

**REGULAR MEETING
LENOX TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2020**

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| 1. CALL TO ORDER: | 6:30 PM |
| MEMBERS PRESENT: | Trombly, Kandell, Honold, Clifford, Gurley |
| ATTORNEY PRESENT: | Albert Addis |
| RESIDENTS AND GUESTS PRESENT: | 18 |

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Clerk Kandell explained that there were two changes necessary, being the removal of **d.** Zoning Board of Appeals Appointments, as there are no appointments needed this year, and adding **i.** H.V. Burton Company Contract.

Motion: Clifford Support: Honold

Motion to approve the Meeting Agenda with the changes mentioned by Clerk Kandell. All Ayes. Motion passes.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Clifford Support: Gurley

Motion to approve the Minutes of December 2, 2019. All Ayes. Motion passes.

5. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Public Announcements at this meeting.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

B. Bertossi, 29 Mile Road, commented on the proposed DTE substation on Gramer Road and the associated transmission line; would like an open dialog with Township.

J. Fenner, Gramer Road, regarding the substation, inquired if it is common practice for the Township to give verbal assurances of variances before plans were reviewed. DTE Representative stated that meetings were held in August 2017 where they were guaranteed approval. Property purchases would not have happened if they did not have assurances of special permits and variances.

J. Rumschlag, Gramer Road, voiced his displeasure and frustration about the proposed substation; believes there must be a better place to construct this so as not to alter the value and beauty of the homes and properties on Gramer Road.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

1. 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUND

Motion: Kandell Support: Honold

Motion to open Public Hearing at 6:40 PM.

Roll Call Vote: Kandell- Aye, Honold- Aye, Trombly- Aye, Clifford- Aye, Gurley- Aye. Motion passes.

Clerk Kandell read the Public Hearing in full.

- 1.) Turning Point, Inc., A. Vichego, requesting \$500, 40th year Anniversary, the only Macomb County Domestic Assault and Sexual Support Organization, 24-hour hotline (586) 463-6990, \$500 would provide 20 nights of shelter at \$25 per night.
- 2.) Care House, D. Vosges-Nolan, requesting \$1,200. Since opening in 1996, have treated 42 child residents of Lenox Township. .86 of every dollar goes to serving children and families in Macomb County. Website is www.mccarehouse.org; on Facebook as well.
- 3.) Lenox Township Senior Center, B. Bridges, requesting \$1856, to fund two additional mystery lunches and to purchase more exercise equipment.

Motion: Kandell Support: Gurley

Motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:52 PM.

Roll Call Vote: Kandell- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Clifford- Aye, Trombly- Aye, Honold- Aye. Motion passes.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed under this Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Township Board and will be enacted by one motion. According to established Township meeting rules, there will be no separate discussion of these items, unless a member of the Board or public so requests at or prior to the meeting, in which event the chair of the meeting may remove such item(s) from the Consent Agenda for discussion and consideration under Agenda Item No. 9, below. Approval of the Consent Agenda shall be by a majority roll call vote of those present and voting. Under the Consent Agenda are items a. Public Safety Report, b. EMS Report, c. DPW Report, d. Code Enforcement Report, e. Assessing Department Report, f. Engineer Report, g. Planner Report, h. Library Report, i. Senior Center Report, j. Supervisor's Report, k. Treasurer's Report, l. Orders and Bills, m. Trustees Report, n. Clerk's Report.

Motion: Honold Support: Gurley

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda with the approval of Orders and Bills in the amount of \$ 470,923.72.

Roll Call: Honold- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Kandell- Aye, Clifford- Aye, Trombly- Aye. Motion passes.

9. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda at this meeting.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. COMMUNITY ROOM WINDOW COVERING PROPOSAL

Trustee Clifford stated that he has two quotes for the Meeting Room Window Covering, he wants to have three quotes as required.

Motion: Clifford Support: Gurley

Motion to table the Community Room Window Covering Proposal until three quotes are submitted. All Ayes. Motion passes.

B. TOWNSHIP READER BOARD SIGN PROPOSAL

Trustee Clifford explained that both sign quotes received were over budget and would have to be revisited at budget time.

Motion: Clifford Support: Kandell

Motion to table and remove this item from the Agenda until budget talks begin this year. All Ayes. Motion passes.

C. CELLULAR TELEPHONE ALLOWANCE INCREASE REQUEST

Motion: Kandell Support: Honold

Motion to table the Cellular Telephone Allowance Increase Request as there has been no action taken since the last meeting. All Ayes. Motion passes.

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. FISCAL YEAR 2019 AUDIT REPORT

Karen Shafik, representing Stewart, Beauvais & Whipple, P.C., announced that as of January 1, 2020, SBW has joined forces with UHY LLP, Certified Public Accountants. The SBW staff will stay in their current roles and will continue to serve Lenox Township with the same level of service that they have come to expect. She then detailed the Annual Audit Report for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2019, noting that

Lenox Township received a clean, unmodified opinion, meaning that financial bookkeeping was done according to generally accepted accounting principles.

Motion: Kandell Support: Honold

Motion to accept the 2019 Audit Report as presented by Karen Shafik from Stewart, Beauvais & Whipple, PC. / UHY, LLP.

All Ayes. Motion passes.

b. 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUND (CDBG) ALLOCATION

Motion: Kandell Support: Honold

Motion to allocate the 2020 Community Development Block Grant Funds as follows:

\$300 to Care House

\$1556 to Lenox Township Senior Center

Roll Call Vote: Kandell- Aye, Honold- Aye, Trombly- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Clifford- Nay. Motion passes.

c. ASSESSING DEPARTMENT 2020 POVERTY EXEMPTION POLICY AND GUIDELINES REQUEST

Motion: Kandell Support: Clifford

Motion to accept the 2020 Poverty Exemption Policy and Guidelines as submitted by the Assessing Department. All Ayes. Motion passes.

d. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS APPOINTMENT

This item was removed from the Agenda.

e. PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Motion: Gurley Support: Honold

Motion to re-appoint Michael Vennard to the Planning Commission for a three-year term to expire on 12-31-2022. All Ayes. Motion passes.

Motion: Gurley Support: Clifford

Motion to approve the re-appoint Joe Marino to the Planning Commission for a three-year term ending 12-31-2022. All Ayes. Motion passes.

f. PLANNING COMMISSION SUBCOMMITTEE CREATION PROPOSAL

Township Attorney Albert Addis explained that a sub-committee could be a useful tool to involve interested residents and obtain information to advise the Board. A sub-committee often consists of residents that have expertise and experience in the field to be researched; a Board Member could be added to be the third or fifth person to balance out the committee in the case of a tie vote.

This Sub-Committee would be assembled to study the environmental impact of asphalt millings that are currently being used in the Township, recommending their findings to the Board, although the Township would not be required to follow the sub-committee's recommendations.

Motion: Clifford Support: Gurley

Motion to approve the formation of the sub-committee for that particular reason. All Ayes. Motion passes.

g. 2020 MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION (MTA) CONFERENCE REGISTRATION REQUEST

The Michigan Township Association 2020 Conference has been scheduled for April 28, 2020 through April 30, 2020; Early Bird Registration begins soon at a reduced rate.

Motion: Kandell Support: Honold

Motion to approve the registration for six persons for the 2020 Michigan Township Association Annual Conference at the early bird rate of \$353. All Ayes. Motion passes.

h. CLINTON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL GOVERNMENT MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Motion: Honold Support: Gurley

Motion to approve the renewal of the Clinton River Watershed Council Government Membership at the cost of \$500. All Ayes. Motion passes.

i. COMPUTER MAINTENANCE TIME BLOCK PURCHASE REQUEST

Clerk Kandell explained that Hi-Tech Systems Services gives clients the opportunity once a year to purchase a block of time that is reduced from their regular hourly rate of \$135 per hour.

Motion: Kandell Support: Clifford

Motion to approve the purchase of a 50-hour time block from Hi-Tech Systems Services at the cost of \$5,000.

Roll Call Vote: Kandell- Aye, Clifford- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Honold- Aye, Trombly- Aye. Motion passes.

j. H.V. BURTON COMPANY CONTRACT RENEWAL

The H.V Burton Company provides the necessary chemicals for treating the Closed Heating Water Geothermal System in the Township Municipal Building. The system is tested and treated typically three times a year. There is the option of a one-year contract costing \$350 or a three-year agreement costing \$1,000.

Motion: Clifford Support: Gurley

Motion to approve the H.V. Burton Company Contract Renewal for the upcoming year.

Motion to approve the H.V. Burton Company Contract Renewal for three years.

Roll Call Vote: Clifford- Aye, Gurley- Aye, Kandell- Aye, Trombly- Aye, Honold- Aye. Motion passes.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

T. MacGregor commented that he came to this meeting to learn of the inner workings of the Township. He asked to donate funds to Lenox Township to give to Turning Point, Inc., because there was no Community Block Grant Funds left to provide for them.

Township Attorney Addis remarked that it would be inappropriate and possibly illegal for a private party to donate through a public entity to a charity.

T. MacGregor stated that he wanted the Turning Point, Inc. Representative to leave the meeting with something that was given by Lenox Township.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Kandell Support: Gurley

Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 7:28 PM. All Ayes. Motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted,

LuAnne Kandell, Clerk

Carol A. Swantek, Recording Secretary