

Watertown Township
2630 South Sandusky Rd
Sandusky, MI 48471
Tuesday, June 8, 2021 – 6:00 pm

The Watertown Township Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor, Scott Franzel at 6:00 pm. All present rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Cambridge, Coats, Dixon, Franzel, Ross and Diaz

GUESTS: Ken Landsburg, ~~Mary~~ Kim Hart, Brad Knoerr, Clint Stoutenburg and Al Stoutenburg

MINUTES

Franzel requested approval of the May 4, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

*** Coats made the motion to accept the May 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes as presented. Cambridge supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Coats, Dixon, Franzel and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Coats requested that –

- 20-21 Audit be added under New Business as item #3

Dixon requested that –

- Samsung Correspondence be added under Correspondence #2

Franzel requested that –

- Drain Notices be added under Correspondence as item #1
- Missing permit be added under Zoning as item #1

Ross requested that –

- A PA116 Application be added under Zoning as item #2

***Dixon made the motion to accept the agenda as amended. Cambridge supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Coats, Dixon, Franzel and Ross Nays: None. Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Drain Notice –Franzel reported that on February 11, 2021 the Township received notification from Doug Sweet, Sanilac County Drain Commissioner that Adams and Black River Drains were repaired.
2. Samsung notified the Township that they are in the process of doing a study in Watertown Township.

TREASURER

Coats requested approval of May 2021 number 16502 thru 16526 for a total amount of \$113,959.19. This includes paying for 50% of the new LED sign and paying for lime stone for the roads for the full year.

***Dixon made the motion to approve the paid bills as presented. Cambridge supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Coats, Dixon, Franzel and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

CLERK

Ross:

- Requested a motion to approve the monthly bills to be paid.

***Cambridge made the motion to approve bills to be paid as presented. Dixon supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Coats, Dixon, Franzel and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

CEMETERY REPORT

Ross presented the Cemetery Activity Report through May 2021 as submitted by John Harding, Sexton:

- May 1, 2021 Cremation Burial – B63-6
- May 21, 2021 Cremation Burial – E6-4
- May 28, 2021 Cremation Burial – D29-9

Drop Box - By unanimous consensus the Board agrees that the funeral home may use the existing drop box to submit burial paperwork.

Franzel requested that the Board be on the lookout for a linen map that burials are entered on. Dixon will contact the previous sexton.

SEWER REPORT

Bill Dixon reported:

- Meters were read on 5/27/21.
- Reader pads were replaced on the Holly Redeemer Church and Parsonage on Miller Road.
- The annual sewer clean-up was performed. After the company left, the system starting setting off alarms including a high-water alarm. The pump was primed correcting the issue. Thank you to Roger Brown and Matt Harris for their help. Customers did not experience any issues.

Planning Commission Activity

- The last meeting was over 2 hours and included community input and questions. As meetings are for Planning Commission Business, future meetings will focus on Planning Commission Business. The Commission was able to get through 10 of the 16 pages with preliminary draft language. To keep on the timeline, the commission must have all the language sections completed by the July meeting so a draft can be submitted to the attorney. The moratorium ends October 1, 2021.
- Mr. Gary Fetting is doing research for the Planning Commission and converting ordinances and forms into a usable pdf format. The Watertown Board truly appreciates Mr. Fetting for his time and dedication.
- Next Planning Commission Meeting is June 17, 2021 at 6:00 pm

Further discussion was held on land enrolled into PA116, the Master Plan and Land Zoning Status in relationship to the proposed solar panel field.

Rebecca Cambridge proposed a townhall meeting, so the landowners who will be affected by the solar fields can give their opinion. Board discussion was held.

***Cambridge made the motion to hold a townhall meeting on June 21, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Ross supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Coats, Dixon, Franzel and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Franzel reported that there is an opening on the Planning Commission Board. Brad Knoerr addressed the Board. He explained his position on land owners' rights and would like to put his name in to fill the Planning Commission opening.

The Board held a paper ballot vote. The results were 4 to 1 to appoint Jim Hacker to the Planning Commission Board opening.

Franzel reported the Planning Commission is recommending changing zoning and other violations from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction.

***Dixon made the motion to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation. Cambridge supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Coats, Dixon, Franzel and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

WEBSITE

Cambridge reported that she:

- Updated minutes, agendas, meeting dates, board member information, contact information, website tabs, and public announcements.
- Contacted Nancy Rich to update the Sanilac County Watertown Township Board Supervisor's email information.

TAX ASSESSOR

Jeannie Diaz reported

- She has the information to submit to Sheila Coats, Township Treasurer for tax invoices. Jeannie requested that her contact number be taken off the tax bills.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- ~~Mary~~ Kim Hart is unable to find the Township's ordinance on Medical Marijuana Growth Operations. Is there one, how would she get a copy and is Medical Marijuana be grown in the Township? The Board directed her to the website, under the ordinance tab.

ZONING

Franzel reported that he:

- Received a letter from the building department regarding a resident who neglected to get a building permit for a deck.
- Received a permit for a rear deck for a house on French Line Road.
- Received a land use permit request for a wood deck

Ross reported:

- She received a PA116 request.

*** Dixon made the motion to approve the request. Dixon supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Coats, Dixon, Franzel and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Clean-Up Days – A clean-up day will be held to the South Zion Cemetery on September 18, 2021. A notice will be sent out with the tax bills, posted on the website and possibly placed in the newspaper.
2. LED Sign – Franzel reported it is on schedule. He spoke with Nathan Campbell regarding drain tile for the ditch. Unused sand from the cemetery will be used to cover the tile. By unanimous consensus of the Board the sign base will be solid with no frame around the top.
3. Township Hall Door – Ross reported that she spoke Mark Kaatz from Sanilac Glass. He believes the door can be fixed. If not, he will quote a new door.
4. 20-21 Audit – Coats reported that the Township needs to find a new auditor and discussed options. Deadline for the audit is September 15th so that it can be to the State by the 30th.

ADJOURN

***Coats made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m. Dixon supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Coats, Dixon, Franzel and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried

Next Regular Board Meeting is Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tammy Ross, Clerk,