

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
Regular Monthly Meeting
Grass Lake Charter Township Board
November 12, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Grass Lake Charter Township Board was called to order on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Township Hall by Supervisor Stormont.

Board Members Present by Roll Call: Bray, Bednarski-Lynch, Loveland, Zenz, Stormont and Brennan. Absent: Butterfield.

Also Present: Fire Chief Jones, Assessor DeBoe and 14 public.

Pledge to Flag was recited.

Agenda Additions/Approval: Zenz stated under Fire Department New Business a - add new fire person application. Loveland moved to approve the agenda with the added addition as printed. Supported by Brennan. Motion carried.

Public Comment: – none.

Minutes: Brennan made motion to approve the October 8, 2019 Regular Board Meeting Minutes and October 22, 2019 Work Session Minutes. Supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Motion Carried.

Presentation of Bills: Budget Amendment – Zenz made motion to transfer \$5,000.00 from County Park Fund Pooled Investment 422-000.000-002.000 and \$5,000.00 from Sports-n-Trails Pooled Investment 421-000.000-002.000 into Repairs/Maintenance line item of Sports-n-Trails 421-000.000-930.002 to cover the bill from Brown Drilling. Supported by Bray. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Zenz, Bray, Bednarski-Lynch, Loveland, Stormont and Brennan. Absent: Butterfield. Brennan made motion to pay General Fund Bills in the amount of \$80,646.31 and Fire Fund Bills in the amount of \$14,584.41. Supported by Bray. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Brennan, Bray, Bednarski-Lynch, Loveland, Zenz and Stormont. Absent: Butterfield. Motion Carried. Zenz reported that she had turned a claim into the insurance company for the damage done at West Cemetery for \$2,150.00 and has received a check for \$1,650.00 (less our \$500.00 deductible).

Treasurer's Report: Loveland reported winter taxes will be printed at end of November and the Wolf Lake Sewer Assessment on the taxes was final as of the 2018 winter tax bill. He will be preparing a statement of total revenue sharing that was received by the Township for 2019. Motion by Zenz to accept and file Treasurer's report as prepared. Supported by Brennan. Motion Carried.

County Sheriff Report: Accepted and file as printed.

Assessor Report: Accepted and filed as prepared by Assessor DeBoe.

Zoning Administrator Report: Accepted and file as prepared by Administrator Lammers.

Zoning Enforcement Officer Report: Accepted and file as prepared by Sturgill.

Planning Commission Report: Brennan stated their previous meeting was mostly working on the gravel pit ordinance and should have the draft ready to be sent to the Jackson County Planning Commission at their next meeting which is November 21, 2019.

Chief Building Official Report: Accepted and filed as printed.

Whistlestop Park Report: Minutes from September and October board meeting were received. Their next meeting will be November 18, 2019.

Recreation Board Report: There was no meeting in October. Stormont presented a summary of grants and donations that have been received since the beginning of the park development. A grant from the Wellness Foundation in the amount of \$6,000.00 has been received so that should complete the 4 basketball courts, probably not finished until Spring 2020.

Correspondence: Stormont presented a list of jurisdictions that EGLE awarded grants to for the collection and recycle of scrap tires, (the Township has chosen May 30, 2020 for tire collection next year), "Common Public Road Issues" from Fahey, Schultz, Burzych & Rhodes and another one-time purchase offer for the Cell Tower on Willis Road from American Tower/Md7.

Old Business: a) – Grass Lake Aquatic Weed Program – Gina Lammers presented the board with petitions that a group has circulated. Their goal was not for the lake to be treated but do not feel the lake property owners should be the only ones paying the assessment and would like to see other options. Jane Fitzgerald stated a grant program might be available from EGLE and also look into Michigan Paddle Stewards Program. Loveland wanted the people to be clear that the last assessment of the past 5 years will be on the 2019 winter tax. **b) – Mt Hope Road – Township property sale – update** – Still waiting on a few items in order for the sale to be complete. **c) – LRUA Resolution** – After some discussion on the resolution, Stormont offered the "Resolution supporting start of work to form a Regional Sewer Authority comprised of Leoni Township and the municipalities served by the Leoni Wastewater Treatment Plant and connected wastewater collection systems." Supported by Bray. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Stormont, Bray, Bednarski-Lynch, Loveland and Brennan. Nays – Zenz. Absent: Butterfield. Motion Carried. **d) – Zoning Ordinance – HC/LI Chapter Text – Final Adoption** — Motion by Brennan to adopt the new Chapter 13 text language for LI/HC Light Industrial/Highway Commercial District and renumber remaining chapters in the Township Zoning Ordinance Book. Supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Brennan, Bednarski-Lynch, Bray, Loveland, Zenz and Stormont. Absent: Butterfield. Motion Carried. **e) – Village Contract** – This was presented back in March and the board at that time wanted an itemized expense list of the lift station costs. The committee that David Trent had asked for representation from our board has not taken place yet and our understanding was to review the 2012 Water Agreement and 2016 Agreement to Operate and Maintain Sewer Collection and Transmission System. Stormont has been talking to Trent.

New Business: **a) Budget Amendment – Sports-n-Trails Park** – took place under presentation of bills above. **b) – Recreation Board Appointments & Tournament Fees** - Motion by Bray to appoint Tina Bednarski-Lynch and Don Holden to the board under the recommendation of Jim Howe, Park Manager. Supported by Zenz. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Bray, Zenz, Bednarski-Lynch, Loveland, Stormont and Brennan. Absent: Butterfield. Motion Carried. **c) – Schedule Hearing – 4892 Norvell Road** – this is a follow-up hearing to the one from March 2019. Hearing will be November 26, 2019. **d) – Approval of Settlement Agreement – update** – The Township, Friends of Grass Lake and L & L attorneys have been working on a “Settlement Agreement & Release” for closure outside of court, Stormont thinks they are close to having a settlement. **e) – 2020 Jackson County Aerial Imagery Project** - Bray made motion to enter into “Letter of Intent” for the 2020 Jackson County Aerial Imagery Acquisition Project. Supported by Brennan. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Bray, Brennan, Bednarski-Lynch, Loveland, Zenz and Stormont. Absent: Butterfield. Motion Carried. Our cost to participate will be \$5,510.00 and will need to be budgeted for in 2020 with the hopes that it will take place. **f) – Board of Review Resolutions – Poverty Exemption, Protest in Writing, Meeting Dates** – Motion by Zenz to offer Resolutions for “Board of Review Poverty Guidelines”, “Authorization for Residents to protest in writing and authorization for all protests of someone appealing on behalf of the property owner”, and “Authorization for Board of Review to meet on alternate date in March.” Supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Zenz, Bednarski-Lynch, Bray, Loveland, Stormont and Brennan. Absent: Butterfield. Motion Carried.

Fire Department Report: October report accepted and filed as prepared by Chief Jones.

Old Business: none

New Business: **a) – New Fireperson application** – Moved by Bednarski-Lynch to accept application of Ryan Barr under the recommendation of Fire Chief Jones as a new member of the fire department. Supported by Bray. Motion Carried. Jones will be looking into when he will be able to start the fire and medical training.

Public Comment: **Gina Lammers** – clarification on Treasurer of the LRU, and also what the Township is looking for in regards to cost of lift stations, would like us to send information to Star so it goes in their Village packets. **Richard Murphy** – his understanding is the Township and Friends of Grass Lake are together in settling the appeal case. Also a road millage would be a good thing for taxpayers and would like to see this. **Tina Bednarski-Lynch** – need to call Jackson County Department of Transportation when we see something not right. **Chief Jones** – Knight and Mt Hope Roads need some attention-increased calls for that intersection. **Nancy Prindle** – any industry coming into Township should be required to help in maintenance of roads. **Tina Bednarski-Lynch** – Farmer Commandoes 4-H having a can food drive, Monday, November 18, drop off at Assembly of God Church, Mt Hope Road. **Gina Lammers** – contact the school with any family names needing assistance this holiday or if wanting to adopt a family. **Chief Jones** - Fire Department will be having a toy and food drive on December 7 – in past have worked with school for distribution of the collection.

Adjournment: Motion by Bednarski-Lynch to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 pm, supported by Brennan. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Catherine Zenz, Township Clerk