

REGULAR LITTLEFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

April 2, 2019 TIME: 7:00 PM

Meeting called to order by Damien Henning, Supervisor. Present: Dean Morford, Trustee, Sondra Festerling, Clerk, Katie Derrohn, Trustee, and Kim Shomin, Treasurer. Guests: Julie Peurasaari, Art Drayton, Bob Wurst, Kurt Hoffman, and Stuart Fenlon.

Consent Agenda: Item #12 Planning & Zoning Report was removed from the Consent Agenda. Items #3 Regular Meeting Minutes 3/5/19, Budget & Public Hearing 3/26/19, and Special Meeting 3/28/19. #5 Budget Adjustments: None. #6 Approval of Bills: \$13,208.31, Item #9 Blight Report: None. #10 Management Authority Report: In Packet, #11 Assessor's Report: None. #13 Sewer Authority Report: In Packet, #14 Library Board Report: Will Forward, and #17 Miscellaneous: Correspondence were all entered into the Consent Agenda and declared Adopted.

Treasurers Financial Report: K. Shomin reported: General Fund Checking \$127,275.61, Sewer Fund Checking \$102,356.83, Fire Fund \$43,906.38, Tax Account \$0.00, Cemetery Savings \$9,622.14, and Oden Light Savings \$5,343.26. Kim will be gone for a few weeks but will be able to take phone calls from anyone who needs assistance. Laser Checks have been ordered for the Hay Lake Marina Construction account. This is the first time Kim has used laser checks, and it was suggested to purchase laser checks for all of her accounts making it easier to post into QuickBooks when the checks are created.

Fire Board Report: The Minutes and Financials were received. Art Drayton reported that the Fire Board made a Motion to accept and passed a Leave of Absence Policy. This policy would keep track of persons who have valid reasons to be absent and those who have not been attending any meetings or runs. Those that haven't been showing up without a valid reason will be asked to turn in their gear and would be removed from the roster. The Jaws of Life contract has been funded again by the Emmet County. There may be an accountability, but the funds we receive is much less than the actual costs to have the unit so to show the funds are being used properly will not be a problem. The truck 4136 is going into to be repaired and painted at Tri River Collision. The doors have come in and once the work is completed Sign & Design will re-letter the doors. The Firemen will be striping down the truck to prepare it for Tri River and once it goes to them, they have 30 days to complete the work that was approved. The contracts were approved by the Fire Board for all repairs.

The Insurance company has been called to come out and look at the fire hall roof that has been damaged this past winter by snow and ice load. A roofer has also been called to come and give estimates to fix the roof and to possibly move the vents from the roof to the end/side of the building so they will no longer get crushed from the winter weather.

The Maple River Contract has been received. We do need to look at the Maple River Contract going forward since there has not been an increase in the amount we are given. The expenses to provide the services has only increased to our budget over the years, not decreased. Currently we only receive a percentage of their taxable. It should be based off of the cost of services provided not the taxable. Our township has the additional millage to offset the costs to provide the services. It is not right that their amount doesn't reflect true costs to provide the service based on their percentage of usage. Currently we are unable to make changes to the contract. It should have been done last year per the way the contract was written. D. Henning made the **Motion** to authorize the Fire Board to sign the current Maple River contract. Second by K. Shomin, carried 5 Yes, 0 No. D. Henning also stated that we need to enter into negotiations with all parties involved for the future contract covering the next two years making it fair. D. Morford made the **Motion** authorizing D. Henning and our Fire Board to go

into contract negotiations with all parties providing fire and first responder services to Maple River Township. Second by K. Shomin, Carried 5 Yes 0 No.

Planning & Zoning: K. Derrohn mentioned she is still down one member on the Planning & Zoning Committee. K. Derrohn also reported on the PUD for the Crooked Lake Yacht Club & Marina. The Township made a recommendation to the county that they look into the management agreement and whether all four parties had to sign the agreement before moving forward on allowing the PUD to be amended. Tammy Doernenburg from the County went ahead and asked the County's Civil Counsel. The County's Attorney told her that they do not have to have all four parties sign the management agreement and to go ahead and amend the PUD. The Crooked Lake Yacht Club will be going before the County Planning & Zoning this coming Thursday with their proposal for the dockage and parking that they have been asking for. This doesn't mean the party (out of the four) who has the problem with this doesn't have other legal remedies. This PUD is strictly for the land use.

Unfinished Business:

Blumke to Milton Rd. Acquisition: D. Henning provided the Board with a preliminary settlement statement on one of the parcels we are acquiring through the grant. On the seller's side (Up North LTD, LLC) it shows that there are taxes due for 2018 in the amount of \$6,533.85. The other parcel is under Don Brill Trust and there is not a tax liability like there is on this one. When the Township had the appraisal done and approved on 5/2/18, the actual approval to move forward with the purchase through the grant didn't happen until much later in the year. The Oelke's would like the Township to help pay for the taxes since the grant process took longer than they thought it would and they didn't account for having to pay for the taxes. After discussion on this extra cost D. Morford made the **Motion** that we add \$5,500.00 to Littlefield Township's cost of contribution in the purchase of the Blumke to Milton Rd. Acquisition from Up North, LTD., LLC. Second by K. Derrohn, Carried 4 Yes, 1 No.

Admirals Point/Hay Lake Marina: The work is moving along with Elmer's working on putting in the seawall.

New Business:

MTA Resolution: Larry Merrill, MTA's Executive Director sent out to all Michigan townships a resolution regarding a time-sensitive legislative policy issue. In the past there have been times that township officials have suggested to MTA that elective Michigan township offices should be non-partisan. Back in 2012 this topic was brought up at the annual MTA meeting and was voted down. There is now a state representative who intends to introduce and promote legislation to make nonpartisan township offices optional to townships. This creates a policy dilemma for MTA, and since they had already sent out the finalized notice to the membership for the 2019 Policy Platform, it can't be a part of the upcoming Annual Meeting. MTA Board of Directors is asking member township boards to take a position at their township board meeting by doing a resolution of either support or opposition to legislation that would allow township boards the option to have its elected officials appear as nonpartisan on the ballot. After board discussion on this topic, D. Henning made a **Motion** that the Township disregard this MTA questionnaire and request for a resolution position. Second by D. Morford, Carried 3 Yes, 2 No.

Clerks Agenda: Ordinance #146 Prohibition of Recreational Marijuana Establishments was published and will take effect on April 12, 2019.

Charter has sent notice that there was changes to the holding name of the METRO Act agreement we hold with them due to restructuring. The cable franchise is now held by Spectrum Mid-America, LLC.

No other comments or information was brought before the Township Board.

Regular Meeting was adjourned @ 8:40PM by D. Henning