

**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

November 14, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Grass Lake Charter Township Board was called to order on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Township Hall by Supervisor Stormont.

**Board Members Present by Roll Call:** Bray, Lester, Loveland, Zenz, Stormont and Brennan.

**Also Present:** Fire Chief Jones, Officer from Jackson County Sheriff Department, and approximately 29 public.

**Pledge to Flag** recited.

**Agenda Additions/Approval:** Bray moved to approve the agenda as presented. Supported by Loveland. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** none.

**Minutes:** Bray made a motion to approve the October 10, 2017 Regular Board Meeting and October 17 and October 24, 2017 Budget/Work Session Meeting and November 13, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes. Supported by Loveland. Motion carried.

**Presentation of Bills:** Brennan made motion to pay General Fund Bills in the amount of \$ 63,921.92 and Fire Fund Bills in the amount of \$ 13,276.91. Supported by Lester. Roll Call Vote: Yeas – Brennan, Lester, Bray, Loveland, Zenz, Stormont. Motion Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bray made motion to accept and file Treasurer's Report as presented by Loveland. Supported by Zenz. Motion carried.

**County Sheriff Report:** Report for October was filed as prepared by Officer DeLand.

**Assessor Report:** Report filed as prepared by Assessor DeBoe.

**Zoning Administrator Report:** Report filed as prepared by Lammers.

**Planning Commission Report:** None.

**Chief Building Official Report:** Accepted and filed as printed.

**Whistlestop Park Report:** none.

**Recreation Board Report:** none.

**Correspondence:** American Tower offering conditional offers.

**Old Business:** a) – Sandhill Estates – water extension update – Jack Ripstra should have information back to the board by end of January 2018. b) – Solar Farm Ordinance – update – received information from Consumers, will be sending to Planning Commission to work towards putting together an Ordinance. c) – Basketball Courts – update – Grading will hopefully start this fall with the concrete work in the spring. d) – Assessor Hire agreement - draft – Stormont and DeBoe have worked up an hire agreement, board is to review and report back with comments. e) – Fireworks Application fee schedules – The board had decided at the October Work Session to follow the guidelines the State already has in place for fireworks. After reviewing past applications Zenz reported that the amount of

insurance set was \$1,000,000.00. Motion by Zenz to set the amount of insurance to be \$1,000,000.00 and establish a \$300.00 permit fee that will be retained by the Township. Supported by Lester. Roll Call Vote – Yeas-Zenz, Lester, Bray, Loveland, Stormont and Brennan. Nays-none. Motion Carried. **f) – Park Maintenance position** – Nothing at this time, hopefully by Work Session.

**New Business: a) – Township Trustee appointee** – Motion by Bray to appoint Barry Butterfield to the open seat of Township Board Trustee. Supported by Brennan. Roll Call Vote: Yeas – Bray, Brennan, Lester, Loveland, Zenz and Stormont. Nays – none. Motion Carried. Attached to minutes is statement read by Bray. **b) – L & L Development - update** – Stormont stated that “News Media reported today that an appeal has been filed with the Jackson County Circuit Court regarding the Grass Lake Township Special Land Use Permit to L & L Development for an extraction operation. The Township has not yet officially received a copy of this appeal. **c) – Norvell Road/Warrior Trail Traffic Light** – Stormont has had conversation with Jackson County Department of Transportation regarding putting a traffic light at Warrior Trail and Norvell Road and making Norvell Road and Grass Lake Road a two way stop with Grass Lake Road stopping. Traffic count tapes have been put in the road and at this time there is no justification based on traffic count to put up a traffic light, another study will be done in the future. **d) – Bohne Road Gravel Operation agreement – draft** – A draft Mining Operation Agreement has been drawn up after speaking with the owner. Stormont wants feedback from the board and this will also be reviewed by the Planning Commission. **e) – Lammers Village Zoning Administrator** – Effective November 1, 2017 Lammers will be the Zoning Administrator for the Village, he wants to maintain the office here for both jurisdictions. The Village will pay him for the time he spends on Village issues. **f) – Township Hall – North Entrance Bid** – Chris Payne is working on a bid package for the enclosing the north entrance to the Senior Center. The Senior Center is working towards getting a grant to help with the expenses. **g) – Traffic Summit 2018 information** – Stormont had attended this meeting and presented a map of roads for 2018 grant funded projects. (Comment from audience-do a petition, raise the taxes to help pay for the repair of roads, let the people vote) **h) – Village Lawn Mowing & Snow Plowing Contracts** – The mowing contact is still current. Snow Plowing contract needs to be renewed-Stormont will get copy to the Village for review. Stormont has been told the hourly rate of \$32.00 will not increase.

**Fire Department Report:** September report accepted as prepared by Chief Jones.

**Old Business:** nothing.

**New Business: a) – New Cadet Applications** – Motion by Brennan to accept the applications of Chelsea Macomber & Garrett Sivyer for cadets. Supported by Bray. Motion Carried. **b) – Fire Chief Hire Agreement** – Draft – review and get comments to Stormont.

**Public Comment:** Richard Murphy – Hire agreements are they for existing or new hires? Wondering if public can have comment into the Bohne Road Gravel Mine Agreement? Sam Maki – questions about the Solar Farm Ordinance, main concern effect of wildlife. How does public know about special meetings? One other public – question about the Traffic Summit-Norvell Road.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Bray to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 pm, supported by Brennan. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Catherine Zenz, Township Clerk

The Grass Lake Charter Township Board created a subcommittee to recommend a replacement candidate for the Trustee position left open with John Lesinski's resignation last month. Because of the timing of the opening, state law mandates that the term for this position runs through November ~~10~~XX 2018. The Trustee position will be up for election in the August primary.

The Township received 6 applicants for the Trustee position. Upon scheduling interviews, one of the candidates withdrew their application. The subcommittee, made up of Scott Bray, ~~Tom~~ Brennan, Cathy Zenz and alternate Tom Loveland interviewed all 5 candidates last week.

We are very appreciative of the interest shown in the Township government and were very pleased to have such great candidates to select from.

Th committee narrowed down the candidates to 2. After careful consideration and discussion, we would like to recommend Barry Butterfield.

Barry is involved within the community in various activities and will be able to help provide direct feedback on the pulse of the community. His previous experience working with the Township, as a member of the Grass Lake Fire Department and current working relationship with the Village of Grass Lake are just a few of the reasons that make him the best candidate. .

I would like to make a motion to appoint Barry Butterfield to the open position of Trustee for Grass Lake Charter Township.