

**APPROVED MINUTES
OF THE MOORLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2019**

The Moorland Township Board of Trustees met Thursday, September 12, 2019 and was called to order by Supervisor Nutt. Nutt led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Dan Nutt, Clerk Rose Spoelman, Treasurer Maureen Hogan, Trustee Anita Knapp, Trustee Brandon Wilburn (5)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Gary Foster, County Commissioner, and wife Peggy, Sabra Guy, Administrative Assistant, Mike Pierson, Ravenna Independent, Interim Fire Chief Leon Wolverton and Lieutenant Don Pant and (3) residents.

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Nutt to accept the agenda as proposed. Wilburn seconded the motion and the agenda passed by the following votes: Ayes: (5)

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF AUGUST 8, 2019 BOARD MINUTES

Motion by Nutt to approve the meeting minutes of August 8, 2019 as written. Knapp seconded the motion and it passed by the following votes: Ayes: (5)

SUBJECT: TREASURERS REPORT

- 1) Motion by Spoelman to accept the Treasurer's Report for the Fire Fund as presented. Wilburn seconded the motion and it passed by the following votes: Ayes: (5)
- 2) There were no Fire Fund Bills for this month that needed Board approval.
- 3) Motion by Nutt to accept the Treasurer's Report for the General Fund as presented. Wilburn seconded the motion and it passed by the following votes: Ayes: (5)
- 4) There were no General Fund Bills for this month that needed Board approval.

SUBJECT: FIRE CHIEFS REPORT

- 1) The Interim Fire Chief gave the report for August 2019; 7 total runs, 5 medical, 2 assist to Ravenna for Gas Leaks.
- 2) Interim Chief and Lieutenant Pant both talked about the fire open house. Moorland Township Fire Department will host an Open House on Tuesday, October 8, 2019 from 6:30 until 8:00 pm; requested \$1000.00 from the fire fund to cover the cost of the open house, Spoelman made the motion to approve the request, seconded by Knapp and passed by the following votes: Ayes: (5)
- 3) Lastly, the fire department members stated that there is a state grant that covers the cost of installing fire alarms in the homes of residents. Moorland Township residents can call the office or fire department for details.

SUBJECT: BUILDING REPORT

- 1) Nutt gave August 2019 report; (7) Building permits: (4) Electrical permit (2) Mechanical permits, (1) Plumbing permits. Total for Township: \$3869.00, with 10% payable to the township for a total of \$386.90.

SUBJECT: PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

- 1) Next meeting is September 16, 2019 at 7 p.m. ORV Ordinance and Wind Turbine Ordinance to be discussed as well as 2 Special-Use Applications that were submitted.

SUBJECT: OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Nutt discussed that there was a sign-up sheet for the fire department members to sign if interested in the position of Fire Chief.
- 2) Nutt also mentioned that the interviews of those interested were completed by closed session with the applicants and the board members.

SUBJECT: NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Spoelman made the motion to open up discussion regarding the deputy clerk/administrative assistant's yearly evaluation/raise, and proposed increasing the wage by \$0.50 per hour; admin assistant given the choice between open and closed session, and allowed for an open session to discuss performance. Nutt stated that Guy has got all scanning of old files done, and fire proof room has been cleaned out and looks great. Spoelman stated that Guy helps out in all areas of the township. Guy is also my Deputy Clerk and works very hard. Board members asked questions. Trustee Wilburn stated that he felt that trustees should be notified a month before on evaluations. Spoelman stated it is not up to the board to have evaluation in closed meeting; the person being evaluated has a right to open or closed. The administrative assistant works directly with the Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer and not the trustee very much. Knapp made a second motion to give a \$1.00/hour raise, seconded by Nutt and passed by roll call vote: Ayes: Wilburn, Hogan, Spoelman, Knapp and Nutt. (5)
- 2) Spoelman made the motion to open up a discussion regarding Moorland Township having a Notary Public, seconded by Nutt. Board members felt that there isn't really a need for one, since office hours are limited, and residents can go by the local bank for notary assistance and felt that there is too much liability associated with it. Motion turned down by roll call vote: Nays: Wilburn, Spoelman, Knapp, Hogan, Nutt (5)

SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENT

- 1) A resident discussed that another cemetery clean-up will be done on September 28, 2019 from 12 pm until 4 or 5 pm, at the Anscorb-Chidester Cemetery, commonly known as the Indian Cemetery in Moorland Township. All are welcome to participate, please bring own supplies.
- 2) The county commissioner took a moment to suggest that a Senior Resources Representative be at the Fire Department Open House; also noted that the grant for the

dam at Veteran's Park in Muskegon had received an approval, so work should begin this fall.

SUBJECT: BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- 1) Spoelman noted that West MI Shredding came to Moorland and did some on-site shredding of documents no longer needed, according to the state retention schedules.
- 2) There will be an election in November for Grant School District voters only; of which there are 25 in Moorland Township. Due to new election laws, Moorland will be open for voting, instead of consolidating with Casnovia as in times past. If Grant School District Voters would like an Absentee Ballot, please contact the township.
- 3) The Clerk asked if the county commissioner would please explain the recent Welcoming City Resolution and clarify what the outcome was for our residents; the resolution that was presented was a welcoming resolution that mirrored one from another county, there has not been any talk of sanctuary, or steps taken to be a sanctuary county. As it was presented the resolution did mention immigrants, but the resolution has been sent back to the origin for changes. The information that the public has received, has been through social media and through fear, and has not been accurate.
- 4) Also noted, was that the annual audit for Moorland Township was almost completed; clerk asked board members if they would like auditor to come to a board meeting now the audit is complete. Consensus of the board is they would like the auditor to come. Clerk will notify our auditor.
- 5) Trustee Wilburn asked about what company supplies propane for the township; Excel propane is the current provider. Wilburn suggested that the township may want to look into pricing other companies, as Excel is known to be slightly higher priced. Spoelman stated we do that when we send out RFD.
- 6) Wilburn stated that this is a five member board and all information should be shared with all board members. Wilburn stated that he did not like to have to vote on an issue the same day as of the meeting. Spoelman stated that the trustees are welcome to call the office anytime. The issue of the time span on MTS not doing our zoning anymore was due to the fact that the she was awaiting resumes. It is state law that township needs a Zoning administrative.

SUBJECT: ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Nutt to adjourn, Hogan seconded the motion and it passed by the following votes: Ayes: (5). Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rose Spoelman
Moorland Township Clerk