

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
Regular Monthly Meeting
Grass Lake Charter Township Board
May 11, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Grass Lake Charter Township Board was called to order on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Lesinski at the Township Meeting Room. This meeting was in person as well as ZOOM.

Board Members Present by Roll Call: Bednarski-Lynch, Loveland, Zenz, Lesinski, and Brennan. Bray present remotely due to medical reasons at his home in Grass Lake Charter Township, Jackson County, Michigan.

Also Present: Park Manager Jim Howe, Fire Chief Jones, Zoning Administrator Lammers – by ZOOM, Assessor DeBoe, Officer Shackelford and 3 public in person and approximately 13 Public by Zoom.

Pledge to flag was recited.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Bednarski-Lynch and supported by Brennan to approve agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda Items Approval: Bednarski-Lynch would like the reports to be read. Motion by Brennan to accept the consent agenda items as read. Supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Motion Carried.

Monthly Bills: Motion by Brennan to pay the General Fund bills in the amount of \$70,811.50 and Fire Fund bills in the amount of \$19,605.24. Supported by Lesinski. Roll Call: Yeas – Brennan, Lesinski, Bednarski-Lynch, Loveland, Zenz and Bray. Nays – None.

Treasurer's Report: Loveland stated he has settled with the county for 2020 tax season. We did receive a legal fee that went delinquent which was something we never know if the County will pay or not. Many thanks to Harris for help in preparing his report. Motion by Zenz to accept and file the Treasurer's report as presented. Supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Motion Carried.

Correspondence – Letter of appreciation to Clerk Zenz from Grass Lake Community Schools for running the election for them.

Old Business: a) – **Quinn property update – Curtis Road** – Lammers is under the understanding that Quinn's attorney and the Township's attorney are working together to determine what inspections are needed so this can finally get cleaned up. b) - **1st Reading of PPO- Ordinance Regulating Medical Marijuana, Recreational Marijuana and Primary Caregivers** – Lesinski read a brief statement about what transpired in the Township last week. (attached). Lesinski went over the ordinance copy with changes from the meeting last week with the Township Attorney's. Some discussion on the proposed ordinance. Motion by Loveland to introduce the ordinance for a first reading, before posting, publication and subsequent final adoption.

Supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Roll Call Vote: Yeas – Loveland, Bednarski-Lynch, Brennan, Bray, Zenz and Lesinski. Nays – None. **c) – Maute Road culvert** – the Jackson County Department of Transportation is appealing the decision made by EGLE, they want a bigger culvert put in than what is currently there. They will keep us posted. **d) – Tire Collection – June 12, 2021** – the football team will be helping with this project. The time will be 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Loveland would like the Township to furnish gloves for the workers. Lesinski will look into the size of tires that can be brought and also if rims are to be removed.

New Business: a) – Park Business – Hiring of Don Holden, update of agreements, etc. – Lesinski is almost done with the finish touches of the agreements with the teams and getting copies of their insurance. Motion by Brennan to bring Holden on as basically the “work horse” at the park to help lighten the work load for Howe. The park manager budgeted line item will be split 60/40 between the two. Supported by Zenz. Motion Carried. **b) – Traffic Jam’in Sponsorship and July 4th Fireworks** – With having fireworks evening of July 4th the police protection maybe higher. Motion by Loveland to contribute \$1,000.00 towards police protection for the Traffic Jam’in and revisit the amount given if necessary to cover extra coverage for protection at the Traffic Jam’in. Supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Roll Call Vote: Yeas – Loveland, Bednarski-Lynch, Brennan, Bray, Zenz and Lesinski. Nays – None. **c) – Resolution – Notification of Release of Right of First Refusal – Fishville Road** – Loveland has had communication with the owners of the property. Motion by Loveland to offer resolution to decline the Township’s first right of refusal for the 2021 foreclosed parcel. Supported by Brennan. Roll Call Vote: Yeas – Loveland, Brennan, Bednarski-Lynch, Bray, Zenz and Lesinski. Nays – None. **d) – Trustee Appointment Interview update and Assessor update** – 4 applications were received for the Township Trustee position. 2 have been interviewed and 2 more will be done on May 13, 2021. Appointment will be made at a Special Board Meeting on May 25, 2021. Assessor position has been advertised in the Michigan Assessor Association Magazine and on the website. 1 resume has been received from the ad in the magazine, 1 person has already been spoken to and Lesinski has reached out to 1 other person through word of mouth. May have to hire an independent contractor. Would like to have position filled so they can spend some time with DeBoe before she leaves. **e) – Policy of video use for non-township meetings** – this is still being looked into.

Bednarski-Lynch would like to see something happen with making the sidewalk from Sports-n-Trails parking lot to the baseball/softball fields ADA compliant.

Fire Department Report: April report was received and filed. Jones reported that internet keeps dropping at the station. Having a gentleman that needs community service trimming bushes and replanting bushes at the station. 2 Cadets will be finished with their schooling at end of May through the college. 2 of his officers (Holden & Jones) are taking classes for Instructor 1 & 2. They have been asked to help teach in the county and will be able to instruct the Departments classes.

Public Comment: Dale Fisher – very efficient board meeting, official photographer for the area and Sesquicentennial. **Joe DeBoe** – thank you to attendees at Sesquicentennial kick-off, Franks Shop-rite for donating cake and ice cream. Memorial Day – 10:00 service at Memorial Park downtown and then to the East Cemetery. June 5 – car show. **Richard Murphy** – thanked the

board for moving foreword with the Marihuana PPO Ordinance, make sure that the word gets out.

Adjournment: Motion by Brennan to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm, supported by Bednarski-Lynch. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Catherine N Zenz, Township Clerk

Before we begin discussion on the proposed Ordinance that we have been working on now for a year or so, I would like to make a brief comment about what transpired in our Township last Thursday, May 6th.

As many of you are aware 3 properties were searched by the Michigan State Police and other law enforcement agencies from the State of Michigan. One being on Wolf Lake Rd, one on Bellman Rd and one on Michigan Ave. We have been in contact with the detective in charge and have been told that the agencies are conducting their investigations which will take a period of time. We will let them do their work and let the process work itself out. Although we will not comment during an ongoing investigation, I just wanted to reiterate that retail, commercial adult use and medical marihuana facilities are prohibited in the Township. The Township is focused on illegal retail, commercial marihuana uses and activities within its boundaries, and will pursue known cases consistent with state law and local ordinances.

At this time, because it is an active investigation, we have no further comment, to do so would only lead to speculation and rumor.

Thank you!