

**Morton Township Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
September 8, 2020 @ 9:00 am
Morton Township Hall, 290 Main Street, Mecosta MI 49332**

Call to Order 9:00 am

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Seven public citizens were present.

Public Comment:

Dave Lewis, resident, commented that he is opposed to changing zoning for parcels 5411-010-005-100 and 5411-010-005-200 from C-2 to C-3.

Glenna Maneke, resident, commented that she supports the comments made by Dave Lewis.

Steve Lobert, principal owner in Bulldog Investments, attorney and petitioner for change of zoning commented that the change from C-2 to C-3 supports the township's Master Plan, Zoning Ordinance and Strategic Plan.

Motion to approve agenda by M. Wolfe, second by Y. Bellingar. Wolfe noted one change under Reports item #3 that the end of Steve Brandt's term on the Planning Commission is 12-31-2022. Approved with change 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Carried

Motion to approve consent agenda by Y. Bellingar, second by J. Ratledge, 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report submitted by M. Wolfe.

Fund Disbursement:

Motion to approve funds dispersed on August 17, 2020 for fifty-nine thousand, eighty-seven dollars and eighteen cents (\$59,087.18); September 2, 2020 for fifty-four thousand three hundred twenty-six dollars and twenty-one cents (\$54,326.21); and an EFT on September 1, 2020 for forty-four thousand, nine hundred dollars and zero cents (\$44,900.00) for a total of one hundred fifty-eight thousand, three-hundred thirteen dollars and thirty-nine cents (\$158,313.39) by M. Wolfe, second by Y. Bellingar. Roll call vote: Wolfe, yes; Bellingar, yes; Ratledge, yes; McNeal, yes; Klumpp, yes. Motion Carried

Reports:

1. Fire/Rescue, Chief Allen Sutherby: No report.
2. Fire Administration Committee, Chairperson Joe Lanz:
Motion to approve purchase of ten Unitarian G1 pagers for \$3550, 23 badges for \$1380.26, 26 helmet fronts for \$1116, and 11 pair of Thorogood structural firefighter boots for \$3289 by S. McNeal, second by J. Ratledge. Roll call vote: McNeal, yes; Ratledge, yes; Wolfe, yes; Bellingar, yes; Klumpp, yes. Motion Carried
Motion to approve purchase of six (6) ballistic vests for \$2270 by S. McNeal, second by J. Ratledge. Roll call vote: McNeal, yes; Ratledge, yes; Klumpp, yes; Wolfe, yes; Bellingar, yes. Motion Carried
3. Planning Commission, Jeff Ratledge:

Motion to approve Steve Brandt to the Planning Commission effective 9-8-2020 through 12-31-2022 by J. Ratledge, second by M. Wolfe. 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Carried

Motion to approve the request to rezone parcel numbers #5411-010-005-200 and #5411-010-005-100 located at 8715 11 Mile Road from C-2 district to C-3 district by J. Ratledge, second by S. McNeal. Roll call vote: Ratledge, yes; McNeal, yes; Bellingar, no; Wolfe, yes; Klumpp, yes. Motion Carried

4. Recreation Committee, Chair Joe Lisuzzo: No report.

New Business:

Motion to approve Proclamation for Mecosta County Giving Day December 2, 2020 by S. McNeal, second by Y. Bellingar. 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Carried

Unfinished Business:

1. **Motion to approve \$2 per hour pay increase for election chairpersons and primary Electronic Poll Book workers by S. McNeal, second by M. Klumpp. Roll call vote: McNeal, yes; Klumpp, yes; Ratledge, yes; Bellingar, yes; Wolfe, yes. Motion Carried**
2. **Motion to approve the purchase of new tabulator to accommodate the establishment of a second Absentee Counting Board for \$2647.50 by S. McNeal, second by Y. Bellingar. Roll call vote: McNeal, yes; Bellingar, yes; Ratledge, yes; Wolfe, yes; Klumpp, yes. Motion Carried**
3. **Motion to approve the purchase and installation of three new flag poles (Township Hall, Fire Station One and Fire Station Two) for \$2831.25 by M. Klumpp, second by J. Ratledge. Roll call vote: Klumpp, yes; Ratledge, yes; Wolfe, yes; Bellingar, yes; McNeal, yes. Motion Carried**

Correspondence: None

Public Comments:

Dave Lewis, resident, commented that he attended our Committee of the Whole meeting last week and took direction from our County Commission, Linda Howard, to attend the County Commissioners meeting to discuss potential collaboration to combat gypsy moth infestations. He was turned away at the door because there was a 10-person maximum for attendance at the meeting. Linda Howard emailed him and said she would be contacting him about having a meeting to discuss collaboration. Mr. Lewis has also reached out to representative's from School Section Lake and Canadian Lakes to discuss gypsy moth issues. He has not heard back from them.

Steve Lobert commented that he was very impressed with our planning commission regarding their handling of the request to change zoning of two parcels from C-2 to C-3.

Meeting adjourned 9:50 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie McNeal, Clerk