

Minutes
MORTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Tuesday, May 5, 2020 9:00 AM
Morton Township Hall, 290 Main Street, Mecosta MI 49332

Call to Order/Pledge 9:01 am

Roll Call: Dick Wheeler, Maureen Wolfe, Jeff Ratledge, Yo Bellingar and Stephanie McNeal were all present.

Six public citizens were present.

Public Comment: None.

New Business:

Spring Clean Up – New Date: Dates available in August are the 8th and the 22nd. Motion on next week’s agenda to approve August 22nd. Stephanie will contact Matt Biolette to make sure date is still available.

Assessing Contract Renewal: McNeal suggested looking at other proposals to consider before renewing our existing assessing contract. Alternate proposals were discussed. Board of trustee needs to clarify expectations.

Unfinished Business:

Employee Evaluations: Select new form, distribute and return completed forms by June 2, 2020 at COW meeting.

Road Commission Dust Control Contract Signatures: McNeal distributed contract for signatures. Will go in today’s mail.

Review Strategic Plan: Need to set meeting date.

Reports:

1. Joe Lisuzzo, Recreation Committee: No report.
2. Allen Sutherby, Fire Chief: Ordered masks, will go back to in-house training with proper social distancing standards, looking at costs related to COVID-19, working on grants.
3. Joe Lanz, Fire Administrative Committee: No report.
4. Dick Wheeler, Supervisor: Update on recycling.
5. Maureen Wolfe, Treasurer: Need motion to approve annual meeting on next week’s agenda; has a budget resolution for next week’s agenda; summer tax newsletter going out; questioned promoting Census 2020.
6. Stephanie McNeal, Clerk: Wex Bank reduced credit limit on gas card; Reuther Music Series canceled all June concerts and will be refunding our sponsorship money; scheduling Fire/Rescue Dept. Open House for July 1 or July 2; political signs can go out 90 days before an election.
7. Jeff Ratledge, Trustee: Planning Commission meeting on May 20, 2020 at 6:30 pm. Has not been determined if it will be an in-person or video conference meeting yet. Will let the board know as soon as he knows.
8. Yo Bellingar, Trustee: ZBA meeting on May 20, 2020 before the Planning Commission Meeting.

Budget Meeting Begins:

Board reviewed salary worksheets provided by the treasurer. Board consensus was to give all employees 2% increase. Motions will be on next week's agenda for increasing elected officials' wages. State revenue sharing is an unknown income at this time. Will add funds from fund balance to balance budget. Need final figures for assessing. Discussion on how much to include for building/zoning mileage. Mileage reimbursement requests should have more detail. Question about raising costs for building permits. McNeal commented that the clerk's salary should be increased due to increased elections, constant changes mandated from Secretary of State and the increase in absentee voters. She will look at history of how many elections are held each year.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn: 11:15 am