



Milton Township

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Regular Board Meeting Milton Township Hall - 32097 Bertrand St., Niles, MI Tuesday, January 20th, 7:00 P.M.

Meeting Called To Order At 7:00pm and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Board Members Present: Supervisor Robert Benjamin, Treasurer Susan Flowers, Trustee Eric Renken, Clerk Steve Sante, Trustee Kelly Sweeney

Guests: Township Attorney Cathleen Kaufman

Community Reports:

Planning Commission Ex Officio Member

Sweeney was unable to attend the last meeting. The planning commission (PC) is waiting on a legal review of zoning ordinance by the township attorney. The PC is hoping to have the ordinance reviewed by February and forwarded to the Board of Trustees no later than April. Public hearing to be done by PC.

Robert Ziliak - Cass County Commissioner - District 5 - Not Present

Other committee chairs and visiting officials.

Niles Fire Department- Gary Brovold was present and had nothing new to report. A monthly report from the fire department was included in the board packet.

SMCAS- Brian Scribner. Introduced himself to township. Financial status moving in positive direction, as revenue is on the rise. Mr. Scribner stated there is a need for a new ambulance.

Anyone Wishing to Speak to the Board:

Gary Gasgill stated he was opposed to the proposed alcohol policy.

Virginia agreed with the prior speaker.

Sue Smith opposed to alcohol policy.

Tim Smith opposed to alcohol policy.

Herbert Brown: Asked about policy of surrounding townships

Ann Brown: A letter was read on behalf of the historical commission that stated the commission is in favor of the proposed alcohol policy.

Board Member Comments: Flowers went to a Council on Aging (COA) meeting. The COA is planning to schedule some programs in the township in the near future.

Approval of Agenda:

Items to be added

Change in show bid (8)

Salary Payment Dates (9)

Legal Notices (10)

Approval of Previous Minutes:

Motion: A motion was made by Sweeney to approve the 12/9/14 minutes as presented.

Second: Sante

Discussion: None

Motion Carried

Motion: A motion was made by Sweeney to approve the 1/8/15 minutes as presented.

Second: Sante

Discussion: None

Motion Carried

Old Business:

Employee Policy Manual

Renken stated if no further comment was provided on the employee policy manual by the next meeting it would be forwarded to the township attorney for review.

Building/Room Rentals

Venue rental agreement was provided and discussed at length. Comments were made for the benefit of flowers and the township attorney, who will be revising the presented agreement.

Park Alcohol Policy-

Motion: Flowers made a motion that Milton Township will not allow alcohol on its premises.

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

Motion Carried

New Business:

BOR Appointees (need 1 alternate) Tabled for lack of a candidate

Poverty Exemption

A sample resolution was provided in the board packet that identified the federal poverty guidelines.

Motion: Benjamin made a motion to approve a resolution where the Township approves the federal poverty guidelines. The resolution number is 2015-01R

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

Benjamin Y, Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y, Sweeney Y

Motion Carried

21st Street Gravel/Paving

Motion: Benjamin made a motion to approve a paving contract in the amount of \$21,300 that will be split between Niles Charter Township and Milton Township. Milton Township's cost not to exceed \$10,650.

Second: Sante

Discussion: None

Comment By Public: Smith Lake Road was asphalt and was turned back to gravel.

Questioned if the same would happen to 21st Street.

Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y, Sweeney Y, Benjamin Y

Motion Carried

Keys / Township Security

Doors must be secured to offices during meetings. Secure areas must remain secured.

Doors not working in new building need to be addressed. All board members should return keys to old building to treasurer.

Milton Water Aquifers (tabled to February)

Multi-use path on Gumwood

Sweeney: Now called shared use path. Township is in process of connecting to the Granger bike paths. First phase of the Townships project will be connecting the path that will be brought to stateline on Gumwood. Ultimate goal to bring path to the township hall. A report was presented to the board from Sweeney and is made part of the board packet.

Motion: Sweeney made a motion to fund up to \$16,500 for the design of the shared use path and construction of phase II.

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

Renken Y, Sante Y, Sweeney Y, Benjamin Y, Flowers Y,

Motion Carried

Salary Compensation Commission Resolutions

The salary compensation committee convened to recommend the salary of the five board positions. A report was included in the board packet.

Motion: On behalf of the salary compensation committee Benjamin made a motion to approve resolution 2015-02R setting the trustee pay at \$2,500 per year.

Second: Sante

Discussion: None

Sante Y, Sweeney Y, Benjamin Y, Flowers Y, Renken Y
Motion Carried

Motion: On behalf of the salary compensation committee Benjamin made a motion to approve resolution 2015-03R setting the treasurer pay at \$18,500 per year.

Second: Sweeney

Discussion: None

Sweeney Y, Benjamin Y, Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y

Motion Carried

Motion: On behalf of the salary compensation committee Benjamin made a motion to approve resolution 2015-04R setting the clerk pay at \$19,500 per year.

Second: Sweeney

Discussion: None

Benjamin Y, Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y, Sweeney Y

Motion Carried

Motion: On behalf of the salary compensation committee Benjamin made a motion to approve resolution 2015-05R setting the supervisor pay at \$14,500 per year.

Second: Sweeney

Discussion: None

Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y, Sweeney Y, Benjamin N

Motion Carried

Snow Bid

Original bid for snow removal by Green Thumb did not include sidewalks. The contractor indicated the cost of sidewalk snow removal would be \$55 per incident and the cost of salting them would also be \$55.

Motion: Benjamin made a motion to pay for snow removal of sidewalks in front of the new building as well as the ramp in front of the old building at a cost of \$55 per incident.

Second: Renken

Discussion: none

Motion Carried

Motion: Benjamin made a motion to pay for salting of the sidewalks in front of the new building as well as the ramp in front of the old building at a cost of \$55 per incident.

Second: Flowers

Discussion: none

Motion Carried

Salary Payment Dates

State law requires that employees be paid on the first of the month for the prior month or they can be paid twice per month.

Motion: Sante made a motion to pay township employees one the first and 15th of each month. This also includes elected officials and appointees.

Second: Sweeney

Discussion: None

Motion Carried

Legal Notices

Benjamin suggested that the legal notices of the township be published in Niles Daily Star, as they are better able to meet our needs and at a cheaper price.

Motion: Benjamin made a motion to have official newspaper for the township legal notices be the Niles Daily Star

Sweeney announces conflict due to employment with the paper.

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

Renken Y, Sante Y, Sweeney A, Benjamin N, Flowers Y

Motion Carried

Financial Report:

The treasurer's financial report was as follows:

Energy rebate in amount of \$1,569.96 was received

Checking	\$47,353.64
State Revenue Sharing in Transit:	\$53,269
CD's	\$144,852.95
Savings	\$334,485.38
Treasurer's Cash Box	\$150.00
Administrative Assistants Cash Box	\$190.25
TOTAL	\$580,301.22
Escrow Funds in Transit	\$255.99

Approval of Checks

Motion: Sante makes a motion to approve the checks as presented with the following additions

Bauckham, Sparks, Lohrstorfer, Thall and Seeber PC	\$825.00
John Hancock Pension Fund	\$883.99
Business Furnishings	\$7,599.96

Second: Renken

Discussion None

Sante Y, Sweeney A, Benjamin N, Flowers Y, Renken Y,

Johnny Hamilton took a class so that he can renew his contractors' license. The township was billed for \$220.00 for this class.

Motion: Benjamin made a motion to pay the bill in the amount of \$220.00

Second: Sweeney

Discussion: None

Sweeney Y, Benjamin Y, Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y

Motion Carried

Adjournment:

Renken Made A motion To Adjourn at 9:11PM.

Second Sweeny

Discussion: None

Motion Carried

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