

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 11, 2020, 7:30 P.M.

1565 Jackson St., Marne MI 49435

www.wrighttownship.com

1. The Regular Board meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Westgate with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Prayer. Board members present: Josh Westgate, Maureen Carmody, Nancy Hopper, Rick Schoenborn, Gary Karr.
2. There were no additions to the agenda.
3. A motion was made by Karr and supported by Carmody to approve the February 2020 bills in the amount of \$23,299.76 and to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried. A motion was made by Hopper and supported by Westgate to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2020 Regular Board meeting and the February 13, 2020 Special meeting as written. Motion carried.
4. Dan Vandermolen, 11970 24th Ave., offered public comment regarding his site plan for a retail business on 16th Avenue in Marne, and also regarding his interactions with Township personnel regarding the project. He was informed of his options for proceeding with the project. Bonnie Thoms, 16365 16th Ave., asked for an update regarding whether the Planning Commission had discussed the Wright Township Zoning Ordinance as it pertains to electrical substations. She was advised to attend the upcoming Planning Commission meeting to ask the Commissioners directly. Ted Clum, 2081 Berlin Fair Drive, offered public comment regarding fireworks debris from the Berlin Raceway that fell on his property in 2019.
5. The 2020 Berlin Raceway Fireworks permit request was discussed. Mike Bursley from the Berlin Raceway, along with a representative from Wolverine Fireworks, were present to answer questions and concerns regarding fireworks displays at the Berlin Raceway. Information was presented by Wolverine Fireworks that showed the location where fireworks were discharged at the Raceway in 2019, and that the required debris radius, which was more than 2 ½ times the legal distance from the residence of Ted Clum, was compliant with NFPA 1123. He stated that the fireworks for every display are discharged from the same location, that a wind check is performed before every event, and that the site is evaluated every year. There was no obvious cause for the debris to have drifted onto Ted Clum's property in 2019, as the police report indicated there was a light wind that day. A motion was made by Karr and supported by Carmody to approve the Berlin Raceway Fireworks permits for May 23, 2020, July 4, 2020 and September 19, 2020, with the conditions that the Wright/Tallmadge Fire Chief review the display plan every time and assign equipment and personnel to protect the public and adjacent properties, and that the Fire Chief or designated officer has the authority to cancel the event at any time for any reason. Motion carried.
6. The purchase of an AED for the Township office was discussed. Karr reviewed various options, and the best option for cost, civilian AED features and interface with fire equipment is the AED from Team Life, Inc. that Board members reviewed at the February 12, 2020 Board meeting. A motion was made by Hopper and supported by Karr to purchase an AED and four-year maintenance plan from Team Life, Inc. Motion carried.
7. Karr gave the Fire report. There were 72 calls in February. There was no Planning Commission meeting in February. Carmody reported that the March 10, 2020 Presidential Primary Election went very well, and the election workers did a great job working with the new laws and processes. There was only a 24 % voter turnout, however. Westgate reported that there were very few appeals of property assessments this year.
8. Under the Supervisor's report, Westgate gave an update regarding the joint senior service program. There will be a meeting soon with Township residents who were willing to serve on a senior services advisory committee. Westgate also reported that the preliminary work for Marne Fest 2020 has begun. Lastly, a small sinkhole in the road by the Depot restaurant has been reported, and the Township may need to explore options for road repairs in that area.
9. Under Board concerns, Schoenborn asked for information regarding copies of keys made for Historical Commission members, and was informed that they were keys for the Historical Commission filing cabinets in the basement.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Maureen Carmody
Wright Township Clerk