

Buchanan Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting June 6, 2019
Held at Buchanan Township Hall

CALL TO ORDER

The regular June 6, 2019, meeting of the Buchanan Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor, Malinda Cole-Crocker at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Malinda Cole-Crocker, Supervisor; Sheila Reitz, Clerk; Brad Huebner, Trustee; Lynn Ferris, Trustee; Rachel Plank, Treasurer

Members Absent: None

Others Present: City of Buchanan Treasurer & 2 members of the Waste Water and Water Department; J. Balos, Deputy Clerk; R. Balos, Custodian; J. Reitz, ZBA Chairman; K. Barker, Architect; R. McDonald, General Contractor; T. Jesswein, Fire Chief; 7 Residents

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 16, 2019, regular meeting were approved as amended.

ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA- Addition of Sheriff Report and Fire Report

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT – Kadin Mills spoke of his potential Eagle Scout project involving American Chestnut trees. Tim Jesswein stated the house on S. Redbud Trail that was demolished looks great, however, the old hospital property continues to be a problem with break-ins happening and building not being secured.

CORRESPONDENCE- Email from Mr. & Mrs. Hunt was presented to the Board regarding the VA exemption on property taxes.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion by Plank, second by Huebner to approve General Fund checks #11044-11068 totaling \$36,986.35 and Fire Fund checks #100-103 and #6790-6799 totaling \$2,560.61. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval; motion carried (5-0).

REPORTS-

Sheriff's Report- Report on file

Fire Report- Report on file

UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

Building Facility- Security

Motion by Huebner, second by Ferris to approve the quote from Advanced Alarms, Inc & Indiana Electronics for building security in the new facility not to exceed \$25,000.00. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval; motion carried (5-0).

New Building Facility-

Board discussed the cost and coverage of the required performance bond.

NEW BUSINESS

Joint Water/Sewer Budget 2019-2020 Presented by City of Buchanan

Motion by Reitz second by Plank to approve the 2019-2020 Joint Water/Sewer Budget as presented. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval; motion carried (5-0).

PUD

Public Hearing opened at 7:28 pm

Resident at 13844 Rangeline Rd- Asked how the PUD will affect existing wells and property taxes.

Kevin Barker- Replied that MDEQ (now EGLE) has cleared all contamination of water/wells back in 1996. Well logs have been submitted and a well test will be conducted

Cole-Crocker explained the effect on property taxes

Public Hearing closed at 7:35 pm.

Motion by Plank, second by Ferris to approve PUD on Rangeline contingent upon receiving approvals from Berrien County and State of Michigan as applicable. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval; motion carried (5-0).

Recess started at 7:40 pm; Meeting called order at 7:45 pm.

Recreational Marihuana

Ferris and Cole-Crocker prefer to opt out of allowing recreational marijuana facilities in the township. Plank stated that the township residents voted down the proposal in the November 2018 election by 64 votes. The Board will hold a public hearing in the near future to discuss the possibility of allowing recreational marijuana facilities in the township.

Building Inspector

Motion by Reitz, second by Huebner to terminate the current building inspector and to hire a new inspector to fill the position. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval; motion carried (5-0).

PC & ZBA Training

Motion by Cole-Crocker, second by Plank to approve training expenditures for the July 9 & 10 PC & ZBA Retreat offered by MTA. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval; motion carried (5-0).

Clerk Training

Reitz informed Board of Clerk Retreat for deputy clerk and clerk presented by MTA. Board acknowledged money was already in the budget for training.

Foreclosed Properties

Motion by Huebner, second by Cole-Crocker to not purchase the Roe Street property or the property located at 16081 Walnut Street that have been foreclosed on, in addition the house located at 16081 Walnut Street is to be demolished under the Berrien County Foreclosure Fund provided the Township will not owe any fees for the demolition. Voice vote showed unanimous approval; motion carried (5-0).

Township Owned Properties

Discussion by Board involving Kadin Mills' Eagle Scout project was heard. Board will be presented some preliminary ideas by Mr. Mills as to what would work best for the American Chestnut Grove. Board will discuss at a future meeting.

Motion by Huebner, second by Cole-Crocker to sell the Township owned properties located on Able Road, Bachelor Isle, Walton Road, and Madron Lake Road. Voice vote showed unanimous approval; motion carried (5-0). Ferris will contact realtor to list properties. Plank will get in touch with the residents who currently have a driveway that cuts through Township Able Road property to see if they are interested in said property.

Plumbing and Mechanical Inspector

Motion by Cole-Crocker, second by Ferris to appoint Ken Jewell as the Plumbing & Mechanical Inspector for the Township of Buchanan. Voice vote showed unanimous approval; motion carried (5-0).

Police Protection Agreement

Motion by Huebner, second by Reitz to approve the Police Protection Agreement for Redbud Track and Trail as presented. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval; motion carried (5-0).

PC Consultant Service Agreement

Reitz informed Board that the current service agreement with PC Consultants had run out. The Board had previously approved a 100-hour service agreement for the new building and agreed to start using that service agreement.

July Board Meeting

Motion by Cole-Crocker, second by Plank to move the July 18th Board meeting to July 11th to accommodate Clerk training. Voice vote showed unanimous approval; motion carried (5-0).

ANNOUNCEMENTS- None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm.