

Kearney Township Board Meeting
Kearney Township Hall
4820 Aero Park Drive, Bellaire, MI 49615
April 8, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Present – Niepoth, Hagood, Valuet, Petrie. Absent – None.

Conflict of Interest: None

Motion by Valuet supported by Hagood to approve the agenda as presented, carried.

Motion by Hagood supported by Niepoth to approve March 11th meeting minutes with changes: Date of meeting changed from “March 6th” to “March 11th”; and “The board discussed the Township Assessor's request for a new assistant in the Amar State assessing project.” will now read “Motion by Hagood supported by Petrie to approve the Township Assessor's request for a new assistant in the Amar State assessing project. Motion, carried.”

Motion by Valuet supported by Hagood to approve March 27th Budget Hearing minutes with the following sentences deleted: “Motion by Valuet supported by Hagood to approve the 2019-2020 Budget” and “Motion by Hagood supported by Valuet to approve the amendments for the 2018-2019 Budget”, and the following sentences added: “Valuet moved to approve the 2019/2020 budget with fund balance expenditures of \$279,069.00 as shown on the proposed budget. Hagood seconded the motion. Motion carried.” and “Valuet moved to approve the 2019/2020 road fund budget with fund balance expenditures of \$0.00 as shown on the proposed budget. Hagood seconded the motion. Motion carried.”

Discussion regarding minute taking. Petrie agreed that, moving forward, Valuet will record the minutes for all Board meetings.

Motion by Valuet supported by Hagood to approve payment of the bills presented, except the John Hancock bill, with approved bills totalling \$3,146.43, carried.

Public comment: None.

Old Business:

The Township Ambulance Authority met March 20, 2019. Two new ambulances have arrived. Awaiting graphics and safety inspections.

Board discussed meeting room chairs that were proposed to replace the current chairs. Concerns were

raised regarding the specifications cited in the description of the chairs. Niepoth will follow up on the specifications and advise at the next Board meeting.

New Business:

Board discussed the proposed Ordinance Prohibiting Marihuana Establishments within the Township. While the Board discussed moving forward with approving the prohibition of such establishments, it recognized that it could reconsider if requested. Valuet moved to approve the Ordinance, presented as Ordinance No. 1 of 2019, which was seconded by Hagood. Roll call vote: Yeas: Niepoth, Hagood, Petrie, Valuet. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Two residents, Kevin Giar and Steve Alger, asked to be considered for the vacant Trustee position. Board reviewed a letter from each. Giar currently provides snow plowing services for the Township, which does not prevent him from being appointed, but the vendor relationship may change if appointed. Valuet pointed out that Alger lives in a part of the township where two other board members reside and Giar lives in a portion of the township that is not currently represented on the Board. Hagood moved to appoint Giar to the Trustee position, Niepoth seconded. Motion carried.

Board discussed setting up a schedule for payroll checks for all Township Board members, employees, and appointees to the Planning Commission Board, Board of Review and Zoning Board of Appeals ("ZBA"). Motion by Valuet, seconded by Hagood, for payroll checks to be issued to Township Board members twice a month, on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, and once a month, on the 3rd Thursday, to the Assessor, Deputies, Zoning Administrator, and appointees attending the Planning Commission, Board of Review, and ZBA meetings. Motion carried.

Board discussed Cybersecurity and the need to protect all township computers from ransomware demands and other threats. Hagood summarized procedure recommended in the event of a ransomware event. Currently only the Assessor and Treasurer's computers are connected to the server. Ken Thompson has provided IT services in the past and will be at the Township Hall later this week to review the security measures currently in place on each computer.

Hagood reviewed the responsibilities she and John Fleet assumed several years ago, relating to hall rentals. Since Hagood is now solely responsible for hall rentals she is requesting additional help. The hall is rented 3 out of 4 weekends in June. Niepoth offered to assist.

Jim Smith is cutting back on his lawn care and maintenance business and will no longer be providing those services at the Township Hall and three cemeteries. The Board thanks Mr. Smith for the excellent service he has provided over the years. Niepoth has spoken to Union Designs and will contact others suggested at the meeting and by Mr. Smith.

Commissioner, Terry Van Alstine, updated the Board on various matters. VanAlstine also encouraged Board members to attend a public forum on April 23rd at the Meadow Brook Medical Care Facility regarding the county's jail and administrative building options.

Officer Reports: Petrie reported that she was contacted about some previously unpaid publication invoices. Valuet/Hagood volunteered to review invoices and payment records to determine any outstanding balance owed. Niepoth advised that the Zoning Administrator has requested mileage reimbursement. The request will be included on next month's Board meeting agenda. Niepoth updated Board on recent FOIA request.

Correspondence: A letter was received from Swiss Village East Owners Association outlining potential plans to harvest dead/dying trees and checking whether the Township was okay with the proposed plans. Kearney Township owns 2 lots in Swiss Village East.

Supervisor comments.

Motion by Hagood supported by Valuet to adjourn the meeting, carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Recorded by Michelle Valuet, Trustee

Sally Petrie, Township Clerk

Date

Ed Niepoth, Township Supervisor

Date