve the Hidden Hills Subdivision as proposed

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y, Sweeney Y, Benjamin Y

Motion Carried

The board took a recess starting at 7:28 pm and ending at 7:33 pm.

New Business

Snow Removal:

Only one bid was received for snow removal for the 2018-2019 season. It was submitted by Nick Williams.

Motion: Sweeney made a motion to approve the snow removal proposal by Nick Williams

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

All Voted Yes

Motion Carried

Smith's Chapel:

Renken reports he has been working with the Smith's Chapel Historical Society so that they can hold their annual Christmas Event. The township attorney indicated the event was acceptable as long as it is hosted by the Township.

Motion: Renken made a motion to approve the agreement with the Smith's Chapel Historical Society.

Second: Flowers

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y, Sweeney Y, Benjamin Y

Motion Carried

Sweeney questioned whether the Chapel should be sold, as it is unused property. A lengthy discussion occurred.

Benjamin asked for Public Comment:

Connie Gard indicated the building is serving as more of a museum

Karen Shirk spoke on the history of the building and what it means to the community.

The board then had a discussion on deed restrictions and Catherine Kauffman indicated the property could be sold by resolution if it serves no public purpose and has no use.

Motion: Sweeney read aloud resolution 2018-28R regarding sale the Smith's Chapel

Second: Flowers

Discussion: Benjamin indicated that he did not want to be involved in the sale of the property and asked Sante to facilitate selling the property

Motion to Amend: Benjamin made a motion to change references of the supervisor in numbers 1-4 to clerk.

Second: Sweeney

Discussion on Motion to Amended: None

All Voted Yes

Amended Motion Carried

A vote on the Amended Motion:

Roll Call: Flowers Y, Renken N, Sante Y, Sweeney Y, Benjamin N

The Amended Motion Carried

2019 Holiday Schedule:

Motion: Sweeney made a motion to approve the 2019 Holiday Schedule

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

All Voted Yes

Motion Carried

Broadband Project:

Benjamin reported to the board that he is working with Midwest to provide broadband access to those areas that presently don't have. He indicated that the cost to the township would likely be around \$75,000. No action was taken on this.

QuickBooks:

Sante reported that the transition to QuickBooks On-Line is ongoing and that more set-up time is needed with the accountant.

Motion: Sante made a motion to pay for five more hours of consultant time

Second: Sweeney

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y, Sweeney Y, Benjamin Y

Motion Carried

2018-2019 Budget

Motion: Benjamin made a motion to approve resolution 2018-29R as follows:

101-101-726	Office Expense	\$1,000
101-101-815	Computer & Software	\$3,000
101-202-802.1	Consulting Services	\$1,430
101-265-921	OTH Electric	\$200
101-266-826	Legal-General	\$2,000
101-371-702.3	Mechanical Labor	\$3,000
101-371-724	Electrical Labor	\$500
101-371-724.4	Plumbing Labor	\$100
101-528-943	Spring Cleaning	\$14
101-410-826	PC Legal	\$620
101-410-971.2	CE Legal	\$2,626
101-850-860.2	Employee Medical	<u>\$1,150</u>
TOTAL		\$15,640

Second: Sante

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y, Sweeney Y, Benjamin Y

Motion Carried

Financial Reports:

Flowers reports the township fund balances total \$592,068.50

Approval of Checks

Motion: Sante made a motion to approve the amended checks list as written

Second: Sweeney

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Flowers Yes, Renken Yes, Sweeney Yes, Benjamin Yes

Motion Carried

Roger's Cemetery

Motion: Benjamin made a motion for the Milton Township Board to meet in closed session to discuss the
Legal opinion of the township attorney regarding the Roger's Cemetery

Second: Sweeney

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Flowers Yes, Renken Yes, Sweeney Yes, Benjamin Yes

Motion Carried

The board returned from closed session at 9:02.

Motion: Benjamin made a motion to allow the supervisor to move forward with a lawsuit and to approve
expenses up to \$35,000

Second: Sweeney

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Flowers Yes, Renken Yes, Sweeney Yes, Benjamin Yes

Motion Carried

Adjournment:

Motion: Flowers made a motion to adjourn at 9:10pm

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

Motion carried unanimously