

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
IRA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
AUGUST 3, 2020**

The Ira Township Board of Trustees met in the Ira Township Fire Hall on August 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Board members present: James Endres Jr., Thomas Lauer, Thomas Eder, James Jacob and Jean Corbat  
Absent: None

**MINUTES:**

J. Jacob moved to approve the minutes of the 7/6/2020 regular meeting, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes.                      Opposing: None                      **MOTION CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- SEMCOG Update
- Semco Energy Notice
- FEMA Notice RE Meteotsunami
- Michigan Wetlands Floodplain
- DTE Public Service Notice

Correspondence read and filed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Zoning Ordinance Revision RE: Vacation Rentals and Fences and Accessories and General Ordinance RE: Regulation of Vacation Rentals

J. Corbat moved to accept the recommendations of the Planning Commission and request that the Township Attorney draft an Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance RE: Vacation Rentals and Fences and Accessories and draft an ordinance regarding Regulation of Vacation Rentals, supported by J. Jacob.

All voting yes.                      Opposing: None                      **MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Ordinance #121 Open and Outdoor Burning Ordinance

T. Lauer moved to adopt Ordinance #121, Open and Outdoor Burning Ordinance, supported by J. Endres Jr.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: J. Endres Jr., T. Lauer, J. Jacob, T. Eder, J. Corbat

Nays: None    **MOTION CARRIED**

Work Order Agreement with St. Clair County Road Commission RE: No Fishing Signs

T. Eder moved to approve the Work Order with St. Clair County Road Commission in the amount of \$500.00 for five (5) signs for Water Words Drive and authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement on behalf of the Township, supported by J. Jacob.

All voting yes.                      Opposing: None                      **MOTION CARRIED**

Clay Police - Monthly Additional Charges

T. Lauer moved to approve the additional monthly charge of \$1,444.00 from the Clay Township Police Department, for additional services rendered during the month of July 2020, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes.                      Opposing: None                      **MOTION CARRIED**

Rezoning Request RE 7800 Dyke Road PC #20-423

Moved by T. Lauer and supported by J. Jacob to deny the request of Double D's Properties LLC, for rezoning of the property located at 7800 Dyke Road, from AEC - Agricultural to B2 - General Business, which was previously recommended for denial by the Ira Township Planning Commission on June 8, 2020 and by the St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission on July 16, 2020, based upon the following reasons:

- Rezoning is not consistent with the Township's plan for future land use;
- B-2 zoning designation would permit uses out of character with surrounding properties including uses that may have detrimental effects on neighboring properties;
- B-2 zoning destination would permit uses with a higher traffic demand than that anticipated on Perch Road in the Ira Township Comprehensive Land Use Plan;
- Applicant has not provided evidence that the property cannot be developed as zoned;
- There is vacant land in the township currently zoned for the use indicated on the applicant's plans, including across Perch Road, and circumstances in the area have not significantly changed since adoption of the Ira Township Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

All voting yes.

Opposing: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

Use of Fire Hall RE Music in the Park

T. Lauer moved to approve the request of the Director of Parks & Recreation to use the Fire Hall as a rain location for the Music in the Park event scheduled for September 11, 2020, pending compliance with any Executive Order of the state of Michigan concerning these types of venues during COVID-19 and requiring proper signage at the Fire Hall that no smoking or alcohol use is permitted, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes.

Opposing: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ordinance #122 Amendment of the Water and Sewer Ordinance

T. Lauer moved to adopt Ordinance #122 an amendment of the Water and Sewer Ordinance begin Ordinance No. 57, supported by J. Jacob.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: J. Endres Jr., T. Lauer, J. Jacob, T. Eder, J. Corbat

Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

September Meeting Date

J. Endres Jr., moved to change the Monday, September 7, 2020 meeting date for the Board of Trustees to Tuesday, September 8, 2020 due to observance of Labor Day, supported by T. Lauer.

All voting yes.

Opposing: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

2020 Holiday Hours

T. Eder moved to set holiday hours as follows: Close the office December 21, 2020 through December 24, 2020 and December 30, 2020 through December 31, 2020. Employees may use vacation or sick time, if available, for any unpaid holidays, supported by J. Jacob.

All voting yes.

Opposing: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

2020 Local Millage Distribution Request

T. Lauer moved to approve the Local Millage request to the SCC Parks & Rec Commission and authorize the Supervisor to sign the application on behalf of the Township, supported by J. Corbat.

All voting yes.

Opposing: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### 2020 Foreclosure Properties

J. Endres, Jr., moved to table this matter for additional information, supported by J. Jacob.

All voting yes.                      Opposing: None                      **MOTION CARRIED**

#### Elimination of Greenhouses RE: Primary Caregivers

J. Endres, Jr., moved to refer this matter to the Planning Commission for study and recommendation, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes.                      Opposing: None                      **MOTION CARRIED**

#### Site Plan RE 8516 Dixie Highway (Canvas Junkies) PC 20-422; ZBA 20-592

T. Eder moved to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission and Building Official to approve the Site Plan as presented, supported by J. Jacob.

All voting yes.                      Opposing: None                      **MOTION CARRIED**

#### T & R Janitorial Building Services LLC

T. Lauer moved to approve the agreement with T & R Janitorial Building Services LLC for janitorial services for the Township Hall and Library and authorize the Supervisor to execute the agreement on behalf of the Township, supported by J. Jacob.

All voting yes.                      Opposing: None                      **MOTION CARRIED**

#### Police Services Contract

T. Lauer moved to table this matter for additional information, supported by J. Jacob.

All voting yes.                      Opposing: None                      **MOTION CARRIED**

#### Commission Members Pay Increase

T. Lauer moved to increase the per diem compensation for each meeting attended by members of the Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals from \$25.00 to \$30.00 for each meeting attended, supported by J. Endres, Jr.

All voting yes.                      Opposing: None                      **MOTION CARRIED**

#### Parks & Recreation Director Pay Increase

T. Lauer moved to increase the annual salary of the Parks & Recreation Director from \$10,000.00 per year to \$10,500.00 per year, supported by J. Endres, Jr.

All voting yes.                      Opposing: None                      **MOTION CARRIED**

#### Sewer Bill Relief (8889 Schnoor Drive)

T. Lauer moved to accept the recommendation of the DPW Supervisor and provide sewer relief in the amount of \$896.00 and extend the payment due date of the remaining water bill in the amount of \$1,218.25 to October 1, 2020 without late charge accrual, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes.                      Opposing: None                      **MOTION CARRIED**

#### **REPORTS:**

Police Run Report- July 2020

Building Permits - July 2020

Code Enforcement - July 2020

DPS

- Lake Park Water Main Replacement Project is 80% in ground; service ties later this week and wrap up in two weeks;
- Staff working with Parks & Rec on installing split rail fence, rubber mulch and other projects;
- PLC and Scada at Plant;
- Request for Sewer Relief;
- Researching available funds under CARES Act to relieve payment of late water bills; estimate 220 residents could qualify; several requirements need to be met;

Parks & Recreation

- Director's Report and Update;
- Split Rail Fence installed;
- Rubber mulch installed at Playscape;
- Wood duck boxes made by Nature Hero's participants and placed on trails;
- Everyone impressed with Amber Trombley;
- Thank you to DPS staff for all the help;

Fire Run Report - No Report

Supervisor:

- M-29 widening / replacement from Church to Palms, including a bike path route, will be out for bid in January 2021 and work should start next year;

Clerk:

- 865 ballots have been issued for the August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 State Primary and 594 returned; including 6 MOVE ballots and 1 Accessible ballot;
- Clerk Certification Meeting was held In-Zoom on July 14, 2020;
- Inspector training was completed in late July; we offered on-line, in-house and paper review and testing; Nineteen inspectors were certified;
- Supplies continue to be delivered by Staples through BOE funding under the CARES Act;
- Elections will open tomorrow at 7:00 am in the Township Hall; Various forms of personal protection equipment have been put into place for the benefit of our inspectors and voters;

Treasurer

- Bank Balances as of 7-28-2020;
- Water / Sewer Adjustments - July 2020;
- August Planning Commission meeting has been moved to outside the Fire Hall;

Trustee Eder:

- Appreciate use of Fire Hall for meetings;

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

T. Lauer moved to pay the following disbursements totaling \$389,780.55 and supported by J. Jacob.

All voting yes.

Opposing: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

Reg	
Fund 101 General Government	\$105,860.35
Fund 206 Fire Fund	\$ 47,732.07
Fund 592 Water / Sewer Fund	\$233,128.83
ACH	
Fund 101 General Government	\$ 823.12
Fund 206 Fire Fund	\$ 211.91
Fund 592 Water / Sewer Fund	\$ 2,024.27
Total for All Funds	\$389,780.55

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Janeil Kelley (7523 Dyke Road) status of ordinance for vacation rentals, can you require fences between vacation rentals and neighboring properties and advertised vacation rentals affects property value;

Gloria Yaquito (7938 Vernier) has lived in township 29 years; neighbor purchased home in 2015 and issues since; firepit in easement removed but now he has set up a jet ski ramp in easement; complained about neighbor's property again on July 6<sup>th</sup> what action has been taken;

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business to discuss and on the motion of J. Endres Jr., the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jean Corbat, Clerk