

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

Tuesday, February 3, 2020 – Approved March 3, 2020

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

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

Minutes of the January 7, 2020 regular meeting were approved with the addition of Sue Fisher being in attendance at the January meeting.

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

Citizen Comment Agenda Items: No public comments were received.

Police Report

The construction is well under way and is even ahead of schedule. The Department has been addressing some parking issues by ice fishermen on Wahbee Road. Chief Temple is working with the CCRC to get some signs posted.

Library Report

No report.

Parks, DDA Report

Member Jim Burke invited everyone to visit the ice rink to see the improvements made to it this year. The Commission has begun discussion on adding a seawall at the boat launch and dredging of the Little Sturgeon River.

DDA – The consulting firm will be submitting the final Pedestrian Safety Improvement plans to MDOT this week and is working towards the first Friday of April to let out the bids.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer Balazovic reported that the general accounts have \$2,312,834.99 and the tax accounts \$669,894.52 to date, with interest.

Wahbee Road Public Hearing

Supervisor Ridley stated that the public hearing is for the proposed Wahbee Road Special Assessment District (SAD) from the most southernly point to 630' north of Frontenac. The windshield estimate is \$210,890, there are 48 parcels within the district. Estimated cost for the 48 parcels with frontage is \$3,644 per parcel and the estimated cost for the 25 parcels on the private road is \$1500 per parcel. The SAD may be paid over 5 years or may be paid off at any time.

Supervisor Ridley opened the public hearing at 7:13 p.m. Kym Kleckner, speaking on behalf of those on the private road, stated that no one on the private road is in favor of being included with the project. They have no need to use that stretch of the county road. They do not benefit from the project. They have concerns about safety, the chemicals used in paving and water runoff into our lakes.

Charlie Gano – is also speaking on behalf of the residents on the private road because none of those on the private road live here full time and could not attend the meeting. He objects to having the public hearing during the winter months when seasonal residents cannot attend.

Randy Howard objects to the project. He would like to have the project re-evaluated due the amount of traffic at the corner of Frontenac and Wahbee Road. He would like to see curbs added to that intersection. He would like to see the water issue determined – where it is coming from, where it goes – prior to paving the road. He is also concerned about water runoff from Frontenac into Burt Lake.

Fisher read off the names of those who filed objections to the project: Land, Howard, Strabing, Bearce, Carlson, Hill, Chappell, Rode, Davis, King, Bjornseth, Smith, Kleckner, Kendrick and Sutton.

Motion by Waldron and supported by Fisher to close the public hearing at 7:20 p.m.

Cheboygan County Road Commission will now go out for bid, prior to the township calling for the second public hearing, without requiring a deposit. This allows the assessment roll to be formed on firm costs versus estimated costs. Should the bid come in lower than the estimated \$210,890 all parcels estimated rates will be reduced across the board equally. If the bid comes in more than 10% of the estimated cost the process would have to start over.

Wahbee Road SAD Resolution #2

Supervisor Ridley read Resolution #2 that resolves that the board determines that the petition filed with the township constitutes more than 50% of the total frontage, that the Township Board approves the plans and estimate of cost for the improvement of \$261,300 and of that \$210,800 will be spread against the assessment district and that the district shall consist of all of the lots and parcels of land in Exhibit B.

Fisher moved and Balazovic supported adopting Resolution #2 for the Wahbee Road Special Assessment District. A roll call vote was taken: Fisher, yes; Vance, no; Ridley, yes; Waldron, yes; Balazovic yes. Motion carried.

Little Traverse Conservancy Letter

Supervisor Ridley is in receipt of a letter from Little Traverse Conservancy regarding the potential special assessment on Chippewa Beach Road. They would like to maintain its non-advocacy stance and let the local community decide what is best for them. If the project goes forward, they will contribute financially toward the project.

Waldron moved and Balazovic supported to remove the Little Traverse Conservancy property, with their commitment to contribute to the project, from the district so it does not affect the vote. Motion carried with four ayes and one nay.

Resolution #1 Chippewa Beach/Prospect Street

Resolution #1 sets Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. as the date/time for the first public hearing for Chippewa Beach/Prospect Street. The purpose of the hearing is to hear comments and objections to the proposed road improvements, the petition, and the establishment of the special assessment district. The public hearing notice must be published twice, with the first publication at least 10 days prior to the public hearing date and mailed via first class mail at least 10 days prior to the hearing to all property owners in the proposed special assessment district.

Fisher moved and Waldron supported adopting Resolution #1 for the Chippewa Beach/Prospect St. Special Assessment District. A roll call vote was taken: Fisher, yes; Balazovic, yes; Vance, yes; Ridley, yes; Waldron, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution to Amend DDA Boundaries & call for public hearing

Supervisor Ridley read the Resolution to Amend DDA Boundaries that states that it is necessary for the best interest of the public to amend the boundaries of the District and that the Township Board declares its intention to amend those boundaries. The Resolution sets Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. as the date/time for a public hearing to consider adoption by the Township Board of an ordinance amending the District Boundaries.

Waldron moved and Balazovic supported adopting the Resolution to Amend DDA Boundaries and call for a public hearing. A roll call vote was taken: Vance, yes; Balazovic, yes; Ridley, yes; Fisher, yes; Waldron, yes.

USDA Rural Development – Asset Management Workshop

In response to a letter received from the USDA and their recommendation that we review our O & M rates Ridley obtained a bid to have a study done. The bid came in for \$18,000. Ridley then contacted Michigan Rural Water whereby Mike, Bobbi and Sue took their Asset Management, Rate Study Workshop. This program will be used to assess our rates.

More work is needed on adding assets to the study prior to presenting the findings to the board at the March meeting.

Funds Transfer – Sewer O & M, RRI

Vance moved and Waldron supported to approve Fisher's fund transfer request: \$10,693 from account 590-000-004-00 State Park Sewer to 590-000-003-01 Sewer RRI. Funds transfer: \$29,000 from account 590-000-004-00 State Park Sewer to 590-000-003-00 Sewer O & M. Motion carried.

Sewer Ordinance Revision

Reviewed the recommended changes received from Dan Potter. The only correction to the changes is the gallons per REU per month should be 6,000 gallons per REU per month.

Waldron moved and Vance supported the revision with the changes of gallons per REU per month be 6,000 gallons. A roll call vote was taken: Balazovic, yes; Ridley, yes; Fisher, yes; Waldron, yes; Vance, yes. Motion carried.

Poverty Exemption Resolution

Supervisor Ridley presented the Township Board Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test.

Waldron moved and Balazovic supported to adopt the Resolution to Adopt Federal Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test. A roll call vote was taken: Waldron, yes; Fisher, yes; Ridley, yes; Balazovic yes; Vance, yes. Motion carried.

Set dates for March Board of Review

Waldron moved and Fisher supported setting the following dates for March Board of Review: Organizational – Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Monday March 16, 202 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Copier Replacement

Vance moved and Ridley supported purchasing a Ricoh copy machine from Van's Business Machines for \$2,800.00. Motion carried.

Public comment began at 8:07 p.m. Comments were heard from three citizens. Public comment ended at 8:10 p.m.

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

Waldron moved to adjourn at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Susan L. Fisher, Clerk

Michael E. Ridley, Supervisor