

**GRASS LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP**  
**APPROVED WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 23, 2020**

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

**Also Present:** Assessor Deboe, Zoning Administrator Lammers, Fire Chief Jones, Park Manager Howe, Deputy Clerk Harris, Jim Cole and Bruce Crews from Jackson County Department of Transportation and 2 Public.

**Meeting** called to order by Supervisor Stormont at 8:05am via Zoom.

**Opening Office to the Public:** Still working on putting protocol in place to open the office to the public. The board can continue using Zoom for public meetings through the end of July. Bednarski-Lynch would not push for in person meetings at this time.

**Road Millage Draft Documents:** Jim Cole and Bruce Crews have created a document with basic questions and answers, just need to fill in dates, times and locations of informational meetings. These meetings will probably be after July 31. Cole can add a pie chart showing where taxes are distributed. He also suggests three to four informational meetings throughout September and October at a facility that will hold everyone. Maps for the road treatments need to be added to the document as well. Bray asked for any frequently asked questions and answers that can be added to the Township website and township Facebook page to help stop rumors. Loveland likes the idea of the pie chart as an explanation for taxes.

**Vandalism at Sports & Trails Park Report:** Howe received a letter from the prosecuting attorney's office with a form to fill out to be able to recoup the Township's cost for the vandalized door.

**Bohne Rd. Traffic Ordinance:** An email was received from Nancy Prindle. She had stated that there are quite a few 18 wheelers traveling on Bohne Rd. especially when the scales are open. Stormont asked if a traffic ordinance need to be put in place. If the board decides to adopt any traffic ordinances there is a possibility of losing state or federal funding due to the ordinance being too strict. Bray stated drivers are already breaking the law, so there's no point in creating a new law so drivers just break two laws. Bednarski-Lynch believes the Department of Transportation officers and the State Police need to make more of an effort to stop this issue. Bray suggested to have the police hit the area hard for a few weeks. Stormont would like to receive information when the scales will be open. Lammers stated he continues to receive complaints about Bohne Rd. and the gravel pit. Bray wanted to know if Deputy Shackleford keeps a log of his complaints and investigations. Shackleford has a report that he keeps, but no information has been entered in the Township BS&A program.

**Tree Grant for Consumers Energy:** In the past the Township has received grants from Consumers Energy that pays for trees purchased and planted within the Township. The Township would like to apply for this grant again. It is easier to purchase and plant younger trees, but B&G Landscape only has 12' tall trees left. The trees have to be prepaid and planted by November and no more than 25 trees purchased per grant rules. The decision on the grant won't be made until August, but the trees may be gone by then. If the grant is not approved the purchase of the trees will come from the Sports-N-Trails budget.

**Comments:** Bednarski-Lynch received a complaint about the cemeteries, graves needing to be seeded, extra dirt thrown on top of a marker and weeds near the fence line. Also, a large tree had fallen in the west cemetery during a storm. Howe was going to look into it.

Bray asked if the Township will take a hit in regards to revenue sharing. Loveland said it looks like it will stay close to the same for this fiscal year, but may be a reduction for the 2020/2021 fiscal year.

The state has extended the homestead exemption due date to June 30. It was determined that not everyone was heard at the March Board of Review, so property owners have an opportunity to attend the July Board of Review. Stormont stated that is not for those who were denied in March just if they didn't have a chance to speak. Bednarski-Lynch suggested providing this information to the public, so it will be placed on the Township website, Facebook page and in the Exponent.

Motion by Bray and supported by Bednarski-Lynch to adjourn at 9:03am. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Harris, Deputy Clerk