

AGENDA
MORTON TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING
January 12, 2021, 9:00 am
Morton Township Hall, 290 West Main Street, MI 49332

Call to Order/Pledge

Roll Call:

Public Comments:

Approve Agenda:

Approve Consent Agenda:

Approve minutes of Regular Meeting on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 @ 7:00 pm

Approve minutes of Committee of the Whole Meeting January 5, 2021 @ 9:00 am

Treasurer's Report:

Fund Disbursement:

This included bills paid on December 18, 2019 for for bills paid is sixty-eight thousand, six hundred eighty-four dollars and ninety-seven cents (\$68,684.97).

Reports:

1. Fire/Rescue – Chief Allen Sutherby
2. Fire Administration Committee – Chairperson J. Lanz
3. Planning Commission – J. Ratledge
4. Recreation Committee – J. Lisuzzo

New Business:

1. **Motion to approve Resolution R-210112-B Adjusting Budget.**
2. **Motion to approve Resolution R-210112-A Board of Review Written Petitions Resolution to Allow Local Residents to Protest the Value of Their Property in Writing**
3. **Motion to approve Resolution R-210112 Resolution to Waive Penalties for Non-Filing of Property**
4. **Motion to approve the reappointment of Kolina Mako, Kathy Towne and Dennis Morawa to Board of Review.**

Correspondence:

Public Comments:

Announcements:

Adjourn:

Minutes
Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole Meeting
Tuesday, January 5, 2021 @ 9:00 am
290 West Main Street, Mecosta MI 49332

Call to Order 9:00 am

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Fire Chief Allen Sutherby, Sandy Brogan, Dave Lewis, Marlene Schalm and Linda Howard were also present.

Public Comment:

Linda Howard commented that the Mecosta County Road Commission will be asking for a millage. She asked if we had been reimbursing the county for building official services on our agenda. Mark told her that we are communicating with the county's Building Official regarding payment of services.

New Business:

Employee Vacation Pay Out – Both full-time office staff have a considerable amount of unused vacation time. Do we pay for unused vacation time? Do we change our policy manual to pay for a portion of unused vacation time? Will be discussed later.

Dates for Policy Manual and Personnel Manual Review/Update Meetings – Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 10:00 or immediately following regular Board of Trustees meeting.

Reappoint Board of Review Members – Agenda item for 1-12-21 meeting to reappoint Kolina Mako, Kathy Towne and Dennis Morawa to Board of Review as well as alternate Joe Lissuzo.

Resolutions for January Board of Trustees Meeting –

Budget Adjustments R-210112-B

Board of Review Written Petitions R-210112-A

Waive Penalties for Non-Filing of Property Transfer Affidavits R-210112

Unfinished Business:

1. Building Official/Zoning Administrator Search for Replacement: Published in more regional areas this time.
2. Gypsy Moths Survey Results: 1452 acres have been recommended for spraying applications. 715 of those acres are in Canadian Lakes. Supervisor reached out to GM of Canadian Lakes and will discuss with his board possible financial contribution. Discussed possibilities for paying for treatment of Gypsy Moths. Many options for moving forward were discussed. Special meeting to discuss is scheduled for Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 11:00 am.
3. Valley Court Special Assessment Update: Public Notice was published in The Pioneer on Thursday, December 31, 2020. Notices were mailed to property owners along with the tax roll of property owners and a resolution that was passed by the board. An Affidavit of Mailing was

signed and notarized. A second publication of the public notice will be published next week in The Pioneer.

4. Mecosta County Road Commission Millage: Supervisor Klumpp updated the board on a millage that is being considered by the MCRC. The proposed ballot language indicates that the millage is for two mills for six years. Questions about how the funding will be dispersed.

Reports:

1. Joe Lisuzzo, Recreation Committee: No report.
2. Allen Sutherby, Fire Chief: Meeting with health dept today at 4:00 pm to look at Fire Station One as a possible drive-thru for COVID vaccinations. Received his vaccination last week. Working on FEMA grant, 594 calls last year (down from last year) and working on year-end report.
3. Fire Administrative Committee, Joe Lanz: No report (Allen covered.)
4. Mark Klumpp, Supervisor: Ready for 2021. A lot of positive feedback from year-end review.
5. Maureen Wolfe, Treasurer: Busy collecting winter taxes. 55% collected.
6. Stephanie McNeal, Clerk: When are we taking down the Christmas lights down? Should be soon according to the fire chief.
7. Jeff Ratledge, Trustee: No report.
8. Yo Bellingar, Trustee: No report.

Public Comment:

Dave Lewis – thank you for considering an expenditure on Gypsy Moth control. Do your best to get Canadian Lakes on board. Appreciate everything you have done so far.

Adjourn to adjourn @ 10:35 am by Klumpp, second by Ratledge. 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Stephanie McNeal.

**A RESOLUTION TO WAIVE PENALTIES FOR NON-FILING OF PROPERTY
TRANSFR AFFIDAVITS UNDER MCL 211.27B
TOWNSHIP OF MORTON
COUNTY OF MECOSTA, MICHIGAN
(R-200112)**

WHEREAS, MCL 211.27a(10) requires the buyer, grantee, or other transferee of the property shall notify the appropriate assessing office in the local unit of government in which the property is located of the transfer of ownership of the property within forty-five (45) days of the transfer of ownership, on a form prescribed by the state tax commission that states the parties to the transfer, the date of the transfer, the actual consideration for the transfer, and the property's parcel identification number or legal description and

WHEREAS, MCL 211.27b(1) requires that if the buyer, grantee, or other transferee in the immediately preceding transfer of ownership of property do not notify the appropriate assessing office of the transfer, then penalties as described in MCL 211.27b(1) (c or d) are levied and

WHEREAS, MCL 211.27B(5) provides that the governing body of a local tax collecting unit may waive, by resolution, the penalty levied under MCL 211.27b (1)(c or d).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Morton waives the penalty for failure to file the Property Transfer Affidavit following a transfer of ownership pursuant to the local unit's authority contained in MCL 211.27b

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member _____ and supported by Board Member _____.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

The following voted "Yes":

The following voted "No": None

The following were Absent: None

The Supervisor declared the resolution (R-210112) adopted January 12, 2021.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted at a meeting of the Morton Township Board held at the Morton Township Hall on January 12, 2021 that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being 1976 PA 267; that a quorum of the Board was present and voted in favor of said Resolution; and that minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Open Meeting Act.
Effective January 12, 2021.

Stephanie McNeal - Township Clerk

"Morton Township is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

**A BOARD OF REVIEW WRITTEN PETITIONS RESOLUTION
TO ALLOW LOCAL RESIDENTS TO PROTEST
THE VALUE OF THEIR PROPERTY IN WRITING
TOWNSHIP OF MORTON
COUNTY OF MECOSTA, MICHIGAN
(R-200112-A)**

WHEREAS, Morton Township wants to ease the burden on taxpayers, the Assessor and the Board of Review and to ensure that all taxpayers have an equal opportunity to be heard by the Board of Review,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Morton hereby resolves, according to provisions of MCL 211.30(8) of the General Property Tax Act, that the Board of Review shall receive letters of protest regarding assessments from resident taxpayers,

THEREFORE, Petitions would need to be received before the statutory first day of the Board of Review on the second Monday of March.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member _____ and supported by Board Member _____.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

The following voted "Yes":

The following voted "No": None

The following were Absent: None

The Supervisor declared the resolution (R-210112) adopted January 12, 2021.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted at a meeting of the Morton Township Board held at the Morton Township Hall on January 12, 2021 that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being 1976 PA 267; that a quorum of the Board was present and voted in favor of said Resolution; and that minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Open Meeting Act.

Effective January 12, 2021.

Stephanie McNeal - Township Clerk

**RESOLUTION ADJUSTING BUDGET
MORTON TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION
(Regular Law Township)**

Date: January 12, 2021

R- 210112B

WHEREAS: a budget was adopted by the township board to govern the expenditure of anticipated receipts within the township on June 16, 2020 for the current fiscal year 2020/2021 of the township. **AND WHEREAS,** as a result of unanticipated changes in revenues or needed expenditures, it is necessary to modify the aforesaid budget.

AND WHEREAS such modification will still maintain a balanced budget between revenues and expenditures.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED: the Board of Trustees authorizes the transfer of funds from aforesaid budget as follows:

BUDGET ACCT	DESCRIPTION	PREVIOUS BUDGET	BUDGET ADJUSTMENT	AMENDED BUDGET
101-258-948-00	Professional Services	2,000	2,000	4,000
101-101-800-00	Legal and Other Serv	12,000	2,000	14,000
101-000-675-00	Sale of Lot in Bus Prk	0	(6,000)	(6,000)
101-262-702-00	P/R Election Inspector	9,000	1,250	10,250
101-262-732-00	Misc. Expense-Election	1,000	1,250	2,250
101-262-729-00	Meals Election Worker	700	(200)	500
101-262-861-00	Mileage Reimb Elect	500	(300)	200
245-000-980-00	Office Equip & Furnitur	0	3,000	3,000
245-000-975-00	Building Add & Impr	146,000	(3,000)	143,000
249-000-627-00	Building Permit Fee	(25,000)	(4,000)	(29,000)
249-372-704-00	Outside Inspections	500	4,000	4,500

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member _____ and supported by Board Member _____.

Upon Roll Call Vote, the following voted

“Ayes”:

“Nay”:

Absent:

The Supervisor declared the resolution (R-210112B) adopted January 12, 2021.

CERTIFICATE

I, Stephanie McNeal, the duly and acting Clerk of Morton Township, hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted at a meeting of the Morton Township Board held at the Morton Township Hall on 1/12/21, that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being 1976 PA 267; that a quorum of the Board was present and voted in favor of said Resolution; and that minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Open Meeting Act.

Effective 1/12/2021

Stephanie McNeal - Clerk

Minutes
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 8, 2020 @ 7:00 pm
Via Zoom
290 West Main Street, Mecosta MI 49332

Call to Order 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Three public citizens in attendance.

Public Comment:

None.

Motion to approve agenda by M. Wolfe, second by J. Ratledge. 4 ayes, 0 nays Motion Carried

Motion to approve consent agenda by J. Ratledge, second by M. Wolfe. 4 ayes, 0 nays Motion Carried

Treasurer's Report submitted by M. Wolfe.

Motion to approve fund disbursement including funds on dispersed on November 12, 2020 for the amount of forty-one thousand, four hundred thirty-one dollars and twenty-six cents (\$41,431.26) and on December 1, 2020 for the amount of fifty thousand, three hundred seventy-nine dollars and seventy-six cents (\$50,379.76) for a grand total of ninety-one thousand, eight hundred eleven dollars and two cents (\$91,811.02) by M. Wolfe, second by M. Klumpp. Roll call vote: Wolfe, yes; Klumpp, yes; Ratledge, yes; McNeal, yes. Motion Carried

Reports:

1. Fire/Rescue, Allen Sutherby:
58 calls for November
There have been many COVID calls over the last month.
McNeal asked Sutherby how staffing is going with one day staffer taking employment elsewhere. Mondays and Fridays are difficult to staff.
Ratledge thanked Sutherby and his staff for putting up our Christmas lights.
2. Fire Administrative Committee, Joe Lanz:
Met November 24, 2020 via Zoom. Discussed COVID exposure, daytime staffing, cardiac monitor, potential project involving repair of floor drains at station two. Will not meet in December. Need to get creative to manage our daytime staffing.
3. Planning Commission, Jeff Ratledge:
No report. December meeting canceled.
4. Recreation Committee, Joe Lissuzo:
No report.

New Business:

Unfinished Business:

1. Motion to approve one time \$500 hazard pay to front office staff Vicky Esch and Diane Williamson and fire/rescue personnel that have responded since March 2020 to 11 – 25 calls a one-time \$250 hazard pay and 26 or more calls a one-time \$500 hazard payment by S. McNeal, second by M. Klumpp. Discussion included what calls are included in the number and what calls were not considered. Roll call vote: McNeal, yes; Klumpp, yes; Wolfe, yes; Ratledge, yes; Bellingar, yes. Motion Carried
2. Motion to approve updated COVID-19 Plan by M. Wolfe, second by S. McNeal. Discussion included questions about daily screening for workers and number of hours symptom free before returning to work. 5 ayes, 0 nays Motion Carried
3. Motion to approve Special Assessment Resolution R-201208 by M. Klumpp, second by Y. Bellingar. Roll call vote: Klumpp, yes; Bellingar, yes; McNeal, yes; Ratledge, yes; Wolfe, yes. Motion Carried
4. Motion to approve Supervisor Mark Klumpp to Mecosta County Development Corporation Executive Board by S. McNeal, second by M. Wolfe. 5 ayes, 0 nays Motion Carried
5. Motion to approve Dennis Morawa to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals 01/01/2021 through 12/31/2024 by M. Wolfe, Y. Bellingar 5 ayes, 0 nays Motion Carried
6. Motion to approve Dennis Morawa and Larry Lenon to the Planning Commission 01/01/2021 through 12/31/2024 by J. Ratledge, second by Y. Bellingar. 5 ayes, 0 nays Motion Carried
7. McNeal asked if we should change how we are operating in the office based on the amount of people coming in. We had held a special meeting to determine how the office is to operate. Discussion included what do we do moving forward. We will operate during normal business hours with the door open.

Correspondence:

Announcements:

We have one candidate to interview for the building official/zoning administrator position.

Public Comments:

Adjourn @ 8:25 pm

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Stephanie McNeal.

MORTON TOWNSHIP
BILLS TO BE PAID JANUARY 2021
THIS INCLUDES CHECK REGISTER TOTALS FROM
CHECKS DATED 12/11/2020 & 12/28/2020

FUND DISBURSEMENT

	<u>CHECKS DATED 12-11-2020</u>	<u>CHECKS DATED 12-28-2020</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
GENERAL FUND	\$ 10,962.35	\$ 13,448.90	\$ 24,411.25
CAPITAL RESERVE/ IMPROVEMENT	\$	\$	\$
BUILDING DEPT.	\$ 1,861.08	\$ 172.80	\$ 2,033.88
F/R NEW EQUIP.	\$ 8,631.47	\$	\$ 8,631.47
FIRE/RESCUE OPERATING	\$ 5,281.60	\$ 9,107.96	\$ 14,389.56
LIBRARY	\$	\$ 22,940.00	\$ 22,940.00

TOTAL OF CHECKS
DATED 12/11/2020 \$ 26,736.50

TOTAL OF CHECKS
DATED 12/28/2020 \$ 45,669.66

GRAND TOTAL \$ 72,406.16
