

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TUSCARORA TOWNSHIP BOARD**

Tuesday, October 1, 2019 – Approved November 5, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Ridley.

Roll call by Clerk Fisher. Board members present were Mike Ridley, Supervisor; Susan Fisher, Clerk; Bobbi Balazovic, Treasurer; Trustees Craig Waldron and Janet Vance. A quorum of the board was present

Minutes of the September 3, 2019 regular meeting were approved as previously published.

Waldron moved and Fisher supported to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Police Report

The department has been notified from the State of Michigan that their patrol vehicle computers are no longer in compliance to the State's security standards because they are operating under Windows 7. They have until December 31st to upgrade to Windows 10. Chief has asked for an extension due to budget restraints. Three of the computers may be able to download Windows 10.

Library Report

Mara announced that she will be resigning from her position as of October 31st.

Treasurer Report

Clerk Fisher reported that the general accounts have \$1,280,369.26 and the tax accounts \$19,548.03 to date, without interest.

Fisher read Balazovic's request to pool the general accounts with the checking accounts as was recommended by BS&A. Interest income is virtually non-existent at this point and combining them will work better with the software.

Waldron moved and Vance supported to pool the general IMMA accounts with the township general checking account. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Letter from the DEQ that the Burt Lake State Park has been approved to make a large water withdrawal from the watershed.

Fisher moved and Vance supported to take no action on an opioid class action suit. Motion carried.

Special Assessment

Supervisor Ridley would like direction from the board regarding lot exemptions and combinations for special assessment districts. Ridley would like the board to set the criteria for exempting parcels from a special assessment district.

Waldron moved and Fisher supported adopting requested exemptions to a special assessment, based on legal opinion that these properties can be subject to a lot split fee representative to the special improvement cost, of certified wetlands, deed restricted septic fields, contiguous lots with a common property line, single family home built on two parcels. The Supervisor and the Clerk are to review the requests and any denials are subject to appeal to the entire township board. Motion carried.

All requests for exemptions or combinations for the Prospect/Chippewa Beach Road district must be made by October 28, 2019, by email to the Supervisor, mailed to the township office or hand delivered to the township office. The Supervisor and Clerk will review the requests and any denials are subject to an appeal to the township board.

All requests for exemptions/combinations will be answered by the November regular board meeting.

Clerk Fisher recommends that the original proposed assessment amounts for this project be reviewed and reduce the burden to those with frontage on Prospect and Chippewa Beach Roads. This new cost assessment cannot be determined until all exemption requests have been received.

Supervisor Ridley stated that if someone has turned in their objection and after hearing the new assessment may request that their objection be returned to them.

Prospect St./Chippewa Beach Public Hearing

Supervisor Ridley opened the public hearing at 7:51 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to hear any objections to the proposed Prospect St./Chippewa Beach Road special assessment district.

Ron Woodburn asked which roads frontage count towards the 20% objection and if the roads are repaved can they be assured that the CCRC will do a better job of maintaining the road.

Mike Fettig – the Baptist Church owns property on the road, will they be subject to the special assessment?

David Burke – concerned about the lack of sidewalks for walking from town to the green docks.

Trisha Woollcott – concerned on the cost for those on Chippewa Beach Road and concerned about the cost to Little Traverse Conservancy – unfair to property owners.

Kieran Fleming – Little Traverse Conservancy, contends that they should be exempt from the district and provided paperwork to support their opinion.

Mary Jo Schultz – would the Road Commission consider not repaving the entire road – possibly just from Straits Highway to the Golf Course.

Susan Whitener – the total cost is there, pave only Prospect Street now. The Conservancy should not be charged.

Dennis Ramont – Road needs to be done, but traffic is too fast. He would like to see the speed limited lowered.

Ron Whitener – Why can't we get speed limit signs on the road?

Jess Miller – Chippewa Beach Road is a curvy, hilly road and if it is improved, he would like to see striped defined shoulders for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Pam Miller – Can speed bumps be added that would naturally slow people down? She believes that it is an unsafe road.

Theresa Layman – If the sewer project goes through Prospect Street would then be torn up; also concerned that the speed will increase on the road after the improvement. How will the project be paid for? Would it be put on our taxes, will there be interest?

Barb Wamsley - Would like to see the project increased to include the rest of Prospect Street and Gatewood as well. Does not believe that paving Chippewa Beach Road be delayed.

Billie Andrew – Can information be put on the website of these revisions?

Ed Kredell – Price of \$1M plus, were other bids received?

There being no further objections or comments Supervisor Ridley closed the public hearing at 8:21 p.m.

Sewer Update

The workshop was cancelled because we did not have enough information to have a productive meeting. We are still waiting on legal advice on lot combinations, ordinance clarification and REU criteria. The loan applications will be in two phases; District 2 in 2020 and District 3 in 2021.

No date has been set yet for the board workshop.

Police Department Construction Bids

Two bids were received to remodel the Police Department. Chief Temple met with both contractors to go over the bids and his recommendation is for Rhadigan & Sons, Inc.

Waldron moved and Vance supported to approve the Rhadigan & Sons bid for \$107,904.50 and let Chief Temple work on the flooring later. Motion carried.

Public comment began at 8:35 p.m. Comments were heard from seven citizens. Public comment ended at 8:35 p.m.

Waldron moved and Fisher supported moving the date to receive objections to the Prospect St./Chippewa Beach Road SAD to December 3, 2019. Motion carried.

Board member comment: Supervisor Ridley commented on the special assessment district.

Waldron moved and Fisher supported to pay the bills and approve the general ledger transactions as presented. Motion carried.

Waldron moved to adjourn at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Susan L. Fisher, Clerk

Michael E. Ridley, Supervisor